

Whitchurch Weekly

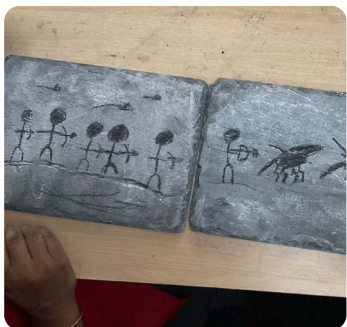
22nd Nov
2024
Issue 11



Year 3 Stone Age Workshop

Last Friday, Year 3 took part in a fantastic immersive History workshop related to their topic about the Stone Age. They enjoyed a range of hands-on activities including archery, animal bone investigations and cave paintings. They also investigated artefacts and had a go at crafting tools and weapons!

See more
on our
Instagram



General Notices and Highlights



Lost Property

There is a huge pile of lost property in the main reception waiting to go back home to the rightful owner. Please come and check to see if your child's belongings are in there. Any items not collected by Wednesday 27th November will be discarded.

2DN and
6CM Class
assemblies
next week



Riya's Rainbows Non-Uniform Day Friday 29th November

See Riya's
Rainbows
website
here

Next Friday we are holding a non-uniform day for Riya and to raise money for Riya's Rainbows, supporting Great Ormond Street Hospital and grieving families. Children are welcome to bring in a donation on this day (however big or small). You will also be able to make a donation online - please look out for the School Spider message.



Riya's Rainbows: Glitz & Glam Fundraiser

Riya's Rainbows are holding a fundraising event on **Saturday 30th November from 6pm-1am at The Hive.**

Tickets are £65. Please see booking link for details.

Book
your tickets
here



Playtime Snacks (Years 3 to 6)

Please ensure that snacks for playtime are healthy and contain **NO NUTS**. Snacks must not be shared with other children.

Penalty Notice Fines for Unauthorised Absences

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

Follow us on
Instagram:
WhitchurchPS



Friends of Whitchurch



Winter Fair



**FESTIVE
BAKE OFF
COMPETITION**
(more info
to follow)

**GOOD
QUALITY
TOMBOLA
GIFTS
NEEDED**

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**
(look out for
sign up details)

View
constitution
here

FoW Constitution

Friends of Whitchurch have announced changes to their constitution in line with their AGM last night. They wish to give 2 weeks' notice effective of Friday 22nd November 2024 as per the constitution. Please reach out if you have any concerns about the above changes. If no concerns come forward, the constitution will be updated and put in place.

Junior Adventures Group

Click here
for booking



Join us for festive fun & activities this December at JAG!

As December arrives, our wraparound clubs are gearing up to bring festive sparkle to your child's days. Every day will shine with seasonal games, activities and crafts from our Adventure Programme, giving every child the chance to celebrate, create and explore.

Here are some of the special occasions we'll be celebrating this December:

Antarctica Day (w/c Monday 2nd December)

We're diving into the wonders of the "coolest" continent! To celebrate Antarctica Day, children will explore the signing of the Antarctic Treaty through quizzes, games and activities from our Brain Boosters category.

Christmas Jumper Day (Thursday 12th December)

It's Christmas Jumper Day! Children can wear their silliest, sparkliest jumpers and enjoy fun activities from our Wellbeing Warriors category, including selfies at the Christmas Jumper Station and mindful colouring.

Christmas Celebrations (w/c Monday 16th December)

The countdown to Christmas begins! Children will dive into festive activities from our Creative Inventors category, creating crafts and learning about holiday traditions from around the world.



Spotlight on Year 4

Year 4
are learning
about cooking
and nutrition in
Design and
Technology



Making Biscuits

In Design and Technology this half term we are designing, making and evaluating biscuits. We have reviewed existing biscuits - describing taste, texture and appearance - and we are taking inspiration from these to design our own biscuit product, adapting the ingredients and working to budget. We are all looking forward to creating our own tasty biscuits like true bakers!

Mrs Price (Year 4 class teacher)

Year 4 Views

“I love DT because we actually get to make and taste biscuits.” Cattley (4PC)

“I really love DT in Year 4 as we get to cook like real bakers!” Hussain (4PC)

“I enjoyed getting to taste the biscuits and it was fun to learn about how biscuits are made. I can’t wait until we make our own biscuits!” Viya (4ND)

“I am having so much fun in DT lessons because we are learning all about how biscuits are made. I like learning about textures and target audiences but my favourite part was eating the biscuits!” Sara (4ND)

“I like our DT project because we are learning about biscuits. My favourite lesson was when we got to taste different biscuits. They were delicious!” Rafael (4ND)

See some of our biscuit making on the next page!



Spotlight on Year 4

Year 4
are learning
about cooking
and nutrition in
Design and
Technology



Year 6
spotlight
next week

Sport and Inclusion

On Wednesday, we took 6 children from Year 4/5 to the West London Panathlon Competition at Bolder Academy where they took part in 7 different activities trying to score points for their team. They were amazing, each child tried their best, and cheered one another on at each activity. We are extremely proud of them and each child walked away with a medal for participation!

