



## Message from Mrs McGibney

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week we have focused on safer internet day with the theme of "All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online". During the week and over the next few weeks the children will be learning about keeping safe online. We hope the children take part in the competition to further help them with their understanding with being safe online. Year 6 had a successful visit to the 'Safety Zone'; and it was also lovely that some of our children were able to take part in a rowing competition in the city. I hope the sunshine lasts for the weekend!

## Health and Safety

### Chickenpox Case in School

We have been notified that there has been a case of chickenpox in school. Please see the link below for advice about chickenpox.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/chickenpox/>

### Head-lice Information

Please see advice via the link below regarding head-lice.

[https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/#:~:text=You%20can%20treat%20head%20lice,if%20they%20have%20head%20lice)

[nits/#:~:text=You%20can%20treat%20head%20lice,if%20they%20have%20head%20lice](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/#:~:text=You%20can%20treat%20head%20lice,if%20they%20have%20head%20lice).

### COVID19 Information

We are awaiting a delivery of some supplies of LFT kits for parents. Once we receive them these will be handed out by staff on the back playground.

There are also Mobile Testing Centres for LFT tests. There is no need to book an appointment, please use the link for further information; <https://www.coventry.gov.uk/council-democracy/services-disrupted-coronavirus/2#communitytest>

For more information of where you can collect test kits or visit walk-in centres where you can get LFT tested regularly, please click on the link below: [https://www.coventry.gov.uk/info/1/council\\_and\\_democracy/3551/covid-19\\_coronavirus#rapid](https://www.coventry.gov.uk/info/1/council_and_democracy/3551/covid-19_coronavirus#rapid)

To get NHS advice about COVID-19, including symptoms, testing, vaccination and self-isolation, please click on the link:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

You can also order tests via this link: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

For information regarding vaccinations click on the link: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/>

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For up-to-date Covid-19 guidance by click on the link <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>.

**Do not send your child to school if they have the following symptoms:-** New continuous cough; high temperature, loss of; or change in, sense of taste or smell; headache; sore throat; tiredness/fatigue; muscle aches; sickness or diarrhoea; runny nose/cold symptoms; shortness of breath.

**We wear face coverings to protect others. Please wear a face covering** when entering the school site and building, **unless** you have a medical exemption.

**Maintain your 2m social distance from others at all times.**

Please **do not** arrive more than 5 minutes before the class start time, where possible (we understand that you may have more than one child to drop off).

## Reading

At Whitmore Park, reading is at the heart of our curriculum and we want to ensure that every child has a love of reading. To help children in school to achieve this, we want every child to read...read...read. Please continue to read 5 times with your child at home so they can gain their stamp each week. Reading is a key life skill and its value is fundamental within our curriculum; as a school we are extremely dedicated to all our children learning to foster a love of reading. This week's recommendation is aimed at our younger readers. It is called '**It Fell From The Sky**' written by Eric Fan and Terry Fan.

One day a very colourful object fell from the sky- and all the insects are filled with awe and wonder as to what it might be, and how it came to be there. All of the different insects have their own ideas of what it could be. Is it an egg? Is it a flower? Could it have grown?

What a delightful, innovative picture book. Mostly drawn in greyscale in sumptuous detail with splashes of colour that standout from the pages and creates wonderful illustrations. Why not take a look!



# Class Teacher Messages...

## Nursery

This week Nursery have shared the story "Where's Spot?" We have been learning to use positional language when we speak. We have played a game where we hide Spot and our friends have to find Spot and tell us where he is hiding. We have also played a game in the garden where we follow instructions on an obstacle course using positional language. We have travelled under a slide, over a bridge and lots more. It has been lots of fun.

Mrs Ruth McShane



## Reception

This week in Reception children have really enjoyed learning about knights and castles! They have created their own shields, labelled a castle and completed some fantastic writing about knights. Next week we are very excited to welcome a special visitor into school who will be teaching the children lots more and showing them some real armour! Have a fantastic weekend and please remember to send reading folders in on Monday.

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



## Year 1

Year 1 have been learning about 2D and 3D shapes in Maths lessons and writing about Wolves in English lessons. Year 1 enjoyed their Winter walk in Science. They found lots of signs of Winter. They did some fantastic writing about Victorian workhouses in Humanities. They have also learnt about internet safety and learnt what personal information is and thought carefully about which information is safe to share with other people.



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

## Year 2

Year 2 have produced some fab writing this week! They wrote postcards pretending they were Noi from our book "The Storm Whale." They were very apologetic when explaining to Dad about how a whale ended up in his bath!

We started looking at length in Maths. The children enjoyed going on a hunt around the classroom trying to find objects which were more than 1M, less than 1M or about 1M.

