



Whiteshill Weekly News

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

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18/2/22

Sport and Activity at Whiteshill

This last week at Whiteshill has been full of sporting achievement! We started last Friday with a long-awaited football tournament. This event was postponed twice in the Autumn term so the Oak class children were desperate to attend and although we were very low on staff last week, we managed to get there! I was so pleased that so many of our children volunteered to take part. We were the only school to field two teams, which is fantastic, with both boys and girls representing our school. Many of the children go to football club both inside and outside of school but they had not played together as a team before so I'm really pleased to say that as the day progressed and they settled in to playing together they ended the day with a 2-1 win over Woodchester, with goals from Abbie and Bobby! More importantly, the children represented the school incredibly well and were so supportive of each other, encouraging and including each other and making sure all the positions on the field were shared around and everyone was involved. Mrs Colman could not have been prouder and I received two emails from parents letting me know how well the children had represented the school, which is just fantastic – well done and thank you to everyone who attended. Photographs of the footballers in action can be found on our school website gallery here: www.whiteshillschool.co.uk/gallery

Next up, this week, Elm, Maple and Oak class' have all had a yoga session with Jay from 'TheYogaGlow'. We had hoped that this term the children would have weekly yoga sessions during PE, but unfortunately this was not possible as the lady we had booked in had to pull out due to illness. However, we managed to find Jay and book her in for this week so that the children could all have a taster session. I have already spoken to her about coming back next year so fingers crossed! You can see some photographs of Maple class showing off their poses below.

On Wednesday, I was lucky enough to attend a gymnastics event with some children from Maple class. They have been learning a floor and vault routine in PE and had to remember it and perform for judges at the Leisure Centre. This was our first time at this event and I was so impressed with how the children approached it, taking part with confidence and stepping up individually to be judged! It took some real nerve and myself and Mrs Cody were so proud of them. The support they showed for each other throughout was also to be commended. I hope that they will take part again next year and we can continue to build on our gymnastics provision in school. Well done all! Photos on the website gallery here: www.whiteshillschool.co.uk/gallery

Finally, after half term, the children in Elm and Oak will have martial arts sessions each week as part of their PE provision. These will be run by teachers from Matt Fiddes Martial Arts. I have sent home an email to Maple class children today as well with information about a martial arts after school club which Matt Fiddes Martial Arts will run each week starting from Thursday 3rd March – please do follow the instructions in the email as to how to let us know if your child would like to take part. Maple class will have indoor rowing sessions with Mr Pritchard for the term as part of their PE provision.

PE Days after half term

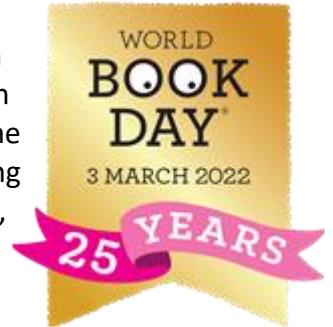
After February half term, the PE days will be as follows: **Elm – Wednesday**, **Maple – Monday**, **Oak - Thursday**

Elm Class Trip

Elm class had their first ever school trip last week!! Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 restrictions, they have never made it further than Whiteshill with school! I have never seen such an excited bunch of children leaving in the morning – when they got back and I asked them how it was one of them shouted ‘best coach ever!’ so I think we could have just taken them on a drive around and they would have been happy! They visited the John Moore museum in Tewkesbury to complement their ‘Houses and Homes’ history project this term and found out all about Tudor homes and buildings. You can see some photos of them enjoying the trip at www.whiteshillschool.co.uk/gallery

World Book Day – Thursday 3rd March!

I’m very pleased to say that we will be celebrating World Book Day in school this year on Thursday 3rd March, the first Thursday back after half term. As usual, the children can come in to school dressed up as their favourite book character – we usually have some fantastic costumes and as we were in lockdown last year, all the staff are really looking forward to seeing what you come up with this year! You don’t have to own the book, it can be one we have in school or any one you know and love. Let your imaginations run wild! On the day, the children will be split in to their teams and will take part in book themed activities planned by each teacher. In the afternoon, they will then have chance to share with the other children what their favourite book is and talk about it. If you do have a copy of the book, they are welcome to bring this in, but they don’t have to. We look forward to a day of celebrating books and reading with the children!



Government Vaccination Programme for 5-17 year olds

Some information from the Department for Education for all parents across the country:

“Vaccinations help to increase protection against COVID-19, which is particularly important for those with underlying health conditions. Being vaccinated minimises the need for children and young people to have time off from school or college, and helps them to continue to carry out their hobbies, attend social events and live their lives to the full.

We have published some [frequently asked questions](#) (FAQs) on the vaccination programme including information on eligibility, accessibility and advice for parents of children at high risk from COVID-19. Please share these FAQs with parents, particularly those with children who are clinically vulnerable. Guidance on how to [book appointments](#) for children aged 12 years and over is available on the NHS website. Further information on the vaccination of high risk children aged 5 to 11 years old is available in the [guide for parents of children aged 5 to 11 years](#) published by the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA).

Half Term

Huge apologies for the disruption today, thank you for your understanding. I hope that those of you who needed it were able to get on to the home learning ok. Don’t worry if you were not able to, we appreciate that everyone’s situation is different, and it is very difficult particularly at such short notice. We hope not too many of you had to travel in the bad weather and that you all stayed safe.

We’re sorry we didn’t get to see you to say goodbye today but have a lovely restful half term and we will see you after the INSET day – the children are back in on Tuesday 1st March!

Parent Survey

On the INSET day after half term, myself and the teachers are going to be looking at a whole school strategy for helping you support your children more effectively at home. We know that many of you are very interested in doing this and we want to make sure you have the tools you need to feel confident. We also want to look at how we share with you details about how we teach different subjects as well as more detailed information on your children's attainment. We would really appreciate it if you would answer just a few short questions [here](#) which will help us to put together a plan of action! Your opinions are of course very important so we would really appreciate your time – it should only take about 5 minutes. You should be able to fill in a form for each child if you have more than one in school. Thank you to everyone who has done so already.

Football Team



Gymnastics Team



Yoga Poses!

