



Whittingham
C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Issue 15 Friday 14th October 1 page issue.

Headteacher's Blog

Attendance -

Last term brought us our lowest overall attendance in 20 years. This was a topic for discussion at our Autumn Term Governors Meeting this week. Every term we receive a visit from the Education Welfare Officer. Any child who has less than 95% attendance will now automatically receive a letter informing parents of this and if we have episodes of continued attendance below 95% (unless there are specific medical needs) the Education Welfare Officer will be informed. Please refer to all the guidance information that will go home with your child today that stresses the importance of high attendance and punctuality on future educational outcomes. The Governing Body have made this an agenda item for each Full Governing Body Meeting and we hope to see attendance improving.

E-Safety -

With smart televisions, mobile phones and computers connected to the internet becoming a large part of our society it is important to keep our children safe. Here are some important links to websites which will help keep you up to date.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>
www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety
www.childnet.com/resources/know-it-all-for-parents
www.kidsmart.org.uk/parents/

Parents Evening.

We will be trying a new style of parents evening this term. All appointments will be held in the school hall. We would appreciate your feedback about this new style so please do let us know. Also Parent Surveys will be available for you to fill out at the end of your meeting.

Basketball Competition

There will hopefully be a Basketball Competition for our KS2 Basketball Team against Shilbottle Primary School. Please see the letter from Mrs Fortescue if your child is on the team for further details. If the weather is good, we will be playing our match on the playground. Please could you walk around the side of the playground (on the side of the fence towards the staff carpark and enter school from this direction to the main entrance at the front door).

Homework Survey.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey. There were 26 responses and 25 /26 felt that homework was important. 22/26 parents felt that homework should be less than 40 minutes per week. The vast majority of KS1 and 2 parents did not want the Family Learning Projects to continue. 23 out of 26 parents wanted homework to concentrate on basic skills and reading. Almost all parents wanted workshops in how we teach Mathematics and English skills so we will be arranging those soon. Online learning proved popular with a Homework Club also being requested. With this in mind I will be offering a KS2 online learning homework club after half term. Please refer to the After School Club letter for further details.

General reminders-

Non Uniform Day for PTA Funds - Friday 21st October. £1.00 . School breaks up for half term.

Stay and Play Session - Wednesday 9th October. All parents of babies, toddlers and children from Nursery and Reception Class please join us 9.30-10.30 a.m.

PTA Family Funday Sunday 30th October.

Find out more about our school on the school website www.whittinghamprimaryschool.co.uk . Follow us on Twitter @WhittinghamCofE

School re-opens Tuesday 1st November.