



Message from Mrs McGibney

Dear Parents/Carers,

The children have had a short week in school, however, they continue to amaze us with their resilience, hard work and positive attitude to everything that they do. Myself and Mrs Squires have visited some classes in Year 1 and 2 this week and have been blown away by the children's knowledge and reading ability.

As we approach next week, we wish our Year 6 children the very best of luck as they undertake their statutory assessments (SATs). They have all worked very hard with a fantastic attitude to their learning. We know that they will do their very best and so therefore can be proud of their achievements. Reach for the stars Year 6 – you can do it! We hope you all enjoy the weekend.

Health and Safety

Polite Reminder about the Trim Trail

The trim trail is only available to be used during school time when supervised by school staff due to health and safety reasons. Please can parents remind children not to use it when dropping off and collecting before and after school. Many thanks for your co-operation.

Polite Reminder about Parking

In the interest of health and safety and good neighbour relations, please can parents/carers take care to park responsibly when dropping off and collecting pupils around the school site. We have received feedback from neighbours of some cars blocking driveways, parking on yellow lines or blocking the pavement. Many thanks for your co-operation.

COVID19 Information – updated 1.4.22

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

Parents are no longer required to wear a face covering when on the school site.

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).

Please do not send your child to school if they test positive for COVID19

With effect from 1.4.22, for children testing positive for COVID-19 (under 18 years old), they should stay at home for 3 days and avoid contact with others. They should then return to school and normal activities only if well enough and don't have a temperature.

When children and young people with symptoms should stay at home and when they can return to education

Children and young people with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend their education setting.

Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people, where they can. They can go back to school, college or childcare, and resume normal activities when they no longer have a high temperature and they are well enough to attend.

All children and young people with respiratory symptoms should be encouraged to cover their mouth and nose with a disposable tissue when coughing and/or sneezing and to wash their hands after using or disposing of tissues.

It can be difficult to know when to seek help if your child is unwell. If you are worried about your child, especially if they are aged under 2 years old, then you should seek medical help.

The mainstay of COVID-19 advice for the general public will remain as:

Wear a mask/face covering in enclosed spaces

Keep indoor spaces ventilated

Stay away from others if you have any symptoms of a respiratory illness, including COVID

Vaccination remains the best way to protect us all from severe disease and hospitalisation due to COVID infection

Please note that we are **no longer able to access Lateral Flow Tests** to give out to families, so we are no longer able to distribute them on the playground.

Vaccinations

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

Class Teacher Messages...

Nursery

This week the Nursery children are practising fine motor control and hand eye co-ordination. We have worked using scissors, cutting up cards and then sticking the pieces to create a picture. This was a very popular activity. We have practised putting on coats, and most importantly learning how to work a zip. When we had finished practising putting coats on, we made sure that our coats have been hung correctly on the cloakroom pegs. We have nominated cloakroom monitors to make sure that the cloakroom is tidy. This was a role that the children took very seriously.



Mrs Ruth McShane

Reception

Although the week has been short this week, we have still been busy in Reception. In Numeracy, we have learned about the number 12 (with help from Tia Ten and Tommy Two). We have been practising our sentence writing when learning about different pets and we have also talked about Eid celebrations and shared some lovely photos that have been sent in from home. Please send reading folders in on Monday so that books can be changed. We hope that you have a great weekend.



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

Year 1

In English, we have started reading *The Smartest Giant in Town*. We worked on our prediction skills about what we think will happen in the story. We used this skill to predict what characters might be saying for different parts of the story.

In Science, we started our new topic on Animals. We started to look at all the different animals that are on our planet and found out that there are over 8 million different ones! We decided on some questions we would like to answer during this topic, such as finding out where animals live or what they like to eat.

Thank you to those who have returned their new RWInc books at the start of this week. If you haven't already, please do this as soon as possible so you can get a new book. We hope you have enjoyed reading our new books so far.



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

Year 2

This week, we combined History and English and the children wrote recounts about their royal launch day. The children were challenged to see if they could include events in order, time words and feelings. They were excited to be able to show Mrs McGibney and Mrs Squires their work and to share the facts they learnt about the Queen.

In Maths, the children have been doing exciting booklets answering a range of questions. They have particularly enjoyed reading scales and using different equipment to add and subtract. We have also challenged the children by giving them a variety of number bond quizzes. The children have had 5 minutes to see how many questions they could answer.

