



Whiteshill Weekly News

We are curious, we are unique, we are together, we are Whiteshill!

12/9/19

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What a fantastic first week in school. Our Willow class children are now in for lunch and are being ably assisted by their year 6 buddies who have done a great job of getting them settled and making sure they know all the routines and expectations. It is brilliant to see them together around school enjoying each other's company. Well done Willow class on a great first week.

Elsewhere, the other classes have begun their term of 'We are geographers' with earnest. Coming home in bags this week, you will find an outline of each classes geography overview for the term. Hopefully this will allow you to see what the children are up to in school and support them at home if you choose to. Our new geography policy is also now on the policies page of our website if you would like to know more about how geography will be taught across the school and our vision for the children's curriculum going forward. This can be found at <http://www.whiteshillschool.co.uk/policies/>

Yesterday afternoon, you may have seen some of the children asking for information about the places they are going to be studying later in the term. In line with our school value 'we are together', we are hoping to involve the whole school, local and wider community this term so that the children can become real life geographers! Thank you to everyone who went over and talked to the children and shared facts and ideas with them – it was much appreciated! Elm class will be finding out about Kenya, Maple class are going to be learning about Europe and Oak class are finding out about North and South America.

Also, look out for letters in bags over the next week or so, as each class begins to try out their geography knowledge in real life. Maple class are kicking it all off with a trip to Stroud town centre on Monday to look at human and physical features, land use and map reading. Oak class will also be venturing a little further field in their Forest school session on the 20th to visit Haresfield Beacon. Elm class will be using the Whiteshill area to try out their map knowledge too. As always, volunteers are needed, so once the letter has come home with more detail, if you are able to help out please let the office know.



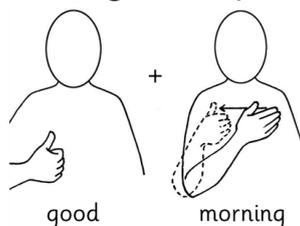
Forest school starts tomorrow for Oak class. They will need to bring in their forest school clothes to get changed in to at lunchtime. Hopefully, Willow class parents received a text this week explaining that forest school for them will begin on the morning of Friday 27th September. This is due to staff training on the 20th. Apologies for the mistake in last week's newsletter. If you think you are not receiving texts from school or if you did not receive the newsletter via email last week, please do let the office know. Bear in mind that texts and emails only go to the first contact number and address on your contact sheet.

Could Elm class parents please make sure that their children do not have keyrings on their book bags this year. Now that they are able to identify their own bag as they are a little older, keyrings tend to cause problems out in the cloakroom with children losing them, breakages and arguments about what belongs to who – as well as some occasional standing staring at our favourite ones in the cloakroom too! It would be really helpful for Miss Boor if these could be removed. Thank you for your understanding.

This week in assembly we talked about Roald Dahl day which is celebrated on September 13th every year, as this was his birthday. He would have been 103 tomorrow! There are lots of Roald Dahl books which are excellent for every age group and the children have been talking about their favourite books today. There is a fantastic website which you can visit if your child loves Roald Dahl and there are some special activities to celebrate his birthday this year too if you are at a loose end this weekend.
<https://www.roalddahl.com> – I have included a fun activity for you to try below as well!

In school last year, we began to develop the use of signing with all the children. Signing is used to communicate with children who find it difficult to express themselves verbally. It is done alongside speech to help with understanding. The children in Willow Class particularly became very confident with sign and Maple Class also had a go with Miss Davies. Mrs Woods also ran a very popular signing club which lots of the children attended. This year, we would like to take our knowledge of sign even further and get the whole school involved. Each week in assembly, we sing Happy Birthday with signing and from this week we will also be having a 'sign of the week' which will be displayed in the hall and taught to the children and teachers during celebration assembly on a Monday. The children will then be encouraged to use this sign throughout the week whenever they have chance. I will let you know the sign we have learnt each week in the newsletter too so that, if you are interested, you can have a go at home alongside your children.

This week we learnt how to say 'Good morning' to everyone – ask your children if you are not sure!



