



Whickham Parochial Church of England Primary School

Nurturing minds and hearts through God's love

Newsletter 14/12/23

Hello parents – just a few notices, reminders and news before Christmas;

Christmas Fair

Many thanks to all who came or otherwise contributed to the Christmas Fair. The idea of putting it after school was very new for us and we had no idea it would be so busy. We have thought of various ways to spread the fair out next year and ensure that you can enter more quickly and see the stalls and activities with less of a crowd. We so much appreciate the feedback you have given us, and Mrs Baird has entered anyone who has taken time to provide us with comments into the raffle for our amazing Christmas Hamper. Thanks to everyone's generosity, we raised almost £2000 – many thanks to the Friends, Mrs Baird and the staff for all their hard work.

January 2024

We return to school on Tuesday 9th January after our in-service training day on the 8th. Children continue in their winter uniform. As you know, we are hosting the NUFC foundation at school each Monday afternoon and we are rotating classes so that we can share the opportunity to work with them. Next term, the focus is on problem solving through activity – the children will still need P.E. Kit on the days that they access the NUFC session. Please see the table below for PE days in Spring term up until February half term (I've included all year groups, even if there is no change).

Year Group	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reception		P.E.	Forest School		
Year One				Gymnastics	P.E.
Year Two			P.E.	Gymnastics	
Year Three			P.E.	Gymnastics	
Year Four		Gymnastics	Swimming		
Year Five	NUFC P.E.			Gymnastics	
Year Six	NUFC P.E.	Gymnastics			

If a day is yellow they need to come in P.E. uniform with no jewellery including earrings unless your child can remove them please – if they can't, then they need to be covered by plasters or tape at home:

Smart watches

We have noticed that the watches our pupils are wearing are becoming increasingly 'smart'. Watches that are enabled for messages or photographs should not be in school, and any Year 5 or Year 6 pupil who needs this for safety walking home will be asked to hand it in with their phones each morning. This includes watches that can be put on 'school mode' as this cannot be monitored by our staff.

Christmas and Next Week

Many thanks to everyone who came to our KS2 nativity at St Mary's – it was a lovely afternoon and we were so proud of the children. The staff and children are all looking forward to seeing you for the KS1 performances. Unfortunately, I'm unavoidably out of school, but the rehearsals have been fab – you are in for a treat! We have a lovely last week in store for the children – look out for the weekly round-up, coming out tomorrow, for reminders of how our week looks.

Thank you as always for your support, we all wish you the very best for Christmas and the new year.

R Walton
Mrs Walton



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.

