
NORTHUMBERLAND County Council

The Federation of Longhorsley and Whalton Church of England Aided Schools

**Longhorsley St Helen's
C of E Aided First School**
Drummonds Close
Longhorsley
MORPETH
Northumberland
NE65 8UT



**Whalton C of E Aided
Primary School**
Whalton
MORPETH
Northumberland
NE61 3XH

Tel 01670 788316

Fax 01670 788031

email: longhorsleyadmin@fedlongwhaltschools.uk
www.longhorsley-st-helens.northumberland.sch.uk

Mrs Nichola Brannen
Executive Headteacher

Tel 01670 775216

email: whaltonadmin@fedlongwhaltschools.uk
www.whalton.northumberland.sch.uk

8th July 2025

Dear Parents

My final newsletter of the year- where does the time go!

Federation Day

As diared in our calendar dates, we have our last Federation day on Wednesday (tomorrow). This time, all of the children from Whalton have been invited to join Longhorsley for a day of geography fieldwork, as well as joining in with their PE sessions run by our external coaches. This will take place during the school day with lunches served at Longhorsley too, (they will even see Miss Johnson there) so please just drop your children off at Whalton as normal, but wearing their PE kits if possible- many thanks! They will then get on a coach to and from Longhorsley and will be back before the end of the school day.

Staffing Update

We are sad but delighted to share that Mr Brown will be moving schools, as a class teacher. We have been so lucky to have him shared between both schools over the last two years, and he has worked with so many of our children in small groups and 1:1, as well as supporting teaching and learning as a Higher Level Teaching Assistant. Huge congratulations Mr Brown!

School Reports

Your children's reports are currently being proofread and will be with you by the end of the week. We hope that you and your child/children enjoy reading them, finding out how well they have done this year and their next steps to continue 'to be the very best that they can be'. They have all worked so hard! Please let us know your thoughts by scanning the QR code on the last page of the reports .Many thanks!

Our Leavers

These last two weeks are always filled with making final memories for our children who are leaving. Next week will see our leavers enjoying their Leavers' lunch in school and their Leavers' School Service, in church, on the afternoon of Friday 18th July. We hope to see as many of you as there as possible to give our children a proper Whalton send off!

For the rest of our children, we will also be having our parties and the traditional pea hunt at Whalton! The lovely PTA have also arranged for the ice cream van to come along too for a final treat - many, many thanks!

Diary Dates

To help you look ahead to the next academic year, we will be sending out next years' diary dates next week so that you can plan any time off work and holidays using the dates - we do have training days on Fridays and Mondays, so please use these to get reductions in costs! We will continue to add and update these term by term and resend them out to you.

School Lunches

Miss Johnson continues to cook fabulous wholesome meals for our children and we very much need your support to keep our school dinners alive- they are delicious! The cost of a school lunch will now be £2.75 a day from September for Year 3 children upwards. These are payable on a weekly basis, or half termly. Please remember that children on packed lunches can also sign up for school lunches - very popular on Fridays or when we are celebrating a certain time of the year - please just email school and we will sort.

Outstanding Monies

Thank you for keeping up to date with your gateway payments, however, please do not be offended if we remind you of the need to pay as, unfortunately, we still do have some outstanding payments (currently £1,981), so if these can be settled by Friday please, especially any children who are leaving, including for the weekly swimming bus, we would be very grateful. Many thanks for your support with this.

If you ever wish for your child to go on packed lunch, we do require at least two weeks' notice as a minimum please for food orders, however, we really do need your continued support for our kitchen to be viable, so having as many children on school dinners really helps with this and Miss Johnson is always very flexible.

Improvements to School

Looking ahead to September, we have plans to improve our fencing and school gates, following a successful bid back in February through the Diocese. As a Church school, we are extremely fortunate to be able to bid for funding that we can then use to improve our building and grounds. I will keep you updated!

Font Alliance

Last year, we joined an informal alliance with Cambo First School, Longhorsley C of E First School, Morpeth First School, Ponteland Community Primary School, Rothbury First School and Tritlington First School. We really hope that you will agree that this has had a positive impact on our children, especially in relation to football and sports, and meeting other children of the same age too, who they will meet again as they continue their educational journey. The Font Alliance has definitely benefited our staff and we have lots more shared training booked, such as Safeguarding and Trauma Attachment on our first training days in September, as well as joint moderation of children's writing standards throughout the year.

Whalton Show

It's that time of year again when we are proud to be supporting the Whalton Village Show. We are therefore kindly asking families, if possible, to donate:

- An item for the wheelbarrow raffle — something that would be suitable for someone in your family.
- A bottle (for either an adult or a child) for the tombola, that school will be in charge of!

The funds raised from the Whalton Village Show are traditionally shared between the School, PAWS, and the Church, so we are keen to support this wonderful community event as much as we can.

Thank you so much

At this time of year, the children are really ready for the holidays, (as well as the staff!), so I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every member of staff for their continued hard work,

commitment to our school and for doing their very best for each child, as well as you, our parents. I am so very proud of the amazing team of staff we have who share the same values and ethos which our school is built on.

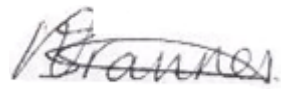
Our new PTA has been fantastic too - so a huge thank you, especially for those whose children are moving on. We will again be looking for new recruits in September to carry on the fantastic support that has helped us raise funding for our Shepherd's Hut - which is nearing completion!

We also have a very supportive and committed Governing Body who supports and challenges us to ensure that we provide the very best education to your children too, so huge thanks to them, including our Chair, Mr Truscott. We would also like to send our sincere thanks to our Priest in Charge, Reverend Elaine, too.

Finally, from all of us, please do enjoy quality time with your families over the summer (when the time comes!) and we look forward to seeing returning and new families in the Autumn term - on Wednesday 3rd September.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Kindest wishes,



Mrs Brannen
Executive Headteacher

