



Whitley Chapel Church of England First School
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Headteacher: Miss Jenny Morgan

Thursday 9th January 2020

Dear Parents

Happy New Year! Welcome back to the new term – I hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas holiday. Here are some reminders of things that are going on this term.

PE and Swimming

Please can you make sure that the children in Class 1 and 2 have their swimming kit every Thursday this term, including goggles, and swimming hats for girls with long hair.

If the weather is calm and dry all the children will be going outside for PE. Please make sure they have outdoor trainers, and warm jogging pants and tops. Please can you ensure that the girls have spare socks in their PE bags, as they sometimes forget when they have come to school in tights, and it is difficult for us to find spare pairs at short notice.

After School clubs

If you have not already done so, please can you return your permission slips for After School clubs so that we can let the people who are running the clubs how many children to expect. If you have lost the form, spare ones can be obtained from the office.

Please can we ask you again to ensure that you give Linda notice when you want her to come back to school at the end of the day for Nursery childcare or Chat and Relax. We would ask you to respect the fact that we have very small numbers of children using this service, and school runs it at a loss in order to help you with childcare. If you have told her that you will need her but change your mind at the last minute and decide to pick up your children at home time after all, Linda may have planned her afternoon around you and come over to school specially for nothing. If this happens, we will have to charge for the inconvenience.

Building work

There will be some external building work starting in school from next week, which will entail work on the roof and work on an extension around the back door to provide additional cloakroom space and make the school more draught proof. The builders will be putting a Portakabin on the car park, and using it to park their own cars. We expect the work to be finished by the end of the half term holiday. Please can you make sure you park on the road until then when dropping children off at Breakfast Club.

Connecting Classrooms project

You will be aware that we had a visit from some Ethiopian teachers from Addis Ababa in November, as part of the British Council Connecting Classrooms project that our school is taking part in with 5 other schools in the Hexham Partnership. Mrs Hilton will be travelling with members of staff from those schools to Addis Ababa on Sunday 9th February, and returning on Sunday 16th February. While she is away her class will be taught by Miss Nicola Clarke, who you will know from when she taught in Early Years last year.

Dates for the term	
Monday 13 th January	Class 2 Forest School PM
Friday 24 th January	Year 4 Collective Worship 9.15 am All parents and friends welcome
Monday 27 th January	Class 1 Forest School PM
Thursday 30 th January	Early Years Forest School AM
Friday 31 st January	Chocolate Cake Friday
Friday 7 th January	Year 3 Collective Worship 9.15 am All parents and friends welcome
Week 10 th – 14 th February	Mrs Hilton in Ethiopia with Connecting Classrooms project. Miss Clarke in Class 2
Wednesday 12 th February	Building Trust Fundraising social evening 6.30 – 8.30pm. Information to follow
Friday 14 th February	TEACHER TRAINING DAY School closed to pupils
Thursday 13 th – Friday 21 st February	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
Monday 24 th February	Class 2 Forest School PM
Wednesday 26 th February	Ash Wednesday service St Helen's Church 9.15 am All parents and friends welcome
Friday 28 th February	Chocolate Cake Friday
Monday 2 nd March	Class 1 Forest School PM
Wednesday 4 th March	Early Years Forest School AM
Friday 6 th March	Year 2 Collective Worship 9.15 am All parents and friends welcome
Thursday 12 th March	Book Week Dress up assembly 9.15 am All parents and friends welcome
Friday 20 th March	Year 1 Collective Worship 9.15 am All parents and friends welcome
Monday 23 rd March	Class 2 Forest School PM
Thursday 26 th March	Early years Forest School AM
Thursday 30 th March	Class 1 Forest School PM
Friday 3 rd April	Children will be making Easter bonnets in school in the morning to wear on a parade to church in the afternoon. Please send in craft materials. Easter service at St Helen's Church 1.30 pm All parents and friends welcome SCHOOL CLOSES FOR EASTER HOLIDAYS 2.15 pm.
Monday 6 th – Friday 17 th April	EASTER HOLIDAY
Monday 20 th April	Summer term begins