



Whickham Parochial Church of England Primary School

Let your light shine!

Newsletter 29/11/24

News

Christmas Fair

Our Christmas fair will be held in school on Tuesday 10th December from 3:30pm until 5:30pm. We will release the children to you as usual, so that we know that everyone is with the correct grown up, then we will open all the doors to you at 3:30pm. We will open the main entrance and the KS2 doors, this should avoid the queue that happened last year. Any Year 5 or 6 child who is walking home alone can choose to come back into the fair and we will assume that, if they come in, they have checked with you beforehand! We will be selling raffle tickets and refreshments in our main hall and the tombola stalls will be in there, but the rest of the stalls will be around school, and Santa will be cozily located in our Year One classroom. We look forward to seeing you there.

Parent support

Our first parent support group was held this week, this time with a focus on coping with dysregulation and neurodiverse behaviours at home. Our guest speakers were from Daisy Chain hubs, who I hope we will be able to continue to work with. I hope that those who attended felt that it was useful, and even more importantly, felt that they now have a little network of support that they can call on in times of difficulty. Our **next group will be held on Wednesday 15th January from 5pm – 7pm** and will be focused on supporting children with anxiety – and also providing support for parents who are dealing with this issue. Our guest speaker will be Karen Richardson from Toucan Education, who will provide tapping scripts to help regulate and calm both anxious children and worried parents. We will also provide resources and websites to help. Please call or email Mrs Baird to book a place.

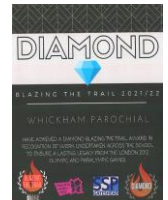
Attendance

Year Group	Reception	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Year Six
Weekly %	98.02%	96.40%	96.78%	97.70%	97.76%	97.47%	97.93%
Whole School %	97.45%						

Just a reminder, we will be sending letters using our new assessment system "A-Star", to let you know if your child has dipped below 95% or into the 'persistent absentee' realms of 90% or below. Please come and see us if we can be of any help with attendance. These letters are not intended as a criticism, we are keeping you informed as we are asked to do so in guidance from the LA and DfE.

Celebrations

Congratulations to our amazing WonderWall pupils who have impressed their teachers so much this week and made us proud. Alnwick took the housepoints and our TTRockstars engagement trophy went to Year 5. Well done to everyone!





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Let your light shine!

Dates for your diary... (Remember, whole school dates are on our website and e-schools calendars)

- The Year 6 parent workshop to sew Christmas Stockings will be held in our hall on Monday 2nd December from 1:15pm until 3pm.
- Friday 6th December – non-uniform day to support our Christmas Fayre – donations of sweets from KS1 and bottles from KS2, would be really appreciated.
- The parent workshop to support with children's anxiety will be held on Wednesday 15th January from 5pm – 7pm. Please book a space by contacting Mrs Baird.

Things to remember...

- Please remember to let Mrs Baird know if your child would like a turkey Christmas dinner, or a veggie Christmas dinner, or if they'll be bringing a packed lunch.
- Nativity tickets for KS1 are on sale on ParentPay, and two tickets per family are available for each performance. Please be careful when adding them to your basket; the price jumps to £4, but the price alters when you actually go into your basket.
- I have attached a few things: details of a Newcastle Eagles Basketball Club, some information from Northumbria Police about County Lines, the breakdown of the change you donated to Children in Need, and a reminder of our Christmas dates.
- If you're a parent of a child in Footprints, please let me know if you're able to come along to our Footprints Christmas session, on Wednesday 11th December at 2pm.
- There are still tickets for Santa's Grotto, available from Mrs Baird's office.
- Please return all raffle tickets, sold and unsold, back to Mrs Baird.
- We would love any donations of raffle prizes, Christmas gift bags and tissue paper, and volunteers for the Christmas fair. Thank you!
- When leaving a voicemail regarding an absence, please ensure you state the illness/symptoms, not just 'unwell/under the weather/poorly'. This is for absence monitoring purposes – thank you!
- Don't forget to use the Easyfundraising app for your online shopping at big stores including Amazon, Etsy, M&S, to name a few. Those parents who have been using it have so far raised over £400 for school! Many thanks if you have been using the app, and if you would like to start and are unsure how, just click the link

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/whickham-pce-prisch> or scan the QR code:

Don't forget, you can find lots of school information on our [website](#) – our letters are saved on there, you can find out about our curriculum, and we have our calendar and term dates too. If you are ever in need of information, it's a good place to start! Additionally, all dates are on our E-schools calendar.



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