

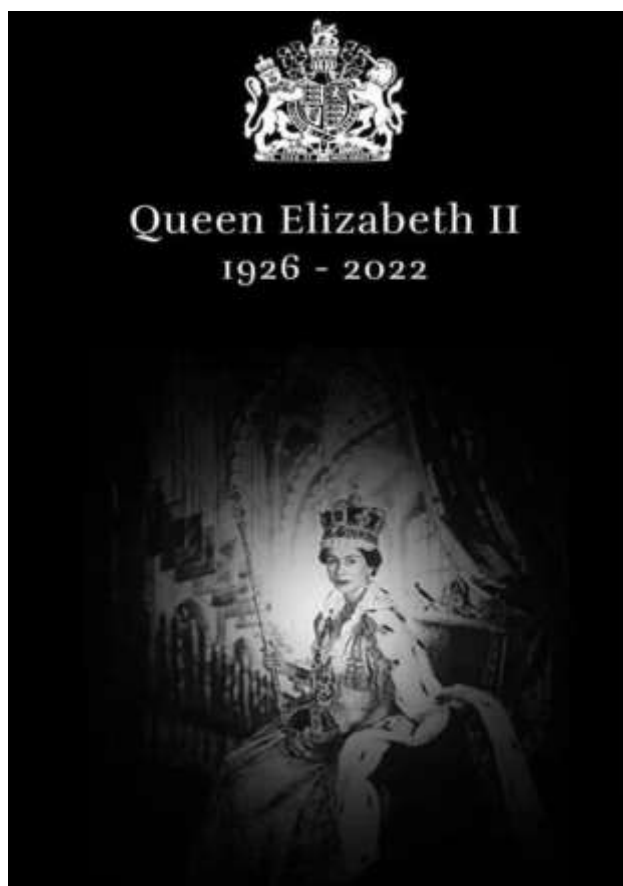


## Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II



We are deeply saddened to hear the news that our wonderful Queen Elizabeth II died on Thursday 8th September 2022, after 70 years of dedicated, loyal and committed service. We give thanks for her life of faith, service to God and to the people of this country, the Realms and the Commonwealth. We send our thoughts, prayers and deepest sympathies to all the Queen's family at this very sad time. We will observe the period of national mourning whilst continuing to support our pupils, families and staff during this very sad time.

We will share further updates as and when they become available.



## Message from Mrs Squires

It has been a privilege to welcome the children back to school this week in my first week as Acting Head Teacher at Whitmore Park. I have been very impressed with their positive attitudes to settling into their new classes, their behaviour in classrooms and around the school. This is a great start to the new school year and we are looking forward to seeing them progress and thrive throughout the year. Today, has been tinged with sadness as we came together as a school community in assembly to reflect and pay our respects to Queen Elizabeth II. The children have had the opportunity to talk in their classrooms, share their feelings and ask any questions to their teachers. I hope you all have a peaceful weekend and enjoy spending time with your families.

# Class Teacher Messages...

## Nursery

Nursery held Stay and Play sessions this week. It has been wonderful to welcome parents back into the setting. The children had lots of fun playing with their accompanying grown up. I saw lots of grown-ups having fun on the Trim Trail also. All children will be in Nursery next week, and I am looking forward to getting to know all the little characters that I will be teaching this year.

Have a lovely weekend.

**Mrs McShane**



## Reception

It has been wonderful to welcome all of our new children into Reception this week! The Reception Teachers are amazed at how well the children have begun to settle in their new classes. They have had the opportunity to fully explore their new classrooms, and the outdoor area, in smaller groups over two days. They have sat and listened to stories and joined in with songs and rhymes. Outside, the climbing frame has been hugely popular! Every child this week should have come home with a code for Seesaw - an online platform which enables us to share information with you. Please make sure that you are able to access your child's Seesaw account and speak to your child's class teacher if there are any problems. PE for Reception children will be on a Thursday. Children will need trainers or pumps for PE. We are so pleased for such a positive start to the year and we hope that the children are looking forward to coming back on Monday to meet some more new friends when we all start together. If you have any questions or concerns please speak to your child's class teacher or send a message on Seesaw. Have a great weekend everyone!