In Grammar, the children were given a variety of questions to answer in partners. They enjoyed showing their teachers what they could remember from Year 2 so far.



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

Class Teacher Messages...

Year 3

Year 3 have had a lovely short week this week. We have carried on working with our Quest story and started to use powerful adjectives to describe what we can see in the settings. In Maths, we have finished our fractions topic and have moved on to Bar Graphs. In Science, we learnt all about the function of different parts of plants and next week we will be doing an experiment to see how water transports through the roots. We are all looking forward to getting back to a normal week next week and do lots more fantastic learning.

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

Year 4

In Year 4 this week, in English we have continued to read Macbeth, practising summarising key parts of the story and developing our understanding of possessive apostrophes. We have also begun to use 'with' when writing expanded noun phrases in our descriptions. In maths, we have learnt how to add and subtract money using decimals to extend our knowledge of giving change.



In geography, we have been using atlases and maps to find the seven continents, oceans, main mountain ranges and rivers. In music, we have been singing the song 'Blackbird' by the Beatles. In RHE, we have continued to talk about how to form positive relationships with others.

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

Year 5

It has been another great week in Year 5. In English, we have worked on our inference skills by reading between the lines and using evidence provided by the author to draw our own logical conclusions from our class novel 'Hacker'. The children have also learnt how to use cohesive devices and how to apply these skills when writing a paragraph. Whilst in maths, we have learnt how to use and apply the written subtraction method. We have also been investigating if polygons are regular and irregular. In PE, the children enjoyed having an external cricket coach. And in RE, the children learnt how to use calligraphy linked to our topic religious art forms. Well done on a fantastic week; keep being the best that you can be Year 5.



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

Year 6

Year 6 have been very busy this week revising and preparing for their SATs tests which start on Monday. They have shown determination and resilience and once again, we could not be prouder of our Year 6 pupils. We would like to remind parents and carers that attendance and punctuality is particularly important during next week. During SATs week, Monday to Thursday, school will be opened up at an earlier time of 8.30 for Year 6 pupils and will be provided with a drink and a pastry before school starts. Year 6 usually have carousel (PE, art and computing) on a Monday, but this will be moved to the Friday for that week only. We wish our pupils luck and look forward to having a film morning with popcorn next Friday when the SATs are over!

We would also like to say congratulations to Mr Payne and his wife who had a baby girl on Wednesday!

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

Attendance and Family Welfare Team



Attendance

WEEKLY WINNERS (w/e 06/05/2022)

KS1 – 1Delta – 93.9%

KS2 – 6Beta – 96.6%

Whole School – 90.3%



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!

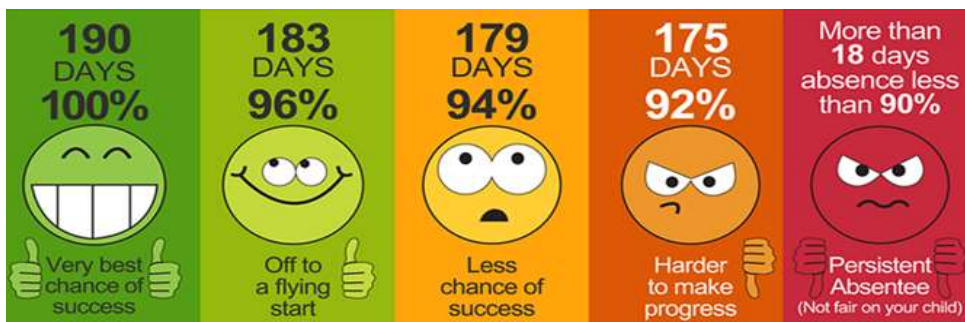
Our schools target for attendance is 96%; this is for the whole school and for every pupil.

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.



Holidays in Term Time

Now most restrictions have eased in the UK and around the world, Many people are now looking to get away on holiday. Can we please just remind you that holidays in term time will not be authorised and can lead to a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN). Only under exceptional circumstances will we authorise a holiday request. Please also make sure you complete a Exceptional Leave in Term Time form, you can collect the form from the school office.

Coventry Children's Boot Fund - Please contact Mrs Smith for an application form to help buy school shoes. The next deadline for applications is 6th May.

Meet and Greet after school Tuesday

Pop along to the School Hall on Tuesday from 3pm to meet and greet members of the school Inclusion team!

