



# Whickham Parochial Church of England Primary School

*Nurturing minds and hearts through God's love*

## Newsletter 9/2/24

### News

#### Lent

Lent begins on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> Feb, so on Monday we will be sending home our 40 Days of Service tasks. This is a very good opportunity for children to practise service for others, which links to our motto of Let Your Light Shine. Service is very good for children's mental health, which provides them with an intrinsic reward, but we will also be giving the ten pupils who carry out the most acts of service an additional reward of an Easter Egg. Tasks can be returned on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April.



#### World Book Day

Just a reminder that World Book Day is rapidly approaching – it's officially on March 7<sup>th</sup> but we will be celebrating on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March. All children will get their book voucher and we are inviting our grown-ups in to share a book and look at our book fair (if you click on 8<sup>th</sup> March on our calendar it will remind you of the timetable [Whickham Parochial Church of England Primary School - Calendar](#)). We have the lovely author Faye Hanson in to do workshops with each class, and children have an option of dressing up as a book character or coming in non-uniform.

#### Volunteers

You have probably gathered from the last few years of media attention around austerity, that schools are struggling with funding. We would love to be able to afford more adults in school to support with things like reading craft, and in general give support to our teachers and children. We wondered if anyone had any spare time to volunteer with us? Reading with pupils would be the main role and we would offer some training in this on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> February at 2:30pm (so that attendees can collect their children afterwards). If you think you could attend the training and have a few hours each week to offer us, we would be very grateful! Please call or email Mrs Walton or Mrs Baird so we can talk through any availability you may have.

#### Attendance

Year Group	Reception	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Year Six
Weekly %	94.8%	94.7%	96.3%	96.5%	94.9%	96.1%	94.5%
Whole School %	95.4%						

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. These letters are not intended as a criticism, we are keeping you informed as we asked to do so in guidance from the LA and DfE.

#### Celebrations

Well done to our WonderWaller this week! Our house points winners were Lindisfarne and the Times Table Rockstars engagement leaders were Year 4.



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## Dates for your diary...

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February is our Valentine's Day Disco – please get your tickets on ParentPay! The children can also come to school 'wearing what they love' on Valentine's Day too!

Foodbank Friday is on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February, thank you in advance for your generosity!

## Things to remember...

- Could Year 5 and 6 parents ensure they've given/withdrawn consent for the transition days at Whickham School?
- A reminder for Year 6 parents, that Robinwood souvenirs are available to purchase on ParentPay.
- We have extended the 'Spring Sing' at the Sage to include our Year 3 choir members – if your child is in Years 3-6 and a member of the choir, they will have received a letter. Please ensure we have the reply slip if your child would like to go.
- I have 1 x Year 1 tote bag and 1 x Reception tote bag available to purchase, please get in touch if you'd like to buy either of these.
- Here is this week's lost property photo:



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*

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.