



Whalton School News

Spring Term

31st January 2020

New Year Community Lunch

Thank you to all who came to the New Year Family Lunch. We are really grateful to all the hard work of Fiona who provided us with a most delicious lunch.

E-safety website - Common Sense Media



Common Sense Media is a source of entertainment and technology recommendations for families and schools. It rates movies, TV shows, books, etc., so parents have more information about the entertainment choices they make for their children.

There is parenting advice which acts as a support to families as they navigate the challenges and possibilities of raising children in the digital age.

It is definitely worth a look, especially to find out what ratings they have given games such as **Roblox** and **Fortnite** and why. They display the minimum age for which they believe the content is developmentally appropriate.

Upcoming events:

World Book Day 'Careers' Thursday 5th March

Our focus this year will be the school's motto of 'Aspire, Believe, Achieve: to be the very best that we can be', and we would like the children, if possible, to come dressed in the clothes they would wear for their future chosen career, be it a doctor, professional cricketer, engineer or even Prime Minister!



As it would be fantastic for the children to see and listen to actual real life role models in their chosen careers, we would love to hear from parents and relatives who could come in on Thursday 5th March and talk to the children about **their** chosen careers. It need not be for long, but it would give the children first-hand information about possible future jobs. Please see your child's class teacher for more information.

Readathon

Also, in the run up to World Book Day, we would like to hold a sponsored 'Readathon' where the children are sponsored to read as much as they can between now and World Book Day. They can either be sponsored to read by the page; by the book; by the number of times they have sat down to read or when they have had a story shared with them/read to them - whatever your choice for sponsorship may be. The idea is to encourage and share a love of reading!

The sponsorship money raised will help to provide a regular supply of brand new books and a resident storyteller to every major children's hospital in the UK.



Your child will be given a sponsor form next week.

NB If you do not want your child to take part in the sponsorship, please use the forms to track your child's reading and see if they can improve the frequency and depth of their reading between now and World Book Day.

Year 6 Taster Day - Ponteland High School

Year 6 children have been invited to attend a Taster Day at Ponteland High School on Monday 3rd February. This will give the children a flavour of lessons, teachers and the different departments in High school. Children are to arrive at the High School for 8:45am to start at 9:00am. Transport will be provided to bring your child back to Whalton after the taster morning. Juice and biscuits will be provided at break time and the children will have lunch upon their return to school.

School Gateway overdue payments- autumn term 2019

Please note that all payments for the autumn term are now overdue! Please remember that payments for Swimming, Music tuition, Milk, Educational Visits and School Dinners must be paid in advance by the deadline date set up on School Gateway. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the school office. Thank you.

Operation Encompass

Please see the attached letter about our continuing work with Operation Encompass. It contains 2 'drop in' dates for anyone wishing to talk to Laura.

Diary Dates - updated

Please find attached an updated copy of the diary dates.

Dates for your diary -

Monday 3rd February - Year 6 Taster Day at Ponteland High School

Tuesday 11th February 2020 - Safer Internet Day - Activities in school

Friday 14th February 2020 - School breaks up for half term

Friday 21st February - Teacher Training Day

Monday 24th February - School re-opens for Spring Term 2

Friday 28th February - Family Church Service - 8:55am in Church

Thursday 5th March 2020 - World Book Day

Friday 13th March 2020 - Sport Relief

Monday 16th & Wednesday 18th March 2020 - Parents' Meetings: Pupil Progress Update

Thursday 2nd April 2020 - Easter Service - 2:00pm in Church

Thursday 2nd April 2020 - School breaks up for Easter

