



Message from Mrs McGibney

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a wonderful start to the summer term with the children being excited about their new learning units. The children have been able to get outside to learn about the weather, find out about animals and their habitats and observe plants growing in the garden. Year Two had a lovely time learning about the Queen and wearing their best clothes to attend a royal tea party. All of the children in school will be learning about the Queen's Jubilee later on in the term and we will be celebrating in school with a special day just before half term. We hope you enjoy the Bank Holiday weekend and that the sun continues to shine!

Health and Safety

Head Lice Information

We have been informed that there has been a case of head lice in school. Please see information via this link on how to check and treat your child as necessary:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>

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

It has been lovely to welcome all the children back to Nursery and listen to the lovely things that you have done in the holidays.

We returned to Nursery to find lots of flowers growing in the flower tubs, so we decided to become gardeners. The children have worked together to pull out the weeds, rake the soil and tidy up. They have worked very hard, and we are all so pleased with the results. This week in Nursery we have been talking about Guinea pigs. We have shared the story "My Best Friend Bob" The children have enjoyed listening to this story about Guinea pigs. It would be lovely for the children to see a live guinea pig. If you have a guinea pig as a pet and would be happy for the children to see it. Could you please leave a message for me at the office. Thank you, Have a lovely week.



Mrs Ruth McShane

Reception

This half- term we will be learning all about 'Amazing Animals!' We have started the topic this week starting to learn about pets. It would be lovely if you could send in some photos on Seesaw of any pets that you have at home so we can talk about them in class. This week the children have met Miss Ridgway's pet tortoise Pip and have all had the opportunity to hold him. In Numeracy we are starting to learn about numbers beyond 10. We have learned about number eleven this week and have also practised our subtraction skills. Please remember to send in reading books on Monday. Have a great weekend everyone.



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

Year 1

This week, we have been on our Spring season walk. We used equipment to investigate how windy it was, how much rain fell, the temperature and what small insects and plants we could find. The children saw lots of signs of spring including buds, flowers, and insects. Thankfully, there was no rain for us to measure!

In English, we have continued writing riddles but we have been writing them based on Animals. We have learnt some shocking facts to help us use exclamation marks in our writing. One of our facts was that baby giraffes are born taller than most humans! In Maths, we have began our topic of division by making equal groups. We had an amount of objects and were given how many boxes or groups to share them into. We also investigated if we could share that number into different amounts.

We hope you have been enjoying our new RWInc books! Please ensure you have read them at least once and return them at the start of next week. Enjoy the long weekend!



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

Year 2

What a lovely first week back Year 2 have had! We started the week with our History launch day to launch our new topic "Queen Elizabeth II." The children came to school in their best, royal clothes and had lots of fun practising their curtsies and royal waves. The children also enjoyed looking at a variety of sources to research key questions such as "Why is she important?" and "What does she do?" We finished our launch day with a royal tea party outside where the children showed off their best ballroom dancing!

We learnt about time in Maths. The children recapped o'clock and half past and were introduced to telling the time to 5 minutes, quarter past and quarter to. They have been especially excited to tell their teachers when it is break time and dinner time!

In English, we started our new text "The Day the Crayons Quit." They were able to predict why the crayons were fed up. The children then enjoyed learning why the crayons were upset and picking out key vocabulary to prove this.

In Science, the children went on a treasure hunt outside to find things that were alive, never been alive or dead. They learnt about what makes something living and created actions to help them remember the criteria.



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

Class Teacher Messages...

Year 3

Year 3 have had a fantastic first week back at school. Their behaviour has been fabulous, and they have really enjoyed all the new topics that they have been introduced to. In English, the children are preparing to write a setting comparison on the book 'the quest' which they were so excited about as it is a sequel to the book 'the journey' that they looked at in year 2. The children had fun looking at plants in the garden and sketching their details and enjoyed looking at Atlas's in geography.

Overall, a wonderful week back at school.

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

Year 4

In Year 4 this week, we have started to look at Macbeth by William Shakespeare. We have explored the vocabulary involved and started to think about the plot. We will be using the play to write an advert for a Shakespearean character and have been learning all about the purpose and features of adverts. In maths, we have started a new chapter on money; recognising values and using it to pay and calculate change. In arithmetic, we have been simplifying fractions. We have also continued to work on our times tables in preparation for the times tables check in June. In geography, we have started an exciting new topic about South America and in science we will be learning all about Living Things and their Habitats.



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

Year 5

It has been a good first week back after the Easter Holidays in Year 5 with lots of great learning taking place. In maths, we have been working on angles and have learnt how to calculate angles on a straight line and around a point. We have also learnt how to draw angles with a protractor and ruler. Whilst in English, we have continued to read our gripping class novel 'Hacker'. In our reading lessons we have learnt how to summarise information and answer questions using this vital reading skill. In writing, we have started to learn how to write a persuasive speech and have been working on modal verbs, adverbs of possibility and fronted adverbials. In PE, the children enjoyed tennis this week and demonstrated good technique when using the forehand shot. It was great to see the children being competitive and trying to win points. In RE, we learnt how we can express our beliefs through art and discussed our ideas. Well done a great week Year 5; we hope you all have a fantastic bank holiday weekend.



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

Year 6

Welcome back to a very busy term!

With only one week left to go until SATs, I wanted to remind all parents that children need to be revising as much as possible at home to ensure the highest success achievable. We only have a 3 day week next week (Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday) so it is imperative that children engage with home study where they can. Please can we ensure all children arrive on time each day and come ready to learn.

We have organised breakfast for children during SATs week and will be sending out a letter to provide additional information regarding SATs organisation. We are also planning celebrations and treats for the end of the week to ensure we celebrate all the children have achieved.

