



# Whickham Parochial Church of England Primary School

*Nurturing minds and hearts through God's love*

## Newsletter 19/1/24

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.

### News

#### World Book Day Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023

To celebrate World Book Day this year, we would like to invite you into school to share a book with your child. This will take place in the school hall and you will have the opportunity to read a book together and then visit our Scholastic Book Fair. If you are unable to attend, another family member is more than welcome, but please know that your child will still be involved if nobody is able to attend. We will provide a selection of books, or if you are reading a book at home already with your child, please feel free to bring that in.

We gave the 'dressing as a book character' a break last year, but this year our school councillors have asked for it to return – we hope it doesn't cause you too much work! We will say that dressing as a book character is optional and if they don't, they can come in non-uniform.

In addition to this, we will have the author Faye Hanson in with us all day working with our children to explore her beautiful book "The Wonder".

Time	Year group
9:10 - 9:40	Year 6
9:40 - 10:10	Year 5
11.00 - 11.30	Year 4
1.15 - 1:45	Year 3
1:45 - 2:15	Year 2
2.15 - 2.45	Year 1
2.45 - 3.15	Reception

### Retirement

We are saying goodbye to our lovely Teaching Assistant, Mrs Anne Ellis, who is retiring in February and also celebrating a big birthday! Mrs Ellis has not had the best of luck with her health, but she has been an absolute trouper throughout, being brave and always thinking of others. We can't quite imagine the place without her, but we wish her the very best of retirements and look forward to celebrating with her.

### Attendance

Year Group	Reception	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Year Six
Weekly %	94.5%	94.4%	96%	96.7%	94.7%	96%	94.5%
Whole School %	95.3%						

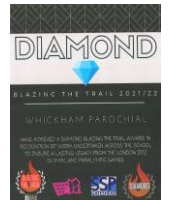
*Just a reminder, we will be sending letters each fortnight to let you know if your child has dipped below 95% or into the 'persistent absentee' realms of 90% or below. Please come and see us if we can be of any help with attendance.*

### Celebrations

Well done to our WonderWALLERS this week! Our house points winners were Dunstanburgh and the Times Table Rockstars engagement leaders were Year 6.



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## Dates for your diary...

**Unscripted Photography** will be returning to take photographs of your children on the 30<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> January and the 2<sup>nd</sup> February. Please see my earlier email with the timetable. Please note, individual shots will be taken at the same time as the sibling shots, to prevent the children coming out of class twice.

**Foodbank Friday** will be the 16<sup>th</sup> of February this half-term – thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity!

## Things to remember...

The children have gymnastics for their PE lesson this half-term and we ask the children not to wear socks, to prevent slips and falls. Because of this, it is vital that any **foot conditions** are treated quickly and are appropriately covered during their lesson.

Unfortunately, we need to stress the importance of **safe and considerate parking** around school. Many parents feel unsafe walking their children to and from school, as they can't get past on the pavement and cars are driving too fast. Additionally, the residents (particularly in the cul-de-sac) are often unable to get out of their houses, due to cars being parked in front of their gates and driveways. We are continuously striving to improve the parking conditions around school, as it is our priority to keep our children safe, but we would really appreciate your assistance too.

Many thanks as always for your support – have a great weekend and remember we are here if you need us!

*Mrs Walton and Mrs Baird*