



Whiteshill Weekly News

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

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Welcome back after the holidays – I hope you all had a fantastic Christmas and New Year and that the children all enjoyed a good rest.

I must start by welcoming Mrs Cripps back to school, she has returned from maternity leave and is now working Monday to Wednesday in Willow class. I would like to welcome Mrs Clarke as well who has started with us this week, covering Mrs Woods maternity leave in Willow class on a Thursday and Friday. The children in Willow class have coped so well with the transition and have enjoyed being back in school, having fun and learning together - as you can see!



Forest School

Willow class started back at forest school this morning and Maple class will be beginning their session next week – Friday 17th January. Please see previous letter for details. Can you make sure that Maple class forest school letter replies are brought back as soon as possible please so that we have all the information we need ready for their first session. Volunteer sheets are now in the lobby for both classes so if you are able to help out, please do sign up. Thank you in advance.

The Friends of Whiteshill School would like to thank everyone who brought a Christmas card or gift tag etc. from 'Art Projects for Schools' before Christmas. We hope your family and friends enjoyed receiving these over the Christmas period and are pleased to say that £87 was raised for the school as a result of your support.

Next week, you will be receiving the first set of letters to let you know your child's attendance over the last half term. Please remember, these are standard letters which will be sent out to every child in the school. They do not require a response and are simply aimed to keep you informed about this important issue. Letters will be sent to the first contact on your children's file as we use an automated system to create them, however, they are for the attention of both parents.

Some of you will receive two letters as your child's attendance may have risen significantly over the last half term, in which case you will receive a letter to celebrate this too. Please see my previous attendance letter for more detail or ask for a copy at the office. Our attendance policy is also available on the website for more information.

Following recent Gloucestershire off-site visits training, we no longer need to ask for consent at the bottom of letters about day trips or visits out that the children go on during the school day. This is not required, as the trips off-site are part of our school curriculum. The only times we will need to still ask for permission is for any visit which takes place outside of school hours e.g. residential or sporting events, any trip which involves adventurous activity e.g. climbing and any trip which involves a sporting activity.

You will still receive a letter every time we are going to take the children off-site, however, you will no longer need to worry about returning a slip to the school office. This will allow you to know where your child is as well as making sure they are dressed appropriately or have packed lunch with them if needed. If it is a local walk e.g. walk around Whiteshill or down to the church, we may put the information in the newsletter or send out a text to let you know it is happening. Please make sure you read your newsletter each week and keep an eye on your child's book bag for letters. We do also send out text reminders as much as we can to ensure you know what is happening in school whenever possible.