
NORTHUMBERLAND County Council

The Federation of Longhorsley and Whalton Church of England Aided Schools

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the Summer term and I really hope that you all enjoyed the extra day with the bank holiday weekend coming so soon too!

Year 4 Residential

A great big well done to the Year 4 children; their Dukeshouse Wood residential just before Easter was a huge success with lots of new friendships being made with the children across the Federation and with Rothbury First School too; a great way to support the transition to middle school for those children moving on - they will certainly recognise a lot more faces now. In addition, Mr Chambers and I were especially proud of all of our Y4 children, for really challenging themselves to have a go at all of the activities from abseiling to archery to buggy building; they were an absolute joy to be with and to see their personal journeys of resilience and bravery with all of the activities; (even when it was freezing cold!) - so very well done to you all. An abundance of thanks to both Mr Chambers and Mr Morris for their time too to allow it to happen.

Thank you to the Year 5 and 6 parents at Whalton for responding so enthusiastically to the planned Year 5/6 residential with Belsay Primary School at Ford Castle; another great opportunity for our children to make new friends and develop their own skills further outside of the classroom. Further details will follow in due course.

Staffing Update

We said a fond farewell and good luck to Mrs Maylia just before Easter too and she had a lovely send off in school. Mrs Maylia was working 1:1 as a Teaching Assistant with us, often doing supply across the Federation and has now returned back to teaching full time. We wish her all the best of luck in her new role and if any parent wishes to pass on any good wishes, please do just get in touch.

Pupil Progress Meetings

We also held our pupil progress updates back in school before Easter for the very first time since the pandemic and it was so lovely to have you back in school; we hope that you found these informative and helpful.

Aspire ~ Believe ~ Achieve ... to be the very best that we can be



Please remember that you can talk to your child's class teacher at any point in the term if you have any concerns or worries, please just contact the school office at either school to arrange a mutually convenient time. The children's formal end of term reports will be sent out in July, summarising their achievements throughout the year and where they are in terms of the end of year expectations for their year groups. Both our Year 2 and Year 6 children will be completing their statutory tests this month (SATs) too with their class teachers and we wish them the best of luck with these.

Class Assemblies for Parents

We enjoyed having you back in school so much that we would like to invite you back into school to enjoy a very informal class assembly this half term. We used to do this pre-Covid at Whalton (entitled 'Coffee and Catch up) and we would love for you to see your children in the school hall and enjoy hearing and seeing what they have been learning about so far this year with their class teacher(s) and their class.

Each class will have a turn over the next three weeks. Please see the dates and times below, beginning next week:

Whalton

Week 3 - Tues 10th May - Class 1 Mrs Potter and Mr Morris

Week 4 - Tues 17th May - Class 2 Mr Reilly

Week 5 - Tues 24th May - Class 3 Miss Anderson

Longhorsley

Week 3 - Weds 11th May - Class 3 Mr Chambers

Week 4 - Weds 18th May - Class 1 Mrs Robinson and Mrs Casper

Week 5 - Weds 25th May - Class 2 Mr Carr and Mrs Campbell

These will all take place starting at 9.15am in the school hall where our PTA at each school will be kindly serving refreshments; really looking forward to seeing you all there. They will last appropriately 15-20 minutes.

All teachers will also be sharing their class newsletters for this term too, with copies of learning journeys, showing the learning objectives they will be teaching your children, on our school websites under the curriculum tab.

Sport & PE

We continue to offer a wide range of sporting opportunities led by specialist coaches. This half term we have cricket at Whalton with Matthew Senior on a Wednesday morning and at Longhorsley in the afternoon.

In terms of competitions, last term we completed some virtual tournaments and we are really looking forward to going to represent our schools in festivals this term. So far, Key Stage 1 (Class 1 from Whalton and Class 2 from Longhorsley) are going to attend a Hoopstarz festival and Year 4 and 6 have been invited to a Quad Kids Athletics.

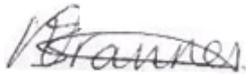
The Year 5 and 6 will be participating in a Kwik Cricket festival too. Next Monday, Class 2 at Whalton will also be taking part in a golf festival at Ponteland Golf Club (letter to follow). Good luck to all children involved! Our Sports day will also go ahead at each school - the morning of Thursday 16th June at Whalton and then the afternoon of the same day at Longhorsley - more details to follow. Let's hope the sun shines on this day!

Curriculum Enrichment

The Summer term has always historically been a busy one with lots going on this term so please keep an eye on our diary dates in our monthly school newsletter and other letters coming out as we get back into our 'normal'. We have our new gardening club at Whalton, Basic skills After school club at Longhorsley and lots of educational visits being planned too! Watch out for our new website too which we are working on behind the scenes - busy, busy, busy.

Here's to a great term!

Kind wishes



Mrs Brannen
Executive Head teacher
The Federation of Longhorsley and Whalton