



Whiteshill Weekly News

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

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24/9/20

I wanted to begin by updating you on our music provision this year in school. We are very pleased to say that Mr Perrins, our music specialist, is back working in school and this term will be teaching both Maple and Oak Class. He has worked hard to adapt the curriculum in line with COVID-19 regulations and has made sure that the children have a fun and broad set of lessons for this term despite the guidance in place around large group singing and performance. This week, Maple class had the drums, shakers and tambourines out and were really enjoying making music together! Unfortunately, we are not able to use Mr Perrins in the usual way we would, leading after school and lunchtime clubs, but we are sure that in the future these will be able to take place again at some point.

In Elm class, the children's music lessons this term are going to be taking place on a Friday afternoon led by a teacher from Gloucestershire Music Service. Starting tomorrow, Friday 25th September, Elm class will be taught the recorder and cornet by Mr McLaughlin who worked so successfully with Maple class last year and also provided us with video lessons throughout lockdown which you might have had a go at on the school website. Mr McLaughlin is a really inspirational music teacher and we know he is going to get the children really excited about playing instruments together.

PLEASE NOTE – this does mean that starting from next week, Elm class' PE day will be changing. They will now need to come to school dressed in their PE kit and school shoes on a TUESDAY – beginning Tuesday 29th September and not on a FRIDAY anymore.

In assembly this week, some of the children have been learning about how to keep themselves safe online. We use the www.thinkuknow.co.uk resources in school so the children are familiar with the characters used in their videos and information. They have a great page for Parents as well, which you might find useful – see below for details.



Jessie & Friends helps you talk to your child about how to stay safe online.



View the animations & get advice at

www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents



The Families Gloucestershire Magazine which we would normally send home with the children has gone online! You can find it [here](#). It is full of ideas for children and families to keep you busy as well as ideas for learning and clubs, both face-to-face and online.

On the next page of the newsletter, you will find a handy poster issued by Gloucestershire County Council on what to do if your child is ill and you are not sure if they should be in school or not. We hope this will help you to make the right decision if and when this happens during the Autumn term.

This week, the Parish Council got in contact to let me know about the works that have been carried out on revamping the boules pitch on the playing field. Over the years this has become run down and unusable, but they are hoping that going forwards it can become a great resource for the whole community. With this in mind, they would like to ask families and children that they don't use the new boules pitch as a 'sand pit' so they can keep it in good condition.

The Parish Council and local residents are hoping to be able to set up games of boules in the village (within government social distancing guidelines!) where they can invite people down to learn the game and have some fun as a community. We are also hoping that in the future we might be able to take groups of children down to use it during the school day as well. Watch this space for more news!



If your child is going to be off school for ½ a day or more e.g for a funeral, wedding or medical appointment, you must fill in a 'leave of absence request form' as soon as you know that this will happen. Requests can only be authorised in advance so it is important that these are completed before your child is taken out of school, with as much notice given as possible. These can be requested via email (admin@whiteshill.gloucs.sch.uk) or phone call to the school office. Please also be aware of government quarantine guidelines if you are planning to go abroad, particularly during the October half term, as this will obviously impact your child's time in school on their return and you will need to let us know if this is the case.

With the children returning to school after a long time at home, they may be finding it difficult to adjust to the separation from home and parents. There are some useful documents created by mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk that might help you as parents if this is something you are experiencing. They can be found [here](#). The same website also has some tips on dealing with anxiety in children from a parents' point of view, which you may like to take a look at too. They can be found online [here](#).

Don't forget – school photographer is in tomorrow morning taking individual photographs of all the children.



Look out next week for our new 'remote learning policy' coming home. This will set out the expectations for home learning for those children who cannot be in school due to self-isolation. The Government has set all schools the task of ensuring that in the event of a local lockdown or the closing down of a class bubble in school because of a positive case, they ensure home learning takes place in line with what the children would have been taught in school. There is also an expectation that from October, children who are self-isolating whilst waiting for a test result will also complete work at home – we will make sure that from next week, the systems are in place to allow us to support you with this going forwards.

Would you have kept your child off school before Covid?

Yes

Keep your child off school

Yes

Keep your child off school and at home.

Ring 119 or go to www.gov.uk/coronavirus to order a home test kit.

You cannot access a test through 111 or 999. Please do not go to A&E.

Your child and your household must self-isolate until you have the result of this test

Speak to their specialist team about testing criteria if you haven't already spoken to them or had a letter in the post telling you when to act

No

Do they have:

1. A new continuous cough?
2. A fever (high temperature over 38°C using a thermometer)?
3. A complete loss or change of smell or taste?

No

Does your child have an underlying chronic medical condition such as cystic fibrosis?

Yes

Children who are otherwise well with:

- Runny noses
- Sore throats without a fever
- Mild colds

Can go to school as **NORMAL**

No



AT STRATFORD PARK



Academy Classes

STROUD



07870620488



TENNISPLUSACADEMY@GMAIL.COM

4-6 players per class

CLASS:

BLUE - (RECEPTION - YEAR 1)

RED - (YEAR 2 & 3)

ORANGE - (YEAR 4 & 5)

GREEN - (YEAR 6 & 7)

YELLOW - (YEAR 8-13)

ADULT 1 - (BEGINNER)

ADULT 2 - (IMPROVER/ADVANCED)

WANT TO GET FIT &
LEARN A NEW SPORT?

NEW & RETURNING PLAYERS
WELCOME!