
NORTHUMBERLAND County Council

The Federation of Longhorsley and Whalton Church of England Aided Schools

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8th July 2025

Dear Parents

My final newsletter of the year- where does the time go!

End of Year Reports

We really hope that you have enjoyed reading your child's end of year report and that they did too, finding out how well they have done this year and their next steps to continue 'to be the very best that they can be'. They have all worked so hard! Please do let us know your thoughts by scanning the QR code on the last page of the reports.

Our Leavers

These last two weeks are always filled with making the final memories for our children who are leaving. Next week will see our leavers enjoying their Leavers' lunch in school and their Leavers' School Service (9.15am Friday 18th July, at St Helen's - for Year 4 parents only). Good luck to all of our Y4 children as they move on to their middle schools; we have loved having you at Longhorsley! Also, a huge thank you to the PTA would kindly paid for the children's pizza and ice-cream following their Leavers Service at Newcastle Cathedral.

Staffing Update

In my last newsletter, I shared the news that Mrs Martin, our caretaker, is retiring at the end of July. We are delighted to say that we have appointed another local person, Mr Ellison, who will take over the reins from the end of July.

School Lunches

Mrs Lamb and Mr Gunn continue to cook fabulous wholesome meals for our children and we very much need your support to keep our school dinners alive- they are delicious! The cost of a school lunch will now be £2.75 a day from September for Year 3 children upwards. These are payable on a weekly basis, or half termly. Please remember that children on packed lunches can also sign up for school lunches - very popular on Fridays or when we are celebrating a certain time of the year - please just email school and we will sort. If you ever wish for your child to go on packed lunch, we do require at least two weeks' notice as a minimum please for food orders.

Outstanding Monies

Thank you for keeping up to date with your gateway payments. Please do not be offended if we remind you of the need to pay as, unfortunately, we still do have some outstanding payments (£1476). If these can be settled by Friday please, especially any children who are leaving, including for the weekly swimming bus, we would be very grateful. Many thanks for your support with this.

Improvements to School

Looking ahead to September, we have plans to replace our fire alarm and emergency lighting over the holidays, following a successful bid back in February through the Diocese. As a Church school, we are extremely fortunate to be able to bid for funding that we can then use to improve our building and grounds and keep us all safe.

Font Alliance

Last year, we joined an informal alliance with Cambo First School, Morpeth First School, Ponteland Community Primary School, Rothbury First School, Tritlington First School and Whalton C of E Primary School. We really hope that you will agree that this has had a positive impact on our children, especially in relation to football and sports, and meeting other children of the same age too, who they will meet again as they continue their educational journey. The Font Alliance has definitely benefited our staff and we have lots more shared training booked, such as Safeguarding and Trauma Attachment on our first training days in September, as well as joint moderation of children's writing standards throughout the year.

Village Fete

Thank you so much for all of your support for school at the Longhorsley Fete, whether it was donations for the bottle tombola or attending on the day. We raised a staggering £410, which will be divided between Early Years and our new St Helen's Hideaway. Our sincere thanks go to the Village Fete committee for all of their hard work and organisation of this successful event for the community of Longhorsley.

Diary Dates

To help you look ahead to the next academic year, we will be sending out next years' diary dates next week so that you can plan any time off work and holidays using the dates - we do have training days on Fridays and Mondays, so please use these to get reductions in costs! We will continue to add and update these term by term and resend them out to you.

Thank you so much

At this time of year, the children are really ready for the holidays, (as well as the staff!) so I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every member of staff for their continued hard work, commitment to our schools and for doing their very best for each child, as well as you, our parents. I am so very proud of the amazing team of staff we have who share the same values and ethos which our school is built on.

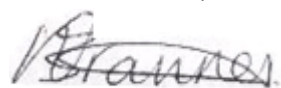
Our PTA has been fantastic again this year too - so a huge thank you, especially for those whose children are moving on. We will again be looking for new recruits in September to carry on the fantastic support that has helped our fundraising efforts! Their AGM meeting will be on Friday 19th September - time to be confirmed, so please keep your diary free!

We also have a very supportive and committed Governing Body who supports and challenges us to ensure that we provide the very best education to your children too, so huge thanks to them, including our Chair, Mr Truscott. We would also like to send our sincere thanks to our Priest in Charge, Reverend Elaine, too.

Finally, from all of us, please do enjoy quality time with your families over the summer (when the time comes!) and we look forward to seeing returning and new families in the Autumn term - on Wednesday 3rd September, after two training days.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Kindest wishes,



Mrs Brannen
Executive Headteacher

