

NEWSLETTER – Week beginning 17th July 2023 – Edition no. 14



Dates for your diary

Monday 17 th July	Class 1 Forest Schools
Wednesday 19 th July	Class 2 Forest Schools
	Pippa's Dance Club performance at 4:15pm (Parents welcome)
Friday 21 st July	Year 4 Leaver's service, St Helen's Church, 9:15am – 10:15am
	Year 4 Leaver's Dance performance, School Hall, 10:30am – 10:45am
	Early lunch, 11:45am
	End of term finishes at 12:30

Notices

July is always a month of mixed emotions; anticipation of a summer holiday to enjoy lots of different activities, hopeful of hot weather, and not as many early rises on weekdays. It is also a time of change as we welcome new faces, and inevitably some sadness as we say some goodbyes.

As is usual it is a fond farewell to our **Year 4 Leavers**, they have been a great year group and everyone, Class 2 especially will be sad to see them go, but wish them the best of luck. They've had a wonderful final term with us mixed in with leaver's services, the Kingswood trip, Sports Day and class activities which see them collecting memories to take with them as they move on to Middle Schools. We'd love to see them in September if they wanted to come back and visit us and tell us how they are settling into their new schools.

As you know it is not only children we say a fond farewell to. **Gillian Thompson** has served the school for 30 years and bids us farewell. We hope that many of you will be able to join us at the Farewell gathering Tuesday 18th July, 2:30pm – 5:30pm, in the Parish Hall. Thank you, Gillian, for the long service, and dedication to the school. We will miss you lots and wish you all the best. Enjoy retirement.

As some of you may already know **Gemma Kellett** is our new Office Manager, and has been in school shadowing Gillian for the last few weeks getting up to speed with all aspects of the wide and varied role. I'm sure you'll join me in welcoming her to the role in September.

We also say a farewell to **Richard Thompson**, who is also leaving us, as our Caretaker but as yet we do not have a replacement for his post. We will miss Richard and all the tasks that he does behind the scenes to keep the school running efficiently.

Other changes in staffing we say goodbye to **Mr Chris Hill** who has been teaching PE this year to Class 1 and 2. And we welcome **John Paul's Full of Beans team**. PE days will be Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Our lovely **dance teacher Pippa** is unable to return to us in Term 1, but will be back Term 5.

Life is like a winding road
Where sun and shadow blend
When times are sad, start on again
There's always sunshine 'round the bend.

Anon

School values update

After a number of surveys and consultations the Governors are happy to introduce 3 Core Values for Whitley Chapel these are;

Friendship, Community, Faith

We believe they sum up our school's ethos perfectly, and work can now begin on looking at how we incorporate these into our school's logo. The children will be an integral part of this. Thank you for your participation in this.

School term dates 2023-24

	<i>FIRST DAY OF TERM</i>	Last Day of Term
Autumn Term 1st Half	05/09/2023	26/10/2023
Autumn Term 2nd Half	06/11/2023	22/12/2023
Spring Term 1st Half	08/01/2024	15/02/2024
Spring Term 2nd Half	26/02/2024	28/03/2024
Summer Term 1st Half	15/04/2024	24/05/2204
Summer Term 2nd Half	03/06/2024	19/07/2024

INSET days 2023-24

	<i>FIRST DAY OF TERM</i>	Half days Finish at 1pm
Autumn Term 1st Half	Monday 4 th September 2023 Friday 27 th October 2023	22 nd December 2023
Autumn Term 2nd Half		
Spring Term 1st Half	Friday 16 th February 2024	
Spring Term 2nd Half		
Summer Term 1st Half		
Summer Term 2nd Half		19 th July 2024

A full list of all calendared events across the school year will be published on the website soon so that you can have these well in advance. They may not have exact times but where possible there will be an indication of am/pm.

School uniform

Over the last few weeks I have noticed that there are a number of variations occurring with the uniform choices and I wanted to remind you (as we have recently sent out the order forms for uniform) of what our Uniform Policy is:

Main uniform

- Yellow polo shirt or t-shirt (plain or branded)
- Grey skirt, pinafore, dress, shorts or trousers
- Dresses – green or yellow, striped or checked
- White, grey or black socks, green or grey tights
- Bottle green jumper or cardigan (plain or branded)
- Black plimsolls (for indoor use)



PE Kit

- Yellow or green polo or t-shirt
- Bottle green hoodie or sweatshirt
- Bottle green shorts or skirt
- Bottle green or black jogging bottoms
- White or grey socks,
- Trainers (preferably black)

Uniform can be purchased from the School Office. We do sell branded items with the school logo on, these are nice but not a necessity to purchase.

LOOKING FOR ENTHUSIASTIC VOLUNTEERS TO START AN OPEN THE BOOK (OTB) TEAM FOR WHITLEY CHAPEL SCHOOL.

The OTB project is part of the Bible Society. The project offers primary school children an opportunity to hear the major stories of the bible during Collective Worship time in school. Already, there are regular teams of OTB volunteers going into Hexham schools and other schools across the country. Teams of volunteers are reading and acting out bible stories for the children during school assemblies in a fun way. Each school has a regular team of at least 4 to 7 people drawn from the community and local church(es) and they go into schools anywhere from once a quarter, once a month and some on a weekly basis; it depends on the school, the team's availability and commitment.

