

Whitchurch Weekly

School News 15th Dec 2023 Issue 14

## Meet the Team!

Name: Nicola Tucker

Role: Receptionist







**About me:** I went to an all-girls school where my favourite subjects were French, Latin and Russian. I went to university to do a Classics degree. I've been married for 38 years and have three grown-up children. I also became a grandma for the first time to a beautiful baby girl called Isabelle a week ago. Once my youngest child was at school I started working full-time at Debenhams in Harrow where I was the Personal Shopper and also one of the Bra-Fit ladies! I started working at Whitchurch after Debenhams closed it's doors for the last time it has been lovely recognising many of you from those days!

**Hobbies and interests:** I love reading - my favourite genre is crime. I love a good thriller or forensic crime book. Actually, I love watching the same sort of thing on TV. Otherwise my favourite programmes are Coronation Street, Masterchef and The Great British Bake-Off. In the Summer, me and my husband love to drive out to a National Trust stately home and explore the gardens or head off somewhere for a long walk with beautiful surroundings. I think our top two places for that would be Hengistbury Head down in Bournemouth and The White Cliffs of Dover. The funny thing about being on the cliffs is when you notice your mobile has turned French roaming on!

**Best part about my role:** I love getting to know our families, building a relationship with them, making sure they know they can call or come in if they need or want to. Even more than that though is watching the children grow up and mature before your eyes! We see them so little, starting here in Nursery or Reception and before you know it they're becoming confident young people - it really is a wonderful thing to see!

Reception Christmas Carols and Year 1-6 Carol Concerts next week

School finishes for end of term on Thursday 21st December at 2pm Please remember to book your child's lunches for the rest of this term



## **Dates for your Diary**

Reception Monday 18th December

Christmas Carols (9.15am)

Tuesday 19th December **Carol Concerts** 

> 1ST, 1CL, 2KB, 2SA, 3NL and 3LA (9.15am) 4CM, 4BS, 5PA, 5SC, 6AS and 6HH (2.30pm)

**Carol Concerts** Wednesday 20th December

> 1BP, 1SM, 2HD, 2AR, 3SM and 3MS (9.15am) 4SF, 4XL, 5ET, 5SK, 6MO and 6EH (2.30pm)

Monday 8th January 4XL and 4SF African Art Workshop

Tuesday 9th January 4BS and 4CM African Art Workshop

Tuesday 16th January Year 2 visit to Belmont United Synagogue

Monday 22nd January 5SK and 5ET Science Museum Trip

1ST and 1BP visit to Windsor Castle Thursday 25th January

Friday 26th January 5PA and 5SC Science Museum Trip

1SM and 1CL visit to Windsor Castle

Tuesday 30th January Year 6 visit to Natural History Museum (2 classes)

Wednesday 31st January Year 6 visit to Natural History Museum (2 classes)

Wednesday 7th February Soloists Music Concert (9.15am)

23rd January - 1SM

30th January - 2HD

6th February - 3MS

5th March - 2AR

12th March - 3SM

19th March - 1CL

23rd April - Lions

30th April - Tigers

7th May - Leopards

14th May - Jaguars

21st May - Nursery

**Infant Class Assemblies** Tuesdays

9.05am

Class assemblies resume in the Spring term

1st February - 5SC 8th February - 6MO 7th March - 5ET 21st March - 4SF

11th July - Year 6

Junior Class **Assemblies** 

February

(no children

Last day of Autumn term Thursday 21st

December

Spring term begins on Monday 8th January 2024







This week's

**Infant Stars** 

Well done to our stars of the week, who have been selected for excellent work and demonstrating our school values

Respect

Responsibility

Resilience

Honesty

Generosity

Aspiration





RRA Tigers Rares
RNW Leopards Aaliyah
RRV Lions Noah
RPS Jaguars Aadhya

1ST June 1BP Dhilan 1SM Mikayla 1CL Matei

2HD Anbar 2KB Arjun 2SA Anass 2AR Riyan

3NL Ziyan 3MS Yusuf 3LA Azlaan 3SM Freya 4BS Aleena
4CM Anahi-Lily
4XL Melisa P
4SF Leon

