



# Whitley News

12<sup>th</sup> December 2025



## What a *show-stopping* week it has been at The Whitley!

Our halls have been alive with the sound of Christmas as the children took to the stage for their Christmas performances. From the tiniest snowflakes to the most confident carolers, every pupil found the courage to step into the spotlight!

This week has been as much about looking *in* as it has been about looking *out*. Many of our children have spent time relooking in - finding that spark of bravery and that inner glow that gives them the confidence to stand up and perform in front of an audience. For some, it was the very first time they have ever done so and what a magical thing it was to witness.

As teachers and families, we've looked out - gazing at our wonderful young performers with hearts full of pride, joy and (admittedly) the occasional happy tear. Those moments on stage, big or small, remind us exactly why we do what we do.

They are gifts that don't need wrapping.

The UKS2 Carol Service at the church was truly beautiful - a lovely blend of traditional carols, heartfelt singing and the warmth of community. We couldn't help but feel the absence of Rev. Ian, whose piano-playing always filled the church with such joyful energy.

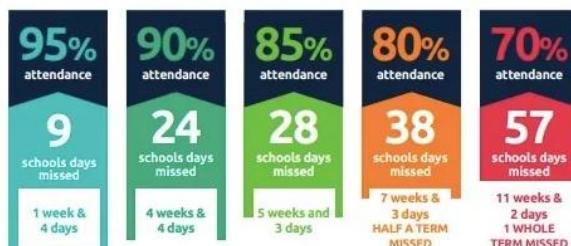
This week also brought a huge treat for our Year 2 to Year 6 children with our annual pantomime visit! What a performance it was - full of laughter, excitement, "He's behind you!" moments and plenty of sparkle. Our children represented the school brilliantly!

Thursday saw our annual Christmas lunch, the festive music was playing as everyone tucked into a delicious meal. Thank you to the kitchen staff and our lunch time supervisors for making this possible.

To every pupil: **you truly let your light shine this week** - on stage, in rehearsals, in church or simply by cheering on your classmates. And to our amazing teachers and staff - thank you for letting *your* light shine too. Your support, patience, rehearsals, costume-finding, prop-locating, line-prompting and general festive juggling have helped create memories the children will carry with them for years.

It's been a merry and magical week and we hope your weekend is much of the same. **Mrs Roome**

### Every day in school counts...



and every minute counts...



Year Group	Percentage
Reception	88.8
Year 1	92.1
Year 2	84.8
Year 3	95.8
Year 4	90.7
Year 5	91.1
Year 6	90.4
Overall	91.3

# UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Date	Event
15/12/25	Y1 and Y2 Christmas Party
16/12/25	Y3 and Y4 Christmas Party
16/12/25	EYFS & Y1 Northern Stage Christmas Performance
17/12/25	EYFS Christmas Party (am)
	Y5 Christmas Party
18/12/25	Y6 Christmas Party
19/12/25	Christingle at St Cuthbert's 9:30am.
19/12/25	Family Carol Singalong at 1:15pm



## Christmas Parties

Children can wear party clothes and should bring an individual plate of food for themselves. Please avoid foods requiring refrigeration and anything containing nuts, as we have allergies in school.

# Christmas Performances



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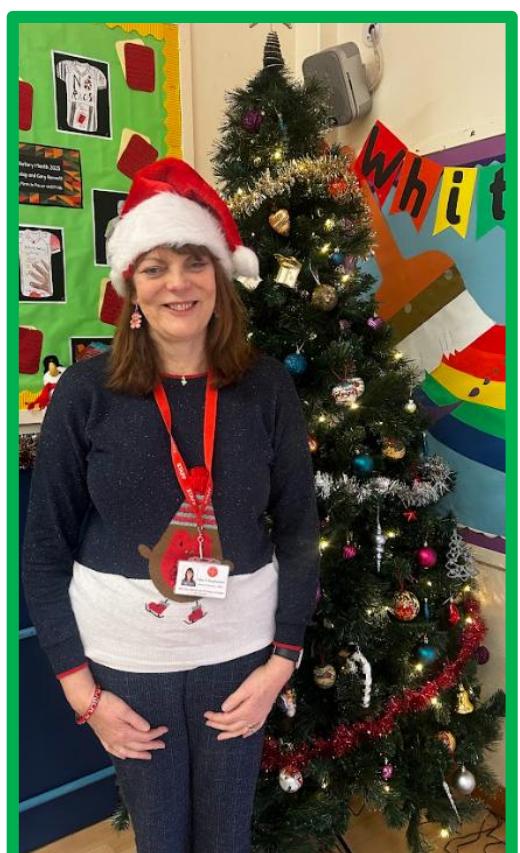


# St Cuthbert's Church Fair



Thank you to those children and parents who took the time out of their Saturday morning to come along and support St Cuthbert's Church during their Christmas Fair. The children sang beautifully and gathered quite an audience in the pews.

It's not just the children who *Let Their Light Shine* at Whitley Memorial - the staff do too. Mrs. Stephenson truly let her light shine this week while performing in the Bedlington Singers Christmas Concert at St. Cuthbert's Church. The whole concert was absolutely incredible, and the dedication and time spent practising really shone through. I cannot wait to attend future concerts and celebrate Mrs. Stephenson's achievements. Well done, Mrs. Stephenson!



# EYFS Library Visit



This week EYFS visited Bedlington Library where they browsed the books, read with adults and heard a story. The rest of the school will be visiting the library soon and we hope that these become regular school visits.

