



Friday 15th October 2021

Over the last two weeks, the staff at Whitemoor have been focused on developing the curriculum.

Our aim is to provide all children with a broad and vibrant curriculum that instils a love of learning for life. All of the teaching staff have attended network meetings for each of the different curriculum areas and are coming together in next week's staff meeting to discuss how we can improve our wider curriculum even further.

One area of the curriculum that took a hit during the pandemic was the opportunity to undertake fieldwork and plan class trips. This is something that we are excited to return to next half term. Keep an eye out for more information on this.

Thank you to all of the parents in Key Stage 2 who completed the survey to indicate interest in a residential trip for the summer term. We will keep you updated on our progress once we have something in place.

We have noticed a large number of children playing games or discussing acts that are directly referenced in the Netflix series 'Squid Game'. I realise that this may not mean that they have been watching the series but we are aware that some of the children are discussing the content of this series as if they have seen it. I want to make parents aware that 'Common Sense Media' rates the series a 16+ on their website. Within the drama, content is shown which is in no way suitable for our children. Some children have said that they have seen parts of the series on Youtube or Tik Tok so we please ask that you remain vigilant when your children have access to their devices. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Finally, we are delighted to inform you that we have registered for Pets As Therapy visits, which can help to give children opportunities to increase their confidence and sense of well-being. Over the next few months we will have Eddie, a very placid Border Terrier, visiting us each week. Eddie will be listening to children read in the school library but also will be visible around school on occasions.

We have a small number of places available for some children to have a weekly session with Eddie, under the close supervision of the PAT Dog's owner and a member of the school staff.

Eddie is a specially registered dog who normally visits hospitals, hospices, care homes etc. He will remain on the lead and under control at all times. A member of school staff will lead the sessions and will be present throughout.

If you have any concerns then please do let us know. A consent letter will be sent out to all parents of children who will be working with Eddie.

Mrs Hooper, Head of School

ParentPay Updates

Starting Monday 1st November parents/carers will be responsible for booking and paying for the following via ParentPay:

- ◆ Child/rens school lunches including Nursery children (**unless Free School Meals and/or Universal Infant Free School Meals entitled—no charges apply when booking**)
- ◆ Nursery sessions
- ◆ Early Start Club

It is important for parents/carers to activate their ParentPay account to use this facility, please contact school office if you require help on activating your account.

Our Autumn/Winter Menu will be emailed to you next week. This menu also will be on ParentPay for booking and paying. More information to follow next week.

Below is a link for parent guides on using ParentPay: [Parents - Get Started with ParentPay](#)

Class 1

This week in Class 1, the reception children have been working on our new sounds and now know 12 phonemes. The children have been working hard on using these to blend to begin their reading. All of class 1 have enjoyed getting ready for Halloween. We have decorated our role play areas to become spooky houses and even made magic wands. We are looking forward to more spooky learning next week.

Class 2

Class 2 have been enjoying their learning about The Little Red Boat in English; We have written super sentences and learnt to use commas in lists. In Maths, we have continued working on comparing numbers, we thought about properties to chose suitable materials for different jobs in Science, and learnt about the Muslim Shahadah in RE. We had great fun playing tennis in PE and sang some more transport songs in Music.
Well done, everyone!

Class 3

Class 3, have had great fun in English this week making up nonsense poems. In maths, we have been adding, subtracting and noticing patterns in numbers. In French, we are now able to ask and say our name. In P.E. we have been learning how to attack, defend and make use of space when playing hockey. As part of Black History Month, we have been learning about Mae Jemison, the first African American woman in space. We researched her incredible achievements and the impact that she has had on equality and diversity as well as inspiring children to literally 'reach for the stars'

Class 4

Another great week for class 4! In English we have written some fantastic Viking Kennings which we have then enjoyed sharing together. We have been getting to grips with division in maths and practicing times tables, and in history we have learned about what made the Vikings successful! We are continuing with our brass lessons during music and with perfecting our netball skills in PE.
Well done Class 4, you have all worked hard this week!

