



Message from Mrs McGibney

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a super week of learning in school. We now look forward with huge anticipation to what the future may hold for all of our children and staff at Whitmore Park. We hope to build on the successes of 2022 and look forward to our children meeting new challenges, achieving their goals and most of all being happy and enjoying each day at school. I hope you have an enjoyable weekend.

Health and Safety

You will be aware of the change to restrictions announced yesterday. The school will continue to work to the risk assessment in place until further guidance has been received from the Local Authority. You can read the up to date Covid-19 guidance by clicking on the link <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>. Community test/collection sites in Coventry

Indian Community Centre
243 Cross Road
Coventry
CV6 5GP

Market Way
14 Market Way
Coventry
CV1 1DL

Old Woodlands School
Broad Lane
Coventry
CV5 7FF

Opening hours: Monday and Fridays: 8.30am to 5.30pm.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, Sunday: 10.00am to 4.00pm

People with symptoms of Covid-19, or anyone that has been told to self-isolate, should not attend and instead book a test.

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

• 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.

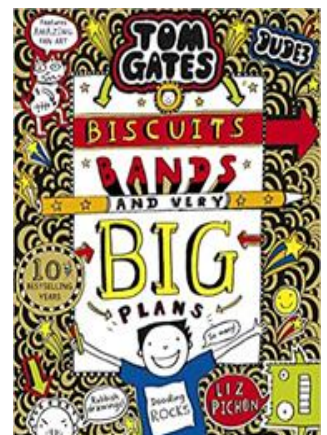
• Maintain your 2m social distance from others at all times.

• 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.

Last week I asked if children would like to share what they have been reading at home. This week Mahiba from 2 Beta has recommended a book for others to read. She has chosen a book from the Tom Gates series. The book is called Biscuits, Bands and Very Big Plans. Mahiba says this book has lots of doodles and pictures which show off Tom's amazing sense of humour. The book is written like a diary and is the perfect book for children who love to laugh out loud. Why not see if you would like to read it?



Class Teacher Messages...

Nursery

This week Nursery have enjoyed the lovely frosty weather and have been outside as much as possible. Following on from our story this week..."Can't you Sleep Little Bear?" We have been on a bear hunt in the Nursery garden and played a matching game with the bears that we found.

We have also continued to work with circles. This week we are looking at big and little circles. Thank you for the posts on Seesaw showing me your children's circle hunts at home.

The book that we will be sharing next week is one of my favourites..."Whatever Next" don't forget to look on Seesaw to see what your child has been doing during the week in Nursery. Have a lovely weekend. Mrs Ruth McShane



Reception

This week in Reception, we have continued our learning around 'The Gingerbread man'. Children have baked biscuit men (which they said were very yummy!), built lego bridges for him to cross a pretend river, developed their fine motor muscles using tweezers to decorate pretend gingerbread men and have created a story map to help them retell the whole story - can they tell it to you at home? In Numeracy, we have explored the composition of the number six. Can they tell you about Seal Six and how we write the numeral? We hope you all have a fantastic weekend!

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



Year 1

This week in Science, we have been investigating our sense of smell! We used our nose to smell 6 pots and we tried to decide what they were. The children then recorded this information by drawing pictures and writing sentences about what they had discovered with their sense of smell.

In Humanities, we have continued learning about Victorians. This week, we took a look inside a poor Victorians house. We learnt where they would sleep, take a bath and even where they would go to the toilet. The children drew a picture and labelled what a poor Victorians Kitchen would look like.

Please remember to bring your red folder everyday so that we can listen to the children read as frequently as possible and so they can change their books regularly.

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



Year 2

We have thoroughly enjoyed looking at the features of a diary entry in Year 2 this week. The children read different diary entries and wrote checklists on what they would need to include to write their own diary entries. They watched the story of the three little pigs...with a twist! The children discovered what really happened when a Wolf innocently went to his neighbour's houses to ask for some sugar. They then wrote diary entries pretending to be the wolf.

The children looked at missing number addition problems in Maths this week. They used different methods to help them find the missing numbers. The teachers were also really impressed with the resilience shown by the children when they completed their first 2 X table test.