This morning, Maple class had their first brass lesson with a teacher from Gloucestershire music. He is going to be teaching them every Thursday morning for the next ten weeks. It was the most incredible session, the teacher did not speak for the first half and simply communicated to the children through notes on his brass instrument – it was fascinating to see their eyes light up as they figured out how to reply to him through sound as well! Gloucestershire music provide all the children with a brass instrument to use during the sessions and we hope at the end of the 10 week block to work with them on offering small group tuition for those whose interest has been peaked. Elm and Oak class will be receiving tuition for their own ten week block during the spring and summer terms. Take a look at our Facebook page and the school website for some more photos of Maple class' first session.



Look out for club letters coming home tomorrow. We have got a large range of clubs happening again this term. We have tried to make sure that Key Stage 1 and 2 both have a choice of clubs if they would like to attend. Willow class will not be offered clubs this term as they have just started school, but will be included later in the year.

You should have received your contact details sheet home this week for you to check to make sure that these are up to date – it is important that in an emergency we have your up to date phone numbers etc. so please send this back in to school as soon as possible. Next week we will be sending out new medical forms with those children in school who have an identified medical need e.g. asthma. It is important that you fill these in again so that we know that the information we have in school about your child is up to date. If you informed us at the start of last year that your child does not have a medical need then we will assume that this is still the case – if anything has changed, please come to the office and request a blank form to fill in. If your child is diagnosed with asthma, an extra form will be sent home with details about medication etc. If you state on this form that your child needs an inhaler, we will ask for you to provide one to be kept in school. If your child has had asthma in the past linked to a specific illness when they were younger but does not need an inhaler in school, please make sure this is clear on the form. Willow class parents will not be sent forms as you completed them in the summer.

Finally, it is important that you let us know on an annual basis how you are happy for us to use your child's image in school and on school publications, so I will be sending home a form regarding this next week to Elm, Maple and Oak class parents. Please fill it in and bring it back as soon as possible. In the meantime, the permissions you gave us last year will continue to apply.

PLEASE NOTE – almonds are not allowed in school as part of our nut-free policy. Thank you.



Finally, a sneak peek at the children mapping out their classrooms this week.

FIND YOUR ROALD DAHL NAME

ROALD
DAHL
100

Have you ever wondered what character you could play in a Roald Dahl book?
Now, how about what that character would be called? Time to have a little
gobblefunk around with words and find out!

WHAT'S THE FIRST LETTER OF YOUR NAME?

- A - THE FRIGHTSOME
- B - THE PHIZZ-WHIZZING
- C - THE GLORIUMPTIOUS
- D - The Whoopsy-splunkers
- E - The Wondercrump
- F - The Jumpsquiffing
- G - The Scrumdiddilyumptious
- H - THE PROSPSTEROUS
- I - THE HOPSCOTCHY
- J - THE ROTSOME
- K - THE CATASTEROUS
- L - The Ucky-mucky
- M - The Squibbling
- N - The Delumptious
- O - THE SPLATCH-WINKLING
- P - The Buggles
- Q - THE FROTHBUNGLING
- R - THE SNITCHING
- S - THE MUGGED
- T - The Manbugger
- U - The Noddy
- V - THE SCROTTY
- W - THE FLUSHBUNKING
- X - The Frogglehumping
- Y - THE WHUNKING
- Z - THE SNOOZING

FIRST LETTER OF YOUR SECOND NAME

- A - HUMPY-RUMPY
- B - Bean
- C - BOGGIS
- D - ROLY-POLY
- E - NOTSOBIG
- F - Bunce
- G - Twit
- H - TRUNCHBILL
- I - Trogglehumper
- J - MUGGLE-WUMP
- K - FLESHLUMPEATER
- L - DUMPA-LOMPA
- M - HORNSWAGGLER
- N - Quogwinkle
- O - Vermicious Knid
- P - TIME-TWIDDLER
- Q - Snozzcumber
- R - BLABBERSNITCH
- S - Crabcruncher
- T - HUMAN BEAN
- U - MAIDMASHER
- V - Gizzardgulper
- W - BOOTBOGGLER
- X - Chalbag
- Y - Pink-spotted Scrunch
- Z - GLOOP