Important Upcoming Dates

- ◆ **22.10.21: Year 1 Hearing Screening & Non School Uniform day (see school council section below)**
- ◆ **12.11.21: Flu Vaccinations Reception to Year 6 pupils**
- ◆ **19.10.21: Children In Need**
- ◆ **07.12.21: Christmas Fair TBC**
- ◆ **13.12.21: Class 1 & 2 Christmas Performance**
- ◆ **14.12.21: Class 3 & 4 Christmas Performance**
- ◆ **15.12.21: Christmas Lunch**

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

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

Parent Consultations

Parents evenings - Thank you to all that attended.

If you have not yet had your appointment then please do contact us and we will do our best to accommodate you.

School Council/Non Uniform Day

Our School Council would like to invite all children to wear non-uniform on the last day of this half term (22nd October).

We ask that children all bring in a small donation that can be used for the Christmas fair.

This could include gifts that are in good condition for re-gifting, chocolate, toiletries, wrapping paper, sellotape etc.



**2K max
Off Road
Laps of the
Rec Ground**

**Children's
HALLOWEEN
Fun Run**

**Pumpkins
Welcome**

**Fancy Dress!
Hot Dogs**

**Sat 30th Oct
3.30pm In
The Rec Ground**

**£2
Race
entry fee**

The poster features a purple spiderweb in the top left corner with a purple spider hanging from it. In the center, there is a purple ghost with a wide, toothy grin. Below the ghost, there are five colorful, cartoonish ghosts in purple, pink, yellow, light blue, and green, all appearing to be running. The text is arranged in a festive, Halloween-themed layout.

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

Sumdog Competition

We were 44th overall in the Aspire Sumdog competition that took place this week.

Class 2 were victorious over classes 3 and 4, with Angus answering an impressive 97 questions correct.

Well done class 2!

WAFA

A Teams Meeting will be taking place on Thursday 21st October at 4:30pm.

Please click the link below to join if you are interested in joining WAFA.

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

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.**

Head Teacher Awards



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



Class 1: Percy D
Class 3: Isla G

Class 2: Elsie G
Class 4: Jenson C

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

YouTube 13+

Tips To Protect Your Child

APPLY 'RESTRICTED MODE'
Restricted mode helps to hide any mature or inappropriate videos from your children. It uses YouTube's own automated system & flags an error when seen. Flag any inappropriate content. It will be marked in the settings menu on each individual device.

CHANGE WHO CAN SEE VIDEOS
You can change who can view your child's content in the settings. Options include Public (available to all), Private (only available to people you share it with), & Unlisted (available to people you share it with & can be shared further).

BLOCK CONCERNING USERS
To help protect your child from cyber-bullying, harassment or grooming, you can block individual users. Doing so hides your child's videos from the user & stops the user from able contact your child by any means.

CUSTOMISE THEIR EXPERIENCE
Influence & control what your child watches using features such as: Playlists (your videos play continuously rather than videos YouTube recommends), & Subscriptions (you choose channels your child can watch). It's also good to have of sets play by toggling the filter button against the 'Up Next' title with the filter icon.

CREATE A 'FAMILY' GOOGLE ACCOUNT
Create a family account to be used by the whole family. This will allow you to monitor exactly what your child is watching, uploading & sharing. Plus, your child's YouTube page will display their recently watched videos, favourite, recommended & suggested channels.

GET YOUR OWN ACCOUNT
Create your own account so you can explore features privately. Learn how to keep inappropriate videos, how to moderate comments & how to block users. This will help you feel more confident when providing advice & guidance to your children.

BE MINDFUL OF CYBERBULLYING
Once your child has created a YouTube account, a world-class cyberbullying can occur. It's important to be aware of this, and to be able to check comments & any other interactions your child is making through the platform.

GET TO KNOW POPULAR CHANNELS
You need to know which channels are most popular with your children. Some of the most popular channels right now are: PewDiePie, T-Series, Dude Perfect, iJustine, Markiplier, Smosh, The Game Theorists, and more.

DON'T ASSUME YOUR CHILD IS TOO YOUNG
YouTube and YouTube Kids are quickly becoming the chosen viewing platforms for children. It's important to be aware of this, and to be able to check comments & any other interactions your child is making through the platform. It's also possible children will be able to interact with other users on the platform, so it's important to understand the positives & negatives of the platform.

What parents need to know about YOUTUBE

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT EASY TO ACCESS
Any child with a Gmail account can sign into YouTube & access videos. Some content is flagged 'age restricted' but the platform relies on self-verification, meaning kids can get around this with a false date of birth. This could enable access to vulgar, violent & dangerous videos.

