



Whickham Parochial Church of England Primary School

Let your light shine!

Newsletter 5/9/25

News

Welcome Back!

Welcome to the first newsletter of the new school year! You will be pleased to know that the children have settled into their new year groups beautifully and are shining for themselves and others every day!

Retirement

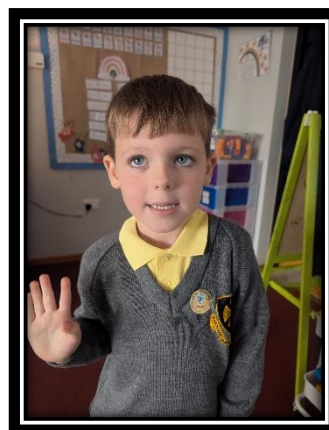
We are starting the year off with some news. Our wonderful Mrs Sue Stapleton has decided that, after twenty-nine years at Parochial, she would like to retire, and will be leaving us on September 30th. We are heartbroken to be losing our 'Aunty Sue'; she has been such an integral part of the school and its journey. Mrs Stapleton has supported hundreds of children and so many classes to reach their potential, and has done so with kindness and considerable expertise that has been very much appreciated by pupils, staff and parents. She will be a huge miss and we will find it very hard to lose our good friend, but I'm sure you will join us in wishing her the very happiest of retirements with her gorgeous family. Sue, don't forget us when you are jetting off on your holidays!

Attendance

| Year Group | Reception | Year One | Year Two | Year Three | Year Four | Year Five | Year Six |
|----------------|-----------|----------|----------|------------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Weekly % | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 95% | 97% | 95% |
| Whole School % | 91% | | | | | | |

Celebrations

Congratulations to our first Wonderwall winners of the year, we are so impressed with the way you've settled into your new classes! Warkworth were the winners of our housepoints – well done everyone!





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Dates for your diary... (Remember, whole school dates are on our website and ESchools calendars)

- **Wednesday 24th September** – Reception Parent Meeting @ 5.30pm
- **Tuesday 30th September** – Year 6 at Beamish Museum (payable on ParentPay)

Things to remember...

- **Extra Curricular Activities** are now available to book, I've attached another timetable.
Please note – children won't be taken into an extra-curricular activity, if their space hasn't been paid for.
- **Changes in the office** – On a Tuesday morning, until after lunch, Mrs Smith will be on duty in the school office. Mrs Baird will be in school, but unavailable, and will pick up any emails/messages when she's back in the office.
- The **Friends of Whickham Parochial** are having their first meeting of the year, on Tuesday 9th September, 7.30pm, at the Fellsider. Everyone is welcome, please come along if you're able, we'd love to see you there!
- The **flu immunisation letter** was sent home before the Summer - please remember to either opt in, or out, using the instructions enclosed in the letter.
- If your child is in Years 2-6 and would be interested in **violin** tuition, please let me know. We also have availability for **guitar** tuition, Years 3-6.
- **Guitar tuition has moved from a Tuesday to a Monday**, please can guitar students remember to bring their guitar with them on a Monday, starting Monday 8th September 2025.
- I have also attached **flyers** for an SEND Lego Club, SEND Support Hubs and Gateshead West Uniform Scheme.

Don't forget, you can find lots of school information on our [website](#) – our letters are saved on there, you can find out about our curriculum, and we have our calendar and term dates too. If you are ever in need of information, it's a good place to start!
Additionally, all dates are on our E-schools calendar.