There will be pre-worn Whitmore Park school uniform available for parents to choose from as well Lost Property PE kits, much of which is branded (adidas/nike) and has been unclaimed. This will be your opportunity to reclaim any items you have lost before they are donated to charity. Refreshments will be available. If you are unable to attend this session but would like to discuss lost property items or pre-worn uniform please contact Mrs Smith.



Lost Property

We have a number of coats and PE kit items which have been unclaimed for some time. These items have not been named. If you think you have lost something please call the Admin team as soon as possible.

School Nursing Parent Information Sessions

School Nursing are continuing to offer FREE virtual health information sessions via Eventbrite, especially for parents/carers. The sessions are listed below and include; concerns about managing toileting, sleep, behaviour and challenges in eating.

These links open and operate far more efficiently via Google Chrome or Microsoft Edge, so if this isn't your default browser please copy the link into one of these browsers. 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.

If you don't already have an Eventbrite log in/account you will need to register on their site before attending a session with us. We can provide a step by step guide, if you need this please get in touch.

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.

Name of Session:	Date and time of session:	Eventbrite link for parents/carers to access to register and book on:
Sleep Information Session	Tuesday 10 th May 2022 10am – 11am	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sleep-information-session-tickets-313664838977
Challenges in Eating Information Session	Friday 27 th May 2022 10am – 11am	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/challenges-in-eating-information-session-tickets-313675631257
Toileting Information Session	Monday 30 th May 2022 11:00am – 12pm	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/toileting-information-session-tickets-327312569707
Managing Behaviour Information Session	Friday 17 th June 2022 10am – 11am	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/managing-behaviour-information-session-tickets-313689151697
Toileting Information Session	Tuesday 21 st June 2022 1pm – 2pm	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/toileting-information-session-tickets-327903567397
Sleep Information Session	Thursday 23 rd June 2022 1pm – 2pm	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sleep-information-session-tickets-327199621877
Challenges in Eating Information Session	Tuesday 28 th June 2022 11am – 12pm	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/challenges-in-eating-information-session-tickets-327321807337
Managing Behaviour Information Session	Monday 04 th July 2022 11am – 12pm	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/managing-behaviour-information-session-tickets-327350162147
Toileting Information Session	Tuesday 05 th July 2022 11am – 12pm	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/toileting-information-session-tickets-327908371767
Sleep Information Session	Tuesday 12 th July 2022 1pm – 2pm	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sleep-information-session-tickets-327380442717
Managing Behaviour Information Session	Tuesday 19 th July 2022 10am – 11am	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/managing-behaviour-information-session-tickets-327402699287
Challenges in Eating Information Session	Thursday 21 st July 2022 11am – 12pm	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/challenges-in-eating-information-session-tickets-327387102637

Reading

As you all know, at Whitmore Park we are continuing to encourage ALL of our children to read, read and read some more! 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.

When speaking to some of our Year 2 readers, they have been speaking about how much they have enjoyed *The Worst Witch* as one of the end of day story books. So this week I recommend this book: *Mermaid School* by Lucy Courtenay.



Marnie Blue is worried about her first day at Mermaid School, for all the usual reasons: will she make friends? Will the teachers be very strict? When she arrives, it seems her teachers expect her to take after her aunt Christabel, now a famous singer and DJ, who was a right terror! And for some reason, fellow first year Orla seems to have it in for Marnie too. It's all a lot more interesting than the average primary school, and Orla's story in particular involves Marnie in a very exciting adventure.

Very nicely told, and the underwater world is enticing; young readers won't be able to put it down.

Happy Reading!

PE / Sports News

This week we had our first sporting event of this term. Pupils from Year 3 and 4 took part in the School Games Girls Festival which took place at Centre AT7. The festival was a round robin tournament against other schools across the city. Our girls team started strong with a 3-0 win against Broad Heath Primary School, but unfortunately the weather set in and during the next three games, the girls showed a battling performance against tough opposition and heavy showers, but unfortunately ended up with close losses. Mr Parry and Mr Wilson were incredibly proud of the pupils efforts in the matches and especially to battle against the torrential down pours during the afternoon. This did limit our photography for the event. Well done to all the girls who took part!

This week we have also sent out our offer for after school sports clubs this term via schoolcomms, so we look forward to welcoming pupils next week to the wide range of sporting clubs on offer.



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 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**