

WHITLEY MEMORIAL C of E AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Headteacher – Mrs Claire Gray

'Let your light shine' – Matthew 5:16
Our Current Core Value: Friendship

Dear Whitley Family,

I spoke too soon about the weather, just after I had gone out and bought a BBQ! Back to winter for the moment. However, it still hasn't stopped the children getting plenty of fresh air and outdoor learning, especially EYFS, they are a hardy lot. They were up at Forest School, when I didn't even want to step out of the warmth of my office, and the Year 1 children were on a seed hunt.



'Let Your Light Shine' Week/'Light Up Bedlington'

This week's work in school has been centered on our new school motto, 'Let Your Light Shine'. During this week, our aim was to help the children to understand what our new "motto" actually means and to be able to explain it to others: *We can let our light shine by our actions: being kind, caring, serving, friendship.... in fact through all our core values. We can let our light shine by being like Jesus, showing love to others. We can let our light shine through our own uniqueness and through our talents. We can let our light shine by telling others about Jesus.*

Today, the children have also had a special day on this theme, through a wide range of activities. We will be making a display of some of the work in St Cuthbert's church.

As part of our special week, every child is making a candle to bring home and to display, if you wish, in your window. Each class is also making a large candle that we are going to display in different shops in Bedlington. There will be a trail sheet available for the children if they wish to go out and find all the candles. More details to follow.

Staffing

I am delighted to inform you that the governors have now confirmed Mrs Townsend's permanent appointment as Deputy Headteacher. I look forward to continuing working together to move the school forward.

Parents' Evening

Thank you for attending our Parental Consultations. I know that the teachers really appreciated the opportunity to talk to you so that they can work in partnership with yourselves. Hopefully our next meetings will be face to face.

Please remember that you are more than welcome to talk to the teachers at any point in the year and that the class teacher should be your first point of contact to discuss any concerns.

Internet Safety

It has been brought to our attention that some parents have concerns over their children playing Roblox. This guide should be helpful and there is also advice on setting parental controls etc here, <https://www.internetmatters.org/.../roblox-parental.../>. A copy of this can be seen on our Facebook page. Don't forget that there are lots of useful guides in the parents section of the school website. The NSPCC website also has lots of useful advice and resources to help you to keep your children safe online.

Bikes and Scooters/ Playground Equipment

There have been a few near misses in school with children who are riding their bikes, scooters, and other wheeled vehicles around the yard. Please make sure that your child gets off their bike etc at the gate and pushes it.

Please can I remind everyone that children must not play on the equipment before or after school for Health and Safety.

Long Service Award

I hope that you saw our Facebook post on the Long Service Awards that we have given to staff. Between the 9 staff they have worked a total of 230 years for NCC with 218 of those years working at The Whitley. It just demonstrates the love of staff for this school and the community that it serves.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Gray

