



# Whitley News

14<sup>th</sup> November 2025



What an incredible week it has been at The Whitley! We began the week with our Peace Service on Monday - a truly meaningful opportunity for the children to share their poems, artwork and reflections in order to remember those who have given their lives for our county.

We were also immensely proud of both our volunteers who supported on Sunday and of our MPs and senior students who represented the school so wonderfully at the Remembrance Day service on the 11th. Their reading of a poem was absolutely brilliant and the respect, confidence and maturity they showed made them a real credit to the school. They truly let their light shine.

This week we have also had a fantastic time celebrating Interfaith Week, with a particular focus on Hinduism and the festival of Diwali. The children loved learning about the traditions, symbols and stories linked to the celebration and they approached their activities with great enthusiasm. A huge thank you goes to Mrs Fellows and the rest of the kitchen team for preparing a delicious Diwali-themed lunch - it was enjoyed by everyone who tried it and really helped bring the celebrations to life.

To round off the week in unforgettable style, we welcomed Joe Wicks (brilliantly played by Mr Blackburn!) into school for the *Children vs Teachers Ultimate Fitness Showdown* in support of Children in Need. From the moment the music started, it was clear everyone was *ready to rumble* - with the hall buzzing like a fitness arena. The children came in focused, fierce and full of determination. Our teachers... well, let's just say they had they had the same but perhaps not quite the stamina to match! There was also some very cheeky "creative rule-bending" going on among the staff. The atmosphere was electric with cheers, chants and laughter echoing around the hall and we were thrilled to have so many parents joining in the fun too. Despite the teachers' best (and slightly sneaky!) efforts, the children powered through and claimed the victory! Best of all, together we raised an amazing **£177** for Children in Need.

What a week it has been - full of learning, joy, community spirit and moments that brought us together. We can't wait to see what the rest of this term has in store!



Well done Morpeth class for their brilliant effort with attendance this week! Let's keep up the improvements!

| Year Group | Percentage |
|------------|------------|
| Reception  | 95.4       |
| Year 1     | 93.8       |
| Year 2     | 84.5       |
| Year 3     | 93.5       |
| Year 4     | 92.3       |
| Year 5     | 99.3       |
| Year 6     | 97.5       |
| Overall    | 94         |

# UPCOMING EVENTS

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

| Date                   | Event                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 20/11/25               | Non uniform day to collect tombola and raffle prizes                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 17/11/25 –<br>21/11/25 | <p>Forest School Week<br/>Y3 and Y4 – Monday<br/>Y1 and Y2 – Tuesday<br/>Y5 – Wednesday<br/>EYFS and Y6 – Friday</p> <p>Please ensure your child/ children are wrapped up nice and warm and ready to be outside for a good section of the day.</p> |
| 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 –<br>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 –<br>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                                                                                                                                                                                                |



# Children in Need





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# Nursery Rhyme Morning



Thank you to our EYFS grown ups for attending the nursery rhyme morning – it was a great mash up of rhymes with lots of fun activities to share with your children afterwards!