



Whalton School News

Autumn Term

7th September 2018

A great big welcome back! I hope that you have all had a wonderful summer with your children.

Songs of Praise – Mission Weekend Saturday 8th September

On Saturday 8th September, there will be a special 'Songs of Praise' for the Mission Weekend at Wallington Hall in the Walled Garden - entry to the event is free!

You may also be interested to know that the Archbishop of York is pulling pints in the Plough at Mitford between 8 and 9pm and apparently the first drinks are on him.

Year 5 Dukeshouse Monday 10th – Wednesday 12th September 2018

All of the primary schools across the Ponteland Partnership are joining together for a Year 5 Autumn Term visit to the activity centre to kick-start the new academic year. The main focus of the visit is 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.

Year 5 children have been given a separate letter regarding the arrangements for the visit.



Kingswood
Inspiring Learning

Adam Bushnell Visit – Monday 10th September

Adam Bushnell, a children's author, is coming to visit our school on Monday 10th September. He will be taking workshops in each class.

He is extremely enthusiastic about children's writing and we are thrilled he is coming to our school.

A separate letter has been sent home with a list of books written by Adam that your child may purchase on Monday if you wish.

Free Percussion Masterclass/Workshop with Sacha Johnson (Birmingham conservatoire)



Sacha Johnson studied percussion alongside Mark at the Birmingham Conservatoire he then went on to the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. He works regularly with many of UK's leading orchestras and opera companies and has been a guest principal with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, BBC Concert Orchestra, Welsh National Opera and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra.

He also performs regularly with the contemporary music ensemble 'Kokoro' and has given several recitals both as a Vibraphone soloist and as a part of Vibes/Piano duo.

Away from classical music, Sacha has worked on several West End musicals including *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Cats*, *The Lion King*, *Saturday Night Fever* and *We Will Rock You*. As committed to teaching as he is to playing, Sacha has been teaching percussion at Marlborough College since 1998, becoming Senior Percussion Tutor in 2007. He was also a Percussion Tutor at the Trinity College of Music Junior Department and a percussion tutor for the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain as part of their 'Inspire' project.

Sacha is a self-confessed percussion anorak, being a member of the National Association of Percussion Teachers, the Vibes Workshop and the Percussive Arts Society.

There will be a free workshop on Sunday 14th October 11:00-13:30 at Hexham's Queens Hall. **To book a place, or for further details, please contact: mjbpercussionfoundation@gmail.com**

Whalton Village Show – Saturday 15th September

This event is fast approaching. It takes place on Saturday 15th September. As some of you are aware, this is a massive event for the village, attracting a huge amount of people from inside and outside the county.

As a school, we have stalls on our school yard and some of the main events happen on the school field. It is a large fundraiser for St. Mary Magdalene Church, Whalton Village Hall, Whalton School and PAWS.

Now is a plea for your help! We urgently need:

- **Donations for the tombola** - gifts, toys, bottles, etc. these can be brought in as soon as possible.
- **Soft toys** for "Give a soft animal a home"
- **Cakes, biscuits, scones, tray bakes** - these can be brought to school on Friday 14th or Saturday 15th morning.
- **HELP running a stall** - the great incentive for helping on a stall is that you don't have to pay for your entry to the show. So sparing an hour or two will save you some money and its good fun! If you can help, first of all THANK YOU, secondly please could you write your name down on the rota in the foyer or speak to a member of staff who will have timetable rota at the end of the school day.

NB: The Village Hall Committee asked me if there would be anyone who would be able to help with car parking. If you can please let Mrs Elliott know.

Thank you.

Also Village Show needs donations of books. The Village Hall is open from 5 to 7pm on Monday to Friday next week - the 10th to the 14th for people to drop off their unwanted books.

WHALTON VILLAGE SHOW



Harvest Service - Sunday 16th September

There will also be a Harvest Service at 11:00am in St Mary Magdalene Church in Whatton on Sunday 16th September. Do come and receive a warm welcome.

Harvest Festival Service - Monday 17th September



This will take place on Monday 17th September at 11:15am in church.

All parents are invited to attend. The children will be decorating a piece of wrapping paper in school. This will then be sent home - please use it to cover an old shoe box and send your Harvest donations in it.

