

Whytemead Primary School
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Whytemead News

October 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

This half term is going very quickly and the children have all been working very hard. It is great to see how well our new Reception children have settled in and how enthusiastic they are about school life and their learning.

Six Weeks in meeting

Reminder that there is a six week in meeting for our new reception parents on Thursday 18th October at 9.00 am in the school hall. We look forward to seeing you there.

Parent evenings

Monday 15th October- 3.30pm-5.15pm

Thursday 18th October- 3.30pm- 7.20pm

For parent evenings in Key Stage 2 (Year 3, 4, 5 and 6), the meeting with your child's teacher will take place in the hall. During the evening the 'waiting room' will be in Oak class (Miss Blake) for Year 3 and 4 or Beech class (Mr Pascoe) for Year 5 and 6. Your children's books will be available in these rooms while you are waiting. You will then be called into the hall according to your appointment time.

Key Stage 1 (Year 1 and 2) teacher meetings will take place in Willow class and the 'waiting room' will be in Maple Class. Your children's books will be in Maple class for you to look through while you are waiting.

Reception parents please wait in the Reception cloakroom and you will meet with your child's teacher in their classroom

Harvest Festival

Thank you for your kind donations to the Worthing Churches Homeless project given as part of our Harvest Festival. Well done to Maple, Willow and Chestnut class for their Harvest Festival celebration held at Broadwater Baptist Church.

Governors

I am very pleased to announce that the governors have appointed Peter Morrod and Mark Dibley as co- chairs of the governing body.

Attendance

As part of work to improve attendance, the governors have asked me to ensure that we comply with West Sussex guidance in relation to holiday requests in term time.

In order to comply with West Sussex guidance; where there have been at least 10 sessions of unauthorised absence from school within a recorded 10 school week period (a session means morning or afternoon i.e. one day= 2 sessions) a Fixed Penalty Notice referral will be made.

Please see West Sussex guidance below.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Holiday may only be taken during the school holiday (of which there are 175 days). Withdrawal from learning in term time may only be authorised by the Head teacher if they consider there are exceptional circumstances or medical issues. Unauthorised absence can lead to the issue of a fixed penalty notice.

Please see below further information regarding Fixed Penalty Notices.

Fixed Penalty Notices

Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN) are issued per parent, per child and are an alternative to prosecution, giving you an opportunity to discharge your criminal liability by paying a fine of £120, which must be paid within 28 days.

They are generally issued where there have been at least 10 sessions of unauthorised absence from school within a recorded 10 school week period. However, there are some occasions where they are issued outside of these criteria.

Please note, should the period of absence for a holiday in term time be 15 school days or more, a FPN may not be deemed suitable. Instead the matter may be brought directly before the Court.

After 28 days we will consider prosecuting for the original non-attendance, not for the non-payment of the FPN, however if you pay within 21 days we will reduce the fine to £60.

Jack on the Green

This half term some of our key stage 2 children have been making magical lanterns for an exciting, free event taking place at Beach House Park, Worthing on Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st October from 6pm to 8.30pm. 'Jack on the Green' will be an evening of lights and lanterns made by schools and the local community.

Come along to enjoy this lit trail around Beach House Park and you will experience the park in a whole new light!

Same Sky, who help us with our children's parade sculptures each year will be running free craft workshops on both days between 2pm and 4pm at Palm Court Pavilion. Everything made in the workshop will then form part of the trail, so come along to spot your own creation!



It is free entry into the event, with donations welcomed at the gate.

Local Offer

I wanted to make you aware of a very helpful West Sussex service available to support families of children with special educational needs or disabilities. The Local Offer site provides support, guidance and useful links to agencies. Please visit

<https://westsussex.local-offer.org/> . The site also offers guidance on issues such as sleep, health and behaviour and is well worth visiting if you need advice or help. There is a link on the school website Special Educational Needs section, which can be found in 'About us'.



Headlice

As there have been a few cases, we would ask you to check your child's head as soon as possible. Please follow the simple routine below to ensure you are doing all you can to keep head lice outbreaks to a minimum.

If your child has nits:

- Wash their hair and apply lots of conditioner. Do not rinse out
- Divide the hair into sections and comb from roots to ends, checking the hairline and crown very thoroughly
- Repeat the above every three days for two weeks
- Check the hair of every member in your family

An infestation will last for two weeks, even if you are thorough in your nit combing, so children will still need to attend school during this time.

If you need further advice, please contact

Your local pharmacy or GP

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.

E-Safety

Our website has advice on how to keep children safe online. Please go to 'About us'  E-Safety for more information.

Dates for your diary

Monday 15 th October	Parents Evening	3.30-5.15pm
Tuesday 16 th October	Last day to return flu consent	
Thursday 18 th October	EYFS 6 week in meeting	9.00am
	Parents Evening	3.30-7.20pm
Monday 22 nd October	Half term	
Monday 29 th October	Inset day	
Wednesday 31 st October	Individual & sibling photos	
Thursday 1 st November	PTA Monster Ball	Yrs R-2 5-6pm, Yrs 3-6 6.15-7.15pm
Friday 2 nd November	Flu vaccination	Yrs R-5
Tuesday 6 th November	New intake parents meeting	9.30am & 1.45pm
Friday 9 th November	New intake parents meeting	9.30am & 1.45pm
Friday 7 th December	Christmas Fair	3.30pm
Tuesday 11 th December	EYFS Christmas performance	2pm, Broadwater church
Wednesday 12 th December	KS1 Christmas performance	9.30, Broadwater church
	KS2 Carol concert	2pm, Broadwater church
Friday 14 th December	Christmas jumper day!	
Wednesday 19 th December	Break up for Christmas	

Best wishes



Mr G. Ward

Head teacher