If you are interested in finding out more about OTB and becoming a part of a team of volunteers to go into Whitley Chapel School, I would love to hear from you. Please contact Carol Charlton, Mobile: 07427914064, Email: c.l.charlton2010@hotmail.co.uk

Please remember to bring a carrier bag to take home all of your shoes, coats, bags etc from the Cabin/cloakrooms on the last day of term.

July 2023 - We are recruiting!!

We are looking for a cleaner for between 10 and 12 hours per week, and a caretaker for 5 hours a week.

For the cleaning role

Duties will include emptying bins, cleaning staff and children's' toilets, vacuuming and sweeping.

The successful candidate will ensure high standards of cleanliness and hygiene are met and maintained at all times.

There may be a requirement to lock the school at the end of each day.

Start date: ASAP

For the Caretaker role

Duties will include undertaking minor repairs and maintenance, so this would suit someone who has basic experience of joinery, plastering, painting/decorating or similar, seasonal tasks such as clearing snow and cleaning gutters, and regular checking of fire alarms and smoke detectors.

You will be supported in your role by the cleaner.

There may be a requirement to lock the school at the end of each day.

The successful candidate will be required to be a key holder for the school in case of need.

Start date: 1st September 2023

Applications are welcomed from those who would like one or both of the positions combined.

Both roles are expected to take place outside of school hours.

You will be joining a school with friendly and happy children and a team of committed and supportive staff.

Please visit our website for more information about the school, and/or ring the school to discuss these roles further and receive the job descriptions.

Council aims to protect grass verges across the county

Whitley Chapel CE First School take action.



The following article was recently published on the Northumberland County Council website.

Northumberland County Council is looking at ways to protect grass verges.

It follows a visit to Whitley Chapel C of E First School by Council Leader Glen Sanderson, where pupils showed him the wildflowers on the nearby verge they are protecting and their importance for the environment.

The school, with help from the Slaley, Healey and Hexhamshire Community Environmental Group, has taken ownership of protecting a verge nearby and, thanks to funding from the Council's Northumberland Climate Change Fund, has been able to set up a free wildflower identification training event for budding and experienced botanists alike.

As well as providing funding for the project, the Council has provided signs to be erected at the site to protect the wildflowers from being cut while in full bloom. The scheduled second cut will happen as normal once the flowers have seeded.

Council Leader Glen Sanderson said: "There has been a lot of talk in the community about the mowing of our verges and I wanted to see first-hand the benefits they bring to our environment.

"I was extremely impressed by the work in Whitley Chapel and the sheer enthusiasm of all the children who are clearly passionate about their local area and have a keen interest in environmental issues.

"While there is a need to cut verges for road safety reasons, protecting the natural environment is something very close to my heart and I will be exploring ways the Council can further protect these corridors for nature."

At the event participants learned about the nature of verges from the North Pennines AONB (Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty) who discussed their relevance in terms of biodiversity, valuable nectar sources for

pollinators and their importance as linear corridors for invertebrates and small mammals. Participants gained practical training which included visiting verges in Hexhamshire, Slaley and Healey.

In some verges over 50 wildflowers were identified and recorded from just the leaves and there was a large variation of diversity between sites. Christopher Porter, Chair of the Community Environmental Group said: "Verges are a vital part of our countryside and support a wide variety of insect and animal connectivity and they are being threatened due to building, development and indiscriminate cutting.

"I wanted to invite Councillor Sanderson down to Whitely Chapel so that he could see the work we are doing to protect our natural landscape and highlight the support we have received from the Council in helping us to do so.

"During the event a passerby asked us what we were doing which led to conversations about farming and the environment, which is fantastic as the purpose of the event was to communicate the importance of protecting our verges.

"There is a real need for more environmental understanding, and I would like to thank Councillor Sanderson for taking the time to come and visit."

There is also a video find the link to it below.

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/News/2023/Jun/Council-aims-to-protect-grass-verges-across-the-co.aspx>

Holiday activity information

The **Summer Reading Challenge** is an annual event aimed at 4 – 11-year-olds. Children are encouraged to read six (or more) books of their choice during the summer holidays with collectable incentives and rewards, plus a medal and certificate for every child who completes the Challenge.

This year's **Ready, Set, Read!** Challenge is focused on reading, sport and play and aims to keep children's minds and bodies active over the summer break, empowering young people to forge new connections with others and unleash the power of play, sport and physical activity through reading.

They will have lots of brilliant events, competitions and prizes to be won. Full details will appear on the library website www.mylibrary.co.uk and social media pages.

Thank you for your continued support
of the Summer Reading Challenge

– let's keep children reading over the summer holidays!

Ready, Set, Read!!

MUSIC PARTNERSHIP NORTH

WE WANT YOU!

Apply Now!

Has your child played an instrument for more than a year? Do they love to Sing? There is an ensemble waiting for them to join!

