



Newsletter 1

2021/2022 Whitchurch Primary School
09.09.21 22 Bristol Road, BS14 0PT

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Things to remember:

PE - All children should have a PE kit that they wear to school on their allocated PE days. Attached is the form showing days for each class. This should consist of a house t-shirt (which can be purchased on Parentpay for £2), shorts, daps and trainers all clearly named. Children should also have jogging bottoms or a track suit for colder weather.

EARRINGS - Children in Key Stage 1 are not allowed to wear earrings to school, children in Key Stage 2 may wear one pair of small stud earrings as long as they are able to remove them themselves.

WET/HOT WEATHER - Children will go out to play in all but very extreme weather conditions. Please make sure that your children have adequate outdoor clothing and sun cream if necessary.

WATER BOTTLES - All children should have a water bottle in school.

SNACKS - Children in years R to 2 are offered free fruit or veg every day! Please do not send snacks in if your child is in KS1. Children in KS2 are welcome to bring their own fresh fruit or vegetables for break time.

WELCOME BACK!

WELCOME BACK TO WHITCHURCH - A new year, a new term and a newsletter, welcoming you to the 'new normal!' As you are well aware from our previous newsletters and holiday correspondence, we have so far worked extremely well, and successfully, in keeping all children safe, healthy, happy and learning.

As lockdown measures ease, we look forward to allowing the children to move more freely around the school, enjoying lunches with whom they wish and not being limited to areas in the playground. Whilst learning children will be able to return to using our kitchen and ICT suite, as well as using all of our equipment sensibly, but without lifted restrictions. We do ask that parents and carers continue to respect those who want to wear a mask and socially distance, as we all have done already, and that we all enjoy a new academic year 'achieving our best together'.

SPORTS ACTIVITIES - Once again this year, we have been allocated additional funding in order to extend our sporting activities. All KS2 children will be going swimming during the year and all year groups will attend Bristol Gymnastics Centre, where they will be taught by professional coaches and have the opportunity to experience a full range of gymnastic equipment. Classes will have this opportunity at different times during the year. Due to the transport costs we will have to request a contribution of £3 per child per session.

YEAR 6 - From next Thursday 16th September to Thursday 14th October children in Year 6 will be going to Bristol Gymnastics Centre weekly. Please pay on Parentpay to enable us to take part. Forms have been sent home in book bags.

YEAR 3 - Children in Year 3 will be taking part in swimming lessons from next Thursday 16th September for two terms. Swimming hats will be required and may also be purchased on Parentpay. Please pay and return your consent form which has been sent home. Thank you.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS - This terms clubs are now available to pay for on Parentpay. If you would like to sign your child up to a free club, either return the form that has been emailed or text the school with your choices. Note - Explorers is now full. Children that are taking part in after school clubs should bring their PE kit to school so that they can change before the club starts.

Our two new clubs are **indo boarding** and **ultimate frisbee**. Please see a description of both below. These will be run by an outside agency that specialises in sports for schools.

To book onto either of these clubs please use this link:

<https://phsports.co.uk/online-bookings>

Indo Boarding - An indo board is a wooden board (shaped similar to a skimboard) that is placed on either a balance cushion or once they have got the hang of it, a roller which they have to try and balance on. There are all sorts of tricks they can perform on the board and the club will allow the children to practice these safely.



Indo boarding can give your child a head start on training their balance, stability, agility and core strength, all whilst having fun, this is the perfect club for your active child. Indo boarding is ideal for children that are just beginning to take part in team sports, board sports like surfing, skating, or snowboarding, martial arts, gymnastics, dance, cheer, motorsports or for the active children that just want to challenge themselves and have fun at their own pace.

Ultimate Frisbee - Ultimate frisbee is first and foremost, fun! It is an excellent way to participate in cardiovascular exercise, stay active, and children of all abilities can play. It will also help develop spatial awareness, balance, co-ordination, encourages teamwork and cooperation, builds self-confidence and is safe as it is a non-contact sport!

Children will play in teams against one another passing an ultimate frisbee to try and score points in end zones. The children will need to try and intercept passes to gain back possession. The club will teach the children all the skills required to play Ultimate Frisbee!

PUPIL PREMIUM - If you are receiving benefits, or are a low income earner, your child may be entitled to free school meals. If you are not sure, please apply online through the council website using this link <https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>.

MEDICAL CONDITIONS - If your child has a medical condition for which there is a Health Plan this must be updated regularly, please check with the school office that our information is up to date and sign the plan. If your child's medical circumstances have changed, it is essential that you inform the school office immediately. If your child has an inhaler for asthma, an information form must be completed each term - these are available from the office. Children in KS2 are expected to take responsibility for looking after their own inhalers but we need up to date information on record. Teachers in KS1 will look after children's inhalers but it is your responsibility to collect them at the end of each term and to ensure that medication is in date. We are a nut free school.

YEAR 3 – Children in Year 3 are no longer entitled to free school dinners. Please ensure dinner money is paid on Parentpay in advance. Thank you.

SCHOOL DINNERS – Children in Years 3-6 should pay for school dinners in advance on Parentpay. The cost is £2.60 per meal.

FRIENDS OF WHITCHURCH PRIMARY – The PTA would like to welcome all new parents, carers and children to the school. Our first meeting of the school year will be on Tuesday 14th September at 6pm in the school hall and everyone is welcome.

Over the summer, the PTA has secured a £2000 donation from Whitchurch Village Council towards the upgrade of the playground equipment. We are very grateful for this very generous donation that will benefit the children at WPS. A huge thank you to the Village Council for these much needed funds.

We look forward to welcoming all parents, carers and children at events and to fundraising activities this year. The success of all our events and activities relies on your continued generosity and support.

SECONDARY SCHOOL OPEN DAYS - Chew Valley - We will this year be holding two Open Evening events on Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd September offering three houses for the Headteacher's talk at 6pm, 6.45pm and 7.30pm followed by tours of the school on both evenings. We will not be holding any Open Morning events this year.

Beechen Cliff - This year's event will take place on Tuesday 14 September 2021 commencing at 6.00pm. Following this we shall be holding an Open Morning on Thursday 23 September 2021 from 9.00am until 12 noon.

ATTENDANCE - As we move out of lockdown please ensure your child is in all day, everyday. We have carefully planned a 'recovery curriculum' that will see us teaching not only this year's objectives but also those missed from last year due to lockdowns. It is so important your child attends school to benefit from this.

Please do not remove your child from school early, especially on a Friday, nor take time off for holidays during term time. Help us to help your child. Our attendance enforcement measures are now fully restored, although we would like to avoid using them as it creates unpleasantness between families and the school: We do not enjoy fining people.

Instead, please have your child in school, on time, every day, so we can continue 'achieving our best together.' Thank you.

START OF TERM – All of the children have had a fantastic start to this term....

