



## Fortnightly Newsletter - Week beginning 3 October 2022 – Edition no. 2

### Mrs North's News

Dear Parents,

What a busy couple of weeks we have had since our last edition. As stated in the last edition I am intending to publish this newsletter once a fortnight and I had suggested on every second Friday, however it is more practical to be sent out every second Monday, hence the publication today.

Although it seems quite a while ago now, I had the pleasure of attending the Parish Hall Leek Show and was astounded by just how many entries were on show from school. There had been so many items completed in the Summer term and some completed items this term. There were a great many prizes awarded, too many to list here, but we have congratulated the children in our celebration assembly and there will be a display of those entries that won prizes in our porch area soon.

Last weekend was also busy with the school's attendance at St Helen's Church Open Day. We were there, with a stall selling the wildflower seed packets (seeds kindly donated by Mr Hilton) that the children had personally decorated and a beautiful array of paper flowers, all handmade by the children. We also managed to throw in a song and had the whole church sing All things bright and beautiful, with Mr Deasy accompanying us on the organ. It was so lovely to see so many of you there, and thank you for your support with this. The children did a great job selling their goods and we managed to raise just over £57!! Well done everyone, a great joint venture.

This week has seen the children put themselves forward for positions in the School Council and took part in an election. Representatives from each class have been appointed. Well done to Charlotte and Eilidh from EYFS, Emily and Rebecca from Class 1 and Owen and Tabitha from Class 2. Their first project will be to help with a celebration event for a 'new' addition to our school which will join us in the next few weeks (see below) and meeting regularly to help staff shape the Whitley Chapel ways.

#### Illuminated Sheep Art Trail #Findtheflock

You may well have seen a few mentions in Hexham about this. It has recently been mentioned on Look North with a flock of illuminated 'sheep' being housed at different locations around the North-East; this weekend they have



been in Bamburgh, soon to be at Vindolanda and then heading off to Woodhorn.  
(Photo from North News and Photos)

We're delighted to be part of a NEW Arts Trail that is set to light up Northumberland.

They will then be distributed to 40 venues across Northumberland as part of an art trail starting 24 Oct. Before the Summer holidays I made an application to 'house' a sheep, and it was announced during the Summer break that we were one of the successful venues.

Our Texel 'sheep' will be on site from 18<sup>th</sup> October, for 6 weeks, and there is an event planned at Hexham Mart on that day to collect our sheep. A group of children will attend.

We are intending to show our sheep within the sensory garden area at the front of the school. You will be aware that this area needs some attention, and the children have been brainstorming ideas on how to transform this area, from covering it with straw to building a shelter/benching or planting colourful shrubs to decorating the area/the sheep with knitted items such as a Whitley Chapel blanket or a uniform. We envisage that the area will be usable long after the sheep has been removed.

Once we have an idea of the final outcome that the children would like we would welcome any support that can be offered to help us get this area ready. (Also, if you have any ideas please let us know). This is an ideal opportunity to showcase our school to others in the wider community and beyond and to help raise the profile of the arts, farming and the natural environment across a wide audience.

Find your inner shepherd and get ready to #FindTheFlock. <https://www.queenshall.co.uk/events/illuminated-sheep>

Those of you who were eagle-eyed in the last newsletter had seen something about the arrival of said sheep, but up until this point it's been all very top-secret. This project is part of the wider celebrations in relation to the Lindisfarne Gospels being brought back to the North-East this Autumn, and we've arranged a trip to see these in Newcastle at the start of the Autumn 2 term for the whole school.

Lots of exciting events to look forward to for the remainder of this term, along with the parent's meetings next week and the Harvest Lunch; more information about these will follow this week.

