



Message from Mrs Squires

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope everyone has enjoyed the half term break and the time with their families; it has been lovely to hear so many children talking about celebrating Diwali and enjoying their trick or treating outings. The children have returned to school with fantastic attitudes to learning and behaviour and are all ready to learn! Our value for this half term is 'Respect' and following Monday's assembly, the children will be learning more about 'Respect' and what it looks like in our school. Next week, we will be having a special assembly to mark Remembrance Day, holding a 1 minute's silence as a mark of respect and selling poppies at breaktime. Please see the letter for more information.

I hope you enjoy the weekend, and if you are celebrating Bonfire Night - stay safe!

Please follow us on Twitter [@whitmore_park](https://twitter.com/whitmore_park) as we are sharing many Tweets of our school events and children's learning.

Health and Safety Notices



Important Information Safety Notice – School Parking and School Car Park

Recently we have noticed a number of cars that are tail-gating onto school site and requesting to access via the gate intercom.

I would like to politely remind parents/carers that only blue badge holders are allowed on site for drop-off and collection of children.

Anyone who is not a blue badge holder, bringing a car to collect children, will need to park safely and responsibly on the road, avoiding blocking any driveways or parking on yellow or zig-zag lines.

If you have a blue badge, please wait in your car at the gate and inform the member of staff in the office via the gate intercom, by giving them your name and confirming that you have a blue badge before entering site. Please note the school office closes at 4.30pm.

Please can blue badge holders park in one of the allocated disabled parking bays provided in the main car-park and display the blue badge clearly in the front windscreen.

Please can anyone using the staff car park, drive carefully within the 5 mile per hour speed limit, park responsibly and avoid blocking other cars in.

We are in the process of updating our list of blue badge holders. If you would like to be included on the list please arrange to bring your blue badge to the school office during opening times of 8am-4.30pm.

Thank you for your continued support.

Attendance



Our school target for attendance is **96% or above**.
School attendance for this week = **94.5%**
National attendance for this week = **TBC**



Year Group Winners

Reception = RBeta – 95%

Year 1 = 1Gamma – 96.9%

Year 2 = 2Beta – 96.7%

Year 3 = 3Beta – 95%

Year 4 = 4Beta – 98.5%

Year 5 = 5Delta – 97.9%

Year 6 = 6Delta – 98.5%

Rewards

At Whitmore Park, we reward good and improved attendance in the following ways:

- 5 dojo points = Class with the best attendance in each year group per week
- 5 dojo points = Winning class from Reception, Y1/2, Y3/4 and Y5/6 per week
- 5 dojo points = Most improved class from each year group from the previous week
- 1 dojo point every day for a child being in school on time
- Attendance trophy each week for the winning class from: Reception, Year 1/2, Year 3/4 and Year 5/6
- 5 minutes extra break for the most improved class from each year group from the previous week
- Personalised incentives for children showing improvement
- 100% half-termly badges given out in the last week of each half-term
- End of term certificates for children achieving 96%+ or 100% for the term given out in the last week of each term

Attend Today



Achieve Tomorrow



Weekly Update

Please read the letter sent out from Mr Johnston and Mrs Squires regarding leave of absence during term time, and Irregular attendance including persistent late arrival to school. Visit the Coventry City Council website link for more information:

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/attendance-inclusion/attendance/2>

Class Teacher Messages...

Nursery

The Nursery children have been very excited to return to school. They are being very grown up and most children are coming into Nursery all on their own. There is of course an adult available who helps them to hang up their bags and coats.

The children thoroughly enjoyed the last week of school; we had great fun celebrating Diwali. I do hope that those families that celebrate Diwali at home had a lovely time too.

This week we have been on a walk to see the school hall. It was very exciting. We will be beginning P.E. lessons soon. Please see the Nursery Newsletter and Seesaw for further details.

Some families have not logged onto Seesaw yet. There are some lovely photographs for you to see of your children learning in Nursery. I have codes available for you in Nursery. Please ask me at the gate if you do not have your code, or if you are having difficulties logging on. Have a lovely weekend.



Mrs McShane

Reception

This week in Reception we have been busy learning about Autumn. We have been on some Autumn walks around the school grounds to look for changes that are occurring to the environment during this season. We have talked about the changing trees, leaves and the weather. The children enjoyed collecting lots of different leaves ready to use in the creative area next week. In our Read, write Inc lessons we have learned the sounds 'h, sh, r and j'. In Numeracy we have been learning to compare small quantities using sentences such as "3 is a bigger number because it has more" or "this tower has fewer cubes". We have also been looking at triangles and circles using vocabulary such as 'straight sides', 'curved, round side' and 'corners'. In the classroom, children have made Halloween inspired skeleton pictures using cotton buds and have practised their cutting skills when making pumpkins and pumpkin faces. Have a great weekend, please remember to read with your child and sign their reading diaries, thank you.



