NORTHUMBERLAND County Council

The Federation of Longhorsley and Whalton Church of England Aided Schools

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16th February 2024

Dear Parents

Swimming

It was a delight to be able to join the older children at their swimming lesson on Tuesday. Both swimming groups were very impressive and we have lots of confident and strong swimmers. As a much needed life skill, I was very proud of all of the children's efforts and loved seeing how much they all enjoyed it. As a result, we have decided that the Class 3 children will continue their swimming sessions into next half term too so that they can build on this excellent progress.

Please note that our younger swimmers (Reception to Year 2) will continue their swimming sessions now in the summer term.

A big thank you to our swimming mums for their time in supporting this activity.

PE Kits

All children will still need to come to school in their PE kits every Tuesday and Thursday.

Bikeability

We have managed to book some Bikeability training for our Y4, Y5 and Y6 children on Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th March (the second week back). The children will need their bikes and helmets in school please for both days (Y4 children just for day 1). Any problems please let us know.

This is what the children will be doing:

Level 1 is a traffic-free course aimed at young riders aged 7-10 for mastering bike control skills. (Y4)

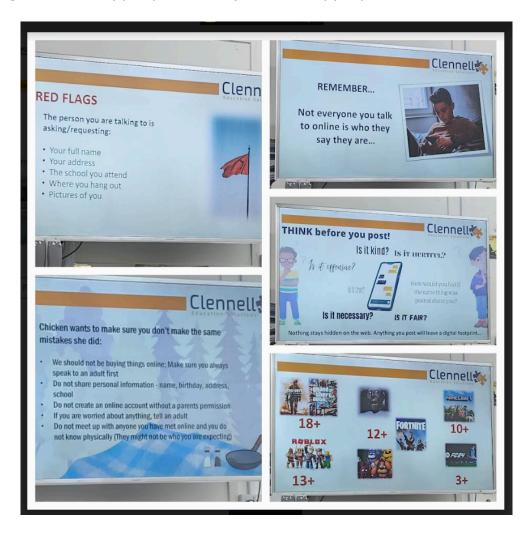
Level 2 is a course based on local streets and gives children from year 5 and onwards their first on-road cycling experiences. Attendees learn how to deal with moderate traffic on short journeys. (Y5 and 6)

Online Safety Workshops

Many thanks to the parents who were able to attend the online safety workshop. If you could give us any feedback on how useful you found it to be, that would really help. It would also be helpful to have any feedback on the best time for parent workshops if you had wanted to attend but couldn't. Comments can be emailed to the admin email address. whaltonadmin@fedlongwhaltschools.uk Thank you!

The Safeguarding Consultant also delivered age appropriate workshops for the children and was extremely impressed by our children's knowledge of how to keep themselves safe online.

Please see the slides below. A key message was the age ranges on certain online games and apps, particularly about inappropriate content.



World Book Day

You are all invited to come along to the children's poetry readings at the PTA's Coffee and Catch up on Thursday 7th March - 9.15am start, as part of our World Book Day celebrations.

Local MP Visit

The children were delighted to meet Guy Opperman this week. They had some brilliant questions ranging from litter to potholes. However, one question was especially worth sharing; Is it cool to have the same name as the man who tried to blow up the House of Parliament? (Guy's office is actually in the same location!).

Lunchtime Deaf Awareness Choir

The children have been thoroughly enjoying the lunchtime choir with Mrs Storey. For those children who would like to continue, this will now be on a Wednesday lunchtime after half term. Please email admin to let us know who will be attending this club. Many thanks!

All Age Worship in Church

On Friday 22nd March, you are invited to come along to St Mary Magdalene's Church for Reverend Elaine's All Age Worship. Please drop your children off at school as normal so they can be registered and then we will join you at 9.15am.

Pupil Progress Update Meetings for Parents

These will be held next half term in week 4 (please see your diary dates), however, timings for the meetings will be sent out at the beginning of next half term.

Please remember that you can make appointments to see your child's teacher at any point in the year to discuss your child's progress or if you have any questions.

Finally, many thanks for your continued support in all areas of school life. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any queries or questions.

Have a wonderful half term and we will see everyone back on Tuesday 27th February (school is closed for staff training on Monday 26th February).

Kind regards

Mrs Brannen

Executive Headteacher