



Whalton School News

Autumn Term

6th October 2017

Year 5 Visit to Dukeshouse Wood



Our Year 5 children all returned safely from their three day visit to Dukeshouse Wood. They enjoyed the visit enormously, and have no doubt shared their experiences with you all at home. A huge 'THANK YOU' once again to Miss Anderson and to the staff from Belsay, Darras Hall, Ponteland, Richard Coates, Stamfordham and Heddon Primary Schools - without you the visit could not have taken place.

All of the new primary schools across the Ponteland Partnership joined together for our Year 5 Autumn Term visit to the activity centre to kick-start the new academic year. The main focus of the visit was to meet new friends across the partnership, promote team work and co-operation skills and to have FUN together as the children settle into their new classes.



Federation Day - Tuesday 26th September

Federation Day was on Tuesday and Whalton hosted children in Year 3 and 4. Our Reception, Year 1 and 2 children travelled over to Longhorsley to spend the day there. We all had an RE themed day with lots of activities - stained glass windows, decorated crosses and trees being among them.

Year 5 Tag Rugby Festival



On Thursday 5th October, our Year 5 students travelled to Ponteland High School to take part in a Tag Rugby Festival organised by the Ponteland School Sports Partnership.



The children were split into Village School groups and mixed with 4 other children from Heddon, Stamfordham and Belsay Schools.

We played against Ponteland Primary and Darras Hall. Our team didn't lose a single game and we went on to win, not only as a group, but one of our teams went on to win the whole tournament. Well done to all our Year 5 children!



Star Writers

Each week we identify a child who has either showed significant progress or has produced an exceptional piece of writing.

Children receive a certificate and their work is displayed in the school hall. From Monday, the children will also receive a small trophy to take home with them and keep until Friday.

Last week our star writers were Jan, Hector, Theo, Harry, Samantha and Scarlett. This week our star writers are Edward, Jessica, James, Connor, Freddie and Warren. Well done!

Whalton School Association Lottery Draw



Congratulations to Mrs Storey who won the Lottery Draw for September!

School Photographs

Please note that the deadline for returning your child's photograph order form is Friday 6th October. Thank you.

Bags 2 School

Thank you for your contributions. A fantastic total of £108 was raised.



Family Church Service

Thank you for coming. It was a thoroughly enjoyable service led by Reverend Sample. Please do come to our Remembrance service on Friday 10th November at 10:45am.

French Breakfast - Friday 20th October

Thank you for returning your order forms for French Breakfast. Payment is to be made to the School PTA (cheques made payable to Whalton School Association). Thank you.



Year 5 Transition Event - Friday 24th November

As part of our Primary plan to ensure that our Village School children are fully prepared for Ponteland High School, the Year 5 children are having a Curriculum Day on the 24th November at Ponteland High School. More details to follow.

Federation Christingle Service - Friday 1st December

Our first Federation Christingle Service is being held on Friday 1st December at 1:30pm in St James' Church, Morpeth. We will be joined by all the children from Longhorsley C of E First School. Everyone is invited to attend - please make a note in your diary. More details to follow.



Sage Event for Year 4 - Monday 11th December

Our Year 4 pupils have been invited to take part in a music concert, which will take place at the Sage on Monday 11th December. This will be an evening of excellent music; combining the talents of pupils at Ponteland High School, Park View School and all of the Partnership Primary Schools.

This event has been running for several years and we are delighted that the High School has invited Year 4 children to participate. I am sure that this will be a memorable experience for staff, pupils and parents.

Tickets go on sale on Saturday 11th November at a cost of £10.00 and can be ordered direct from the Sage. They will be sold on a first come, first served basis.

Further details of this event will follow soon. Thank you.



Early Years 30 hours of FREE childcare

Nursery parents please note that you must re-confirm your eligibility for this childcare by the end date on your code. To do this you need to log in to your government gateway account. If you experience any problems contact HMRC on 0300 123 4097.

