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# NORTHUMBERLAND County Council

The Federation of Longhorsley and Whalton Church of England Aided Schools

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20th March 2026

Dear Parents,

With only one week and 4 days left until Easter, I just wanted to give you a quick update!

## Font Alliance Sporting Events

### *Y2 Multi-skills/Co Jo*

Really well done to Mr Chambers and our Y2 children who joined Longhorsley, Stannington, Cambo, Morpeth First and Ponteland Community Primary Year 2s, for the first time. Both Mr Chambers and Mr Carr, from Longhorsley, led the way with their Commando Joe missions, which were very well received by the other schools. Huge thanks to Ponteland Community PE department for stepping in and helping us to lead it after our Ofsted at Longhorsley last week.

### *Year 1 Multi-Skills*

Following this event, our Year 1 children have also been invited to Morpeth First School as part of the Font Alliance Multi skills/Commando Joe on Tuesday 31st March from 9.30am to 11am. Children will already be dressed in their PE Kit and will just need their water bottle.

### *Reception Summer Fun and Picnic*

There is also going to be a Reception summer event, which will give our Reception children even more opportunity to meet and mix with children from their own year groups in other schools too - further details to follow.

## Other Sports Event

Year 2 have been invited to a Multi Skills Festival at Chantry Middle School on Monday 30th March from 9.45am to 11.45am. The festival will focus on Skill Related components of Fitness, Speed, Agility, Balance and Coordination. Children to wear their PE kit and bring water bottle.

### **Federation Sports Day**

We are also trialling our very first Federation Sports Day with Whalton children joining Longhorsley this year. Whalton children will spend the whole day at Longhorsley, with our Reception children joining in with the Nursery/Reception morning sports and Years 1- 6, joining in the afternoon. Further details to follow.

### **Easter!**

Easter is certainly on its way and we will be having an Easter Egg hunt, on Monday 30th March, in school to celebrate. All children are welcome to come in non school uniform and all we are asking for, is a small donation on this day. All children will receive an Easter egg and any money raised will finish off the internal decoration of the shepherd's hut!

Our Easter Service is also in the last week, Thursday 2nd April at 2.30pm at St Mary Magdalene's. We look forward to seeing you there.

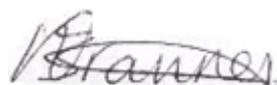
### **Toucan Education - Dyslexia and SEN specialists**

For well over a year now, we have been having a Toucan specialist working in school fortnightly with our children, along with Mrs Weldon, on a Wednesday afternoon. It has been so successful in supporting our children with their literacy skills that we opened the session up for other children from Longhorsley to come over too. We now have the exciting news that we are to become an official outpost host for Toucan. This will mean that a small number of other children from other schools will be able to access this service at Whalton on a Wednesday afternoon, instead of having to travel to Newcastle.

What does this mean for us? This means that our identified children will benefit from weekly sessions with the Toucan teacher Karen (not just fortnightly). We have identified the classroom, outdoor area, toilet and entrance which will be used by Toucan children only (and clearly signposted). Together, we have drawn up strict safeguarding policies and risk assessments, which have also gone to our Governors to agree. Mrs Weldon will continue to be in all sessions too. There will be 6 places available for non-Federation children. I hope that you will all agree that this is a great opportunity for our children, as well as the opportunity to get our school name out and about too. If anyone has any further questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Finally, Reverend Elaine's All Age Worship will be next Friday in Church as usual, anyone is welcome to join us.

Kindest regards,



Mrs Brannen  
Executive Headteacher