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

Year 1

Year 1 have been writing about the story Mrs Armitage on wheels. In Maths, they have been learning to add numbers together; they have been thinking carefully about what each number in a number sentences means. Year 1 have had their History launch afternoon. Our new topic is Transport. We will be looking at how cars and bikes have changed over time. In Science, Year 1 went on an Autumn walk around the school grounds and looked for signs of Autumn. In RHE, they have explored how people can be similar are different.



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

Year 2

It has been a lovely start back at school this week. The children have settled back in beautifully and have all come back ready to learn. We had a launch day to launch our new Geography topic about the United Kingdom. We went on a "tour" of all the countries in the UK. The children all had pretend passports and drove to different parts of England, got on a plane to Northern Ireland, took a long train journey to Scotland and drove around some of the beautiful areas in Wales. On our travels, the children found out about the human and physical features of the different countries. They enjoyed listening to the story of the Loch Ness monster and how Giant's Causeway was formed in Northern Ireland. We are looking forward to learning more about the UK in the next few weeks. In English, we had a talent show to introduce our new book "Amazing Grace." The children then used picture clues to make predictions about what they thought might happen in the story. They wrote lovely pieces of advice to Grace when they learnt her classmates said she couldn't be Peter Pan in the school pantomime. In Maths, we are continuing to learn about addition and subtraction. We used equipment and pictures to show the number sentences. We also found quick methods to add by looking for number facts. We are now learning our division facts for the 10 times table. We have had a practise week this week and the children will have their first test next week. Please could you practise this at home with your child. This term, the children are also taking part in Skills Academy. The children have all chosen a club they would like to attend for the half term. The clubs include: dance, drama, music, Spanish, lego and art. It was lovely to see how enthusiastic the children were and how well they worked together in teams.



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

Year 3

Year 3 have had a great work . All the children have worked hard, and we have been discussing this half terms value focus of respect ! During the week we have continued our story work on 'The true story of the three little pigs' and have targeted writing speech with all the correct punctuation . We have also continued our work in maths about addition and subtraction and introduced column addition and subtraction . We have continued our focus on the 3 times tables. In science we have started a new topic about light and next week we will begin some experiment investigating shadows. We had a great half day of geography learning about the countries and cities of the UK .

Miss Kukathasan, Miss Khan (Year 3 Leader) and Miss Waddell

Year 4

In year 4 this week, we have started to read a new book called 'The Spider and the Fly.' This is a cautionary tale about keeping safe. We have used our reading skills to predict how the story will end and develop our understanding of the main characters. We have practised the skill of prepositions and written our own version of the story opening. In maths this week, we have been working on subtraction with more than one exchange and formal methods for multiplication of two-digit numbers by a one-digit number. We have started a new geography topic 'Our Local Area,' in which we will be learning how and why the geography of Coventry has changed over time. In science, we have been learning about the Water Cycle and we have started a new RE topic which is all about Sikhism.



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

Year 5

Well done to all of the children for coming back to school this week with such a positive attitude to learning and for getting on with their learning effortlessly. On Monday, we started the week investigating reversible and irreversible changes in Science, we have published our letters to Michael Morpurgo in English and have continued to develop our understanding of addition and subtraction up to 1,000,000 in maths. This week we have paused our History learning around WWII after asking questions relating to their previous learning and briefly learning about the Battle of Britain. We will pick this topic up again after Christmas.



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

In RE this week, the children have shown great maturity when focussing on the meaning of 'Prejudice' and the impact this had on people during the second World War.

Year 6

It sounds like everyone had a wonderful rest over half term and all the children have come back to school ready to learn. We have started a new book in English this week - Darwin's Dragons - and have been learning about Charles Darwin's theory of evolution. Similarly, in science we have started a new topic on evolution and inheritance and we have learnt about inherited features and the variety of differences between different people in the class. In geography, we have started to learn about North and South America and have learnt to use atlases to identify the different countries in each continent. In maths, we have started learning about fractions. This week we have been learning to simplify and find equivalent fractions. What a great start to a new half term for Year 6!

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

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.

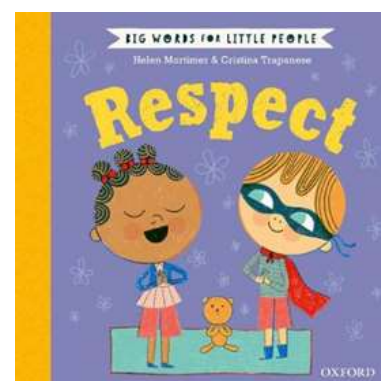
The expectation is for children to be reading at least 5 times every week; reading diaries need to be signed by an adult to show how many times children have read.

