



Whiteshill Weekly News

11/10/18

Together we succeed!

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This week has been a real week of transformation in school. Thanks to a bunch of incredibly willing and enthusiastic volunteers, we have been able to completely transform the outside space at the back of school. You will have seen the skip pile growing in size across the week – who knew a school could have so many tyres?! If anyone has any good ideas about how we can dispose of these easily, please do let us know! The volunteers have cleared out all the planting areas and the whole space is now clutter free and looking tidy and rejuvenated! At the back of school, a space has also been cleared so that hopefully turf can be laid to provide a shaded area for the children to enjoy in the height of summer. At the front of school, the shed has been wood stained by another pair of volunteers – a big and daunting job which we are so pleased to get started. Thank goodness it is in the corner!

Inside school, we spent a day clearing out the staffroom and hall and making a start on the library too so that the children can start to really reap the benefits of this excellent resource. I will be working on the library with our school council in the term leading up to Christmas. Thank you again to all the volunteers who helped out – we really couldn't have done it without you and it was such a pleasure to be out in the sunshine and to be part of the community spirit which is so obviously such a big part of Whiteshill Primary School.

Harvest Festival



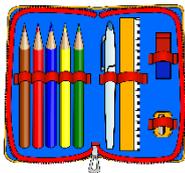
Our harvest festival will take place next week on Thursday 18th at 09.30 at St Paul's Church in Whiteshill. Everyone is welcome so please do come along if you can. This year the school council have chosen to support the Disasters Emergency Committee Indonesian Tsunami Appeal. They will be holding a collection during the festival.



Each class has been busy preparing harvest and autumn themed presentations for you. We have got poems, songs, art and facts to share and they have been working hard on performing, so fingers crossed it will be a real treat!

In last week's diary dates, an eagle-eyed parent luckily spotted a mistake! I had said that the McMillan coffee morning would take place on Thursday 9th November (a date which doesn't exist!) It will actually take place on Thursday 8th November at 2.15pm. A letter will follow after half term with more information.

Over the last couple of weeks there has been a few incidents with the childrens' personal belongings being lost, broken or taken home in the wrong bag. As a staff, we talked at length about this and have decided that we would like to ask that all keyrings, toys and pencil cases are left at home from now on. This will mean that the children don't have to worry about them being lost and broken and the temptation is not there for them to disrupt learning during the day. We provide all the stationary children need in lessons so they don't need to bring anything in from home and toys are definitely not necessary. Keyrings on bags are so easily broken and lost and so if they are removed it will mean staff do not have to spend time trying to locate them or sorting out unnecessary disputes. This will really make a big difference to the staff, especially in the younger classes.



We will begin enforcing this policy more strictly in a week's time so that the children have plenty of time to clear out their bags. After this, any toys, keyrings or pencil cases will be sent home. Thank you for your support and understanding.

Please note - Keyrings on bookbags are fine in Class 1 as the children are not always able to recognise their own name at the start of their time in school so it helps them to identify their bag quickly.

Finally, a few photos of dance club which, along with a whole host of other lunchtime clubs run by the year 6 children, started this week...