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

## Year 1

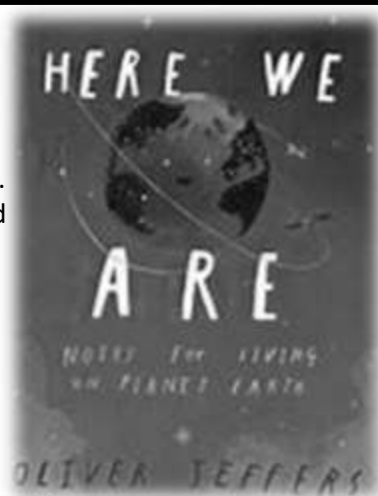
The Year 1 children have settled into their new classrooms. They have enjoyed listening to the story 'Harris Finds His Feet' in English lessons and they have written some sentences about Harris. In Maths lessons, Year 1 have been practising how to count, write numbers and represent amounts. Year 1 have shared some things that they like and they have also completed some work around how to be a good friend. Year 1 have also enjoyed singing some songs and playing some teamwork games. The Year 1 team have been really impressed with how hard the children have worked in their first week. Well done!

**Miss Skidmore (Year 1 Leader), Miss Allison and Mrs Corbett**

## Year 2

It has been lovely to get to know the new Year 2 children this week. They have really impressed their teachers with how well they have adapted to their new routines and classroom expectations. We have spent lots of time doing RHE this week. This has involved discussions around respect and behaviour, the school's golden rules and also getting to know one another. In our English lessons, we read a book called "Here We Are." The children then enjoyed writing a postcard to an alien describing what planet Earth was like. In Maths, we have been revising basic skills and the children have enjoyed exploring different problems using equipment. Homework will start next week. It will be given out on a Thursday and will be due in the following Thursday. All children have now also taken a school reading book home. Please can we remind you to read with your child at least 5 times a week. We look forward to a great year full of lots of exciting learning!

**Mrs Merkelbach, Mrs Gill (Year 2 Leader) and Mrs Nolan**



# Class Teacher Messages...

## Year 3

Year 3 have had a fantastic first week and we are all very proud of how well they have settled this week. We have been getting to know each other and teaching the children how we do things in year 3. Next week we will start all our new topics and are excited to learn lots together. Please read the curriculum to find out about this term's exciting learning.

**Miss Kakathasan, Miss Khan (Year 3 Leader) and Miss Waddell**

## Year 4

Year 4 have had a fabulous first week. All the children have worked hard and followed the school's values and golden rules consistently and have earned lots of classdojos! During the week we have used the book 'Tuesday' by David Wiesner to practise our handwriting and sentence skills. Each child has made their own version of the book and we were impressed with their illustrating skills. We have also started our maths lessons and most importantly this year we have been revisiting our 5 and 10 times tables. Next week, we will be concentrating on our 2 times tables. A letter regarding the Year 4 times tables check will be coming out next week.



**Miss Bassi, Mrs Cox (Year 4 Leader) and Mrs Hussain**

## Year 5

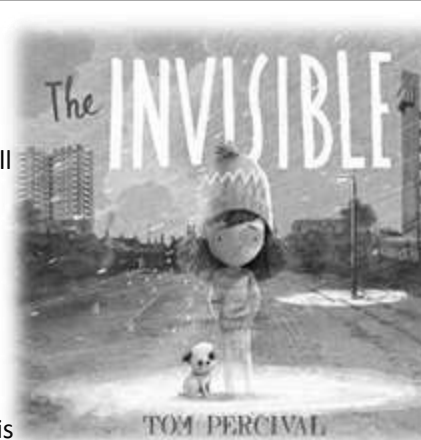
The children in Year 5 have had a brilliant week. They have all settled back into the school routine extremely positively. We have spent some time working on our feelings as well as the relationships we have at school with our peers. We have also spent some time learning about our new class text 'Escape to the River Sea'. The teachers and support staff have been very impressed with all the children and are looking forward to another fun week of learning next week!

