



**Whittingham**  
C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

# Headteacher's Blog



**Friday 10th September  
2021 page issue.**

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

I hope you and your families have enjoyed the summer and it was lovely to see how excited the children were to be back to school on Tuesday, ready to learn and back with their friends. Photos can be found on our school website - [https://whittingham.eschools.co.uk/website/whole\\_school\\_photo\\_gallery\\_2020-2022/370979](https://whittingham.eschools.co.uk/website/whole_school_photo_gallery_2020-2022/370979). Thank you to the Campbell family who looked after Dec, our school guinea pig so well for us over the holidays.

We warmly welcome our new starters and we hope they settle into school quickly and have a wonderful time with us. It has been particularly good to welcome Mrs Fletcher back to school. She has decided that for this year she will be working on a part time basis and for the short term I will be sharing the remainder of the working week in Class 2 teaching until a suitable teaching appointment can be made. I have met with Governors this week to discuss this appointment and the post will be advertised within the next day or so to enable us to recruit another excellent member of the team.

Our communication systems are back up and running with the new year groups. Teachers will endeavour to reply to messages within 8.30-5.30. Monday -Friday but please remember that from 8.40 -3.15 teachers are teaching and may not have access to this during their teaching time so please continue to send any changes to end of day arrangements to Mrs Kennedy.

We are currently reviewing the new COVID 19 risk assessment for schools and until that has been finalised we will continue to follow the rules and routines from before the holidays. Thank you for your support this week doing so.

So that we can all start teaching as soon as possible please ensure that your children are at school for 8.50. Any children coming to school after that will need to be brought to their classroom door by their parent / carer and will be marked as late in the school register.

After School Clubs start for some children in school next week (Years 1-6). Please see separate letter.

I appreciate that some of you may be beginning to think about returning to foreign holidays. Please remember that an absence form will need to be completed (copy on our school website) for our records but that I am unfortunately unable to authorise holiday time within term time. Staff do not set work for unauthorised absences.

If you do need to have your child off school please avoid in particular the penultimate week of each half term as we do assessments across the school this week and the month of May as SATs take place during this time.

As always, if you have any questions, queries, suggestions or concerns please do not hesitate to send us a message or catch either myself or Mr Charlton after Gate Duty.

Best wishes,

Belinda Athey - Headteacher.

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