



Whiteshill Weekly News

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

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Reading Books

As of today, you should all now have a reading book for your child at home. Attached to this email are information sheets for you which will help you understand what books will come home with your child and how you can support them with this vital skill. Our apologies that for Willow and Elm class in particular, we have been awaiting an order of books to arrive which match our phonics scheme. Some of you may have photocopied books just for one week, but this will be remedied next week hopefully when the books arrive. Mrs Cripps has spent a day last week doing a thorough review of all the reading books in school and making sure that we have enough for everyone and that they all match carefully the level that your children need to read at. We ask that you read at home as regularly as possible with your children, at least 4 times a week is ideal. Reading is the most important thing that you can do with your child, particularly in their first years at school. It impacts learning right across the curriculum as, if you cannot read confidently, you cannot access the other subjects as successfully. We are very proud of our success in teaching children to read and our new phonics scheme last year, supported by funds from FOWS who bought books for school, resulted in 100% of children who took the phonics screening test in year 1 passing with an average score of 39 out of 40 – an impressive achievement! But we can only do this with your support at home as we do not of course have time in school to read with every child daily.

SENCo Role

Those of you with children who have SEND will have no doubt wondered when you heard the news of Mrs Colman not being able to return what would happen with regards to the SEN co-ordinator role. At present, I am officially the SENCo as I took over this role from Mrs Colman when she was on maternity last year. However, going forwards, I of course now need someone to support me to complete paperwork and make sure the role runs smoothly. We are currently talking to some potential SEN co-ordinators who work in other schools within DGAT to see if someone can do ½ a day a week at Whiteshill from October half term onwards. I will let you know as soon as I have been able to make an appointment. In the meantime, please do be patient with us as things may take a little longer than usual but your children remain a real priority for us of course and they continue to get the level of support in school they have always done.

Halloween Disco

One of our parents, Martin Turner, has very kindly offered to run a Halloween disco for the children this year! The event will take place on Wednesday 25th October after school in the evening with a disco for both the younger and older children.

Watch this space & get your Halloween Costumes at the ready!

To include a Halloween Tattoo & Creepy Sweet Shop!

KS1 Football Tournament

Last Wednesday, Mrs Edmonds took some of the children in Elm class down to Archway for our first Atlas Sports event of the year – a Key Stage 1 football tournament. They had a fantastic time and played their hearts out as you can see! James from Atlas Sports runs a football club on a Thursday evening for children of all ages, details of which are at the bottom of the newsletter, if your child is interested in giving it a go! We will attend a range of Atlas Sports events throughout the year and our hope is that every child from year 1 upwards will have chance to attend at least one event through the year. Any children who did not have this opportunity last year will be focussed on this year to help them choose an event they would like to attend.



Parking

Unfortunately, this week, there was a real near miss outside of school as someone was parked on the zig-zag yellow lines and this obscured the sight line of a family crossing the road. Please make sure that when you are parking outside of school you think carefully about whether it is safe for the children coming out of school. Please also be very careful as your children leave the school gates as it is straight out on to a road. Don't forget, the road that wraps around school has moving vehicles too – it is not a pathway. If you park here, please make sure your engine is not running whilst children are coming past and that you do not move your car until the coast is clear and the children are all safely in or out.

Please do not park outside of the school gates or on the yellow zig-zag lines to drop your children whilst people are going in and out.

I have asked PCSO Amy Webb to visit the school at drop-off and pick-up time to help out.



FOOTBALL SESSION

THURSDAY 5-6PM FOR

5-7 YEAR OLDS &

FRIDAY 5-6PM FOR

8-11 YEAR OLDS

£3.50 PER CHILD PER SESSION,

RETURNING AND NEW PLAYERS

WELCOME TO JOIN THE SESSION

ESTABLISHED FOR OVER 20 YEARS.

FURTHER INFORMATION ON FACEBOOK

AT KICK-IT FOOTBALL

COACHED BY JAMES JEFFERY AT

ARCHWAY SPORTS CENTRE