5PA Dhillon5SK David5SC Elias5ET Sienna

6HH Soha 6AS Danya 6EH Mason 6MO Sobia This week's Junior Stars









## **Class Attendance this week**

Nursery	AM 89.57%		PM 72%	
Reception	RRA 86.21%	RNW 98%	<b>RPS</b> 89.66%	<b>RRV</b> 96%
Year 1	<b>1CL</b> 98%	<b>1BP</b> 98%	<b>1ST</b> 98.62%	<b>1SM</b> 93.33%
Year 2	2AR 94.29%	<b>2HD</b> 94%	<b>2KB</b> 94%	<b>2SA</b> 96.33%
Year 3	<b>3LA</b> 89.31%	<b>3MS</b> 91.67%	<b>3NL</b> 97.67%	<b>3SM</b> 95.33%
Year 4	<b>4CM</b> 97.31%	<b>4SF</b> 92.59%	<b>4XL</b> 92.86%	<b>4BS</b> 99.26%
Year 5	<b>5ET</b> 95.52%	<b>5PA</b> 97.24%	<b>5SC</b> 98.67%	<b>5SK</b> 93.93%
Year 6	<b>6AS</b> 96.3%	<b>6EH</b> 94.33%	<b>6HH</b> 97.33%	<b>6MO</b> 95.71%

This week's Attendance Stars are 4BS!

Whole School **94.77%** 

Notices

## FoW Winter Fair - Thank You

Thank you for coming to our Winter Fair with your families and supporting us to make it a great success. We hope you had a wonderful time!







## Tea & Talk

Thank you to everyone who attended a Tea & Talk session with Mr Pine this term.

Tea & Talk will continue in January, taking the form of 'Question & Answer' sessions.

Dates to be announced soon.

## **Lost Property**

There will be a table for lost property outside the main reception from Monday. Please collect your belongings - anything that remains uncollected at the end of Thursday will be discarded.

# Winter Music Concert Performances

Video recordings from last week's Winter Concert are available to view on the Music Enrichment page of our website.

www.whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk/page/music-enrichment





# Midday Assistant Vacancy

We are seeking a
Midday Assistant to
work as part of our
team in securing and
maintaining the safety,
welfare and good conduct of pupils during
lunchtimes. Please see the vacancies page
of our website for more information and an
application pack:

www.whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk/page/vacancies

## **Harrow Immunisation Team**

Please see the attached poster from Harrow Immunisation Team who are offering catch-up clinics for any child who missed their flu vaccination (or has **not** received two MMR vaccines as a baby).

Year Group Highlights



In Nursery this week we invited our parents and carers for our Christmas celebration. We had a brilliant time and performed really well. We all participated in fun festive activities with our families including decorating biscuits, making wooden ornaments and Christmas cards.



Year 1

## **Animals in Winter**

In Science this week, Year 1 have been looking at how some animals adapt in Winter. We looked at hedgehogs, bats, birds, rabbit, snakes and foxes and discussed their habitats for this season. Did you know snakes and rabbits both hibernate in their burrows?





## Santa

This week in Reception we were very excited to hear bells and watch Santa arrive! Santa left footprints in the classroom and his glasses too. We have been writing lists and letters to him; we drew pictures and used our sounds to label the items on our wish lists.



## **Food Chains**

In Science this week, Year 2 have been learning about food chains and how different living things rely on others for food. We used our knowledge to create food chains featuring producers, consumers and predators.



Year 2

Year 3

Year Group Highlights

# whitchurch Primary School and Muris

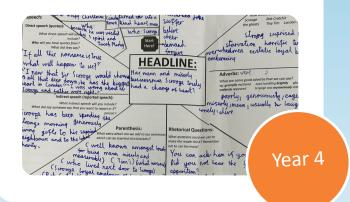
## **Mini Documentaries**

This week in Computing, Year 3 presented and recorded mini documentaries about European countries in front of very own green screen. We then worked together in our groups to edit and publish these using video editing software.



