



Great Whelnetham Church of England Primary School

'By growing together, we become the best we can be'

Newsletter

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2nd November 2018

Dear Parents

Welcome back! I hope you all had an enjoyable half term holiday and are now all refreshed and ready for the rest of the term. As usual with the lead up to Christmas the school will be very busy, with lots going on. Please check the school website, diary of events or recent newsletters to keep up to date.

Weather

November is now here and the dark, damp weather appears to have come in quickly. Therefore please ensure children have a suitable coat, hats and gloves.

Severe Weather

The school will always endeavour to open in poor weather conditions. In the event of really severe conditions we will:

- use our texting service and the school website to inform you that the school will be closed
- ask both Heart FM (96.4 FM) and Radio Suffolk (104.6 FM) to make an announcement. School closures on Heart FM are broadcast after the news on the hour and on the half hour, with details also appearing on their website: <https://www.heart.co.uk/suffolk/>. Radio Suffolk broadcasts can be heard at 10 minutes past the hour and 20 minutes to the hour, and their website address is www.bbc.co.uk/suffolk
- request Suffolk County Council to report the status of the school on a new website they have established for this purpose which can be accessed from their main website or via this link: <http://schoolclosures.suffolk.gov.uk/>

It is important, however, to realise that such a system is far from foolproof, particularly where conditions are changing swiftly. We will always endeavour to arrange for someone to be at school to receive any children who do arrive, and to ensure that they return home safely.

It has been suggested that parents consider forming themselves into groups of about 5 or 6 people, who are willing to pass on information about school closure with each other. One person would act as the main contact with the school and would let others in the group know what is happening. If you would like to participate in this please give the names of each person in your group to Mrs Kimber in the office.

If really dire conditions develop during the day we will send out a text to advise of our intention to close the school and ask you to collect your child(ren) early. If you are aware you are in an area of poor reception on such a day, please feel free to ring us and check the website. If you are concerned about your child's safety when the weather conditions are deteriorating, please come and collect him/her early.

In case of school closure like above, please remember to let us know of any changes of people or phone numbers for your child's emergency contacts. If you would like to check the details we hold for you, you are always welcome to enquire at the office. The more up to date contact information we have for your child the better—if it is possible to have more than two this would be great!

Finally, please remember we will always look after any children left at school for whatever reason or delayed post 3.25pm, until they are safely collected. Please let us know as soon as possible. Don't worry! We always take any "spare" children back into school with us and find them a job to do until someone arrives. It is never a problem.) Let's hope we don't have to carry out these procedures this winter.

Emergency Contact Number—The school mobile number is Tel: 07585 153 155.

Welly Wigwam

I am pleased to announce that all wellies in school are now safely stored in our new Welly Wigwam adjacent to the Cabin. Thanks to the PTFA for funding this venture and to both Mr Parkin junior and senior for creating this so speedily over half term.

November - a busy month!

Crimson Glory rehearsals have been underway this week with the final performance at Bury St Edmunds Cathedral at 6.00pm. We are very much looking forward to this and again would like to thank Mrs Dunn and Mrs Gould who have both been hands-on organising and ensuring our school's participation in such an event in Suffolk.

Art Exhibition at Bury St Edmunds Cathedral.

All of our pupils have been involved in the art work for this exhibition. It opened on Friday 19th October and runs for 3 weeks. It looks amazing and I would encourage you to pop into the Cathedral and have a look if you are in town.

Enrichment Day

The first for this term is on Tuesday 6th November. As usual children will be in mixed-age groups and rotate around a carousel of activities, covering specific times in history. Watch out for more on this next week.

Can I remind you, if you have not yet made an Enrichment contribution, it is never too late. Remember we are asking for a one-off payment of £10 per child if possible—payments by cash or cheque to Suffolk County Council. Again the reply slip has been added and we thank you for your support as the children and teachers really enjoy the days.

Local Community Events—10th & 11th November

Leaflets went home earlier this week. Art work will be on display in the Community Centre over this special week-end as well as some of the fabulous Year 6 art projects. Please pop along to the Community Centre to support this event.

School Council

The new school councillors have been elected and their first meeting took place on Friday 12th October with a further meeting today. The councillors are looking forward to representing their classes and working together to make the school an even better place for them to learn together.

The councillors will be selling poppies at school next week with a suggested donation of 20p per poppy. There will be a selection of different kinds of poppies including stick on ones, which may be more suitable for our younger children.

Kath Parkin

Headteacher



Bury
Schools
Partnership



east**FEAST**



Website: www.greatwhelnetham.suffolk.sch.uk

*Values for Life: Compassion, Courage, Friendship, Trust, Truthfulness, Hope, Peace,
Thankfulness, Creativity, Forgiveness, Humility and Justice.*

Christmas Lunch

Although Christmas still seems a long way off, our preparations need to start early, beginning with Christmas Lunch. A traditional Christmas Dinner will be served on Tuesday 11th December (instead of our published menu) and we would ask that you complete and **return the appropriate slip by Thursday 15th November** indicating if your child will have Christmas dinner or be bringing a packed lunch that day.

For children in years 3, 4, 5 & 6 it will be necessary for payment to be enclosed with their order. This year the cost is £2.30 and this cost is non-refundable (even in the event of sickness).

For children in years R-2 – please simply return the slip indicating their choice.

Please note that if we have not received the slip (and payment where appropriate) by the closing date your child will need to bring a packed lunch that day.

Please also indicate any dietary requirements your child has as appropriate.

British Roast Turkey with Chipolata Sausage, Stuffing and Gravy

with Roast Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables or Parsnip, Cheddar Cheese & Stuffing Roulade, Gravy

with Roast Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables

Starry Mincemeat Tart and Custard or Raspberry Ripple Ice Cream Tub and Festive Shortbread Biscuit

Your child will get free school meals if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit **but no element of Working Tax Credit** and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190
- If you are supported under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Working Tax Credit during the four-week period immediately after your employment finishes or after you start to work less hours per week
- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400 (£616.67 per month), as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods).

To check if your child is eligible, apply online for an immediate response or call **01473 260989**.

If your application is successful please contact the school office regarding applying for a **complimentary club each half term and an item of uniform once a year**.

To Great Whelnetham School – **CHRISTMAS LUNCH** —Please return before **15th November 2018**

My child..... Class.....will require a Christmas lunch on Tuesday 11th December 2018

My child.....Class.....will bring a packed lunch to school that day.

My child is in year 3, 4, 5 or 6. I enclose £2.30 per child. Amount enclosed £ _____

My child is in years R-2 – no payment is required

Dietary requirements _____

Name Signed..... Date.....

To Great Whelnetham School

ENRICHMENT CONTRIBUTION

Child/ren's Name _____

Class _____

I enclose a £10 contribution for each child—amount enclose £ _____

Signed _____ Date _____

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