



Message from Mrs McGibney

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had another week of successful learning in school. It has been wonderful to see the children enjoying lessons, contributing to discussions and problem solving. The Year 4 children looked fantastic whilst dressed up as Egyptians, and I know they found it very interesting learning about the Egyptian way of life. I am tremendously proud of the how the children have been working since being back at school.

Hope you have a great weekend.
Mrs McGibney

Health and Safety

We hope you kept safe and well over the summer holidays. As you will already be aware, the government has lifted some restrictions, particularly around face coverings and self-isolating. We would like to reassure you that we shall continue to follow Local Authority and DfE guidance and adhere to our robust risk assessment. We would, therefore, ask parents to cooperate with the following:

- **Please DO NOT send your child to school if they have any of the following symptoms:** a new continuous cough or a high temperature or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell. If they have any of these symptoms, please follow the guidelines from the link below or call 119 for advice: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>
- When there is a positive case in your child's class, parents will be informed by letter and advised to take their child for a PCR test. There is no longer the requirement to isolate, unless your child has the **main symptoms** but as they are a possible close contact, the strong advice is to have a PCR test. If your child has a positive result, then you would need to inform the school immediately. Please telephone the school during normal school hours. However, if it is out of school hours, please email Covid-19@whitmorepark.org or send a message via Schoolcomms. We do not need to be informed of negative test results.
- If your child is sent home with **main symptoms** or you contact the school to advise they have **main symptoms**, then you will be advised to obtain a PCR test. In this case, we will need to be informed of both positive and negative results.
- **Lateral Flow Tests** for your child and family are widely available free of charge. **We shall also be distributing test kits to parents on the playground and we will let you know what days these will be given out.**
- Please use these links to find out more <https://www.coventry.gov.uk/lateralflowtesting>
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>.

VACCINATION DROP-IN CENTRES

Please click on the link to find out where you can obtain your vaccinations within Coventry and Warwickshire

<https://www.happyhealthylives.uk/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccination/vaccination-drop-in-clinics/>

Morrisons Good to Grow

We are participating in the Morrison's 'It's Good to Grow' scheme and we currently have 14 collectors. Between 6th September and 24th October 2021 for every £10 spent in store or online at Morrisons customers will automatically receive one Grow Token to donate to your chosen school. We would love for everyone to get involved and donate your tokens to our school. For more information please visit <https://itsgoodtogrow.co.uk/faq>

Class Teacher Messages...

Nursery

The Nursery children have spent lots of time in the garden this week. They have enjoyed collecting things from the field in their wheelbarrows. We are putting all of their collections together in our discovery area so that we can look closely at them. Thank you to all of the parents who have sent wellingtons to Nursery, it looks as if we are going to need them now that the weather is changing.

Mrs Ruth McShane



Reception

This week in Reception, the children have begun their Read, write Inc lessons. They have learned the sounds m, a and s. Please check your child's Seesaw account to see how to form these letters correctly so that they can be practised at home.

Please remember to send your child's reading folder into school on Monday and we will give them a new reading book. They will receive a sticker for their bookmark if they have read 5 times. If you need the log-in code for your child's seesaw account, please ask your child's class teacher who can get this for you. Have a great weekend everyone and see you on Monday for more fantastic learning!

Miss Ridgway (Early Years Leader), Miss Blower and Miss Mosey



Year 1

This week in Science, the children explored a variety of materials and were set the challenge of investigating which one would be the best to make a slide with. The children decided it would be best to use a smooth material rather than rough one so they could slide more easily.

In Humanities, the children learnt why cars have changed through the years. We looked at what the inside of Jaguar Land Rover factory looked like and thought about how this would be different to how cars were made 100 years ago. The children did a fantastic job of acting out making a car today compared to 100 years ago.

We hope you have a great weekend and well done for all your hard work this week.

Miss Skidmore, Mrs Ellis (Year 1 Leader), Miss McShane



Year 2

Year 2 have produced some fantastic descriptive writing in English this week. They were given the following picture and they wrote sentences including adjectives, nouns and verbs.

In Maths, the children have been using diennes to partition numbers in different ways. They also had their first 10 x table test. They will be tested on this weekly so please could you practice at home.

In Science, the children enjoyed designing healthy lunchboxes. We discussed which food groups you need lots of, some of and a little of to help them.