Miss Byrne and Miss Wong



Dates for your Diary

Autumn
2nd



Wednesday 27th November	5SK and 5RC visit to The Ragged School Museum
Friday 29th November	Riya's Rainbows Day (Non-Uniform) Year 6 visit from Magistrate
Wednesday 4th December	Winter Music Concert (5pm-6pm)
Thursday 5th December	Year 1 Visit To Stanmore Baptist Church (AM)
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 (1PD, 1IN, 2SA, 2DN, 3NL & 3LA at 9.15am; 4BS, 4ND, 5RC, 5SC, 6ET & 6CM at 2.30pm)
Wednesday 18th December	Carol Concert (1SM, 1RA, 2ST, 2KK, 3SM & 3SH at 9.15am; 4XL, 4PC, 5TG, 5SK, 6HA & 6HH at 2.30pm)



Autumn Class Assemblies

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

Tues 26th Nov 2DN

Thurs 28th Nov 6CM

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

Whitchurch



Star Pupils



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



<p>1RA Malik 1SM River 1PD Abraham and Aarav 1IN Mathias</p> <p>2ST Aaron 2KK Abigail 2DN Trisha S 2SA Ariyan and Sheba</p> <p>3NL Karina 3SH Maryam 3LA Ioan and Mattia 3SM Shanaya</p>	<p>Respect Responsibility Resilience Honesty Generosity Aspiration</p>	<p>4BS Maya 4XL Avinash 4PC Ayumi 4ND Sabah</p> <p>5SK Ankush 5SC Saanvi 5TG Elliott 5RC Elias</p> <p>6HH Spency-Ann 6ET Tisha 6HA Sahil 6CM Khadijah</p>
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Attendance Stars



This week's attendance stars are 6HH (99.3%)

Whole School 94.2%

Did you know?

15 minutes late each day means two full weeks of school missed each year - arrive on time!

Staff Snapshot



Name: Ruzna Azward
**Role: Early Years
Practitioner**



All about me

I was born in Sri Lanka, which is a beautiful little island close to India. I moved to England when I was 23 years old, got married here and had four wonderful children. I was an IT professional before I had my children but I moved into teaching since it suited my family life better.



When my children started school 17 years ago, I became a parent volunteer and realised how much I enjoyed teaching. My mum was a teacher, and when I was small I used to love pretending to teach and order my cousins around! All four of my children attended Whitchurch; three of them are in university continuing to study what they enjoy, and my youngest son is in high school preparing for his GCSEs next year.

Hobbies and interests

In my spare time, I love reading, watching movies and baking. I enjoy trying out new recipes for my family and I find the best way to relax is by going out for a long walk by myself. I love travelling to sunny Sri Lanka often to spend time with my elderly parents. I really enjoy visiting the bird sanctuaries in Sri Lanka to see all the exotic birds and the elephant orphanage, where I can feed the baby elephants!



Best thing about my role

As an Early Years Practitioner, I really enjoy teaching children in Early Years as we have lots of fun together and it's very rewarding to support the young children settle into school life. Working at Whitchurch has been a brilliant experience and over the years I've made many good friends at this wonderful school.

Support for Families



Educating Children on Spending and Saving

Findings from the Money and Pensions Service have found that only 47% of children in the UK have received a meaningful financial education.

Money management is a vital part of being an adult, and an exceptionally important skill that will benefit children for their entire lives. Having the knowledge and self-control to let savings build up interest - or avoid an impulse buy can ensure that children go into adulthood at a significantly lower risk of financial difficulty. With Black Friday and Cyber Monday sales fast approaching, now is a great time to help children understand the value of money.

Of course, it can feel daunting when attempting to teach young people about something as complicated as money and responsible budgeting but there are practical options at your disposal.

Please refer to the poster attached to this newsletter, helping you teach children and young people all they need to know about spending and saving their cash.



#WakeUpWednesday

Brilliant Parents Online Workshops



Managing Fighting and Aggression (Monday 2nd December)

Dealing with Disobedience (Friday 6th December)

Developing Good Bedtime Routines (Monday 9th December)

Stress Free Shopping with children (Friday 16th December)

For details please see the leaflets on the Support for Families page of our website.

Click here for leaflets

Support for Families



Supporting yourself through uncertain times

We can easily feel helpless and powerless over what is going on around us during uncertain times. What can be helpful is to try to accept and let go of those things that are out of your control and turn your focus onto those that are in your control and allowing more time to adjust and be mindful of your support.