**Mrs Hatton, Mr Maguire (Year 5 Leader) and Miss Wherly**



## Year 6

Year 6 have had an amazing first week back settling in to their new classes and have definitely started off with the right attitude for their last year in primary school. We want to say a huge well done to the Year 6s for completing some practise SATs test and working really hard to show what they are capable of achieving. In English this week, we have been looking at the book 'The Invisible' by Tom Percival and learning all about how the cost of living crisis is affecting families across the country. We have been exploring vocabulary and shared lots of ideas linked to this topic. The children have written some interviews and a news report ready to record as our very own podcast so that we can spread awareness around this current topic. Reading is of the utmost importance in Year 6 so we have been spending this week reading with children so that we can make sure they have exactly the right book to take home this weekend to start reading as much as they can. After such a great start, we are all looking forward to seeing what this year has in store! Just a reminder that Year 6 P.E. is on Mondays and Wednesdays.



**Mrs Sandhu (Assistant Head and Year 6 Leader), Mr Payne (Assistant Head and Year 6 Leader) and Miss Knowles**

# Attendance

## Reporting Absence & Appointments

It is a parent/carer's responsibility to notify school by 9am if their child is absent. A clear reason must be provided on the day of absence. You can report your child's absence by leaving a voicemail on the school's absence line or message school via school gateway. Please be sure to contact school **everyday** of absence. If we do not a reason for an absence, this will marked as **unauthorised**.

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



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

**KS1 – 1Beta – 99.1%  
KS2 – 6Beta – 100%**

**WEEKLY WINNERS!  
(w/e 09/09/2022)**



## Punctuality

Registration is at **8:55am** for all classes. Gates are opened from **8.30am**. The gates will close at **8.55am** therefore, please ensure your child is in school before this time. If your child arrives after this time, then you **MUST** take your child to the Main Office to sign them in late. If you know your child is going to be late, please call school to inform us of this and a reason why.

## Holidays in Term Time

Family holidays should be arranged outside of a school term. If you are planning to take a holiday during school time then a **Exceptional Leave of Absence** form must be completed and handed back into the main office.  
Please note that holidays will **not** be authorised following Local Authority guidelines and a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) could be issued.

# Family Welfare

## Cost of Living Support

We are all concerned with the rising costs of living and will share as much information as we can with our families about where and how to get support.

Coventry City Council have launched a Cost of Living and Wellbeing support page where you can access referrals for school uniform and shoes as well as financial support.

Please ask to speak to Mrs Smith, our schools Family Welfare Officer, if you or your family need support.

We have included a list of useful links below for your information. You can also find these links on our schools website.

### Health

**Parent Advice** Parents can call the School Nurses between 8.30am -4.30pm, 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 **07507329114** 9am-5pm Monday to Friday. If your child is unwell please call your GP or call 111. For medical emergencies ring 999.

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



### Finance

Coventry Independent Advice Service offers free advice, information and support to Coventry residents.  
Call **024 7652 1100**



### Domestic Abuse

**Coventry Haven** 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** supports children and young people with mental health and well being **[www.youngminds.org.uk](http://www.youngminds.org.uk)**

**Childline** available to help anyone under 19 in the UK with any issue they're going through. **0800 1111** 9am to midnight every day

**Samaritans** provides a free 24-hour helpline for people who are upset, troubled or who are feeling suicidal.  
Call **116 123** at any time

## The Little Princess Trust - Donations

Ariya's hair donation - on Saturday 3rd September one of our lovely pupils, Ariya had her first ever hair cut. She aimed for 8 inches but we are proud to say Ariya donated an amazing 11 inches for a worthwhile charity to make a difference in the lives of young children suffering with cancer and hair loss.