Donations of any of the following would be greatly appreciated - dried pasta, rice, pasta sauce, tinned veg, tinned beans, fruit juice, spaghetti, soup, dried potato, dried or UHT milk, cereals, tinned tuna, tinned meat, tea bags, jars of coffee, 500g bags of sugar, cooking oil, tinned fruit, rice pudding, custard, sponge puddings, biscuits, cereal bars, jam, marmalade and peanut butter.

This year we will be sending dry produce to the Wansbeck Food Bank, and the fresh offerings will go to the retired people in the village.

Harvest Family Lunch - Monday 17th September

Mrs Brannen would like to, after the Church service at about 12 noon invite you all to a 'Harvest Family Lunch' in school on Monday 17th September. We are initially offering one place per family, due to the capacity of our hall and this will cost £3.50 per adult. We would be delighted to see you there! Please print and complete the slip at the end of this Newsletter and return it to the school office, (your payment will be added to School Gateway once we receive your slip) by Wednesday 12th September, if you are able to join us for this lovely occasion.

Violin and Drum Tuition

Violin and drum tuition will commence week beginning Monday 17th September.



Bikeability – Year 4 (level 1) and Year 5 (level 2) – Tuesday 18th September 2018.

Walton has been chosen to receive Bikeability Cycle Training when we return to school in September. This training is designed to give our year 4 and 5 children the skills and experience to cycle safely and confidently

Children enjoy cycling and of course it brings many health benefits, develops confidence and gives them independence. Children who have been trained are much safer and, in addition, tend to cycle more. The deadline for returning your child's consent was Thursday 19th July. If you have not already done so please return your child's forms to school as soon as possible. Thank you.



Bags 2 School – Monday 24th September 2018



Bags 2 school is back on the 24th September. If you are having a clear out, we would be grateful of any donations. Bags will be given out next week. Please return bags to school on the morning of 24th Sept. Thank you.

PE and Sport this half term

PE/Sport for all children will take place on a Thursday. Children will need their kit in school this day. Your child can leave this on their peg throughout the half term.

Year 5 and 6 PE delivery will begin next week, Thursday 13th September and will run for 5 weeks. The first activity will be hockey, so please make sure that your child comes to school with the correct kit and clothing suitable for the incrementing weather. Ideally they will need their own shin pads. Year 6 may have them from last year.

Parent Volunteers - reading and swimming help urgently needed!



We actively encourage parents to come into school each week to listen to children read. It is great to see both Mums and Dads doing this. If you wish to volunteer on a Friday morning between 9:00am and 10:00am, please speak to your child's teacher.

We are also seeking volunteers to help at swimming on a Wednesday afternoon. This can be every week, or on a rota system, travelling on the bus with the children, or meeting us at the pool; it is entirely up to you. If you are able to spare some time to help us please speak to your child's teacher or contact Miss Johnston in the school office. Thank you so much for your continued support.

Gateway Payments- Autumn term 2018

We are now a cashless school. Please note that **all** payments are to be made via your child's school Gateway account. Once we have received your child's permission slip and consent for a visit/activity your payment will be added to their School Gateway Account. Thank you.

Autumn term payments are now on Gateway. The cost of a school dinner is £2.20/£11.00 per week. Swimming for autumn term 1 is £33.00 and £35.00 for autumn term 2. (Please note change to the original price due to an increase in the cost of lessons/the bus). If you have any queries about your School Gateway Account and making payments please do not hesitate to contact Miss Johnston in the school office. Thank you.

Schoolgateway

Dates for your diary -



Monday 10th - Wednesday 12th September - Year 5 visit to Dukeshouse

Monday 10th September - Author Adam Bushnell Visit

Saturday 15th September - Whalton Village Show

Saturday 16th September - Harvest Service - St Mary Magdelene Church at 11:00am

Monday 17th September - Church Harvest Festival followed by Harvest family lunch in school

Tuesday 18th September - Bikeability for Years 4 and 5

Thursday 20th September - PTA AGM - 2pm in School Hall

Monday 24th September - Bags 2 School

Friday 28th September - Family Church Service - 8:55am St Mary Magdelene Church

Monday 15th October - Pupil progress meetings

Wednesday 17th October - Pupil progress meetings

Thursday 18th October - Year 5 and 6 visit to Sky Academy Skills Studio - further information to follow

Thursday 25th October - Multi-skills and Rugby Festival - Reception - Year 4 - further information to follow

Friday 26th October - Family Church Service - 8:55am St Mary Magdelene Church

A reminder that our School Newsletter is available on the front page of our website and under the Office section - Newsletters at www.whalton.northumberland.sch.uk