

Whitchurch Weekly



8th Nov
2024
Issue 9

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General Notices and Highlights



Anti-Bullying Week: Odd Socks Day - Tuesday 12th November

Next week is Anti-Bullying Week and to raise awareness of this we shall be holding an Odd Socks Day on Tuesday. This is an opportunity for us to celebrate our individuality and what makes us unique! Please send children to school wearing odd socks on Tuesday.



Gate opening times

A reminder that gates now open just before **8.40am** in the morning and close at **8.55am**. Please arrive promptly to ensure no learning time is lost.

Phonics Workshops (Reception, Years 1 and 2)

A reminder that we shall be holding phonics workshops for parents and carers on Monday (Reception) and Friday (Years 1 and 2) at 9am in the school hall.

**1SM and
5SK Class
assemblies
next week**

Flu Immunisation Programme

A reminder that Flu immunisations will take place on Tuesday.

Home Learning Policy

Please refer to our Home Learning policy on the Policies page of our website.

**View
our policy
here**

Headteacher's Coffee Afternoon

Thank you to those parents and carers attended the coffee afternoon on Wednesday. Your suggestions for improvement will help to inform our school development plan.

**View
Autumn 2
learning on
Year Group
pages here**

Penalty Notice Fines for Unauthorised Absences

Please refer to the 2024 penalty notice fines for unauthorised absences attached to this newsletter.

Special Message

We thank
the Galliara
family for their
generous
donations



Special Message from the Galliara Family

For those of you who may not be aware, the family who have lived in Stanmore for the last forty years generously decided to bequeath a regular donation to Whitchurch Primary School in memory of Jayant Shashikant Galliara.

Jayant was born and grew up in India before coming over to the UK for higher education and settling here for work. He married and brought up three daughters in the local area, who all attended local schools. Access to a good education and opportunities for young people was highly important to him and he was previously engaged with local schools to support children, particularly those from a disadvantaged background.

He passed away in 2022 from pancreatic cancer, but it was his express wish to set up a fund to support children from disadvantaged backgrounds to be able to attend school visits. As such, a fund has been set up with an annual sum being provided to Whitchurch Primary School for £750 per year over the next ten years to fulfil his wishes. These funds supported many children last year to have access to enrichment activities who may otherwise not have been able to attend school trips and visits due to a lack of funds.



Dates for your Diary

Autumn
2nd



Monday 11th November	Reception Phonics Workshop (9am)
Tuesday 12th November	Odd Socks Day (Anti-Bullying Day)
Thursday 14th November	4PC and 4XL visit to Hampton Court Palace
Friday 15th November	Year 1 and 2 Phonics Workshop for (9am) Year 3 History Workshop (including Archery) 4BS and 4ND visit to Hampton Court Palace
Thursday 21st November	5TG visit to The Ragged School Museum
Friday 22nd November	5SC visit to The Ragged School Museum
Wednesday 27th November	5SK and 5RC visit to The Ragged School Museum
Wednesday 4th December	Winter Music Concert (5pm-6pm)
Wednesday 11th December	Christmas Lunch Day
Thursday 12th December	FoW Winter Fair (5pm-7pm)
Monday 16th December	Reception Carol Concert (9.15am)
Tuesday 17th December	Carol Concert (Years 1 to 3 at 9.15am; Years 4 to 6 at 2.45pm)
Wednesday 18th December	Carol Concert (Years 1 to 3 at 9.15am; Years 4 to 6 at 2.45pm)



Autumn Class Assemblies

Thursdays
Years 4 to 6
(9.05am to
9.45am)

Tues 12th Nov 1SM
Tues 26th Nov 2DN

Tuesdays
Reception
to Year 3
(9.05am to
9.45am)

Thurs 14th Nov 5SK
Thurs 28th Nov 6CM

Whitchurch Star Pupils



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

1RA Nectarie
1SM Danyara
1PD Gabriel
1IN Ayana

2ST Shiv
2KK Lena
2DN Eva
2SA Ashton

3NL Pralav
3SH Kiyana
3LA Whole Class
3SM Dhanesh

Respect
Responsibility
Resilience
Honesty
Generosity
Aspiration

4BS Jeyshan
4XL Aashi
4PC Viha
4ND Mathias

5SK Rihanna
5SC Ashley
5TG Reeva
5RC Rian

6HH Josh
6ET Sophia
6HA Melissa
6CM Manya

Congratulations to Krisha (5SK) for winning Silver (individual) and Bronze (team) medals at the World Karate Championships 2024! World Martial Arts Karate Club takes place in school on Fridays at 3.30pm if you would like to sign up your child!



Attendance Stars

This week's
attendance
stars are
4XL (97.9%)

Whole
School
94.7%

Spotlight on Reception

Reception have been learning about Bonfire Night!

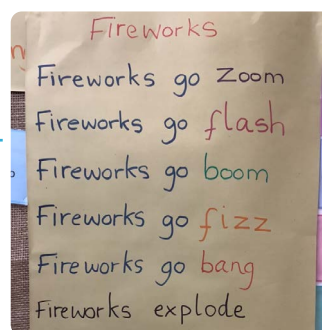


Bonfire Night

We have started our topic about by learning Bonfire Night. We learned that we celebrate Bonfire Night because, long ago, Guy Fawkes tried to blow up a building, but he was stopped. Now, we remember the event with bonfires and fireworks!