Create your 'circle of control'

- First, take a moment to gently think about those things that make you feel worried, sad or angry. It can help to draw or write them down on a sheet of paper.
- Next, draw a large circle on a separate sheet. On the outside of this circle, write down those things that you cannot control. For example: how long this will last, predicting what will happen. Now, focus on what you can control and write those things down inside the circle. For example: writing down 3 things you are grateful for every night, acts of kindness, taking some time to play and connect with your child.
- It can help to hang this up by your bed or on your fridge, as a reminder. Whenever you start to feel anxious, return to this image: the aim is to try to accept what you have written on the outside and then find something on the inside of your circle that you can do to feel more balanced again. This can be a great exercise to also create with your child!

Creating support for yourself and your family

- Do you have space where you are able to take some time for you to be with your thoughts and feelings, can a partner or loved one take over with the children for a short period of time and enjoy a uninterrupted cup of tea or coffee?
- Are you able to put everything to one side and do something you enjoy when the children are in bed, allowing time for you?
- Can you sit with your family and have a quiet space for 10/15 minutes, turning all digital devices off and allowing some quiet time to just sit, colour, breathe, read, or maybe put some relaxing music on?
- Maybe thinking about what support looks like for you and your family and how you might create or inquire about that.





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

EDUCATING CHILDREN ON SPENDING AND SAVING

Evidence shows that children's spending habits begin to form as early as seven years old. With primary schools in England not required to teach financial literacy, many young people are reaching adulthood without knowing the basics of budgeting. This guide explains how to teach young people about money in a practical way, giving them the understanding to become savvy spenders and savers.

1 PROVIDE POCKET MONEY

Giving children money – even a small amount – can help them learn to make their own budgeting decisions about how to spend or save it. Research shows that youngsters who receive pocket money are more likely to become adults with strong financial skills and significantly less debt.

2 USE A PREPAID CARD

Being able to pay by card is essential these days, with some retailers not accepting cash since the pandemic. Prepaid debit cards are available for children from the age of six, allowing them to get used to spending like they will as adults with no risk of dipping into an overdraft. Learning about money is like learning to swim – you need to get in the pool and have a go!

3 PRACTISE BORROWING

Although official borrowing is only available to over 18s, kids need to understand how debt and interest works before they become adults and are exposed to credit cards or 'buy now, pay later' schemes. For a safe means of teaching them about this, parents could offer them extra pocket money but explain that it needs to be paid back by a certain date, plus an extra couple of pounds as interest.

4 ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATION

Chatting about money and how much things cost will teach children that finance is a part of everyday life and not some "scary adult thing". Parents can involve them in budgeting for the weekly shop, for example, working together to get everything on the list while keeping the total below a certain number. Letting young ones make spending decisions in a safe space can build up their confidence regarding money.

5 DISCUSS THE PRESSURE TO SPEND

Whether it's YouTube ads or a hint of envy at a friend's recent purchase, spending triggers are everywhere. Encourage children to notice how clever shop design (like placing sweets at the checkout) and offers such as '2 for 1' deals entice us to spend more. Challenge them to resist impulse buys by getting them to sleep on it before deciding to spend.

6 TELLING 'NEED' FROM 'WANT'

Learning how to prioritise spending is an important life skill: the difference between life's essentials and "nice to haves" is key to budgeting. If children pester you for treats while shopping, it's the perfect time to say "That's a want. We're getting our needs first." You could show how you budget for food, electricity and so on before buying fun things.

7 ENCOURAGE SAVING

Getting children saving early can set them up with a useful habit for their adult life. Suggest that they set something aside every time they receive money and help them set a target for how much to put away, so they feel motivated to continue. For example, encouraging them to save for a friend's birthday gift can get children much more invested in what they buy.

8 SPARK INTEREST IN INTEREST

Motivate children by telling them about interest; you can describe it as a reward for saving money. Explain how everything they put away will grow over time. As an exciting example, explain that if it doubled every day for a month would amount to approximately £10 million. Some prepaid cards for young people also offer interest; parents and carers could also add a little to supplement what their child saves and show how it works.

9 PAYING FOR CHORES

This is a complex debate with no right or wrong answer: it depends on what works for each individual family. However, it can be one of the best ways to teach children that money needs to be earned and helps to create more mindful spenders. If parents aren't keen on paying for everyday chores, they could ask the children to suggest their own ideas for earning a little extra.

10 PROTECT CHILDREN FROM SCAMS

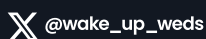
Scams are a terrifyingly easy way to lose money, and children are generally more likely to be taken in due to a lack of experience with these financial criminals. As a minimum, make sure they're aware of the most common scams they could be exposed to – by text, email and phone, for instance. Young people should tell a trusted adult about any unexpected message or call and never give out their personal information.

Meet Our Expert

GoHenry is a prepaid debit card and financial education app with a mission to make every young person smart with money. Co-founder and CEO Louise Hill is a passionate campaigner for better financial literacy among school children and strongly believes that money management is a crucial life skill.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/spending-and-saving>



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