Finally, discussions with secondary schools have begun, so keep an eye on correspondences/websites of your chosen secondary schools to ensure you don't miss any events or letters they may be planning. It will help for children to start browsing website to find the answers to any questions they may have.

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

Attendance and Family Welfare Team



Attendance

WEEKLY WINNERS (w/e 29/04/2022)

KS1 – 1Gamma – 98.0%

KS2 – 5Beta – 99.4%

Whole School – 94.2%



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!

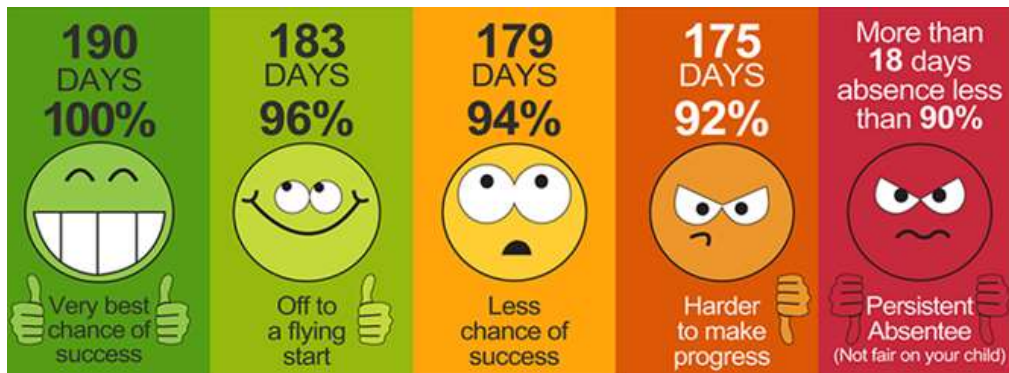
Our schools target for attendance is 96%; this is for the whole school and for every pupil.

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.

The Coventry Children's Speech and Language Therapy Team are committed to being anti-racist professionals and would like to wear a badge to demonstrate our pledge to reduce racial inequality. Many of our team currently wear the NHS rainbow badge and we were hoping to create a similar badge, designed by the children and families in Coventry. We invite schools to support all children to submit a design entry, this could be carried out in school as a class or the poster could be put up around your setting for children and families to enter themselves.

Please see on the next page the poster as well as the submission form. The deadline for submissions is Monday 30th May (half term).



DESIGN AN ANTIRACISM BADGE

The Children's Speech and Language Therapy team at Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust would like your help to create a badge to represent our position and commitment to being antiracist professionals.

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP

We would like to offer the opportunity to children and young people in Coventry to design the antiracism badge we wear on our lanyards.

HAVE YOU SEEN OUR RAINBOW BADGE?



The rainbow badges are for NHS staff who have pledged to reduce inequalities and provide support and signposting to LGBTQ+ people. We were hoping to create a badge similar to this for our team to wear, demonstrating our pledge to reduce racial inequality.

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR DESIGN:

The submission form can be found at www.coventrychildrensslt.co.uk or ask the SENCo at your school.

To send your submission to us, please scan or take a photo of your design and email it to submityourdesigntoslt@covwarkpt.nhs.uk or post it to Submit your Design, Speech and Language Therapy, 1st Floor, Paybody Building, Byron Street, Coventry, CV1 4FS.

Entries will be accepted until Monday 30th May 2022.



Anti-Racism Badge Submission Form

Please draw picture/symbol below:

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for the user to draw a picture or symbol representing their anti-racism badge design.

Please write slogan below of less than 10 words:

Name/School:

Please email submission form to: submityourdesigntosit@covwarkpt.nhs.uk or post to: Submit your Design, Speech and Language Therapy, 1st Floor, Paybody Building, Coventry, Byron Street, CV1 4FS.

The deadline for submissions is Monday 30th May 2022.

Reading

Welcome back everyone! We hope you have had a lovely break and have been reading lots! 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 readers, lots of children have spoken about Dogman being one of their favourite books. So this week I recommend this book by the same author called 'Cat Kid'.

The Cat Kid Comic Club is deep in discovery in the newest graphic novel in the hilarious and heart-warming worldwide bestselling series by Dav Pilkey, the author and illustrator of Dog Man.

The comic club is going in all different directions! Naomi, Melvin, and siblings are each trying to find their purpose. Naomi has an idea to get rich quick that causes a lot of commotion and emotion. And when faced with rejections, the friends try and try again to stay true to their vision. To top it off, a surprise visitor comes to class to stir things up. Will a desire for money and power cloud Naomi's purpose? Is it quitting time? Will the club ever be the same?

Readers of all ages will be inspired to dream up their own stories and unleash their own creativity as they dive into this pioneering graphic novel adventure from Dav Pilkey.



PE / Sports News

The P.E Team would like to welcome everyone back from their Easter break and hope you all had a fun and relaxing time. This is a busy term with lots of events and sporting activities taking place over the next few weeks. Children across all year groups will be taking part in the below subjects in their P.E Lessons, please find below the area which your child/ren will be working on this term:



Reception – Ball Skills
Year 1 – Strike and Fielding Skills
Year 2, 3, 4 & 6 – Tag Rugby
Year 5 – Cricket



We also had our first week of our cricket session with The Warwickshire Cricket Board (WCB), they will be working across the school with pupils from Year 4 and 5 during lesson time, and they will also be running a cricket skill session after school. The after school club will be on offer for Year 3 and 2 pupils, so please parents from these year groups see your email and feel free to sign your children up!

We will be communicating to parents and guardians next week for the offer of our sporting after school clubs during summer term.

Breakfast & After School Club News

Before the Easter half term. Children in After School Club had a dressing up session together and had lots of fun!



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**