The children have been learning about the life of Lady Godiva in Humanities. They explored this by looking at Lady Godiva's life on a timeline. They had to put Lady Godiva's life in order. Then they discussed when her story was written down, how it was changed and how she is celebrated in Coventry.

Mrs Sandhu, Mrs Gill (Year 2 Leader), Mrs Nolan



Class Teacher Messages...

Year 3

In Year 3 we are continuing our character descriptions for pirates. Next week we will be moving onto writing a pirate diary. In Maths we are enjoying our new topic of addition and subtraction, the children have been learning to add a single digit to a three digit number using dienes and number lines.

Next week we are moving onto the more formal method of column addition. The children have continued to learn about the Stone Age and have been able to order Stone Age events chronologically. We have been really proud of the children's efforts to write an extended piece of writing and are looking forward to their diaries in a few weeks time.

Miss Khan (Year 3 Leader), Miss Waddell Miss Hussain.



Year 4

We've had a wonderful week in Year 4 and have been both pleased and extremely proud of the children's response to, and participation, in our Ancient Egypt day. Not only did they put extra effort into making and finding costumes, but they also showed a positive attitude to learning all about the life of Ancient Egyptians.

Everybody had the opportunity to play an Ancient Egyptian game, use a cubit ruler to measure and take part in a pharaoh's procession. They learnt all the 'guy' facts of mummification and how pyramids were built. We now have several budding archaeologists on our team. Well done, Year 4!

Miss Cox (Year 4 Leader), Mrs Hatton and Miss Chapman



Year 5

It has been another great week in Year 5! In maths, we have continued with our work on place value and working with numbers up to 1,000,000. We have worked hard on rounding numbers this week and have enjoyed learning the rules and applying our understanding to our journal and Maths No Problem workbooks.

Whilst in English, we have been generating our own ideas through paired and independent work for the short story we are going to write next week about World War 2. The children have also worked hard in their reading lessons this week and have shown a good understanding of discussing new vocabulary, retrieving information and using evidence to make comparisons. We have all enjoyed reading Friend or Foe - Michael Morpurgo is definitely a favourite in Year 5!

The children have also enjoyed music this week. It was great fun listening to 'We Will Rock You' and discussing our thoughts and ideas on this song. We discussed whether we liked the music, what instruments we could hear, clapped along to the pulse and discussed the structure of the song. Well done on a fantastic week Year 5.

Mr Johnston (Assistant Head and Year 5 leader), Miss Wherly, Mrs Sharratt and Mrs Williams

Year 6

We come to the end of another great (but wet!) week at Whitmore and the Year 6s continue to go from strength to strength. We've looked at new ways to infer information from different text types (including songs and images) and have started a new unit of writing about information texts.

Next week, we will be putting the children into groups to target them for English and Maths. This will ensure all children receive the right level of education to challenge them and enable them to reach their full potential. It has been very successful for us in the past, and know this year that the children will thrive within their groups.

Have a good week!

Mr Payne (Assistant Head and Year 6 Leader), Mrs Harrison and Mr Openshaw

Attendance and Family Welfare Team

Attendance

WEEKLY WINNERS (w/c 20.09.2021)

KS1 – RBeta – 96.7%

KS2 – 4Delta – 97.6%

Congratulations! Your teacher will award you with 5 dojos!

Punctuality

Did you know...?

5 minutes late every day - Your child will lose 3 learning days every year
Being late gives your child a very poor start to the day

15 minutes late every day is the same as being away from school for 2 whole weeks a year
Being late makes children feel different, flustered and embarrassed

30 minutes late every day is the same as missing 19 learning days every year
Court action is possible

Being late disrupts your child, their class and their teacher
Please help your child to be in school on time.

Reporting Absence

If your child is absent from school you must **contact the school by 9.20am** on each day of absence; giving a clear reason for absence along with your child's full name and class details. Children's attendance is monitored weekly by our Attendance Team who seek to work actively with parents/carers to ensure that regular attendance is maintained (with the exceptions of children isolating in line with current Guidance).

Family Welfare

Remember we are here for you and your family, if you have any welfare concerns, e.g. mental health, finance, housing or general wellbeing, please contact us at familywelfare@whitmorepark.org we will get back to you to offer support. This email is only accessed by the inclusion team.

We know it may be difficult for parents who are working to speak to us, if you contact us by email first then we can discuss convenient times to call you. We will respond to your email as quickly as possible.