We've been creating firework pictures, exploring the artist Jackson Pollock, and making our own interpretations of his work. We also became poets and made up class firework poems!

Miss Ward (Early Years Leader)



Reception Views

"Fireworks go boom my mum said I'm going to go to fireworks." Naveen, Leopards

"Guy Fawkes was a bad guy who didn't kill the king." Arya, Leopards

"I paint pink, yellow fireworks." Urvi, Tigers

"I see lots of fireworks they pop and boom in the sky." Maya, Tigers

"We did fireworks they go boom." Neeva, Lions

"I made fireworks." Lorenzo, Lions

"We learnt that fireworks go up and go bang." Aria, Jaguars

"They go boom up in the sky at night." Isaac, Jaguars



Support for Families

Wellbeing



Encouraging children to choose respect

Even among adults, it can be all too common to see disputes and differing opinions grow extremely heated, which is rarely helpful to anyone. When emotions run high, it can be easy to forget yourself and perhaps even say something you didn't mean, hurting feelings or escalating the situation further.

For children, it's just as important to avoid this kind of behaviour whenever possible; without the necessary guidance, however, they could struggle to identify any disrespectful behaviour, let alone recognise what they can do differently.

Please refer to the poster attached to this newsletter, which offers expert advice on teaching children and young people to choose respect when interacting with their peers, helping to create an environment based on empathy and tolerance.



London Youth Games Boys/Girls Indoor Cricket Trials - view flyers here

Harrow Parent Carer Forum

Harrow Parent Carer Forum is made up of a group of parents of disabled children. They represent the voices of families of SEN/disabled children from birth to 25 years living in the London Borough of Harrow.

Please visit the Harrow Parent Forum website for useful resources and to sign up to become a member for free - giving SEND parents and carers access to coffee mornings/evenings, workshops and also signposting to useful services.

Visit website here

Support for Families



Nurturing Yourself While Nurturing Your Child

Self-care is essential for all parents and carers. Not only to stay patient, but also to keep finding joy and delight that is present every day with your children - even on the difficult ones. Children are happier and will co-operate more when you are joyful, calm and present. When you are feeling stressed, they may believe it is their fault, feel anxious and that they are not good enough. Your big job then, is to make sure you are parenting yourself just as well as you are parenting your child.

Try to tune into yourself as much as possible throughout the day. Take deep breaths whenever you can, breathing in calm and breathing out stress. When you are feeling irritable, it is important to stop and think about what it is you need right now to stay balanced: can you sit outside for 5 minutes or put on some music and dance? Have a glass of water? Plan something you can do for yourself later, once they are in bed.

You can also find ways to nurture yourself through times in the day that tend to be most difficult. Perhaps you can drink a cup of tea during bedtime stories or start the evening routine a little earlier. Finally, being present and slowing down will help you to take in the joy of every moment with your child and will replenish your spirit.



Reach Out - Schools Counselling Partnership

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 9-10am**.

You can call/text Tom on **07799 028 461** or email him at **tom@schoolscounsellingpartnership.co.uk**



Key Contacts

Please
remember
to use our
new email
addresses



Ms R Inniss (Headteacher)	head@whitchurchps.co.uk
Mr M Thompson-Lawrie (Deputy Headteacher)	deputy@whitchurchps.co.uk
Mrs D Qudsiyeh (AHT Inclusion)	sendco@whitchurchps.co.uk
Miss N Ward (AHT Early Years)	nward@whitchurchps.co.uk
Miss R Francis-Dottin (AHT Years 1-3)	rfrancisdottin@whitchurchps.co.uk
Mrs K Portou (AHT Years 4-6)	kportou@whitchurchps.co.uk
Mrs R Ahmed (Year 1 Leader)	rahmed@whitchurchps.co.uk
Mrs S Tezel (Year 2 Leader)	stezel@whitchurchps.co.uk
Miss N Lakhani (Year 3 Leader)	nlakhani@whitchurchps.co.uk
Mrs B Solanki (Year 4 Leader)	bsolanki@whitchurchps.co.uk
Mrs S Khan (Year 5 Leader)	skhan@whitchurchps.co.uk
Miss H Hogberg (Year 6 Leader)	hhogberg@whitchurchps.co.uk
Mrs E Leutfeld (Director of Music) Music Department	eleutfeld@whitchurchps.co.uk music@whitchurchps.co.uk
Friends of Whitchurch	FoW@whitchurchps.co.uk
All enquiries	office@whitchurchps.co.uk
Pupil absence (illness and exceptional leave)	absence@whitchurchps.co.uk



Penalty Notices for Unauthorised Absences

2024
updates:
what you
need to
know

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for unauthorised absences that occur after 19th August 2024.

5 consecutive days of Term Time Leave

Fines
will be
issued
for:

Penalty Notice fines will be issued for term time leave of 5 or more consecutive days *(or for fewer days where this has happened before)*.