Ariya's parents have set up a fundraising page called Ariya's fundraiser for The Little Princess Trust. End date for this is Friday 30th September.

Ariya's parents and Whitmore Park hope to share this with as many people to raise much more. Within 2 days Ariya met her target. Let's see how much we can raise until the end date. Well done

Ariya!



## Macmillan Coffee Morning

Macmillan Coffee morning

**When:** Friday 30th  
September 2022, 9:30am

**Where:** Whitmore Park  
Community room.

**Why?** To support a  
fantastic charity close to  
many of our hearts.



**COME FOR  
COFFEE  
AND  
CAKE**

**WE ARE  
MACMILLAN.  
CANCER SUPPORT**





## SEND

Welcome back to the new year. And, welcome to all new families.

We have loved seeing so many happy and smiling faces this week as the children settle into their new classes.

All information about children has been shared with their new class teacher so if there are any queries please speak with them first. During these first few weeks it is really import to give the children time to settle while we review and reassess access requirements. A member of the Inclusion Team will notify you if we feel that any adjustments may be needed.

Just a little reminder that if you have any concerns about your child's provision, this should first be raised with the class teacher who will then contact a member of the Inclusion Team where necessary.

If you have a medical query, you will need to contact the class teacher first who may then ask for Mrs Searis to contact you.

We look forward to working with you during your time at Whitmore Park.

## Vacancies

<b>School Name:</b> Whitmore Park Primary School	<b>POSITION: 1 x Permanent and 1 x Casual Lunchtime Supervisory Assistants</b>
<b>Full Address:</b> Halford Lane Keresley Coventry CV6 2HG	We are looking to appoint 2 enthusiastic and dedicated Permanent Lunchtime Supervisory Assistants and 2 Casual Lunchtime Supervisory Assistants (to cover staff absence). You will be required to work as part of our team, supervising pupils during the lunch break, ensuring a safe environment where their developmental and welfare needs are met.
<b>Telephone Number:</b> 02476 335697	You need to be physically fit and be able to interact with all pupils in the school, encouraging play and inclusion.
<b>Email Address:</b> <a href="mailto:jobs@whitmorepark.org">jobs@whitmorepark.org</a>	<b>Do you have:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Experience of working with children and managing behaviour?</li><li>• The ability to work as part of a team, building relationships with children and staff?</li><li>• A caring nature, able to support the emotional wellbeing of children?</li></ul>
<b>Job Title:</b> 1 x Permanent Lunchtime Supervisory Assistants and 1 x Casual Lunchtime Supervisory Assistants	
<b>Salary range:</b> Grade 1 £9.50 to £9.60 per hour	
<b>Hours:</b> 11.25 hours a week (permanent positions) or as and when required for Casual positions. Term-time only (38 weeks).	
<b>Closing date:</b> Midnight on Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> September 2022	We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all pupils and expect all staff to share this commitment. An enhanced DBS is needed for these posts. Two references will be taken up for all short listed candidates prior to interview.
<b>Interview date:</b> Morning of Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> September 2022	
<b>Start Date:</b> As soon as possible.	
	Applications packs are available on our website via this link: <a href="https://www.whitmorepark.org/job-vacancies/">https://www.whitmorepark.org/job-vacancies/</a> . Or, if you would like to request an application pack, please email <a href="mailto:admin@whitmorepark.org">admin@whitmorepark.org</a> . Completed applications can be emailed to <a href="mailto:jobs@whitmorepark.org">jobs@whitmorepark.org</a> , handed in at the School Office or posted to the school for the attention of Mrs Christine Clough, School Business Manager.

## 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](https://www.facebook.com/pathwaysfamilyhub) Twitter - [hubsfamily](https://twitter.com/hubsfamily) Tel: **02476978130**