



**Whittingham**  
CoFE PRIMARY SCHOOL

# Headteacher's Blog



**Reminder** - If your child is off school or school is closed they will have learning tasks to complete. Please see our remote learning section of the school website and also look out for further notifications from your Class teacher on Tapestry or Class Dojo. Please remember to continue to take photos of your child's learning ( including their homework tasks) and upload it on Class Dojo so that your child's class teacher can offer support, encouragement and feedback.

**Friday 6th November 2020**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new half term. Its unbelievable that we are already in November! I hope you all enjoyed the class assembly/ Harvest medley that was recorded and sent out to you before the half term holiday. I appreciate that while school is restricted in what we can safely provide in the form of celebrations we will be still having our infamously delicious Christmas Dinner and Christmas Parties in our class bubbles and there will be a letter with further details as well as dates on the School Website calendar very shortly. There will not be the usual Christmas Performances with costumes etc but each class will still create a little Christmas magic which will be shared with you in our 'new normal' way. Rather than decorate a tree inside we hope to have a Christmas tree outside and will be looking to make the playground at the front of school as festive as possible once December 1st comes! If you have any more ideas on how we can safely add a little festive cheer during these difficult times to our children when they are in school please let me know.

Best wishes,

Belinda Athey - Headteacher.



## Deputy Headteacher

I am extremely delighted to say that following some fantastic interviews for the post of Deputy Headteacher we have successfully appointed a new Deputy Headteacher. Mr Neil Charleton, who has had various management posts including assistant headteacher at Outwood Grange Academy Trust. He is an outstanding class teacher and has raised standards in Nursery, Year 2 and Year 6 in particular. He will be able to start as we require in January and is currently in the process of re-locating his family as he currently lives in Wakefield.



## New Government Guidelines

As we all know as of this Wednesday we have been placed under additional restrictions due to the COVID 19 pandemic and I shared with you via email earlier in the week what the new restrictions look like. Please can I implore you to follow these guidelines and in particular, with respect to keeping within your household. We are extremely proud of the procedures we have put in place and continue to strictly follow to ensure that when your children are in school they are as safe as possible. We have staff who are vulnerable to this pandemic as well as staff who have family members who are extremely critically vulnerable and all have a moral obligation to follow the rules and keep our school and wider community safe.

## Poppy Project

Thank you to the children who have already brought in their decorated stones/ slates to be used in Remembrance. I will be uploading photos on the school website as and when the decorations begin to appear in our playground so please do remind your children to bring their completed stones into the school playground.