## **News Articles**

In English this week, Year 4 have been identifying the main features of news articles. We explored headlines, parenthesis and direct speech in the opening paragraphs of sample articles, then planned our own ideas for a news article about Ebenezer Scrooge.



Year 5

## **Still Life Prints**

This week in Art, Year 5 have used still life drawings as a starting point to create monoprints. We learnt how to create these unique prints using coloured ink, rollers and a slab to showcase the depth and texture of our compositions.



## **Forgiveness**

In R.E., Year 6 have been learning about forgiveness. This week we welcomed visitors from SR Divine Touch, who came in to school to talk to us about their religion as well as forgiveness.







## **Book Recommendations**

This week the library recommend the following reading books for you to enjoy at home.

## 'Little Red Reading Hood' by Lucy Rowland

Little Red Reading Hood always has her nose in a book, and is mesmerised by the thrilling adventures she discovers within the pages. When her mother sends Red to the library to return an overdue book, she warns her daughter not to stray from the path, for everyone knows what will happen if she does...

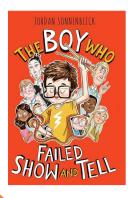


Written in witty verse and accompanied by colourful illustrations, this wonderful contemporary tale is great to read aloud and ideal to show young children that stories have the power to take readers on all sorts of exciting, imaginative journeys. Suitable for infants.

## 'The Boy Who Failed Show and Tell' by Jordan Sonnenblick

In a typical school year, every kid has one or two things go wrong. But for Jordan, there's A LOT going wrong ALL THE TIME.

By keeping his cool (some of the time), banging on the drums (a lot), and keeping his sense of humour (all the time), Jordan's going to try to make it through the year and grow up to write a book about it! An unbelievably hilarious true story from the bestselling author Jordan Sonnenblick. Suitable for children aged 5 and above.



Reading!

## **Thank You**

The last 5 years at Whitchurch have given me so much joy and happiness that the next sentence is hard to write. I have recently accepted an amazing opportunity in another primary school, starting in January, which sadly means I will be leaving Whitchurch. I would like to bid a fond farewell to all children and entire Whitchurch community: parents, carers and of course our fantastic, dedicated staff. Thank you all so very much for all your support and help. I am genuinely grateful for every day that I was able to spend here, leading the library and helping children find the most pleasure in the magical world of books. It has been an incredible journey and Whitchurch will always have a special place in my heart.

Mrs M Stachurska

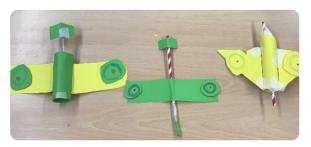




# STEM Challenge: Road to RIAT (Royal International Air Tattoo)

Last Thursday, as part of our enrichment for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), some children from Year 5 and 6 were invited to participate in a STEM challenge to design and create their own glider - organised by the Smallpeice Trust.

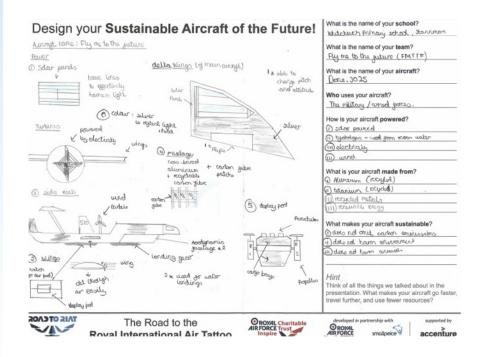
In the morning the children navigated through the engineering process of designing, creating, testing and improving their gliders. Most of these flew distances less than 5 metres; however, the fastest and most efficient glider was built by Darius (5SK) which rose high and flew a distance of over 10 metres!



Designed by Sophia and Armineh from Year 5

During the afternoon session, the workshop covered the theme of sustainability. The children were tasked with designing a sustainable aircraft design based on what they learnt. The best aircraft design is submitted for the competition. We are competing against other schools nationally. May the best design win!