Pathways Family Hub

A family hub is a place where children, young people and their families can access help and support. The people working in the family hub will work in partnership with you and your community.

They will help you find and get help from different services in the area and will be able to give you information, advice and support. Please take time to have a look at their Facebook page as this is updated regularly with tips, advice and useful information including various support services across the city.

Our local Family Hub is 'Pathways', they are based at Radford Primary School. You can follow them on Facebook or Twitter for information about local events and support for families.

[Facebook - pathwaysfamilyhub](#)

[Twitter - hbsfamily](#)

Tel: 02476978130



Be the BEST
you can be

A Message from Miss Carney

Hello everyone,

Thrive Update:

Miss Chadwick and some of the children have had a lovely time exploring and experimenting with natural materials that they have collected from our school grounds. They had to choose which natural resources to collect to create the face in the style of artist Andy Goldsworthy. I love this time of year because of the amount of natural materials that can be found in Autumn for this type of activity. I find that its a lovely to do at home with the family too. So, if you are inspired and do try to create some natural art work, please do send it to school as we would love to share it and I am sure that Miss Cobbett would love to see it too. Here's one weblink of many.

<https://www.livingyourwildcreativity.com/art-gallery-1-mitchell-1>

A reminder, that if you have SEN concerns regarding child, please speak with your child's class teacher first. If it is a concern regarding their Personal Learning Plan, please speak with Mrs Heer. Of course, I am always here too.

Have a fantastic, and hopefully not too wet, weekend!
Miss Carney



A Message from the Admin Team

There has been a slight change in the school dinner menu Thursdays and Fridays dinner options have now changed around. Current Friday meal options will be available on a Thursday and current Thursday options will be available on a Friday.

If you have made any pre bookings on either of these days they will unfortunately have been cancelled so please go on and re book them.

Thank you for your continued support.

Our School Nursing Team Health focused websites

Coventry School Nurses have launched two websites, one aimed at children and another tailored towards teenagers:

www.healthforkids.co.uk offers a fun way for children to learn about health with games, activities and quizzes.

www.healthforteens.co.uk hosts videos and webchats as well as articles to educate teenagers on a range of health topics such as contraception, mental health, drugs and alcohol.

Chat Health texting service Chat health is a free service that enables 11-18 year olds across Coventry to send confidential SMS text messages to School Nurses who will provide impartial advice and support. The number to text is 07507 331949.

Parent Advice Parents can call the School Nurses between 8.30am -16.30pm, Monday to Friday on 02475189190 to discuss any child health concerns they may have.

For advice and support from your school nurse please text "Chat Health" on 07507 329114 9am-5pm Monday to Friday. If your child is unwell please call your GP or call 111. For medical emergencies ring 999.

Useful Links

Finance

[Coventry Independent Advice Service](#) is a charity offering free advice, information and support to Coventry residents. Our service is confidential and **our** skilled advisers can help you with things like:

- Identifying entitlement to benefits and helping you make claims
- Helping you to sort out debt or other money problems
- Challenging decisions on benefit claims

Domestic

[Coventry Haven](#) - ensure safety and empowerment for women and children who are subjected to Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA) in any form. They offer a range of services including a Safe To Talk Helpline **0800 111 4998** or **024 7644 4077 (Monday to Friday 9am-4.30pm)**

Abuse

[National Domestic Abuse Line \(REFUGE\)](#) - Refuge supports women, children and men experiencing domestic violence with a range of services including a 24-hour helpline **0808 2000 247**.

Mental Health & Wellbeing

[Young Minds](#) - a national charity which supports children and young people with mental health and well being. They have specific resources for young people around COVID-19, and also offer support to parents.

[Childline](#) - Childline is available to help anyone under 19 in the UK with any issue they're going through. You can talk about anything. Whether it's something big or small, they have trained counsellors to support you. The helpline is **0800 1111** and is available between 9am to midnight every day.

[Samaritans](#) - Coventry & District Samaritans is an independent charity, run entirely by unpaid volunteers. They provide a free 24-hour helpline for people who are upset, troubled or who are feeling suicidal. Call **116 123** at any time of the day or night or email jo@samaritans.org.

In addition to their normal services Samaritans has set up a [confidential support line for NHS workers and volunteers in England](#). This operates from 7am to 11pm every day. NHS staff can, of course, still use the 24 hour helpline if they prefer.