Middle School Admissions for September 2018

Only the parents of children in our current Year 4 who do not want to remain at Whalton Primary School are requested to complete their applications for places in Middle School via Northumberland County Council's online portal which is open now until 31st October.

Children's Independence and Safety

Last year at the Primary Meetings, we discussed the independence of Year 5 children and one of the discussion points was whether they could be allowed to walk to school. If you would like your child to walk to school please could you let us know in writing. Thank you.

Walking Bus



The WOW (Walking on Wednesdays) Challenge

'Travelling to school safely, in a way that is sustainable and good for the environment is something that we want to get involved in, and it may even save you money and improve your health along the way!'

Every Wednesday, at 8:30 am, Whalton staff meet the children at the junction to Meldon in the village in order to escort them to school.

Walking bus will be back on after the October half term holiday on Wednesday 1st November.

Autumn Term 2017 - Gateway payments

Payments for the first autumn term are as follows:

Swimming - £24.52 (for 6 weeks of lessons)

Year 5 - £20.42 (Dukeshouse Wood)

Dinners (years 3, 4 and 5) - £72.60

Year 5 (Dukeshouse) £66.00

Payments for the second autumn term are as follows:

Swimming £32.70 (for 8 weeks of lessons)

Dinners (years 3, 4 and 5) £88.00

Milk - £12.00 (for the whole of the autumn term)

Music Tuition -

Violin - £42.00 (for the whole of the autumn term)

£22.00 (if you would like to hire a violin from the Music Service).

Drums - £48.00 (for the whole of the autumn term)

Dates for your diary -



Tuesday 17th October - Reception, Year 1 and 2 Multi-skills Festival and Year 3 and 4 Rugby Festival (Year 5 Sports Leaders)

Tuesday 17th October - PTA AGM

Friday 20th October - French Breakfast - 8:30am in school

Friday 20th October - School breaks up for half-term

Friday 27th October - Teacher Training Day (please note that this is during the half-term holiday)

Monday 30th October - School re-opens for Autumn Term 2

Wednesday 1st November - Walking bus - 8:30am

Thursday 2nd November - Year 5 Football Tournament

Friday 3rd November - Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes to be returned to school - further details to follow

Friday 10th November - Remembrance Service - 10:45am in Church

Friday 17th November - Children in Need 'Spotacular'

Friday 24th November - Year 5 Transition - Ponteland High School

Friday 1st December - Christingle Church Service - St James' Church - 1:30pm

Friday 8th December - Christmas Performance rehearsal in the Village Hall - Please collect your child from the Village Hall at 3:10pm. PAWS will collect After-School children.

Monday 11th December - Primary Stars Football Sessions for all children

- Year 4 Learning Alliance Concert at the Sage, Gateshead (details will follow in a separate letter nearer the time)
- Rehearsal in the Village Hall - Please collect your child from the Village Hall at 3:10pm. PAWS will collect After-School children.

Tuesday 12th December - **Dress Rehearsal** - Please collect your child from the Village Hall at 3:10pm. PAWS will collect After-School children.

Wednesday 13th December - Afternoon Christmas Performance - 1:30pm in the Village Hall (please note there will be no swimming this day)

Thursday 14th December - Evening Christmas Performance - 6:00pm in the Village Hall

Monday 18th December - Christmas Dinner for children - 12 noon in school

Thursday 19th December - Whole school visit to the Northern Stage - Alice in Wonderland

Wednesday 20th December - Last swimming lesson of the term

Thursday 21st December - Year 5 Hockey Tournament - details to follow

Thursday 21st December - Children's Christmas party

Friday 22nd December - Christmas Church Service - 2:00pm at St Mary Magdalene Church

Friday 22nd December - School breaks up for Christmas holidays

Monday 8th January - Teacher Training Day

Tuesday 9th January - School re-opens for Spring Term 1