## Mrs Khan (5SK)



# STEM Challenge Participants

**5SK:** Shahdad, Karan, Dhillon, Sophia, Ema

**5ET:** Siddiq, Fariha, Arzo,

Gabriel

**5SK:** Aisha, Sahil, Isai,

Darius

**5SC:** Elias, Param, Aaran,

Jeysey

**6AS:** Hridhaan, Anirudh, Swara, Lucas, Yahya

**6EH:** Goncalo, Armineh,

Zoha, Levi, Murtaza 6HH: Adam, Steven,

Abubakar, Maya, Niam

6MO: Ruwaida







## **Building Emotional Intelligence**

Some children find it hard to make friends or find others who share their interests. Help your child with their social skills and work through issues with friends or peers.

## How can parents and carers help?

- Listen when your child has peer challenges. Help her/him to clarify their feelings and to problem solve the issue.
- Don't take sides when your child fights with their friends. If you suspect that your child is being unfair, encourage them to empathise with the other child's point of view but be careful not to blame your child.
- Help your child learn how to express her/his needs without attacking the other person.
- Make it a habit to acknowledge and reflect on feelings instead of dismissing them. Often, we have such a hard time seeing our child in pain that we get angry at the other child. We say things like: "They are not a good friend to you, let them go and find a new friend!" but that doesn't help your child at all. Comments to get over someone they have cared about, or a hurt they've suffered, simply dismisses their feelings and keep the child stuck in hurt and anger. Keep your own upset in check and empathise with your child's feelings: "Having your friend say something like that to you could really hurt" enables them to feel the emotions so that the feeling dissipates and they are better able to problem solve.
- Help your child to think through various problem-solving options. Often, once children work
  through their feelings, they know what action to take. "I'm not mad at Sam anymore and I
  miss playing with him. I'm going to knock on his door." Children will sometimes need help
  from you to know how to say no in a way that keeps both friendship and integrity.
- If your child is having a hard time, consider what kind of support will help. For instance, some children don't pick up on social cues and need help to learn specific skills, like how to join a group. Others don't listen to their friend's ideas, or physically get into each other's space. Observe your child as he or she plays with another child and see if you can pinpoint what is going wrong. Act out a similar scenario with stuffed animals and ask your child what the characters should do. Make it funny to defuse any tension. Reading books about social skills with your child can also be very helpful.

## **Reach Out**

Sometimes we could all do with someone to talk to. If you would like to meet Tom for a confidential and non-judgemental chat about you, your child, or any other worries, he is available on **Wednesdays at 9am-10am.** You can contact Tom on **07799 028 461** or email **tom@schoolscounsellingpartnership.co.uk** 







## **Nurturing Parenting programme**

In January 2024, The Family Learning Hub will be hosting a 10 week free online course for parents and carers, offering positive, practical and fun ways of guiding children to manage their feelings and behaviour.

Morning course: Tuesdays (Starting 16th January, 9.45am to 11.45am) Evening course: Wednesdays (Starting 17th January 2024, 7pm to 9pm)

Please email asha@familylearninghub.com to book your place (limited places available).

## **My Family Coach - Free Behaviour Support Resources**



My Family Coach is a free platform for schools and families for help and support with all areas of behaviour, school and family life - including relationships, wellbeing and healthy living. Visit www.myfamilycoach.com for information and to register for access to resources.

## **Live Debate**

Debate Club

This week, the Debate Club held a debate in front of a live audience of parents/carers and staff. Children chose their motion about animal testing and devised arguments with evidence to support this. Well done to these children for holding a well formed and interesting debate. Miss Osman (6MO)





## **Life Skills - Shopping Trip**

Yesterday the Life Skills group went on their shopping trip! We walked beautifully to the Tesco store on Canons Park Parade. We used visual cues, picked fresh items of fruit and vegetables and then took these to the counter to pay the cashier. We then placed the items in a bag and returned to school. Well done to everyone!