Thank you to all our parents who came to the bookfair last half term. You have helped the school to choose a wide range of FREE BOOKS that will be used as rewards for children who have shown their commitment and dedication to reading. Children who receive their 10 stamps for reading will be one of the first to choose a brand-new book.

In assembly this week, Mrs Squires introduced our Golden Value of RESPECT that we will be focussing on this half term.

So, this week's recommendation is a lovely book called 'Big Words for Little People: Respect' by Helen Mortimer.

This little book on Respect is the next instalment of an exciting series exploring big topics with young children in a way that feels good. Using carefully chosen words and phrases, such as 'acceptance', 'fairness' and 'speak up', it creates a special moment for grown-ups and young children to focus on what it means to respect others and be respected. Children can discover and understand new words to help them to talk about the ups and downs of first experiences and new emotions with confidence.




Enjoy! **The English Team**

PE / Sports

Well done to our amazing Year 5 & 6 pupils who took part in the Rugby League World Cup festival hosted by CVLife at the Alan Higgs Centre to celebrate the start of the competition and Coventry Building Society Stadium host the group game against Australia v Scotland. The children had so much fun playing, it was great to see them showing teamwork, respect, and integrity to everyone involved. The team did well, winning two games and losing three, but Mr Parry was so proud of everyone's efforts.





FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Your child may be able to get FREE school meals

Do you receive any of the support below?

- ▶ Income Support
- ▶ Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- ▶ Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- ▶ Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- ▶ The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- ▶ Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- ▶ Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household earnings must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Universal Offer

- ▶ Also, Universal Infant free school meals are available to ALL children in Reception, year 1 and year 2.
- ▶ You can apply as soon as your child's school place has been confirmed.

The benefits of free school meals

- ▶ You could save more than £450 a year per child
- ▶ It saves time making packed lunches
- ▶ Your child gets a healthy tasty, cooked meal
- ▶ Children achieve more when they've had a cooked lunch
- ▶ School gets extra funding to help children in their education (pupil premium- up to £1320 a year per child)

Everyone's a winner



Too many children in Coventry are living in food poverty, yet hundreds of children are still not receiving their entitlement to a free school meal. One in four children in Coventry are eligible for a free school meal. More are taking up their entitlement but there are so many more who could be benefiting.

Talk to your neighbours/friend and family to get them to also take a look.

It's really easy to apply online at
<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/benefits-1/free-school-meals/2>

If you qualify for free school meals for your child, you are also able to take advantage of free activities during the main school holidays with the Holiday Activities and Food Programme.

Anyone who receives this leaflet from the Council, who may be worried that it is a scam, can confirm its authenticity by calling Coventry City Council on 08005 834333, or by checking our website: www.coventry.gov.uk/costofliving

Understanding Low Mood in Children and Young People

1 free online session
 Wednesday 30th November 2022
 12:30pm to 2:30pm

RISE

Recovery & Wellbeing
ACADEMY

Enrol here: www.recoveryandwellbeing.co.uk/enrolment

@CW_RISE

Need advice or support?

WE ARE HERE TO HELP!

• RISE Crisis team: 08081966798 (Select option 2)

• Childline: 08007777

• PAPHYRUS: Call 08000684747 =

Text 07860039967

Email: pat@papyrus-uk.org

• Samaritans: Call 116123 or email jo@samaritians.org

Do you have a query about Special Educational Needs?



Come and talk informally to the SENDIASS team
FREE Tea and Coffee available! No appointment required!

My child keeps
getting sent home
early: is that right?

I'm 18 now, what are
my rights in education
and support?

What's an EHC Plan
and should my daughter
get one?

My child is struggling at
school, what can I do?

SENDIASS Drop-in Session

Harmony Family Hub

Clifton Street, Hillfields, Coventry, CV1 5GR

Thursday 10th November 2022

Drop in between 9.30am – 11.30am

For further information please contact
us on **Tel: 024 7669 4307** or e-mail:
iass@coventry.gov.uk



**DOES YOUR CHILD OR
YOUNG PERSON HAVE
SPECIAL NEEDS?
HOW ARE YOU DOING?**

Get in touch with us to book a place at our Coffee Morning. Meet other parents in a similar situation. Share with others in a friendly, non-judgemental environment, together with a member of staff from SENDIASS.

COFFEE MORNING

FRIDAY 11TH NOVEMBER 2022
(10:00AM -12:00PM)

Venue: Metropolis Restaurant

Upstairs Community Room,
Earl Street, Coventry, CV1 5RU

To book your place or for further information contact:
SEND Information Advice and Support Service
Tel: 024 7669 4307 or email: iass@coventry.gov.uk

Whitmore Park Christmas Fayre



Friday 9th December 2022 3pm - 6pm

Meet Santa Raffle

Face painting

Guess how
many sweets
in the jar.

Are you interested
in having a stall?

Contact
**admin@whitmore
park.org**

And many more ...



**Whitmore
Park**

Primary School