

Whytemead Primary School
Dominion Road
Worthing
West Sussex
BN14 8LH



Head teacher: Mr. G. Ward
Tel: Worthing 01903 202639
Fax: 01903 206072
Email: office@whytemead.w-sussex.sch.uk
Web site: www.whytemead.w-sussex.sch.uk

Dear Parents and Carers

It is great to have some better weather after the freezing conditions last week!

Friends of Whytemead

I would like to say a huge thank you to the Friends of Whytemead for purchasing an iPad for each class. The children will benefit from having their own class iPad, as well as the school iPads (some of which were also funded by the Friends of Whytemead).



Bunny Bounce

Don't forget our Sponsored Bunny Bounce! The children will have the use of a bouncy castle throughout the day of Thursday 22nd March. They will be asked to do as many bounces as possible within 1 minute. Their class totals will then be collected and the class who does the most bounces wins. The winning class will receive a special Easter present from The Friends, as a thank you for their hard work. Sponsorship can be 5p per bounce or £1 in total. Every single penny we raise will be put back into the school and help towards some much needed resources.

Time to Dance

A group of children from Year 1 and Year 2 will be performing at The Pavilion Theatre as part of 'Time to Dance 2018'. The show is on the evening of Wednesday 21st March and involves dance groups from a variety of local schools. They have been rehearsing hard and are looking forward to their big night. Tickets are available from the Pavilion box office.

Communication

We have been made aware that our system for alerting parents did not work for some parents during our recent snow closure. If you did not receive a text about this incident, please could you let the office know so they can check our system.

Eco-news

The eco-team would like to start growing vegetables around the school and need your help! If you have access to compost, big pots for growing potatoes, sleepers to make raised beds, trellis, old tyres and old logs (we need lots of old logs of different sizes) to make a stumpery near reception. We will also need some small picket fencing and perhaps a scarecrow to keep our carrots safe as they will be growing in the school playground. We appreciate all of your help.

Thank-you

Also, next week is science week and we are having a 'science day' on Friday (16th) to celebrate. We are still looking for parents who are passionate about science, technology, engineering and maths to come and share their expertise with the children at Whytemead! If you think you can help please speak Mrs Reilly or Mrs Andrew.

From Mrs Reilly, Mrs Andrew and the eco-team.

Sharenting

Keeping children safe online is very important. We have spoken to children about the importance of keeping safe online and how to stay safe. For more advice and tips about keeping your children safe online visit [Internet Matters](#), a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to e-safety.

Another area to consider, is the idea of 'sharenting'. Please see the article below. I hope you find this helpful when deciding what you post about your children online.

What is sharenting? Are you sharing too much about your children online?

By Hannah Bouckley

Many people overshare pictures of their children online. Discover the consequences of this feature of modern parenting and the impact it could have on a child's life

What does sharenting mean?

A mix of sharing and parenting, sharenting (or oversharenting) is a feature of modern parenting, as increasing numbers of parents share photos and videos of their children on social media.

Even if you don't have children, you've probably got social media friends who continually post about their kids, their birthdays, trips taken, first walk, sporting achievements.

Sharing a few photos on social media seems fairly harmless, but documenting every stage of their life can be incredibly tedious for your followers and can have more serious consequences, which you can check out below.

What are the dangers of sharenting?

Right to privacy: By sharenting you are revealing aspects of your child's life to your social media followers, yet your son or daughter has no say in this.

They may be too young to fully understand, but you are taking away their right to privacy – which as a parent you should be protecting.

Embarrassment, hurt and bullying: You might post a picture of your child with a jokey caption, relating to their hair or facial expression, which could upset them when they get older or could cause bullying from other children.

Online reputation: Everything you post contributes to your **online reputation**, which is a record of photos, shared links and comments – a record that is hard to delete. When you post about your child you are shaping their online reputation.

As children get older and head out into the world of employment and education, what you've shared could affect their future prospects. For instance a post on your Facebook wall about an argument with them could contribute to their **negative online reputation**.

Online dangers: Revealing too much about your child's life could have more serious consequences, if you don't take care with your social network's privacy settings.

Complete strangers could scroll through your Facebook feed and find out your child's name, school, birthday and friends. Would you share this information with a stranger on the street? Of course not, but you might be unwittingly sharing with a predator online.

Tips for safe sharenting

Privacy settings: Check who can see your posts, make sure they aren't public.

If you use Instagram considering making your account private.

Think before sharing: Will this embarrass my child when they are older? Could other people laugh at them? Could this comment be misconstrued? If you have any doubt, don't share.

Restrict sharing: Instead of sharing photos with all Facebook followers, share them with people who you know will genuinely want to see them.

Talk to your child: When your child is older and understands more about social media, ask them if they are happy for you to share or post a picture.

Parking outside Broadwater Baptist Church

We have received complaints from the church about the behaviour of parents parking outside the church and being rude to members of the church when asked not to. The church were not able to say which school the parents were from but were very upset by the unacceptable behaviour.

Pupil Premium

As you know all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are now entitled to a free hot meal at lunch times. This has led to fewer families informing school that they are entitled to receive help through the Pupil Premium.

As the school will receive additional funding based on the number of children whose families receive support we would like all families with this entitlement to let us know. This funding is used to support pupil premium children directly.

A pupil premium child may also be able to access the following help;

- Wear 2 School voucher to purchase items of school uniform.
- Financial support for Educational Trips including residential visits.
- Access to additional support for your child's learning and/or well-being.
- Gifted and Talented enrichment courses.

In order to claim Pupil Premium a parent/carer must be claiming one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Income-Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Child Tax Credit
- The Guaranteed Element of Pension Tax Credit.
- Asylum Seeker under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

If you believe your child is entitled to pupil premium funding please speak to the school office. Rest assured; all discussions will be treated confidentially.

Allergies- A reminder

We have some children who have a severe nut allergy.

To reduce the risk to these children we would like to remind parents to avoid products containing nuts in lunchboxes if your child is bringing a packed lunch.

Best Wishes



Mr G. Ward

Head teacher

Got something to say?

If you any comment to make about the school information, decisions, events, questions- anything at all; you can write these down and leave in a sealed envelope with the office staff. This can be anonymous, although I can only respond to you if your name is included.

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 13th March	Parents evening	3.30-5pm - book via school website
Thursday 15th	Parents evening	3.30-7pm - book via school website
	Yr 4 Gymnastics competition (selected pupils only)	3.45pm at The Orchards School
Friday 16th	Science Day	
	Rocksteady Performance	9.30am
Wednesday 21st	Time to Dance performance	7pm, The Pavilion Theatre
Thursday 22nd	Sponsored bunny bounce	During school hours
Monday 26th	Class photos	During school hours
Thursday 29th	Break up for the Easter holidays	
Monday 16th April	Start of Summer term	