

Whitley Chapel Church of England First School Leazes Lane, Steel, Hexham, Northumberland, NE47 OHB Telephone and Fax: 01434 673294 Email: <u>Admin@whitleyfirst.northumberland.sch.uk</u>

Headteacher: Miss Jenny Morgan

Dear Parents

Thursday 24th May 2018

New Morning Drop off procedures

We would like to try out a new procedure for morning drop off with the children from Reception to Class 2 in order to avoid high spirits and rough play before school starts and encourage independence and a calm purposeful start to the day. Children will be allowed to come in to school from 8.50 am, and school will start at 9.00 am. Breakfast Club will finish at 8.50 am, and those children will go directly to their classrooms where they will engage in quiet, independent activities until everybody has arrived. Linda will stand at the outside of the cloakroom corridor entrance to receive children from their parents and to ensure they come in sensibly, collect all the belongings that they need for the classroom and go straight in to their teacher. She will also take any messages that parents may need to pass on about home time or after school arrangements. If parents need to talk to staff about medication or other matters, please could they go to the office. There will be no children playing on the playground before school unless they are supervised as part of Breakfast Club. There will also be no adults supervising children on the playground, so please make sure that you hand your children over to Linda, so she knows that YOU know they have arrived safely. Children on School Transport will come in to school as soon as they arrive. Linda will lock the door at 9.00 am. Any children arriving after 9.00 will enter school through the front door.

Celebration Ceilidh

Thank you to everyone who came to the Ceilidh on Saturday, and particularly to the Hunter family and their friends who played for us and made it such an enjoyable occasion. Everyone who went had a really good time, and we hope it might become an annual event in future.

Change of date for Whole School Photograph

The date for the Whole School photograph has been changed to 14th June in the afternoon. If you would like your children to brush their hair before they have their photo taken, please can you make sure they have a hairbrush or comb in school that day! We have had to make another alteration to the calendar that I sent out at the beginning of term; there will not be a special RE Week at the beginning of July as there are too many other things happening at the same time, and it would not be possible to give it the special attention it deserves. We hope to hold one in the Autumn term instead.

County Show

Northumberland County Show will be taking place at Bywell this weekend, and Class 2 are showing their art again. Please go along and enjoy looking at their exhibit – it is on the subject of attractions

around Northumbria, and they have done some beautiful collage pictures and models – we are really proud of their work. We have 20 tickets in school for pupils – if anyone would like to go with their family, please ask Mrs Hilton. It is a great day out. They give the awards for art on Monday at about 12.30 pm in the children's tent. I will be there, so please bring a child or two to meet me for a photo opportunity!

Congratulations to Mrs Dickens!

After half term, we will be having a 'new' member of staff on our team. Mrs Dickens is marrying her fiance, Alex Bowyer, on Saturday 26th June, so from half term she will be known as Mrs Bowyer. We wish them both all the very best for the day and their future lives together.

Chocolate Cake Friday

Please remember your 50 pences for the Chocolate cake on Friday 25th May.

Produce stall

Mrs Hilton has suggested that it might be a good idea to have a stall in school for anyone who has surplus produce such as plants and seedlings, fruit and vegetables, free range eggs, chutney or jams to bring their produce to school and have an Honesty box for people to donate in aid of School Fund if they would like to take the produce home. If people wanted to cover the production costs of some produce, such as eggs, they could ask for a minimum donation and take their costs from the box and donate the rest to school.

School will close on Friday for the Summer Half term break, and re-open on Monday 4th June. I hope you all enjoy the holiday.

Yours sincerely

Miss Jenny Morgan