Mrs North

### **^Key dates for your diaries**

Day/Date	Event/time	Further info will follow
<b>TERM 1</b>		
10 - 13 Oct	Parents meetings week	Yes
13 Oct	Harvest Lunch	Yes
<b>17 Oct</b>	Flu vaccinations	
18 Oct	Arrival of the Whitley Chapel Illuminated Sheep	Yes
<b>21 Oct</b>	<b>Teacher Training day – INSET no. 3</b>	
24 – 28 Oct	<b>HALF TERM</b>	

<b>TERM 2</b>		
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov	Whole School trip to see the Lindisfarne Gospels, Newcastle	Yes
14 Nov	Anti-bullying week	Yes
18 Nov	Children in Need activities/fundraising	Yes
25 Nov	Adult wreath making	Yes
1 Dec	Follow up workshops in school from Laing Gospels visit	Yes

2 Dec	Hexham Abbey Illuminated Sheep closing event	Yes
6 Dec	Christmas Fayre	Yes
13 Dec	Christmas Lunch	Yes
15 Dec	Queens Hall Pantomime – EYFS	Yes
15 Dec	Northern stage Pantomime – Class 1 and 2	Yes
19 Dec	Dress rehearsal for Christmas Production	Yes
20 Dec	Christmas Production @ Parish Hall	Yes
21 Dec	EYFS Christmas Party	Yes
22 Dec	Whole School Carol Service at St Helen's	Yes
23 Dec	Class 1 Christmas Party Class 2 Christmas Party	Yes
23 Dec	End of term – finish @ 1pm	Yes

^A full set of dates for the year will be available on the website soon

**Further INSET Days – Mon 27<sup>th</sup> Feb (no. 4), Mon 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023 (no.5)**

**Flu vaccinations** – please note the change of day from the last newsletter – this was due to a clash with other events. If you have not yet received your consent letter please contact Mrs Thompson in the School Office.

### **Celebrations and mentions**



## **Proud Pegs**



The children get a chance to tell the school why they are on the Proud Pegs board during the Celebration assembly on a Wednesday and then receive a certificate recognising this. During last week's Celebration assembly though, we had some musical talents showcased with Freddie and Hazel from Class 2 showing us their abilities the electric guitar and the piano, respectively. This is such a brave thing to do in front of peers but they showed great composure. Well done to you both and to all who shared their proud moments.

We celebrated everyone's achievements making seed packets and flowers and collecting apples for our stall at the Church open day. Ava, William, Rory, Hazel, Claudia, Rebecca, Kiera, Lillie, Charlotte, Toby, Matthew and Frankie helped with our stall in Church on the day.

Leek Show Winners:

Charlotte, Kiera, Frankie, Rebecca, Olympia, Eilidh, Ollie, Finlay, Rory, Owen, Tabitha and Hazel.

Matthew achieved his stage 2 swimming badge.

Emily competed the Reading Challenge.

Hazel did well in a climbing wall competition.

Laurie found out what the homework was and completed it even though he had been away.

Miss Harrison climbed Snowdon.

## News from the classrooms

### EYFS – Nursery and Reception

Miss Tweddell, Mrs Armstrong, Mrs Wilson

#### Round up of the fortnight

Early Years have had a super time developing their painting skills by creating some beautiful family portraits based on lovely photographs shared from home! We have also worked hard on our phonics skills, with Reception working very hard on their letter formation and Nursery developing their listening skills by recreating sounds and rhythms. We have all enjoyed lots of singing and dancing, with 'Elephants Have Wrinkles' causing much hilarity! We also enjoyed the welcome return of the lovely sheep in the field outside our classroom and also the eagerly awaited homecoming of our squirrel friend, Mr Nibbles! We were delighted to end this week with the exciting news that our classmates Eilidh and Charlotte were both elected by their peers for the School Council! Congratulations to them! We are looking forward to seeing what the upcoming weeks have in store! Well done everyone!

### Class 1 - Years 1 and 2

Mrs North, Miss Harrison

#### Round up of the fortnight

We have been reading a variety of stories in Literacy about how characters are exploring their feelings. Some have been having to make new friends, others thinking about how they treat others; we have been looking at differences and

The children have been working hard on practising their handwriting and hopefully they have been eager to show you at home. I have enjoyed reading their writing journal homework and looking at their drawings or photos/leaflets they have collected to support this writing. Maths has seen lots of practical work to reinforce counting, partitioning and place value.