MEET NEW PEOPLE

LEARN IN A FUN AND SOCIABLE SETTING

PLAY AT CONCERTS

[click here](#) for more info or scan



ensembles@northumberland.gov.uk

Northumberland County Council

Full of beans
CHILDREN'S FITNESS & SPORTS COACHING
PROUD TO BE A MEMBER

Summer HOLIDAY CLUB

Cost:
£30 per day
Book 5 days for the price of 4!
+ 10% SIBLING DISCOUNT

Dates:
Monday 24th July to Friday 1st September
9am 'til 3pm

Location:
Riding Mill Cricket Club
Broomhaugh Riding Mill
NE44 6AW

All six weeks of the summer holidays!

Fun filled, action packed sports camp for ages 4 - 12 with enough options to keep your child happy and entertained! Includes wide variety of activities including Football, Dodgeball, Soft Archery, Dance, Basketball, Cheerleading and lots of fun games and crafts. Please bring a packed lunch.

Bookings can be made on our website at
www.fullofbeansfitness.co.uk/northeastengland
Any queries please contact JP via email
johnpaul@fullofbeansfitness.co.uk

Facebook: F08NorthEast Twitter: @fobnortheast Instagram: @fobne

Our coaches all hold professional qualifications and an enhanced DBS. Expert and qualified instruction in a safe, non-competitive environment. We go out of our way to ensure a personal and special day.



Facebook **Twitter** **Instagram**

EN .NYC:

NETBALL YOUTH CAMP

10am - 3pm | Ages: 9-11 & 11-14



Beacon of Light
SR5 1SU
Friday 1st September

Kenton School
NE3 3RU
Wednesday 2nd August

Kenton School
NE3 3RU
Tuesday 22nd August

To book a place:
England Netball Session Finder / Scan QR
£35 EN member/£40 non EN member

For more information contact: gemma.white@englandnetball.co.uk

Cogito Books
Children's Summer Events!

Wednesday Morning Storytelling 11am (age 3-7)

26th July - Ralfy Rabbit Stories and Drawing
Our favourite book-loving rabbit!

2nd August - Stories from the Garden
Help us create our own colourful blooms!

9th August - Monsieur Roscoe Stories & Activities
Join Monsieur Roscoe on his holiday and learn a French word or two - bonnes vacances!

16th August - Bugs Storytelling & Activities
Make your own bug hotel!

23rd August - Runaway Pea Adventures
Fun tales of an escapee!

30th August - Stories All About Dogs
Tales of our canine friends!

Where's Wally Hunt in Hexham
22nd July to 4th September
Can you find 20 Wallys in Hexham?
Pick up a search list at Cogito

01434 602555 www.cogitobooks.com







CHURCHES TOGETHER in HEXHAM

Hexham Holiday Club

Scripture Union

THE BIG SPLASH

COME AND JOIN IN THE FUN WITH FAITH BASED ACTIVITIES

MAIN HOLIDAY CLUB EVENT
24TH-28TH JULY

MEET DAILY TEAM AT THE BANDSTAND
PICK UP AT 12.30PM FROM VENUES



Hexham Holiday Club is a FREE event and open to all children aged 0-12 yrs. Please use this QR code or register at www.hexhamholidayclub.org.uk

OS BIBLE SOCIETY

Northumberland County Council

Family Hubs Here for everyone

Early Help

Supporting Your Child With Their Mental Health And Emotional Wellbeing



A series of six practical, interactive and helpful workshops, aimed at providing you with information and tools to boost your confidence in supporting your child.

Workshops for parents and carers to attend with children aged 5-19 years.

Workshops taking place from Tuesday 19th September 2023, 12:30 - 14:30 at Cramlington (venue within Manor Walks). Please contact Lennie Jervis at Blyth Family Hub to book your place: 01670 798800



Be you

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counselling education change



Good Sports @ Tyne, Rede & Coquet

Summer Holiday Activities 2023

8 days of **friendship & fun: sports & games for 4-11 year olds**

(Includes hockey, badminton, tennis, netball/basketball, cricket, football, tag rugby, games making & problem solving plus daily craft activities, with qualified & DBS cleared Sports Coaches and Sports Leaders. Equipment provided.)

Whitley Chapel - Mon 31st July - Thurs 3rd Aug

Slaley - Tues 8th - Fri 11th August

10am - 3pm £20 per day / £150 for the whole 8 days

Contact Sarah Allan 07795 364693 or goodsports.tnc@gmail.com

Name/s _____ Age/s _____

Special/medical needs _____

Emergency Tel. No. _____ Email: _____

Address & postcode: _____

School attended: _____ Course dates: _____

I understand that there are risks inherent in the activities to be undertaken and that Good Sports cannot be held liable for any personal injury or loss sustained during the above courses.

I authorise Good Sports @ Tyne, Rede and Coquet to take photographs of the above children in connection with the above coaching sessions, and to use and publish them in print and/or electronically for publicity. Also, to store my contact details and contact me by phone or email with details of future courses.

(Good Sports will not pass on your details to third parties)

Parent/Guardian signature _____