**Miss Tunstall** 





Autumn Menu









Salad bar and bread are available daily



VEGETARIAN Pizza, Herby Diced Po

nto Pizza, Herby Diced Potatoes & Sv VEGAN ed Beans (Ve) Cheese or Tuna Mayo Jacket Potato with Side Salad

DESSERT Fruity Mouss

## **TUESDAY**

MEAT
Minced Beef & Onion Pie, Mashed Potatoes & Broccoli

VEGETARIAN attice, Mashed Potatoes & Broccoli(V)

VEGAN Spicy Tomato Pasta with Side Salad (Ve) DESSERT Fruit Tuesday

## **WEDNESDAY**



## **THURSDAY**

MEAT Turkey Bolognese with Spaghetti & Sweetcom

VEGETARIAN nese with Spaghetti & Sweetcom (V)

VEGAN Veggie Wrap with Tomato Topping & Side Salad (Ve)

DESSERT Melting Moment Cookie

## **FRIDAY**

MEAT Fish Fillet with Chips & Mushy Peas

Fish Fillet with Chips & Mushy Peas

VEGETARIAN

Vegetable Burger, Chips & Mushy Peas (V)

VEGAN

Baked Beans (Ve) Cheese or Tuna Mayo
Jacket Potato with Side Salad

DESSERT
Pear & Chocolate Sponge & Custard

## MONDAY MEAT oni Cheese, Garlic Bread 8

DESSERT Carrot Cooki

VEGAN **DESSERT** Fruit Tuesday

## **THURSDAY**

MEAT Beef Lasagne, Garlic Bread & Peas

VEGAN eggie Wrap with Tomato Topping & Side Salad (Ve)

## FRIDAY

MEAT
Fish Fingers, Chips & Baked Beans
VEGETARIAN
Ian Sausage Roll with Chips & Baked B

DESSERT
Toffee Apple Sponge & Custaro

VEGETARIAN
ni Cheese, Garlic Bread & Garden Peas (V)

aroni Cheese, Garlic Bread of Sandon . . . .

VEGAN

Baked Beans (Ve) Cheese or Tuna Mayo Jacket Potato with Side Salad

## **TUESDAY**

VEGETARIAN

## **WEDNESDAY**

MEAT t Turkey, Roast Potatoes, Sliced Carrots & Broccoli VEGETARIAN

VECETARIAN
Cauliflower Cheese Bake, Roast Potatoes,
Sliced Carrots & Broccoli (V)
VECAN
Baked Beans (Ve) Cheese or Tuna Mayo
Jacket Potato with Side Salad
DESSERT
Jam & Coconut Sponge

VEGETARIAN an Lasagne, Garlic Bread & Peas (V)

**DESSERT**Tempting Triangle Biscuit

irian Sausage Roll with Chips & Baked Be VEGAN Baked Beans (Ve) Cheese or Tuna Mayo Jacket Potato with Side Salad

## MONDAY MEAT (Halal), Pilau Rice, Naan B

ren Curry (Halal), Pilau Rice, Naan Bread & Pe VEGETARIAN neese Sub, Herby Diced Potatoes & Peas (V) VEGAN Baked Beans (Ve) Cheese or Tuna Mayo Jacket Potato with Side Salad

DESSERT

## **TUESDAY**

VEGETARIAN Falafel Wrap, Potato Wedges & Side Salad (V)

VEGAN Spicy Tomato Pasta with Side Salad (Ve)

DESSERT Fruit Tuesday

Fruit Tuesday

WEDNESDAY

MEAT

I Sausage, Mashed Potatoes, Yorkshire Pudding,
Sloced Camorts & Green Beans

VECETARIAN

an Sausage, Mashed Potatoes, Yorkshire Puddings,
Sloced Carrots & Green Beans (V)

WEGAN

Baked Beans (Ve) Choese or Tunn Mayo
Jackel Protato with Sids Salad

## cket Potato with Side DESSERT Jelly & Fruit **THURSDAY**

## MEAT ken & Sweetcorn Pizza, Diced Potatoes & Peas

VEGETARIAN izza, Diced Potatoes & Peas (V)

VEGAN leggie Wrap with Tomato Topping & Side Salad (Ve)