In Science, the children created Venn diagrams to record their findings of an investigation. They explored different materials to see whether they could squash, bend, twist or be squeezed.

The children enjoyed discussing boy and girl stereotypes in RHE. We discussed whether all boys like computer games and whether all girls like the colour pink.

Please can we remind you that the order forms for the SATs practise books need to be by 28<sup>th</sup> February. These can be paid for on the school gateway or money can be brought into school in a sealed envelope. Please do not hesitate to talk to staff regarding which books would best suit your child.



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

# Class Teacher Messages...

## Year 3

This week year 3 have learned about sentence types and been using different sentences to pretend they are Mrs Hogget. In Maths, the children have had fun learning about volume and capacity. In Science, the children have been learning about how magnets repel and attract. It has been a great week in year 3, well done to all!

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

## Year 4

This week in Year 4, we have continued to work on 'The Tin Forest,' collecting senses words, writing a diary entry in role to show emotions, and practising how to use adverbs effectively. All of these skills will enable us to write our own a forest story setting next week. In maths, we have been finding equivalent fractions, and writing and simplifying mixed numbers. In humanities, we have designed and produced a leaflet to advertise Coventry and all it's attractions. In Science, we have planned a fair test to see which material is the best sound proofer. We have also watched an assembly about 'Safer Internet Day' and taken part in activities based on this.



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

## Year 5

It has been a brilliant week in Year 5. In maths, we have now come to the end of our work on fractions. We have learnt how to multiply fractions this week and convert between improper fractions and mixed numbers. Whilst in our English lessons, we have started to look at poetry. The children have enjoyed using descriptive vocabulary and alliteration to describe their ideas for items in a magic box. Next week, the children will learn even more poetry techniques and produce their own free verse poem. In humanities, the children carried out research in preparation for the explanation text they will write on volcanoes. In music, we have continued to compare artists with Adele. This week the children enjoyed listening to Adele and Elvis Presley and comparing their different music styles. Well done on a great week Year 5.

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

## Year 6

This week has been the best yet at Whitmore for our Year 6's. We got the chance (after nearly 3 years!) of going on our first external visit since COVID. Not only that, but we saw a large number of our children take ownership of their learning and start attending boosters/tutoring sessions plus great achievements across numerous sporting competitions.

Visiting the Warning Zone in Leicester, the children explored all of the dangers they could potentially face in the wide world. It gave them an insight into how their actions can affect others' lives and opened their eyes to possible hazards they may never have noticed before. It built not only on their personal safety, but their online safety; this couldn't have arrived at a better time to support them as they get secondary ready. The trip fully intertwines with our PSHE curriculum, with a focus on well-being, the growing responsibilities they face and citizenship. The staff at the Warning Zone were extremely complimentary of our children and we couldn't be more proud of how they represented the school - it's just a shame their singing on the bus wasn't at the same standard!



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





### Attendance

WEEKLY WINNERS (w/e 11/02/2022)

KS1 – 1Beta – 97.0%

KS2 – 3Beta – 96.0%

Congratulations! Your class will receive the Attendance Trophy next week  
PLUS you will be rewarded with 5 dojos each!



Here Today Here Tomorrow  
Every School Day Matters!

**Our schools target for attendance is 96%; this is for the whole school and for every pupil.**

Please Remember to call school by 8:55am to report your child's absence  
02476335697

Mrs Smith and Miss Keeling are here to support you with any attendance or welfare concerns.  
Please call or email us at [familywelfare@whitmorepark.org](mailto:familywelfare@whitmorepark.org)

### Punctuality

We have noticed a large amount of pupils arriving late and coming through the main reception. Can we please just remind parents that Reception, Years 1, 2, 4 and 6 doors open at 8.45am and Year 3 and 5 doors at 8.50am. Please ensure your child is on time on the playground in the morning ready to meet their class teachers.

<u>Minutes late per day during the school year</u>	<u>Equals days worth of teaching in a year.</u>
5 minutes	3.4 Days
10 minutes	6.9 Days
15 minutes	10.3 Days
20 minutes	13.8 Days
30 minutes	20.7 Days

### SEND / Thrive

This week has been Children's Mental Health Week. At Whitmore Park we have lots of support for children's mental health. In addition to class based Thrive which is on the timetable for all classes Years 1 - 6 there are some Thrive small groups and Thrive 1:1 sessions that the Inclusion Team deliver. We also offer CBT to some pupils, mentoring and buddying. There is lots of information on the web about ways that Children's Mental Health can be supported both at school and at home. This is just one place that you may wish to look.

