

Whytemead Primary School
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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 week in meeting

Reminder that there is a six week in meeting for our new reception parents on Thursday 12th October at 9.00 am in the school hall. We look forward to seeing you there.

Year group meetings

Thank you to all the parents who came along our year group meetings this week. I hope you found them useful. If you were unable to make the meetings or need reminding of the key points the powerpoints are available on the school website in each year group section.

Parent evenings

Tuesday 10th October- 3.30pm-5.10pm

Thursday 12th October- 3.30pm- 7.10pm

We are introducing a new format for parent evenings in Key Stage 2 (Year 3, 4, 5 and 6). The meeting with your child's teacher will now 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) will remain the same and you will meet with your child's teacher in their classroom.

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

School Ambassadors

Congratulations to our Year 6 school Ambassadors. These children have been chosen to represent the children of Whytemead and be role models for them. Our new School Ambassadors are:

Kuaid, Harry E, Anna, Hashim, Madison B, Harry T and Rosie J.

House Captains

Our Year 5 House Captains are;

Goldfinch	Robins	Kingfishers	Woodpeckers
Thomas	Angel	Jaydan	Jada
Poppy	Fraser	Jessica F	George F

Congratulations to these children. I am a sure you will be great representatives for your House team.



Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 children now have access to Times Tables Rockstars. It's available as an app or online. Every child has a login and a password. It is a fantastic way for your children to practise their times tables at home and in school. Ask your child if they've got their login details and go to <https://trockstars.com/>.

Remember, by the end of Year 4, children need to be able to recall any times tables question (up to 12 x 12) within 3 seconds.

School Governors

Our chair of Governors, Lydia Oulds would like to give some information to Parents about the Governing body and has written the following message:

Let us introduce ourselves - we are the school governors. The body that meet regularly to set the objectives, policies and targets of the school; monitor and evaluate progress and to be a source of challenge and support.

We are friends of the school, but like all good friends we are ready with constructive criticism to make sure things are best for the children. We pop in to visit too - getting involved with activities and supporting events whenever we can.

Quite a number of us are parents but we don't stop there. We are drawn from the staff and the community as well.

My name is Lydia and I am the Chair. Professionally I am involved in finance and regulation; educationally, oddly given my work, I studied psychology and personally I am the proud parent of a very imaginative year four boy who loves Whytemead as much as I do.

I hope my skills can offer the school something but they would be nothing without the diversity of skills offered by the rest of the team.

Our members include the manager of an extremely successful nursery bringing early years expertise to the table; a graphic designer and former chair; a financial adviser; a sports enthusiast that is actively involved in promoting healthy activity for children in our local community; a human resources professional; an experienced teacher; an experienced learning support assistant and of course, a headteacher (no prizes for guessing his name).

Despite our infinite variety we all have one thing in common - we want the children of Whytemead Primary to be THE BEST THAT THEY CAN BE and we strive to be instrumental in making that happen.

Macmillan coffee afternoon

Huge thanks to everyone who supported this brilliant event organised by the Year 3/ 4 team. The event raised an amazing £160! Well done to everyone involved - bakers and eaters alike!

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'.



Parking

Hopefully you have seen our new signage about parking safely near the school. Thank you to the parents who do park considerately. The community Enforcement Officers will be patrolling the area regularly to look for inconsiderate and dangerous parking.



Allergies- An important 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 try and avoid products containing nuts in lunchboxes if your child is bringing a packed lunch.

Safeguarding-social media

It is really important to protect your children online and I would like to point you in the direction of Net aware run by the NSPCC

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk>. This is a useful guide to social media platforms and online games. You are able to type in the name of a game or social media platform and find out 'What you need to know' as well as other very important information.



Diary Dates

Tuesday 10 th October	Parents Evening 3.30-5pm	Book via school website
Tuesday 10 th October	EYFS 6 week in meeting	9am in school
Thursday 12 th October	Parents Evening 3.30-7pm	Book via school website
Monday 16 th October	EYFS visit to fire station	In school time
Thursday 19 th October	Monsters ball	Years 1-3 5-6pm, Years 4-6 6.15-7.15pm
Friday 20 th October	Yr 6 trip to London	Houses of Parliament
Monday 23 rd -Friday 27 th	Half term	
Monday 30 th October	Inset day	
Wednesday 1 st November	Individual school photos	In school time
Thursday 9 th & 16 th November	New intake parents meetings	9.30am & 1.30pm - contact office to book place
Tuesday 14 th November	Yr 3/4 trip to Butser Farm	
Friday 24 th November	Flu vaccinations EYFS-yr4	In school time
Thursday 30 th November	Yr 5 trip to London	British Museum

Best wishes



Gavin 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.