We received a plea from Elasti girl in Science. Elasti girl wanted to make a new superhero costume but wasn't sure which material to use. We tested the stretchiness of different materials and discovered that elastic would be the best material to use.

In Humanities, we looked at the different seasons to help Zog decide on which would be the best for him to land his spaceship. The children read bar graphs to help them decide.



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

Class Teacher Messages...

Year 3

This week in year 3 we have continued our English work around The Tunnel, we have learnt to use inverted commas and past progressive tense. In Maths we have finished our Multiplication and Division unit and learned the bus stop method to help us divide. In Humanities we have started our Roman topic and really enjoyed learning all about why they came to Britain and why they were so strong. In Science we have continued our Forces and Magnet and this week learnt about friction.

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



Year 4

In year 4, we have been developing our written methods for division of three- digit numbers and continuing to prepare for the times tables check next term. In English, we are reading 'The Butterfly Lion' and will be using this to write a story opening next week. We have been developing our sentences by adding sub-clauses and ensuring we use adverbs where appropriate. In science, we have learnt how sound is made and travels. We made short films in small groups to inform others about how sound travels. In humanities, we have been learning about maps and drawn a sketch map of our local area. In music, we have been learning a rap about stopping bullying. In PE,

we have really enjoyed practicing our archery. Miss Cox (Year 4 Leader), Mrs Hatton and Miss Chapman



Year 5

It has been an action-packed week in Year 5. The children have been working extremely hard and have produced fantastic work in all lessons. In English, the children have written their own news reports linked to our class book 'Escape from Pompeii'. It has been great to see the children taking on the role of a journalist and including the writing skills that they have been taught during this unit of work. In maths, we have continued with our work on fractions and then children have shown great perseverance when learning how to compare and order fractions. In humanities this week, the children enjoyed learning about different volcanoes from around the world and volcanoes that are erupting in 2022. We have also started our new science topic 'Living things and their habitats' and learnt about what defines a living thing using the acronym MRS GREN. Well done on a brilliant week Year 5 – you should all feel very proud!

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

Year 6

Thank you all for all of the CGP orders we have had so far and for the multitude of parents who have already watched our SATs briefing. If you've not had chance to do either of those things, don't worry - we are accepting CGP orders until the end of day on Friday (21st) and the video will be available online until May.

It's been a cold week, but our Year 6s have stayed warm through a multitude of fitness circuits and even a bleep test in their PE lessons! It's fantastic to see them working so hard on their fitness! We have an Olympian coming to talk to the children about the importance of sport and mindset, so we're looking forward to seeing the motivation and inspiration flow!

Please keep supporting your children at home with their reading, times tables and homework to ensure they achieve the best they can be. We really appreciate the support.

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

Attendance and Family Welfare Team



Attendance

WEEKLY WINNERS (w/e 21/01/2022)

KS1 – 1Gamma – 97.0%

KS2 – 5Gamma – 96.5%

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

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.

Lost Minutes = Lost Learning

Bee On Time



SEND & Thrive

Hello! Please see information SENDIASS have sent through details of their next coffee morning.

Best Wishes,
Miss Carney

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 21ST JANUARY 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

PE / Sports News

Next Tuesday 25th January is a exciting day at Whitmore Park, we are celebrating as a school all the sporting clubs and extracurricular activities our children take part in. We are asking that if your child represents an extra-curricular sports club/team outside of school, that they come to school on the 25th January, in their club's kit/uniform.

Examples of sporting uniforms are:

- **Goggles for swimming**
- **Karate 'uniform'**
- **Football, netball, rugby kit.**
- **Hoodies or T – Shirts for Dance/gymnastics clubs.**

We are also coming together as a school to celebrate children's participation in extracurricular activities, by also having a special visitor attend the school. Local Olympic Canoeist Kimberley Woods, will be coming into school to deliver a special assembly with year groups, to share her experience and how attending sporting clubs outside of school, has help her in her road to Olympic success.



The P.E Team are so excited to see the variety of clubs that the children at Whitmore Park do represent, and their amazing talents in the sports which they enjoy taking part in outside of school. Do not worry if your child doesn't not attend a sporting club/team outside of school, we are just asking children to wear any sporting clothing they may have which inspires them to take part in sport.

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.

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.

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****