10 sessions of Unauthorised Absence in a 10 week period

Penalty Notice fines will be considered where there have been 10 sessions of absence in a 10 week period.

Fines
will be
issued
to:

Each parent/carer - for each child

Penalty Notice fines will be issued to each parent/carer, for each child who was absent.

For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave will result in each parent/carer receiving 3 separate fines.



First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or irregular attendance the amount will be:

**£160 per parent/carer,
per child when paid
within 28 days.**

***(reduced to £80 per
parent/carer, per child
if paid within 21 days)***

Second Offence (within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or irregular attendance the amount will be:

**£160 per parent/carer,
per child when paid
within 28 days.**

***(no option to pay
at £80 level)***

Third Offence (and any further offences within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or irregular attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued. the case will proceed to the Magistrates' court.

***Magistrate's fines can
be up to £2,500 per
parent/carer, per child.***

Please refer to our **Attendance and Punctuality Policy** and speak with the school if you are thinking of taking your child out of school during term time. You will need to make a written request to take your child out of school and any leave of absence will need to be agreed by the Headteacher before it is given.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO CHOOSE RESPECT

Sometimes, differences between children can escalate into bullying, potentially impacting their mental health in a way that can persist into adulthood. While it's natural to disagree sometimes, teaching children the importance of respect is essential – especially in difficult situations. This guide provides strategies for encouraging considerate behaviour, even during a dispute, to foster a kinder, more inclusive environment for everyone.

1 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

As adults, we play a crucial role in modelling respectful behaviour for children: they observe and learn from our actions every day. Be mindful of the way you interact with others in front of children. Keep in mind that you should always approach others with an attitude of mutual respect, even if you disagree with them. Demonstrating this behaviour can influence young people and help them to handle their own conflicts in a healthy way.

2 AGREE TO DISAGREE

Make sure children know that it's fine to have differing opinions – and that disagreeing with someone doesn't mean you can't get along or respect each other's point of view. Help them understand that sometimes we can 'agree to disagree'. Using active listening skills when doing this can also help to build empathy and understanding of others.

3 PROMOTE ACTIVE LISTENING

Teach children about the importance of active listening; that is, making a genuine effort to listen to the other person's perspective without interrupting, before responding in a way that shows you understand their viewpoint, even (or perhaps especially) if you disagree with it. This makes people feel respected and allows for a better comprehension of their point of view, which in turn can make it easier for you to communicate your own opinions to them.

4 ENCOURAGE THE USE OF "I" STATEMENTS

If a child finds themselves in a disagreement with someone, it can be useful to encourage them to use "I" statements during the discussion. Framing their thoughts and feelings using statements like "I feel..." or "I think..." can help them avoid an accusatory tone and encourages them to take responsibility for their own emotions.

5 FOCUS ON BEHAVIOUR, NOT CHARACTER

When disagreements happen, encourage children to focus on critiquing and addressing the specific actions or behaviours that caused this upset, rather than attacking the person's character. For example, "I didn't like how you interrupted me" is better than "You're so rude". This can help children avoid hurting someone's feelings, which is likely to inflame the situation.

6 STAY CALM AND TAKE BREAKS

It's perfectly normal to feel upset during a disagreement – especially if it's getting heated. Remind children that if they feel overwhelmed, they should try to take deep breaths or even go for a short break to help them stay composed. If a conversation becomes too intense, remind them it's OK to suggest continuing it later or in a different setting. This can prevent things getting out of hand, allowing cooler heads to prevail.

7 START CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RESPECT

Talk openly to children about what respect means – to you and to them. Discuss how they might show respect to each other, to friends, to strangers and even to people we might disagree with. You could use examples of considerate or inconsiderate behaviour in books, films or TV to open discussions about the importance of giving others due regard.

8 SEEK COMMON GROUND

When a disagreement has occurred between children, they may find it hard to move past it. You can support them in finding a more positive way forward by helping identify areas of agreement or common ground with the other party. This can help to build bridges between differing opinions and foster a more cooperative atmosphere, as well as preventing those involved from demonising each another.

9 AVOID MAKING THINGS PERSONAL

It's important that we make it clear to children they must avoid name-calling, swearing or derogatory remarks in a disagreement with others. Respectful language sets a positive tone and helps keep the conversation productive. Reminding children to stay calm and take breaks – as mentioned previously – can help them avoid getting too emotional and saying or doing something hurtful.

10 REFLECT AND LEARN

After a child has had a disagreement, encourage them to reflect on the experience and think about what they can learn from it. What did they handle well? How might they improve their communication skills to handle conflicts more effectively in the future? You could use role play, writing and drawing pictures, or hypothetical examples to further develop their skills in showing respect during a disagreement.

Meet Our Expert

The Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) co-ordinate Anti-Bullying Week each year. ABA is a unique coalition of organisations and individuals, working together to achieve their vision to stop bullying and create safer environments in which children and young people can live, grow, play and learn. They welcome membership from any organisation or individual that supports this vision and support a free network of thousands of schools and colleges.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/choose-respect>

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