

Headteacher's Newsletter



January 2024 | Issue 1

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely getting to know many of you at the school gate, I already feel like part of Whitehall Infant School family. I hope you have had a good break and that the New Year has started well for you.

I know that many children were ill just before Christmas with an increase in bugs and illnesses, it is great to see them back in school.

This second term of school is called the Spring Term. We traditionally see children making accelerated progress in all aspects of school life. It is essential that they are in school every day unless they are too unwell to attend. Prior to the break there was an increase in the number of children arriving late to school. It is important for children to be on time to make good progress both academically and socially. Please only book holidays in the time permitted which is listed on the year dates and come talk to us if you need any support getting your child to school.

The New Year is always a good time to set some goals. I hope this is a positive year for you and your families! The children have settled back into their routines and are happy being back at school.

Thank you for your continuous support. Please contact the school if you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of your child's school life.

Mrs Wade

Update from Mrs Kennedy

Some very exciting news from Mrs Kennedy! She had a baby boy on 13th January 2024, weighing a healthy 7lb 10oz. Both Mrs Kennedy and Samuel are doing well and are hoping to visit the school soon.

Huge congratulations to Mrs and Mr Kennedy! Our Whitehall family cannot wait to meet him!



KEY DATES

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Safer Internet Day | 29th January |
| Pine class assembly | Thursday 1st February at 9am in the hall |
| Children's Mental Health week | WC Monday 5th February |
| Beech class assembly | Thursday 8th February at 9 am in the hall |
| Dress to express day | Friday 9th February |
| Half term | 12th- 16th February |
| Parents evening | Tuesday 12th March 3:15-5 pm |
| Parents evening | Thursday 14th March 3:15-7pm |
| School holidays | 29th March- 12th April |

Safeguarding Reminders

If you are worried about a child or are concerned about an on-going issue involving a child please contact

Hillingdon Stronger Families Hub on

01895 556006

or alternatively if you feel a child is in immediate danger then call **the Police emergency number 999.**

Parent Survey

A Parent Survey has been sent to you via email. Please take a moment to complete the survey as your feedback is important to us.

Well Done!

Well done to Willow and Elm class for performing their excellent class assemblies to the school and their parents/carers. Willow shared information about Chinese New Year and Elm about stranger danger themed 'Clever Never Goes'. Children got to show their books and the learning they had been doing! Well done for all your hard work!

After school club survey

Just before Christmas, we sent out a survey about after school club provision. We had 17 responses with 10 parents/ carers expressing interest in after school wrap around care. Unfortunately, these numbers are not viable for the school to go forward with the provision at current time. This will be reviewed again later on in the year. Thank you to everyone who responded.



Curriculum Overviews

Curriculum overviews for Spring term are on our website. The overviews will provide you with the curriculum coverage that your child will be learning over this half term.

The Pantry

The Pantry will be publishing a new menu at the end of the month. We have noticed that many children choose the same meal choice every day (for example a cheese or tuna sandwich). Please talk with your child about the importance of eating varied and healthy meals. The current menu is on our website if you don't have it at hand. There is also a choice of salad and fruit every day for them to choose from. Staff are currently encouraging children to eat more hot food as many children are reluctant to try new dishes. Thank you for your support with this.



Playground equipment

We have noticed that some children are helping themselves to playground equipment after school. We have spoken to children in school about this but we still need your support with this as it is on-going. Playground equipment is for play times only. Thank you



Letter requests/ Form Requests

If you require a letter from the school, please visit the main school office to complete a request form and provide supporting documentation.

Please note that there is an admin charge of £10 for letter requests.

Parent Coffee Mornings

When? Every Friday Morning

Time? 8:45am - 9:45am

Where? Main Hall

Come and join us to connect with each other, share experiences and relax.



After School Clubs— Spring 2024

Please find information below regarding after school clubs for this term.

| | Club (3:15—4:15pm) | Who can attend? | How do I sign my child up? |
|------------------|--|--|---|
| Monday | Ball Skills Discovery Club— Learn new skills across a range of sports | Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 | Click here to book |
| Tuesday | Football Gymnastics | Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Year 2 | Click here to book Email: queries@gymlets-cheerlets.co.uk |
| Wednesday | Multisport Club—Come and try a number of different sports | Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 | Click here to book |
| Thursday | Gymnastics | Reception | Email: queries@gymlets-cheerlets.co.uk |
| Friday | Gymnastics | Year 1 | Email: queries@gymlets-cheerlets.co.uk |

Communication School and Parents/ Carers

At Whitehall we believe good communication is vital, it helps to both inform our parents /carers about what is going on within the school and also helps to develop a good relationship which builds trust and understanding. We have a number of methods of communication which we use to communicate information which you can see below.

| Method | What | Parent Requirement |
|-------------|---|---|
| In person | Various communications | n/a |
| Email | Various communications | Provide school with email address |
| Text | Various Communications | Provide school with mobile contact number |
| Newsletters | Sent by email fortnightly and posted on our website | Access to a mobile phone or computer. |
| Website | Variety of information | Access to a phone or computer |
| Posters | Notice boards around school | Take a look when dropping or collecting children. |
| Phone | Speak directly with staff | To be available for phone call at agreed time. |

ADMISSIONS

ADMISSIONS SEPTEMBER 2024

Applying for Nursery School

For children due to start Nursery in September 2024, you must apply direct to the school. If your child's date of birth falls between **1st September 2023 and 31st August 2024 and they turn 3**, then you can apply for entry in September 2024. Please email the school office directly with any questions : office@mail.whitehallinf.org