



Whiteshill Weekly News

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

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08/10/21

Good Luck Miss Middleton!

Today is Miss Middleton's last day before her maternity leave begins on Monday. We can't believe that she won't be with us from Monday – we will miss her terribly as a friend and colleague but we are also incredibly excited to meet her little girl when she arrives! We will keep you updated when the news comes, as I know many of you are just as over the moon for her as we are!

As you know, Mrs McKay will be teaching in Oak class from Monday which is really wonderful for the children as she is an established member of our teaching team and she knows the year 6 children in particular so well.

They also met Mrs Johnson yesterday who will be working with them in the afternoons on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Willow and Elm Class Visits and Parents Evening

This week we invited the parents in Willow class in to come and see the classroom and the school as they were unable to come in to the school before they chose us for their children last year. If you were not able to make these visits, please do ask and we will see if we can find a time that is convenient for you to come up to class at some point. I managed to show some of the parents around the rest of the school but didn't catch you all, so again, please do grab me at the end of a school day if your child is in Willow class and you would like to come and see the hall and library etc. and the rest of the school grounds at any point.

Next week, we would like to give Elm class parents chance to pop in and see their new classroom and meet Mrs Porter and Mrs Colman as again, the year 1 children in particular have not had a normal journey through school so far and have had very little opportunity to come inside. It will also give you chance to see the classroom which Mrs Porter and Mrs Colman have worked hard on over the summer and ask any questions you might have about the transition in to Elm class. We will be holding two informal drop-in sessions after school next week – you do not need to book, you can just come on in. One on Tuesday 12th October and one on Thursday 14th October at 3.30pm approximately. Once all the children have been safely returned to their parents on the playground at the end of the school day, you will be able to come back up in to the classroom together to have a look around. Your children can show you around their favourite areas of the classroom and the teachers will be there to chat and answer questions. Please wait in the playground with your children until we are ready for you to come back up in to school.

During the second half of the autumn term we will hold parents evening and this will be in person for the first time in nearly two years! So for those parents of children in Maple and Oak class, this will give you an opportunity to see inside their new classrooms and meet their new teachers one on one. Letters will go out about parents evening before half term.

MDSA and Breakfast Club Jobs

You should have received an email earlier in the week alerting you specifically to two jobs that we have available at the moment which may be of interest to a parent or family member. We are looking for someone to cover Miss Kiddle's maternity leave with breakfast club and also a new permanent midday supervisor. These are great jobs for anybody local who might want to work in a school environment. Your child would be able to have a free place in breakfast club if you took on this role.

You can find the adverts online here:

<https://ww3.goucestershire.gov.uk/schoolvacancies/details.aspx?ID=23372&page=0>
<https://ww3.goucestershire.gov.uk/schoolvacancies/details.aspx?ID=23371&page=0>

The closing date is Monday at 12 noon.

After School Clubs

We are excited to share that we will be starting after school clubs again after half term. This will give the children from year 2-6 chance to take part in a club after school if they would like to. A letter will be going out next week to let you know what clubs are available and on which night. Please do look out for it as we do have to allocate some clubs on a first come first served basis so a quick response from you is required.

Reception 2022

If your child is due to start school in September 2022, you are very welcome to come and look around the school at any point. Please take a look at our admissions page on the website here as well:

<https://www.whiteshillschool.co.uk/admissions/>

If you would like a tour around the school, please contact the school office on admin@whiteshill.gloucs.sch.uk or give us a call and we can find a time that suits you.

Leave of Absence Requests

If you know in advance that your child is going to be absent from school for a register session e.g. morning or afternoon or more, you need to fill in a leave of absence request form. These are kept in the lobby area at the front of the office so you can go in and get one at any time. The form has a letter on the reverse which explains the absence policy. I have attached to this newsletter a blank copy so that you can take a look if you are interested. This is a standard form that all schools in Gloucestershire use.

FOWS Scarecrow Trail!

FOWS will be running a Scarecrow Trail over the October half term to raise money for the school and hopefully have some fun in the process. For it to work, we really need everyone to get behind the idea and for as many people as possible to build and display a scarecrow in their garden. If you live outside of the village, please don't worry, we can find somewhere for your scarecrow to be hosted! As a little incentive, there will be a prize for the best scarecrow as voted by the people completing the hunt. Over the coming weeks, we will provide some ideas and inspiration for making your scarecrow, however please bear in mind they will be on display for nearly a week so they need to be able to withstand the elements!



Maps will be on sale from the village shop over October half term holiday. In order for your scarecrow location to be included on the map please email friendsofwhiteshillschool@outlook.com with your location and you will be included in the trail and the vote to win the star prize! If you are happy to make a scarecrow but don't have anywhere to put it, just email and let us know and we can arrange a spot for it!

The poster features a central illustration of a smiling scarecrow with a brown hat and a green body, standing on a green hill against a blue sky with white clouds. To the left of the scarecrow, a speech bubble contains the text "Fundraising for Friends Of Whiteshill Primary School". Below the illustration, the title "WHITESHILL SCARECROW HUNT" is written in large, yellow, serif capital letters. Underneath the title, the text "OCTOBER HALF TERM" is in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the dates "25TH - 31ST OCTOBER" are displayed in large, yellow, bold, sans-serif capital letters. Below the dates, a message in white text reads: "Prize for the best scarecrow. Register your scarecrow by 21st October for inclusion on the map and in the prize draw". Further down, another message in white text says: "Register your scarecrow by emailing your location to friendsofwhiteshillschool@outlook.com". At the very bottom, the text "Maps available from Whiteshill Village Shop from 25th October £3" is in white.

Fundraising for Friends
Of Whiteshill Primary
School

WHITESHILL SCARECROW HUNT

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