
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

Mrs Nichola Brannen
Executive Headteacher

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

23rd April 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the summer term and to the sunshine; what a wonderful Easter it has been; I hope that you have all had an enjoyable break.

A quick round up of last half term and things to come this term.

Staffing Update

We welcome Mrs Kenyon back into school this week. Mrs Kenyon will be working alongside Mrs Maylia for the next few weeks with Mrs Potter; I'm sure the children will be very happy to show Mrs Kenyon everything they have been learning about and much more!

Longhorsley are also borrowing Mrs Casper on a Thursday and Friday for the summer term to help out in their EYFS classroom; thank you Mrs Casper!

Feedback from Parents

Many thanks to those of you who took the time to respond to our request for our school motto in terms of defining 'Aspire, Believe, Achieve'. From the responses received, and the children's own explanations during Collective Worship, we have decided to leave them open ended to reflect the fact that we aim to 'encourage every child to pursue their limitless aspirations with a strong belief in themselves to achieve, to celebrate their uniqueness and support their distinctive journeys throughout our school'.

Attendance & Admission Policies

Following my last newsletter about Attendance concerns, we will be reviewing our current Attendance policy for the Federation this term. If any parent would like to be involved in this, please could you give your name to Miss Johnston in the first instance. Vision Education will be running attendance certificate and prize awards for us for the next two half-terms for those children with 100% attendance.



For your information, the Admissions Policy 2020-2021 is now available on our school website following full consultation.

Teaching and Learning

Last half term the Pupil Progress Update Meetings took place which looked at the progress your child/children made from the Autumn term. Please support your children in working on their next steps identified by their class teachers for the rest of this academic year. As always, please do not hesitate to pop in if you have any concerns or queries.

Our School Improvement Partner visited again - this time to look at current standards and she was very happy with the children's progress and the way the school tracks, monitors and evaluates progress in line with our challenging targets set. One of the Assistant Directors of the Diocese also carried out a review of sample children which was also very positive; she was especially impressed by our children's attitude to learning and their behaviour.

This half term we have the Year 2 and Y6 SATS taking place - we hope that the parents who came along to the information sessions found them useful. I cannot thank the staff enough for the time given to support the Year 6 children in particular before school; I hope it is making a real difference to how the children are feeling in themselves.

We are also holding a Y1 phonics check information session for parents on Wednesday 1st May at 2:30pm- more information to follow in separate letter.

Head teacher's Star of the Week Award

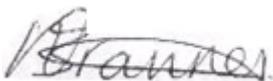
Across the Federation we believe that handwriting is an important part of children's development and agree with the research that good handwriting allows children to have greater confidence and greater motivation to write in all areas of the curriculum as well as supporting the development of cognitive skills. We have just reviewed our handwriting policy based very much on the research and information found at (<http://www.writeyourfuture.com>).

Handwriting will therefore be the focus of the Headteacher's Star of the Week award for this half term.

There is lots to look forward to this term, residentials for Year 4 and France for our Year 6 children as well as sports afternoon. Please don't forget that all of our diary dates are available on our school website as well as the school newsletter.

Here's to a fun filled summer with lots of learning and new experiences!

Kind regards,



Mrs Brannen
Executive Headteacher