

## Friday 22nd October 2021

I would like to start this newsletter with a huge thank you to our Whitemoor children who have all been brilliant this half term at adapting to the changes that we have seen in school. It's been lovely to have everyone back together again mixing more than they were able to last year.

Over the last half term we have welcomed a new School Council, Eddie the therapy dog, participated in National Fitness Day and held our own Languages Day all whilst still focusing on the wider curriculum and our love of learning.

Thank you also to all of our parents and carers for your endless support with listening to your children read, homework etc and for continuing to follow our Covid safe measures.

Finally, I want to also add a thank you to our staff. The staff at Whitemoor work tirelessly to provide the very best education for your children. This half term has had its challenges like any other but the staff have continued to provide fun and engaging learning opportunities for the children throughout.

In other news, I am pleased to welcome two new members of staff to Team Whitemoor this term. Miss Treen will be joining us after half term and will be working in Class 1 and Mrs Suffolk who joined us this week will be working in Class 3.

I am also pleased to announce that we have become a Silver Stories school this term. This is an initiative to support children's reading but to also support the older generation who may be feeling isolated, especially following the pandemic.

Silver Readers (children) read to a Silver Listener (older member of the community) over the phone once a week. This will be supervised by a member of staff. If your child has been chosen then you will receive a letter from their class teacher after half term. For more information, visit [Schools - Silver Stories](#)

I would like to wish you all a lovely half term break. Please take care of yourselves and enjoy the week with your families. We look forward to seeing you all again on the Monday 1st November.

Mrs Hooper, Head of School

### Poppy Appeal

Poppies will be on sale from Monday 1st November- see donation price list below



Poppy Appeal

Zip Pull  
SUGGESTED DONATION: 50p

Reflector  
SUGGESTED DONATION: 50p

Silicon Wristband  
SUGGESTED DONATION: £1

Snap Band  
SUGGESTED DONATION: £1.50

Registered Charity No. 215279  
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION  
FIR Registered with the Financial Conduct Authority

### WAF A

Thank you to parents/carers who attended the Teams meeting for WAF A, we are looking forward to working with you on our future events.

### Coats

We please ask that all children bring a warm waterproof coat to school every day after half term. The weather is getting colder and wetter but there are still some children without coats. We do try to get outside everyday so sensible coats are a must.

### Children In Need

We are planning to do a Bake off and cake sale. Watch this space for more details to follow.

## **\*\*Important: Meals and Early Start Club Using ParentPay \*\***

We are very pleased to announce bookings will be live starting Monday 25th October for parents/carers to book meals and Early Start Club.

**We politely ask Parents/Carers to book meals/Early Start Club during October Half Term week ready for the first day/week back to school.**

**Please note: Early Start Club NOT applicable to Nursery pupils.**

**It is important for parents/carers to activate their ParentPay account to use this facility for booking meals and places.**

Our Autumn/Winter Menu has been emailed to you this week. This menu is on ParentPay for booking and paying **unless Free School Meals and/or Universal Infant Free School Meals entitled**. The Autumn/Winter menu can be viewed on our school website.

Here is the link for parent guides on using ParentPay: [Parents - Get Started with ParentPay](#)

Once logged into ParentPay, parents/carers can book meals/breakfast club either daily or in advance, click link to follow guidance on booking: [How-to-make-meal-or-event-bookings.pdf \(parentpay.com\)](#)

**It is important pupils meals are booked by 8am before attending school each day so kitchen staff know meal numbers. Thank you for your cooperation.**

### **Class 1**

This week in Class 1 we have thoroughly enjoyed getting ready for Halloween. The children have been picking out animals from spiders webs, hammering golf tees into pumpkins and picking out the seeds. They have also made their own Halloween decorations by carefully cutting out spooky pictures and adding string to the back. It has been a 'spook'tacular week of learning this week.

### **Class 2**

Class 2 have continued to impress us this week. They have worked hard on their handwriting, continued their learning linked to The Little Red Boat in English, and showed great understanding in maths as we finished our unit on place value. In History, we learnt about the development of the car, we tested materials in Science and enjoyed refining our tennis skills in PE.

We hope you all have a lovely half term break, you have certainly earned it.

### **Class 3**

Class 3 have been looking at using efficient methods to add and subtract and adding multiples of 100 to a three digit number. In English, we have been researching Anglo-Saxons and presenting this in a non-chronological report. In History, we found out all about how the Anglo-Saxons lived and we recreated a model village. In P.E. we used all of our previously taught skills to compete in a class tournament.

