
NORTHUMBERLAND County Council

The Federation of Longhorsley St Helen's and Whalton Church of England Aided Schools

Longhorsley St Helen's
C of E Aided First School
Drummonds Close
Longhorsley
MORPETH
Northumberland
NE65 8UT



Whalton C of E Aided Primary
School

Whalton
MORPETH
Northumberland
NE61 3XH

Tel 01670 788316
Fax 01670 788031
email: longhorsleyadmin@fedlongwhaltschools.uk
www.longhorsley-st-helens.northumberland.sch.uk

Mrs Nichola Brannen
Executive Headteacher

Tel 01670 775216

email: whaltonadmin@fedlongwhaltschools.uk
www.whalton.northumberland.sch.uk

September 2018

Dear Parents

A great big welcome back! I hope that you have all had a wonderful summer with your children. It was a delight to see how beautifully settled the children were in their new classes on Tuesday morning, and how smart they all look - thank you! Our new Nursery children should be especially proud of themselves and I must say that we have an impressive new Year 4 - our role models at the top of the school now too. We have also welcomed three new families to our school who we look forward to getting to know better, as well as a new member of staff. Mrs Sutcliffe was appointed just prior to the holidays as a Teaching Assistant to support the teaching and learning in the Early Years Unit with Miss Thompson every Wednesday. Mrs Mayer continues to work in Early Years for the rest of the week.

Spic and Span

During the holidays, the whole staff have all worked hard to ensure that each classroom and room was ready and waiting for the children so I would just like to say an extra big thank you to them all, with extra special thanks to Mrs Martin, our caretaker, who makes sure everything inside and out is cleaned and tidied and to Mrs Lamb for keeping the kitchen spotless. In addition, Mrs McEwan, has been working hard at getting the office sorted, as well as getting everything ready for the new term and generally making sure that everything has run smoothly. Externally thanks to Nick Gale and his team, and Mr and Mrs Lishman who came and sorted/cleared our allotment, taking away lots of the rubbish; all very much appreciated; our grounds have been well and truly looked after!

Year 4 Classroom Extension

The great news is that planning permission has been granted for our new extension. Unfortunately, there has been a delay with the building of it and we are currently awaiting an update from the project manager. Further details to follow. In the meantime, huge thanks to Mrs Campbell who travelled all of the way to Hebburn on the last afternoon of term to pick up (literally!) the new red tables and chairs recycled from another school as the deadline was that day to secure them. It may be slightly cosy in the Year 4 classroom but the children have the correct tables and chairs!



Teaching and Learning

On the Training Day prior to the holidays, we reviewed our current curriculum provision to ensure that it still matches the needs of our children. Personal, Social and Health Education will be given even greater priority in the weekly timetable as we really believe that the children need to have the opportunity to talk about and discuss different strategies to help make good choices and especially to build resilience, a life long skill which is then applied in various contexts. You will receive your child's class newsletter tomorrow which gives an overview of our topics for this term. All Learning Journeys, which include the specific objectives to be taught, will be available on our school website next week. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to see your child's class teacher. Formal Pupil Progress Meetings will be taking place later this term - all diary dates and the year's events are still being finalised but will be sent out next week so that you can plan ahead.

Communication - Schoolcomms

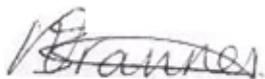
Mrs McEwan is awaiting the last few sessions of training to enable us to get up and running with our new electronic communication and payment system Schoolcomms. This will bring us in line with our partnership middle schools. In the meantime, please bear with us while we use the traditional methods of paper copies and the good old telephone!

I look forward to catching up properly with as many of you as possible over the next few weeks. Look out for our Harvest Service and Family Lunch and get booked in - it's a lovely opportunity to have lunch with your child and experience our school meals for yourself. Unfortunately due to numbers this year, we will be offering the Harvest lunch to parents of children in Reception and Year 4 only and then to the other year groups only for our New Year's Family Lunch. Many thanks for your understanding with this; it really would be a shame not to continue with our Family lunches.

Please remember that I can always be contacted whether I am here or at Whalton. I would just like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you for all the gifts and words of appreciation and support that were sent to the staff and myself too before the holidays. It really isn't expected but is truly appreciated - thank you on behalf of Team Longhorsley!

Here's to a great Autumn term.

Kindest regards,



Mrs N Brannen
Executive Headteacher