



Newsletter 15 24-25

2024-2025 Whitchurch Primary School
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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Welcome back to Whitchurch Primary School as we return to another term of enjoyment, education and excellence! We have started 2025 with aplomb, the children enjoyed a fantastic production of Aladdin yesterday, put on by M&M productions, and generously funded by our PTA! Remember, all monies spent at PTA events, such as barbecues and discos, go towards funding these events for our children!



SCHOOL CENSUS MEAL! Once again we are inviting all children to sign up for a free school meal! As usual, sign-ups will increase funding for our school, making Whitchurch an even better place to achieve!

DINER = Day =

16 JANUARY 2025

We're serving up a **FREE** all-American lunch straight from the diner: big flavours, classic bites and something for everyone.

WHAT'S ON THE MENU

= Mains =
Burger or Cheeseburger
Veggie Hotdog
Battered Chicken Burger


And lots of ketchup!

= Sides =
Crispy Fries
Corn on the Cob & Veggie Sticks

= Desserts =
Snickerdoodle Cookie
Chocolate Churro
Fresh Fruit

DON'T MISS OUT

Head over to the Select system to make your meal choices now. It's **FREE** for everyone on this special day—be sure to grab your spot!



If you have not used the Select system before, please reach out to your school office and get your school and child code before registering.

select.aspens-services.com/

A big thank you to our local suppliers for making this American diner lunch possible.

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16 JANUARY 2025

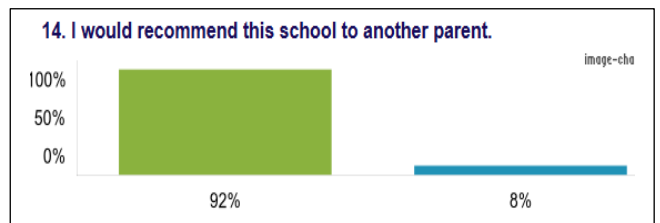
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PARENTVIEW: Thank you to the many parents and carers who have completed a review of our school. Not only does it give us all a boost, it also lets us know what areas we can improve on to make our school even better. Head to: <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>



RECEPTION APPLICATIONS FOR 2025-2026: Should your child wish to attend Whitchurch in 2025-2026, joining us in Reception class from September, please complete the application form online before the closing date. Further details are below.

DON'T FORGET

PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

Wednesday 15 January
is the deadline for applying to
Primary Schools for 2025

School places will be confirmed on
National Offer Day (16 April 2025)



LIGHTHOUSE
SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP



UK Health Security Agency

06 Jan 2025

UKHSA SOUTH WEST PRESS RELEASE: Parents and carers urged to take simple steps to ensure children make the healthiest start to the New Year

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) South West is reminding parents and carers of the simple steps they can take to ensure their children make the healthiest start to this school term after the Christmas break. The new year brings with it an opportunity to teach children about the importance of good hygiene and with the recent increase in cases of flu and high levels of other respiratory viruses such as COVID and RSV as well as norovirus, it's more important than ever. The latest surveillance data from UKHSA shows that flu activity continued to increase over the Christmas break, with hospitalisations also increasing. Flu is now circulating at high levels in the community, an increase on the levels we saw before the school holidays, which is why it's especially important to reinforce good hygiene habits as children return to school.

Teaching good hygiene habits

Parents are encouraged to lead by example and encourage good hygiene habits such as using a tissue to catch coughs and sneezes, as well as washing hands. Regularly washing your hands with soap and warm water for 20 seconds, or using hand sanitiser when convenient, is one of the most effective ways to stop the spread of germs. Alcohol gels don't kill all bugs so don't rely on these.

Knowing when to keep your child at home and when to send them to school

January marks the start of a new term, with new things to learn and friends to make. Time off school can disrupt learning and also be an inconvenience for parents and carers having to stay off work. This is why it's important to know when to keep your child at home and when to send them to school. Children can stay in school with symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat or slight cough if otherwise well and do not have a high temperature but should stay home if they're displaying symptoms such as having a fever. If your child has diarrhoea and vomiting, they should stay home for at least 48 hours after these symptoms clear up.

If you have symptoms of flu or COVID-19 such as a high temperature, cough and feeling tired and achy, try to limit your contact with others. If you have symptoms and need to leave the house, you should consider wearing a face covering.

Stopping the spread of stomach bugs

Stomach bugs spread easily in schools, nurseries and households. If you or your child have diarrhoea and vomiting, washing your hands with soap and warm water and using bleach-based products to clean surfaces will help stop infections from spreading. Alcohol gels do not kill off norovirus so soap and warm water is best.

| Term 3 | | Notes |
|-------------|----------------------------------|---|
| Class | PE Days | |
| Robins | Monday & Tuesday | |
| Redwings | Monday & Tuesday | |
| Penguins | Wednesday & Thursday | |
| Puffins | Wednesday & Thursday | From 3/2 - Wednesday & Thursday Puffins will start gym on Wednesday. |
| Swifts | Monday & Wednesday (Gymnastics) | From 3/2 - Monday & Friday Swifts will change PE days due to finishing gym. |
| Swallows | Tuesday & Friday | |
| Swans | Tuesday & Thursday | |
| Kestrels | Wednesday (Swimming) & Wednesday | |
| Kingfishers | Wednesday & Thursday | |

PRAISE AND SHOWCASE WINNERS