### **Class 4**

Well done to all of Class 4 for their successes and achievements this half term!

As well as reading a huge number of books between you, you have read and written poetry, compiled reports and described story scenes. You have worked hard in every lesson of maths as well as science and now clearly understand the difference between solids, liquids and gases.

You have a growing knowledge of the Vikings, have all experienced playing a brass instrument and have developed your netball and bench ball skills. What an amazing class you are!

Have a great half-term break and remember to think about the 'Stay Safe' posters we made for Halloween!

### Important Upcoming Dates

- ◆ 12.11.21: Flu Vaccinations Reception to Year 6 pupils, consent form to follow.
- ◆ 19.10.21: Children In Need
- ◆ 07.12.21: Christmas Fair TBC
- ◆ 13.12.21: Class 1 & 2 Christmas Performance
- ◆ 14.12.21: Class 3 & 4 Christmas Performance
- ◆ 15.12.21: Christmas Lunch
- ◆ 17.12.21: Last day of term: **Finish at 1:15pm**

### Early Start Club

Early Start Club is on offer before school from 8am. The club is run by Mrs O'Mahoney and must be booked online via Parentpay a week in advance.

We currently charge a very reasonable £1 for the facility.

If you would like more information about Early Start Club then please speak to Mrs Dowd in the office or book using the guidance via ParentPay: [How-to-make-meal-or-event-bookings.pdf](#)

### P.E days

We are still asking children to come dressed in their P.E kits on the days they have P.E:

**Monday: Class 3**

**Tuesday: Class 4**

**Thursday: Class 2**

**Friday: Class 1**

### Internet Safety

Please click on the link to view Aspire Academy Trust's about keeping children safe when using the internet: <https://www.aspireacademytrust.org/esafety>

### Volunteers

We are now in a position to welcome back volunteers. Whether you are trying to gain experience to support you in job applications or you would just enjoy supporting us with the children, we would like to hear from you.

All volunteers must undertake a full induction and DBS check. If you are interested, please just email [hello@whitemoor.org.uk](mailto:hello@whitemoor.org.uk)

### Head Teacher Awards



**Congratulations to the following children for achieving headteacher award this week:**



**Class 1: Max**

**Class 2: Athena**

**Class 3: Yasmin**

**Class 4: Abbie**

## Term Dates 2021/2022

**25.10.21 to 29.10.21:** Autumn Half Term

**20.12.21 to 31.12.21:** Christmas Holidays

**03.01.22:** Bank Holiday

**04.01.22:** INSET Day (School Closed)

**05.01.22:** Children return to school

**18.02.22:** Aspire INSET Day (School Closed)

**21.02.22 to 25.02.22:** Spring Half Term

**11.04.22 to 22.04.22:** Easter Holidays

**02.05.22:** May Bank Holiday

**30.05.22 to 03.06.22:** Summer Half Term

**06.06.22:** INSET Day (School Closed)

**07.06.22:** Queen's Platinum Jubilee (School Closed)

**26.07.22:** Last day of term

## Attendance

### **Absence - Illness**

If your child is going to be absent from school due to illness, then please inform the office before 9am in the morning, and let us know why your child is going to be absent, and when you expect them to return. If your child is off for more than one day, we must still be informed each day of your child's absence until they return to school. **Sickness / Diarrhoea - Please keep your child off school for 48 hours**

### **COVID-19 Absence: Self-isolating rule**

From 16th August 2021 Individuals are **not** required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19, and any of the following apply:

- they are fully vaccinated
- they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months
- they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Instead, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. Please take a PCR test if advised to do so and remember, **PHE do NOT recommend the use of LFD tests on children under the age of 11 years.**

**Please call the school on 01726 822274, alternatively you can email the office on [hello@whitemoor.org.uk](mailto:hello@whitemoor.org.uk) and speak to our school secretary.**



# Free Gardening Equipment for our School



Whitmoor Academy has registered with Morrisons supermarket to get free gardening equipment.

Parents/Guardians can support our school by spending £10 or more and you will get a Grow Token to donate to your chosen school. The school can then exchange the tokens for free gardening equipment.

For further details and to support our school, follow this link: [www.itsgoodtogrow.co.uk](http://www.itsgoodtogrow.co.uk)

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**2K max Off Road Laps of the Rec Ground**

**Children's Fun Run**

**Pumpkins Welcome** **Fancy Dress!** **Hot Dogs**

**Sat 30th Oct 3.30pm In The Rec Ground** **£2 Race entry fee**

**Have a lovely Half Term break and we look forward to seeing pupils back on Monday 1st November.**