USERS CAN PRIVATELY CONTACT YOUR CHILD
When your child is signed into YouTube with their Gmail account, there are various ways they can send & receive messages. This could be via the messaging icon, or the 'Report' tab. There is a toggle for users who your child does not know to make contact.

YOUTUBE SUGGESTS RELATED CONTENT
YouTube will often 'autoplay' videos based on your child's viewing habits. This can lead to them watching inappropriate content. Turn the 'Related videos' off in your child's settings. If it's possible your child will be exposed to inappropriate content that isn't accurately related.

'CHALLENGE VIDEOS' CAN GO TOO FAR
Challenge videos often feature your child encouraged to recreate a film. Many challenge videos can be harmless & fun for a great cause, like the #MeToo Challenge. But some are dangerous & even life-threatening, such as the #Dare Challenge.

SHARING VIDEOS RISKS YOUR CHILD'S PRIVACY
If your child has a Google account, they can upload their own videos. In this video, they must create a personal profile page known as a 'YouTube Channel'. The videos uploaded here can be viewed, commented on & shared by anyone. This could put your child's privacy at risk.

Meet our expert
Pete Smith is a writer with over 10 years of research and analysis. Working within a specialist area for the British Youth Crime Centre, Pete has contributed work which has been placed in various national newspapers & magazines. He is also a member of the National Crime Agency's Youth Crime Unit.

NOS National Online Safety #WakeUpWednesday

www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter: @nationalonlinesafety Facebook: /NationalOnlineSafety

YouTube Kids 4+

8 things parents need to know about YOUTUBE KIDS

1. SETTING UP
To get the YouTube Kids app you need to do the following:
1. Download the YouTube Kids app and connect your YouTube account.
2. Specify your child's Name, Age and Birth Date.
3. Check that you agree to the terms of the app based on the age you select when you set up.
4. If you choose to Approve Content, you will need to review the content that is recommended to be accepted or rejected. You can select the content that you want to see and the content that you don't want to see.
5. Once chosen you are ready to use the app.

2. USING THE APP
Based on how you have set it up your child can interact with the app to explore a safe set of videos. It's worth noting that YouTube Kids will only offer content that is appropriate for your child's age. If an inappropriate video appears you can report it. This not only helps YouTube but also helps other parents who use the YouTube Kids app as well.

3. ADVERTISEMENTS
As with television adverts, when your child watches YouTube Kids, they will see adverts. These are marked as 'Ad' and are placed by an advertiser. The types of advertisements and products are checked to follow YouTube's advertising policies which include things like food and beverages. However, there can be ads for other things included in videos directly by content creators. In these cases, you can remove ads from the YouTube Kids app. The only YouTube Kids advertising is for other YouTube Kids content. This can be useful if you have a long journey for take children.

4. SELECTING GREAT CONTENT
One of the best ways to ensure that your child is watching the right content is to select the content that you want to watch. This can be done by using the 'Up Next' list, the 'Watch History' list, the 'Watch Later' list, the 'Watched' list, and together with these choose the best watching content.

5. VIEWING TIME
This is a feature of the app that allows you to set a time limit for how long your child can watch the app. This is a feature of the app that allows you to set a time limit for how long your child can watch the app. This is a feature of the app that allows you to set a time limit for how long your child can watch the app.

6. RESTRICTIONS
As well as using the YouTube Kids app, you can also set up restrictions on other ways your family watches YouTube. Ensure you are logged in when using YouTube and YouTube Kids. You can also set up restrictions on other ways your family watches YouTube. Ensure you are logged in when using YouTube and YouTube Kids.

7. WATCHING TOGETHER
Another good way to keep YouTube watching positive is to spend time watching YouTube together. This can be done by using the 'Watch Together' feature. This allows you to watch YouTube together with your child. This is a feature of the app that allows you to watch YouTube together with your child.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS
For younger children you can use the YouTube Kids app to keep tabs on what they have been watching. This can be done by using the 'Watch History' feature. This allows you to see what your child has watched. This is a feature of the app that allows you to see what your child has watched.

Meet our expert
Andy Birtles is a parent of three children and a former teacher. He is a member of the National Crime Agency's Youth Crime Unit. He is also a member of the National Crime Agency's Youth Crime Unit.

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