**DESSERT** Orange Drizzle Cake

## FRIDAY

MEAT Fish Cake, Chips & Baked Beans

VEGETARIAN Sweetcorn Quiche, Chips & Baked Beans (V)

VEGAN

ed Beans (Ve) Cheese or Tuna Mayo

Jacket Potato with Side Salad

DESSERT Raspberry Oat Slice & Custard













## **Useful Contacts**

Headteacher (Mr J Pine) head@whitchurchps.co.uk

Deputy Headteacher (Mr M Thompson-Lawrie) deputy@whitchurchps.co.uk

SEND Co-ordinator (Mrs D Qudsiyeh) sendco@whitchurchps.co.uk

Assistant Headteacher for Early Years (Miss N Ward)

nward@whitchurchps.co.uk

Assistant Headteacher for Years 1, 2 & 3 (Miss G Harris) gharris@whitchurchps.co.uk

Assistant Headteacher for Years 4, 5 & 6 (Mrs K Portou) kportou@whitchurchps.co.uk

Year 1 Leader (Mrs S Tezel) stezel@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk

Year 2 Leader (Miss G Harris) gharris@whitchurchps.co.uk

Year 3 Leader (Miss N Lakhani) nlakhani@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk

Year 4 Leader (Mrs B Solanki) bsolanki@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk

Year 5 Leader (Mrs K Portou) kportou@whitchurchps.co.uk

Year 6 Leader (Miss H Hogberg) hhogberg@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk Our email addresses are in the process of being updated

If you have any general or learning related enquiries, please speak to the class teacher If you have
concerns about
your child's safety or
behaviour, please
contact a member of
our leadership

## **School Office**

Tel: 020 8951 5380 office@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk

Family Liaison (Mrs N Chikhlia) nchikhlia@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk

Director of Music (Mrs E Leutfeld) eleutfeld@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk

Music Department <a href="mailto:music@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk">music@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk</a>

Friends of Whitchurch
FoW@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk

Childcare (Early Birds and Night Owls) childcare@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk



## School Term Dates 2023-2024

## **Autumn Term 2023**

Autumn 1st Wednesday 6 September to Friday 20 October
Half Term Monday 23 October to Friday 27 October
Autumn 2nd Monday 30 October to Thursday 21 December

Staff Training Days Monday 4 September, Tuesday 5 September,

Monday 13 November (no children in school)

## **Spring Term 2024**

Spring 1st Monday 8 January to Thursday 8 February
Half Term Monday 12 February to Friday 16 February
Spring 2nd Monday 19 February to Thursday 28 March

Staff Training Days Friday 9 February (no children in school)

Holidays during term time are **not** permitted

## **Summer Term 2024**

Summer 1st Monday 15 April to Friday 24 May
Half Term Monday 27 May to Friday 31 May
Summer 2nd Tuesday 4 June to Wednesday 24 July

Staff Training Days Monday 3 June (no children in school)

Bank Holiday Monday 6th May

4 June to Wednesday 24 July

3 June (no children in school)

are posted on the school website







Alexandra Avenue Health Centre 274 Alexandra Avenue HA2 9DX 0208 102 6333

# Harrow Immunisation Team

**Catch-up FLU Clinic** 

We are holding a FLU immunisation session at the

Alexandra Avenue Health & Social Care centre
275 Alexandra Avenue
HA2 9DX
On

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024

from 10.00am to 16.00pm (by appointment only)

Ring - 020 8102 6333 to confirm an appointment.

If your child has missed their vaccine due to being absent in school or you now wish for them to receive the Nasal FLU Vaccine, **please** ensure you have submitted the online E-Consent form before you ring to make an appointment: <a href="https://clchschoolimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu">https://clchschoolimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu</a>

You will need to enter the unique code for your child's school.

The code is **CL131316** 

Also, given recent outbreaks of Measles in England, if your child has not received two MMR vaccines as a baby, please contact our office on 020 8102 6333 to discuss and book an appointment.

Your healthcare closer to home

Chair: Angela Greatley OBE Interim Chief Executive: James Benson