



Whitley News

7th November 2025



What a Wonderful Start to the New Term at The Whitley!

What an incredible first week back it has been! The school has been absolutely buzzing with excitement as the children have thrown themselves into their new learning and shown our new school value of respect in so many wonderful ways. It has been heartwarming to see pupils adding their ribbons to our Respect Tree and proudly earning their robin respect stickers for showing kindness, care and consideration all around school.

Our Year 1 children have had a particularly exciting start - they haven't stopped talking about the mysterious beast that appeared in their classroom, leaving behind a sparkly, feathery mess! Their predictions about what the creature might look like and the descriptive sentences are absolutely fantastic.

It was also wonderful to welcome some of our year 4 families into school for our Zumba session this week. The energy and enthusiasm was contagious and it was lovely to see everyone getting involved. One child in particular began by saying they wouldn't be dancing - but before long, they were showing off some amazing moves! Meanwhile, Year 5 have had a brilliant start to their Design and Technology project on bridges. They became budding architects, designing and building prototypes of arch and beam bridges before testing and evaluating how to make them stronger.

As we head into the weekend, our Remembrance display will be fully in place, ready for everyone to enjoy. We hope parents and families will take a quiet moment to view it and pay their respects as they walk through our school grounds.

Finally, we would love for our families to join us for the parade this weekend, meeting at the Salvation Army at 2pm. It would be wonderful to come together as a school community to remember and reflect.

What a brilliant first week back - full of respect, excitement and community spirit. We can't wait to see what the rest of this term brings!



Last year we improved our attendance so much, as a challenge, it would be great to improve it again this year. Please work with us to bring your children into school as much as possible.

Year Group	Percentage
Reception	96.8
Year 1	90.3
Year 2	87.9
Year 3	95.8
Year 4	96.2
Year 5	96.6
Year 6	95.45
Overall	94.2

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please remember all dates are subject to change and events may be added as the term goes on.

Date	Event
09/11/25	Bedlington Remembrance Service – Meet at the Salvation Army at 2pm
10/11/25	Peace Service – school hall – 9am. Parents welcome
11/11/25	Remembrance Day Service at the cenotaph 10:30 – School MPs and Senior Students
12/11/25	Interfaith Week – Diwali celebration
13/11/25	EYFS – Nursery Rhyme Parent Share
14/11/25	Children in Need Non-uniform
20/11/25	Non uniform day to collect tombola and raffle prizes
17/11/25 – 21/11/25	Forest School Week – Letters have been sent to inform you of class days
24/11/25	Br Khadim visiting school – Y6
24/11/25	Y5 trip to St Benet Biscop to watch Rock of Ages
25/11/25	Y4 – Sikh visit in school
03/12/25	PTA Christmas Fair
08/12/25 – 12/12/25	Christmas Performance week – see Christmas dates
11/12/25	Christmas Jumper Day
11/12/25	School Christmas Dinner Day
12/12/25	Y2-Y6 Panto
15/12/25 – 19/12/25	Christmas Party Week – see Christmas dates
16/12/25	EYFS & Year 1 Northern Stage Christmas Theatre Visit
19/12/25	Christingle at St Cuthbert's – Full school service at 9:30am
19/12/25	Christmas Singalong 1:15 to finish school at 1:30pm



Information



Friday 14th November – come dressed in sports clothes, spots or non-uniform and if you can, bring a donation to support Children in Need.

Parents, join us at 9am for our Children in Need, 'Challenge Yourself' worship where it will be teachers vs children in a sporting challenge. Who will be the winners?

You may want to come prepared just in case there is a challenge for you!



A huge Whitley Welcome to Miss Wood!

We are delighted to announce that Miss Wood will be taking over as the Year 2 teacher when Miss McLean begins her maternity leave on Friday, 14th November.

Miss Wood has been in school this week for a comprehensive handover with Miss McLean and has also spent time getting to know the children. We are confident that this will ensure a smooth and positive transition for everyone.

Please take a moment to introduce yourself to Miss Wood over the coming week. I'm sure you will all join us in welcoming her warmly and wishing her every success in the terms ahead.

Year 1 – Year 6 Reading Challenge

Can you read 20 of the 25 days between Monday 10th November and Friday 12th December?



We're excited to announce that this term's reward will be a movie and a bag of popcorn in the school hall!

Remember - a grown-up must sign your reading record each time you read at home. Reading regularly makes such a difference to every child's learning and our goal is for all our pupils to become confident, successful readers.

These reading challenges are designed to inspire a love of reading and encourage children to explore more books than ever before.

If you'd like any support or ideas for reading at home, please don't hesitate to get in touch - we're always happy to help.



Family Zumba





Year 5 DT - Bridges