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>

If you do have concerns about your child's wellbeing, please do speak to the class teacher initially.  
Have a lovely week.

## School Nursing Health Information Sessions for parents/carers

School Nursing are continuing to offer **FREE** virtual health information sessions via Eventbrite especially for parents/carers.

These will run throughout the academic year and will include sessions around managing toileting, behaviour, challenges in eating and sleep.

These links open and operate far more efficiently via Google Chrome, so if this isn't your default browser please copy the link into a Google Chrome browser. Please also ensure you fill in the booking form fully, when registering for a session, we need you to detail your child or children's full name and date of birth as well as the name of the school they attend, so we can update our records of your attendance.

You may receive emails about your Eventbrite booking, please check your spam/junk box as these emails may automatically sit there. Please try to log on 5 mins before the session. We look forward to seeing you soon.

**See below for dates and booking information (continues on next page)}**

Name of Session	Date and time of session	Eventbrite link that is for parent/carers access to book:
Behaviour Information Session	21/01/2022 11:00am-12:00	<a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/managing-behaviour-information-session-tickets-195803382187">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/managing-behaviour-information-session-tickets-195803382187</a>
Toileting Information Session	28/01/2022 10:00am-11:00am	<a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/toileting-information-session-tickets-195818968807">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/toileting-information-session-tickets-195818968807</a>
Sleep Information Session	03/02/2022 11:00am-12:00	<a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sleep-information-session-tickets-195854585337">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sleep-information-session-tickets-195854585337</a>
Challenges in Eating Information Session	09/02/2022 1:00pm – 2:00pm	<a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/challenges-in-eating-information-session-tickets-195891726427">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/challenges-in-eating-information-session-tickets-195891726427</a>
Behaviour Information Session	15/02/2022 1:00pm – 2:00pm	<a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/managing-behaviour-information-session-tickets-195900191747">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/managing-behaviour-information-session-tickets-195900191747</a>
Toileting Information Session	16/03/2022 1:00pm – 2:00pm	<a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/toileting-information-session-tickets-195909770397">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/toileting-information-session-tickets-195909770397</a>
Sleep Information Session	22/03/2022 10:00am-11:00am	<a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sleep-information-session-tickets-195918737217">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sleep-information-session-tickets-195918737217</a>
Challenges in Eating Information Session	29/03/2022 10:00am-11:00am	<a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/challenges-in-eating-information-session-tickets-195924664947">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/challenges-in-eating-information-session-tickets-195924664947</a>

### Continued Dates:

Behaviour Information Session	07/04/2022 10:00am-11:00am	<a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/managing-behaviour-information-session-tickets-195934815307">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/managing-behaviour-information-session-tickets-195934815307</a>
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The P.E Team and pupils within Year 6 and Key Stage 1 have had a busy week of competitions. After rowing trials across year 6, a team was selected of 4 boy's and 4 girl's to take part in the School Games West Coventry Heats at Coventry & North Warwickshire Cricket Club, we are pleased to say that the Girls teams out of 19 schools came 7<sup>th</sup>, and the Boys team came 2<sup>nd</sup>. Within this competition, pupils took part in individual races, and we are proud to say that one of our pupils finished 2<sup>nd</sup> overall. This means that the Boys team will progress onto the county level competition. A massive Well Done and congratulations!

It is also been a busy week for Key Stage 1, where all pupils from Year 1 and Year 2 have been taking part in the School Games Virtual agility competition. Mr Wilson and support from year group teachers and staff, have been taking pupils through the 5 events, ranging from throwing events to sprinting events. Keep a close eye out for our newsletter for results!, results will be submitted this week, and we wish everyone the best of luck!

## SEND / Thrive



**DOES YOUR CHILD OR YOUNG PERSON HAVE SPECIAL NEEDS?**

**HOW ARE YOU DOING?**

Get in touch with us if you would like an invite to our Virtual Coffee Morning using Microsoft Teams App (we can help you with this). Meet other parents in a similar situation. Share with others in a friendly, non-judgemental environment, together with a member of staff from SENDIASS and Carers Trust Heart of England.

**VIDEO LINK**

**COFFEE MORNING**

**FRIDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2022**  
**(10:00AM -11:30AM)**

To request an invite and for further information contact:  
**SEND Information Advice and Support Service**  
Tel: 024 7669 4307 or email: [iass@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:iass@coventry.gov.uk)

## 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](http://www.healthforkids.co.uk) offers a fun way for children to learn about health with games, activities and quizzes.

[www.healthforteens.co.uk](http://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 Abuse

[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)**

[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](mailto: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.

### Pathways Family Hub

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 - [hubsfamily](#) Tel: 02476978130**