



Newsletter 1 24-25

2024/2025 Whitchurch Primary School
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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. Below 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 Primary School! We begin a new year of educational excellence and enjoyment, in which we hope all are ready to 'achieve our best together'. The children have returned looking smart, proud, and ready to learn, showing many of our school values!



MAKING WHITCHURCH EVEN BETTER! Each year we work on our 'School Improvement Plan', a document designed to continue improving our school and making it a great place to learn and work in. This year our main targets are:

- **MATHS:** We were above national in all standardised, government assessments last year (SATs, Phonics etc), well done Whitchurch! Although maths was above, we want even more children to achieve in this area to raise our standards even higher.
- **WRITING:** In particular handwriting. On our inset day we looked at this, and will be rolling out a whole school initiative in this area.
- **ATTENDANCE:** Following strict and clear government guidelines, coupled with our relentless desire to have every child learn to their full ability, we continue to firmly encourage all children to come to school all day, every day. This year we will be working closely in a supportive manner with families and children.
- **COMMUNITY:** Our children have the power to change our community, and ultimately the world. But do they know how to go about it? This will be an area of focus starting with school council.

By working on these areas we aim to make Whitchurch Primary School not only a wonderful place to attend and learn in, but also one where children become well educated, inspired and essential members of our society, both local, regional and national!

PUPIL PREMIUM NOT JUST FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS, CAN COVER TRIPS ETC TOO

- 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 quick and easy link <https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>. Please note that we also receive additional funding for your child that may go towards paying for school trips and excursions, and also be used to pay for swimming and gym trips, so do please apply.

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 – There have been a few teething issues with our new school system. Once fully up and running, children will be able to order from a broader and more diverse menu, expanding their culinary experiences!

SECONDARY SCHOOL OPEN DAYS Many Secondary Schools have begun approaching us to advertise their opening days. We will add these attachments to our newsletter as we receive them.

CLUBS: Clubs will go live before the end of next week. Please book using ParentPay. Clubs begin 16th September.

PE, SWIMMING, GYMNASTICS and FOREST SCHOOL TIMETABLE: Please see column 2 above for this information, and please ensure your child wears full PE kit on this day. (Children should come to school wearing their kit, as this prevents delays due to changing and drastically cuts down on lost property). Please also note what days your children will be taking part in swimming and gymnastics sessions, and also when your child's forest school sessions will be taking place this year (Please bring wellies and a waterproof coat on these days). Thank you.

	PE Days	Swim	Gym	Forest
Robins (R)	Mon & Tues	X	7 th May – 11 th Jun	
Redwings (R)	Mon & Tues	X	18 th Jun – 16 th Jul	
Penguins (1)	Weds & Thurs	X	19 th Mar – 30 th Apr	7 th May – 11 th Jun
Puffins (2)	Weds & Thurs	X	5 th Feb – 12 th Mar	11 th Sep – 9 th Oct
Swifts (3)	Thurs & Fri	Term 2 and Term 5	8 th Jan – 29 th Jan	18 th Jun – 16 th Jul
Swallows (4)	Mon & Tues then Tues & Weds from 2/10	Term 4 (26 th Feb – 2 nd Apr)	2 nd Oct – 23 rd Oct	27 th Nov – 8 th Jan
Swans (4)	Tues & Fri	Term 6(4 th Jun–9 th Jul) NOT 16/07	6 th Nov – 27 th Nov	19 th Mar – 30 th Apr
Kestrels (5)	Weds & Fri then Mon and Fri from 4/10	Term 3 (8 th Jan – 12 th Feb)	4 th Sep – 25 th Sep	16 th Oct – 20 th Nov
Kingfishers (6)	Weds & Weds (Swimming)	Term 1 (4 th Sep – 23 rd Oct)	4 th Dec – 18 th Dec	5 th Feb – 12 th Mar

AFTERSCHOOL CLUB/ PUPIL PREMIUM: We are delighted to have teamed up with PHSports in order to offer an afterschool club, bookings of which may be made through our website. Please be aware we cannot use pupil premium funding to pay for children to attend this service. We have a limited amount of Pupil Premium money that is mainly spent on in-class support teachers and interventions. If spent on afterschool care, we would have to reduce the teaching and learning support in school. Thank you for your understanding in this matter, and your continued support of the school.

WALKING TO AND FROM SCHOOL: Please note only children in Year 6 should walk to and from school unaccompanied. We also ask that should a sibling bring your child to and from school, they should be over 16 years of age. Thank you.