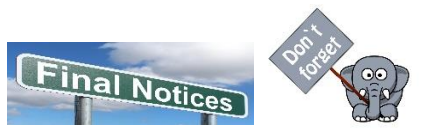
The class are really excited to see how the School Council will work; with Rebecca and Emily keen to get started with sorting our class's ideas for the Illuminated Sheep welcome party as soon as possible.

During Show and Tell Rebecca carefully explained all about the sheep's skull she had found and also had brought in a rabbit's skull to show us the difference in size!

### Class 2 – Years 3 and 4 - Mrs Hilton, Mrs Hardcastle - Round up of the fortnight

Thank you to all parents and carers who filled in the questionnaire about employment. We had a good look at the data this week and drew graphs of the results from each question. It caused some interesting discussion about types of work in the countryside and in the city and how living in a rural area can affect choices. The children began to make connections and draw conclusions about the difficulties of lack of public transport and choices of employment types in a more rural area.

We had School Council Elections this week too, with representatives from each year group being voted on to the team. Thank you to all those who prepared for these elections by writing speeches and taking part in the whole process.



- Please remember to tell us when you switch phone numbers, it is really important that we can contact you.
- For the same reasons, can you ensure that we hold at least 3 emergency contacts for your child/ren on our school database. Please contact Gillian to add contacts.
- If someone is picking up who is not usual, and will not be known by staff, please provide them and us with a password so that we can ensure a safe transfer.
- **Collection from clubs – this week we would like to trial releasing the children from Class 1 at the end of a club so please wait on the playground at this point from today.**
- Easy-fundraising/search reminder



## Help us to raise funds while you search and shop online

### Raise funds while you SEARCH online using EASYSEARCH !

Visit <http://whitleychapelceschool.easysearch.org.uk> and make this your home page. Every time you do an online search through this search engine, instead of the more usual Google, you will raise money for us. Just 10 searches a day means you raise £20 a year for us, and it is COMPLETELY FREE to use!

### Raise funds while you SHOP online using EASYFUNDRAISING !

Sign up at <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/whitleychapelceschool> to get exclusive discounts and voucher codes for hundreds online shops AND to help raise money for us. This is COMPLETELY FREE to use for you and it also raises money for us!!

#### How it works

First visit <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/whitleychapelceschool> then use the links on the site to take you to whichever retailer you want. Once you have made a purchase with the retailer, a percentage of what you have spent comes directly to us, at no extra cost to you. Many retailers donate around 2%, and some donate up to 15%. We have raised £700 so far but we need your help to keep the donations coming in!!

### COMMUNITY NEWS

#### West Northumberland Food Bank Collection at St Helen's (place in the blue box in the Church)

You can help by donating any of the following (shortage products are shown in red):

**Food** - Cereal, UHT milk, **tinned meat**, cook in sauces, tinned fish, tinned pasta, tinned fruit, **tinned desserts**, **tinned veg**, **sugar**, **coffee**, pasta, tinned tomatoes, microwave rice pouches, biscuits, instant noodles/instant pasta. **Household and**



sanitary items - Shampoo, razors, toothpaste, deodorant, toilet rolls, shower gel, washing powder/tablets, bleach, washing up liquid, household cleaning sprays, baby wipes, nappies – sizes 4/5/6.

**Holiday Club Hexham** **CHURCHES TOGETHER Hexham** **Scripture Union**

**FREE  
HHC  
Family  
Picnic**

**Saturday 8th October  
Tyne Green Play Park  
4.30-6.30pm**

Please text 07906534639 or email [holidayclubhexham@gmail.com](mailto:holidayclubhexham@gmail.com) to let us know you are coming and so that we can get enough food for everyone- please let us know any dietary requirements.

Please check our Facebook page for updates including wet weather venue **@hexhamholidayclub**