



Excellence  
at Whittle



# Whittle Weekly

Issue 6

20th October 2017

## What's been happening this week?!

Dear Parents and Carers, It really is hard to believe that we are already at the end of our first half term back at Whittle Academy. Everyone here has had such a fantastic start to the year - with children and adults alike working so very hard, and all with a smile on their face! On Wednesday morning, our Year 6 children visited Grace Academy to take part in a range of activities around Religious Education, which also provided a great opportunity to get a real feel for what it is like in a Secondary School. It's quite a daunting thought moving on to pastures new in Year 7 (for children and parents!) but hopefully their experiences helped in taking some of their worries and anxieties away. For those who still have not applied for Secondary School places for next September - if you need any help, please contact Coventry Admissions Team ☎ 024 7683 1613

Everyone has had real fun learning in their theme this week, with Year 5 creating wartime rationing meals, with the help of the school kitchen. They have been calculating ingredients required to make raspberry buns, and have then donned their chef's hats to make and bake them!! It's great to see how maths is so important in real life; cooking/baking is a fun way for us all to practise our skills of calculating and measuring-you may find that they get the bug, and want to do more over half term! Year 5 parents might also find that there is a lot of 'Jitterbugging' going on, as Kirstie Smith from Step onto Stage has worked with the children getting them moving with some superb results...Strictly, here we come!

It's been wonderful to hear how our swimmers in Years 3 and 4 have been such a credit to us during their weekly Monday swim. Well done to all of the children who have persevered in learning this important life skill, and to those staff who have supported in this running so smoothly.



Have a lovely half term! **Ms P Carpenter**, Head of School

**Communication.....** At Whittle, we endeavour to communicate as much as possible to keep you up-to-date with events, trips and key information that you need about your children. This might be via letters, Twitter, or diaries. Please support school by asking your children if letters were sent home at the end of the day and reminding them to hand in any messages or monies that you send into school in return. Many thanks.

### Reminders.....

Teacher Training Day is on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October **NO CHILDREN PLEASE**.  
*Bonfire Night celebration is on 6<sup>th</sup> November -tickets still on sale!*  
New school menus (available from the school foyer) start after half term.

## Diwali

We are lucky to have a diverse community at Whittle, and it has been lovely this week to see our pupils and staff in their traditional costumes to mark the start of the Hindu festival of Light, Diwali. To all of those celebrating at home, from all of us at Whittle...



## Secondary School.....

Applications for secondary schools **MUST** be made online, on the Council's website by 31st October.

## Attendance so far this Academic year.....

Class	% Attendance	
Nursery	89%	↓
Reception	94%	↓
1P	96%	↔
1/2M	95%	↓
3C	95%	↓
3/4C	97%	↔
4/5HC	96%	↑
5A	97%	↔
6A	95%	↑
6LM	97%	↓
Whole School	96%	↔

Well done to all the children who were in school every day last week!



# News from around the School



**EYFS** In Nursery this week we have had our last week on our story 'Harry and the dinosaurs'. The children can retell the story and speak about the characters and settings of the story. They have really enjoyed this style of teaching literacy and we are looking forward to doing it again with our new story after the half term holidays. In Numeracy we have been counting out leaves to feed to the dinosaurs. The children have been great about remembering which number they need to get and making sure they have the right amount of leaves. In Reception we have been creating a new version of the story 'The tiger who came to tea'. We have changed the words to 'The elephant who came to tea' ask your child to retell it to you! In numeracy we have been learning to recognise small groups of objects without counting them. You can practise this at home by playing games which involve dice! We want to say a big thank you to all parents who have accessed Tapestry this half term. It has been wonderful to be able to have daily conversations with you about how to help your child with their learning at home. If you have not yet logged on please do so as you will be able to see the next steps in your child's learning journey.

**Years 1&2** On Tuesday Key Stage One made a very exciting discovery! Mr Gardener and Ms Carpenter had been having a clear out of the school loft and stumbled across some something exciting..... They had found some old photo albums of events at Whittle Academy dating back to 1977! We worked out that this means the photos are 40 years old! We had so much fun sharing the photos, talking about how much our school has changed and we even spotted some surnames that we recognised! We then used the photographs to help us compare the similarities and differences between what Whittle is like now and 40 years ago. Thank you for all your support so far this year and we hope you all have a lovely half term break! We look forward to welcoming the children back on Tuesday 31st October.



**Years 5&6** What a super half term we have had in Phase 5/6! This week, Year 5 had their final dance session with Kirstie and performed some fantastic Lindy hop dances for each other. Year 6's highlight of the week was their trip to Grace Academy. They had a superb time rapping with Chip (a beatboxer from America) and dancing with Amongst Wolves (a band from Manchester) whilst learning about Christianity. Everyone in the phase has worked extremely hard this half term and deserves a well earned rest! If you would like to share any of your holiday pictures with us, please bring them in and we will happily discuss them.



Have a great holiday! *Year 5/6 team*

**Years 3&4** Phase 3/4 have yet again had a busy week. In English, they've been learning the poem "Ten things found in a wizard's pocket". They've used this poem to learn about imagery and the power of descriptive vocabulary. They've had lots of fun writing their own "Ten things found in Egypt" poem which they've published in their Theme books. Ask your child about some of the descriptions they came up with! We've all been adding in our Maths lessons this week. It has been great using a variety of different resources and methods to help us. Ask your child which method they preferred and why. To support their learning of Diwali in R.E., the children have been working with Mrs Barhey to make Diva Lamps. They look marvellous and are on display in the school hall. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support this half-term. (The cake sale was a great success!). We hope all the children have a well-deserved rest next week. *The Phase 3/4 Team*

## MERITS FROM TODAY

REC	Lawrence '...his behaviour this week has been brilliant. This has enabled him to do some super learning...'
1P	Bobby '...he is throwing himself into his learning and is trying his best, even when work becomes tricky...'
1/2M	Emily '...for always 'shining bright' and being a role model for everyone in 1/2M...'
3C	Amber '...for her exceptional amount of resilience towards her work...'
3/4C	Mayson '...for his mature approach during our mental health workshop...'
4/5HC	Libby '...for trying so hard with her presentation this week and making super progress...'
5A	John '...he consistently strives to do his best and be his best...'
6A	Amelia '...6A are really impressed by your improved attitude towards your learning...'
6LM	Freya '...for being an absolute superstar! Applying herself to her work and giving 100%...'