



Whiteshill Weekly News

6/9/18

Together we succeed!

www.whiteshillschool.co.uk

admin@whiteshill.gloucs.sch.uk

01453 762949

Welcome!

I am incredibly proud and happy to finally say hello to you all as new Head Teacher at Whiteshill. Having accepted the job in spring, I have been looking forward to this moment for a long time and I am really excited about the days, weeks and years ahead. It has been a pleasure to meet lots of you already on the school gate and I was pleased to see so many of you in the hall on our first morning, catching up after the summer break. Everybody has been so welcoming and it was a lovely start to my first day. Please do say hello, if you haven't already, whenever you get chance. I hope you all had a fantastic summer and fingers crossed the sunshine will stay with us for a while yet! I have already had a taste of Whiteshill's very own climate and have now packed an umbrella and spare coat so I am prepared for all eventualities!

I wanted to tell you a little about myself as an introduction. I have been teaching in Gloucestershire since 2007 and all my experience has been in small primary schools with mixed age classes. Small schools like Whiteshill are where I am most at home and as Head Teacher I look forward to getting to know all of the children, parents and wider families as well. I have taught across both key stages but most of my experience has been in year 5 and 6. I began my career teaching at Slimbridge Primary and for the last 5 years I have been the Deputy Head Teacher at Uplands Primary School in Stroud where I was lucky enough to gain all the experience I needed to embark on my first headship here at Whiteshill. I have two children; my son has just started back in year 2 and my daughter is 3, so she attends nursery in Tetbury, where we now live. So I know what it felt like as you dropped the children off at the front gate on Tuesday, wondering how on earth they grew up so fast!

As soon as I visited Whiteshill, I knew instinctively that it was where my future lay and it was the only position I applied for, so I was over the moon when I received the call to say that I had been successful. The staff here are clearly all incredibly hard working and enthusiastic about the children and their learning and I know that together we will all be able to build on the fantastic work that has been done so far so that the school can really go from strength to strength.



A huge special welcome to our new Reception class who all came in to school very confidently and smartly on the first day! They have had a fantastic week so far with Mrs Woods and Mrs Harper and have met their year 6 buddies who will be there to help them out around the school as they settle in. Next week, on Wednesday morning, families of class 1 children are invited in for a short stay and play session from 08.45 – 09.00 to see inside the classroom and find out what the children have been getting up to – please join us if you can.



Please make sure that all school uniform is labelled, including shoes and PE kits, as we have a big box of lost property in the reception area from last year and it is much easier to get it back to you when it has a name inside. If you think your child has mislaid anything already, please feel free to come and have a look.

As I'm sure you have noticed, when the children come in each morning they are lining up with their teachers to enter the school. This means they are settled and ready to learn when they reach the classrooms. It also allows class 4 and class 1 to enter school through the front gate and class 2 and class 3 to enter through the middle. This means that not all the children are squeezing through a small entrance. As this is new, could you make sure that the gate area is clear as they make their way through, so that teachers can keep an eye on the whole line - particularly class 1 whilst they get used to where they are heading!



Newsletters will now go out every Thursday afternoon, so that I can share with you everything that has been going on in school each week and keep you informed. Please look out for them in your email inbox and don't forget to keep the school office up to date if you change your email address. We will also be having celebration assembly on Thursday afternoon so look out for some new certificates and awards coming home with the children next Thursday. If your child achieves anything outside of school that they would like to share, we would love to hear about it. Please send it in at any time and it will be celebrated in the following Thursday assembly.



Finally, a few photos of the children getting stuck in during their first week...

