# NORTHUMBERLAND County Council

The Federation of Longhorsley and Whalton Church of England Aided Schools

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21st December 2023

#### **Dear Parents**

My final newsletter of 2023, with just a couple of updates and lots to say thank you for!

Mrs Nichola Brannen

#### **Christingle Service**

It was so lovely to see so many of you at our Christingle Service this morning and we would just like to thank Reverend Elaine and Pam again for organising and leading this (as well as Reverend Elaine coming into school to make the Christingles with the children yesterday). However, I think you will agree that Mrs Campbell was the best Christingle and such a good sport too! Thank you to our PTA for the warming refreshments as well.

The children also attended the Christmas Experience last week - so huge thanks to all involved from the Church Community who made that happen so that the children could experience the Bible story of Christmas themselves.

#### **Christmas Performance!**

Although a little while ago now, The Twinkly Nativity was a joy to behold wasn't it? Huge thanks to the children and staff for being the very best that they can be in putting on such a fabulous performance. Great thanks again to our PTA too for the refreshments and raffle they organised. All proceeds are going towards the proposed outdoor classroom.

## **Pantomime - Snow White**

The children were an absolute credit to us, and it was a delight to take them. Hopefully they came back with the same enthusiasm and told you all about the performance. It is such a worthwhile experience going to the theatre in so many ways and we would like to thank the PTA for funding the bus to keep costs as low as possible.

#### **Christmas Lunch and Parties**

Many thanks to Miss Johnson for our delicious Christmas lunch on Tuesday - lots of cracker pulling too with great memories for the children! As advertised, parties will be held tomorrow, Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December. Children are to come to school in their party clothes - so please be mindful that they will still be playing outside as usual and will need to be warm.

#### **Workshops for Parents**

Thank you to all of the parents who attended the Literacy and Anti-Bullying workshops this term. They were really well received and parents said they were extremely worthwhile. Just to let you know that we have an **Online Safety Parent Workshop on Wednesday 7**<sup>th</sup> **February at 2pm.** It would be great to have as many of you there as possible as it is vital that we can support our children to be safe online at home, as well as at school. There will also be workshops for the children in school too. Please email admin to let us know if you will be attending – many thanks!

# **Swimming**

Huge thanks to our swimming parents for their support this term, we couldn't have done it without you. It will be Years 3, 4, 5, and 6 going swimming again in the Spring Term, starting in the first week back, every Tuesday afternoon.

#### **Remembrance - Poppy Appeal**

We managed to raise an amazing £83.24 through the selling of poppies and other poppy goodies, which will be donated to the Royal British Legion - thank you for your support.

### **Robinwood Residential**

Thank you so much for all of your replies for whether your children are attending the Y4/5 residential next May. There will be an option to pay the full total or in £50 instalments from December to March. More information to follow through School Gateway/Comms.

#### And finally ...

Just to confirm that we break up for the Christmas holidays tomorrow and that there is no Teacher Training Day on the first day back. **School will open again on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024.** 

May the peace and blessings of Christmas be yours; And may the coming year

be filled with happiness.

We would like to wish everyone, including our hardworking Governors, Staff, children and you, our parents, the very best Christmas and a Peaceful New Year. Thank you for all of your continued support and see you all in 2024!

Kindest Regards

Mrs Brannen

**Executive Headteacher**