



Whittingham
CoE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher's Blog

Friday 23rd October 2020
2 page edition



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the final Headteacher's Blog of a very busy half term. I cannot thank children, families, staff and governors enough for their hard work in supporting school in keeping safe, returning to face to face learning, fun and friendships swell as supporting the different days we had in school such as Celebrating Similarities and Differences last week (See picture above). As you all know, we were unable to welcome you to Church for our traditional Harvest Festival or into School for Class Assemblies so each class has performed their own assembly for you to enjoy and I will be emailing the links to each class performance at the end of the day.

Have a safe and happy half term holiday.

Best wishes,

Belinda Athey - Headteacher.

Staffing Appointments

Deputy Headteacher

The DHT Staffing Committee of the Governing Body and I have interviewed for a Deputy Headteacher position over the last few days. Thanks goes to Year 5 and 6 who were involved in developing their own criteria for an ideal DHT as well as forming their own interview panels and asking the candidates some excellent questions via video link.

We were overwhelmed with a massive response and the applicants we interviewed were all amazing. I will be contacting the successful candidate after school today and will let you know as soon as I have this post confirmed. We expect that the candidate will be Class Teacher in Year 1 and 2 from January so that they can help us to continue to raise standards in KS 1. On behalf of the Governing Body I would like to thank Miss Armstrong who is currently covering the class teacher responsibility and is doing a super job!

Early Years Teacher

On behalf of the EY Staffing Committee I am pleased to say we had an amazing pool of candidates to choose from and am delighted to say that Mrs Toni Marsden has been offered, and accepted the post of EY Job Share Teacher. Mrs Marsden has been on supply in this post since September and is fantastic.

This will ensure that there is continuity in Early Years, working with the established team already ensuring it continues to be an outstanding provision for our children.

Class 2 Teacher

It has been a very busy start to the school year and the Governing Body have agreed that I should keep my teaching commitment to a minimum so Miss Donkin will continue to teach full time in Class 2. Thank you to Miss Donkin for this.

Thank you to all staff who have worked harder than ever this term.



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support our school
join our lottery!
Sign up today at www.YourSchoolLottery.co.uk/play

Family Learning Challenge!

Many of our children have made beautiful poppies which will be displayed in Sainsbury's, Alnwick. Following on from this I have been sent a wonderful idea from one of our lovely past parents (see picture). Over half term it would be lovely if you could decorate and varnish a stone and make a remembrance poppy with a difference. I would like the children to bring them into school and we will decorate our reflective area with them as well as taking a small group of older children to memorial sites in Whittingham to place them there. Please could these special 'stones' be brought into school by Monday 9th November to me and I will ensure these are safely displayed?



Diocesan News.

Our children feature in this month's issue. Well done everyone!

NOT EVERYTHING
IS CANCELLED

sunshine is not cancelled
spring is not cancelled
love is not cancelled
relationships are not cancelled
reading is not cancelled
naps are not cancelled
devotion is not cancelled
music is not cancelled
dancing is not cancelled
imagination is not cancelled
kindness is not cancelled
conversations are not cancelled
hope is not cancelled



#keeplookingup
SimpleStencils.com

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The delights of Europe from Whittingham

European Day of Languages.

The children from Whittingham C of E Primary School enjoyed a chance to learn greetings and sayings in a variety of European languages. They dressed in the traditional style or colours of their chosen country and took part in a day of activities in their class bubbles as well as some virtual learning when the internet allowed! They also enjoyed a trip to Italy with their lunch of pasta with bolognese sauce, garlic bread and ice-cream.



Whittingham support World Mental Health Day



As we all know about the emphasis on mental health as we have all returned back to school after the summer holidays and the unusual summer term as part of the RHE curriculum the children have been looking at their own mental health and well being and wore yellow on Friday 9th October to support the Young Minds Charity and World Mental Health Day.

