



## Friday 8th October 2021

October is Black History Month. I feel passionately about representation, inclusivity, and diversity throughout the curriculum. I believe that it is especially important in a location such as ours where we are not fortunate enough to have a wide range of cultures around us. This Black History Month, children from across the school will be learning about a range of inspirational people. Class 1 will look at why they are all unique and how everyone is special. Class 2 will be focusing on this in music lessons, looking at the work of Bob Marley and some British Black composers. Class 3 will find out more about Mae Carol Jemison - the first black woman to travel into space and in Class 4, the children will be learning about inspirational black athletes and will link their work to PE.

We look forward to sharing some of the work with you once it has been completed.

As you will know from letters sent home, we have had a few positive Covid cases over the last few weeks. We ask that you please continue to wear a mask on pick up and collection and use the one-way system. Despite the positive cases, we are pleased that things are a lot more 'normal' this term. The staff have been looking ahead and discussing events such as the Christmas fair, which we hope to be able to hold this year.

Mrs Hooper, Head of School

### Class 1

Class 1 this week have been looking at what makes them special and why they are unique. They have thought about what is special to them and how they stand out from the crowd. In phonics the Nursery children have been looking at different logos to see if they could recognise them and reception children have had their first story books. Maths there has been a lot of sorting and counting carefully.

### Class 2

It's been a great week celebrating Harvest in Class 2. We learnt our Harvest Rock and Roll song complete with our own actions, and created fabulous tissue paper fruit and vegetables in Art. We've written amazing expanded noun phrases in English, sorted materials in Science and done some great work on place value in Maths.  
Super work everyone!

### Class 3

Class 3 have had a great week learning about where the Anglo-Saxons settled in England and the differences between now and then. In science, we looked at vertebrates and invertebrates and designed our own animal, using our previous knowledge of how muscles work and how our skeleton add protections to our vital organs. In English, we are writing a non-chronological report on our dragon, using technical language and using our scientific knowledge of muscles and skeletons. In maths, we have been adding and subtracting using various methods and representations.

### Class 4

Well done Class 4 for another great week! We have started to recap column multiplication in Maths and are continuing to research and present facts about the Vikings in English. We are really enjoying the topic books from the Schools Library Service and are learning such a lot from them! We are continuing our brass lessons in Music and making great progress. Our netball skills have also improved hugely and we clearly have some great potential for our future school team!

### Important Upcoming Dates

- ◆ 12.10.21 & 13.10.21: Parent/Guardian Consultations via Teams Link
- ◆ 22.10.21: Year 1 Hearing Screening
- ◆ 12.11.21: Flu Vaccinations Reception to Year 6 pupils
- ◆ 19.10.21: Children In Need

### P.E days

We are still asking children to come dressed in their P.E kits on the days they have P.E:

**Monday: Class 3**

**Tuesday: Class 4**

**Thursday: Class 2**

**Friday: Class 1**

### Parent Consultations

**Bookings are now closed. If the times do not suit you then please just let us know and we will see what we can do.**

This year Parent/Guardian consultations will take place online via Teams.

**A Teams link will be sent to parents/guardians on Monday 11th October, please look for this in your emails.**

Once you have received this link, you will be waiting in a 'lobby' and the teacher will allow you in to your scheduled appointment.

If you do not have access to Arbor, please contact the school office on 01726 822274.

If you do have access to Arbor you can book appointment slots via your Arbor account.

### Early Start Club

Early Start Club is on offer before school from 8am. The club is run by Mrs O'Mahoney and must be booked online the week before. We currently charge a very reasonable £1 for the facility.

If you would like more information about Early Start Club then please speak to Mrs Dowd in the office.

### Volunteers

We are now in a position to welcome back volunteers.

Whether you are trying to gain experience to support you in job applications or you would just enjoy supporting us with the children, we would like to hear from you.

All volunteers must undertake a full induction and DBS check.

If you are interested, please just email [hello@whitemoor.org.uk](mailto:hello@whitemoor.org.uk)

### Sumdog Competition

Aspire Sumdog Competition begins on 8th-14th October.

Could all children log on as much as possible to see if we can be crowned Aspire champions.

This can be accessed via the child's Wonde page.

### Photos

All photos were taken on Thursday 7th October and were sent home with your child/ren.

Photo orders can be made via school by sending in your completed form within the envelope provided within 7 days from the date the photos were taken.

Or photos can be ordered online by following the instructions at the top of the order form.

## Term Dates 2021/2022

**25.10.21 to 29.10.21:** Autumn Half Term

**20.12.21 to 31.12.21:** Christmas Holidays

**03.01.22:** Bank Holiday

**04.01.22:** INSET Day (School Closed)

**05.01.22:** Children return to school

**18.02.22:** Aspire INSET Day (School Closed)

**21.02.22 to 25.02.22:** Spring Half Term

**11.04.22 to 22.04.22:** Easter Holidays

**02.05.22:** May Bank Holiday

**30.05.22 to 03.06.22:** Summer Half Term

**06.06.22:** INSET Day (School Closed)

**07.06.22:** Queen's Platinum Jubilee (School Closed)

**26.07.22:** Last day of term

## Accelerated Reader

We are pleased to have relaunched our Accelerated Reader reading programme in school this week. Accelerated Reader (AR) is used from children in Class 2—4 to assess and encourage reading. The system allows children to complete an online quiz on their reading book once they have finished it. It then highlights how well they are understanding the books they are reading. In addition, AR produces certificates for the children which will be awarded on Friday's in our whole school celebration assembly. We can also track each classes word count. **A big shout out to Charlie H in Class 3 who is currently in the lead having read a total of 129,102 words since the start of this academic year.** Amazing work!

## WAFA

We need your help! Our amazing Whitemoor Academy Friends Association (WAFA) folded at the end of last academic year.

With your help, we would like to reinstate it.

There will be a Teams meeting for interested volunteers in the coming weeks.

Please keep an eye out for more information.

## Attendance

### **Absence - Illness**

If your child is going to be absent from school due to illness, then please inform the office before 9am in the morning, and let us know why your child is going to be absent, and when you expect them to return. If your child is off for more than one day, we must still be informed each day of your child's absence until they return to school. **Sickness / Diarrhoea - Please keep your child off school for 48 hours**

### **COVID-19 Absence: Self-isolating rule**

From 16th August 2021 Individuals are **not** required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19, and any of the following apply:

- they are fully vaccinated
- they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months
- they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Instead, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. Please take a PCR test if advised to do so and remember, **PHE do NOT recommend the use of LFD tests on children under the age of 11 years.**

### **Medication**

The School cannot hold or administer any medication that has not been prescribed by a doctor.

If your child requires prescribed medication whilst attending school, then please see the office, as you will be required to fill out an 'administration of medicine' form.

If your child requires non prescribed medication whilst at school, then you are able to come to the office at the appropriate time to administer the medicine yourself.

## Head Teacher Awards



**Congratulations to the following children for achieving headteacher award this week:**



**Class 1: Olivia**

**Class 2: Amelia U**

**Class 3: Charlie H**

**Class 4: Layla T**

## Free Gardening Equipment for our School



Whitemoor Academy has registered with Morrisons supermarket to get free gardening equipment.

Parents/Guardians can support our school by spending £10 or more and you will get a Grow Token to donate to your chosen school. The school can then exchange the tokens for free gardening equipment.

For further details and to support our school, follow this link: [www.itsgoodtogrow.co.uk](http://www.itsgoodtogrow.co.uk)