

Whitchurch C of E Primary School

School Matters

24/10/25

Dear Parents,

The end of the first half term is here. It has been a busy but very enjoyable 8 weeks, that seems to have flown by. Hopefully, your children have shared with you lots of exciting things they have been learning about. Just this week, we have had a Stone Age workshop in for all of Year 3 and a group of Year 5 children walked up to Berehill and Wessex Lodge care homes too.

Thank you to all the FOWPS volunteers for organising the school discos on Thursday. I hope the children weren't too full of sugar and energy when they got home – thankfully it is INSET day today 😊.

I want to apologise for the delay in responding to the school survey around **homework**. We had a significant number of responses to read through and digest. Homework is always a subject which can divide parents. The vast majority of parents responded to say the amount of homework set for their child was appropriate and manageable. Although several parents felt there was too much, there were some that felt there was not enough. For us as a school it is important to find a healthy balance, where children and parents can manage the expectations of homework without it becoming overly burdensome and lead to children becoming disengaged or frustrated at home.

However, through our analysis, we have identified 1 number of ways we need to improve:

- Ensure consistency around how we set homework and respond to it, both through google classroom and in class acknowledgment
- Ensuring clear communication around what is expected from parents and children – especially being clear on what is optional. Please see attached breakdown for each class. Please note, all homework is optional until Year 5 and 6, and there are no consequences until then for not completing it.
- Ensuring paper copies are available for any families that request this – please speak with your class teacher to do so
- Homework to be differentiated or adapted where children may be struggling to complete it, eg maths journals set at a different level. If you feel your child's homework is too challenging, please speak with the class teacher so we can make adjustments.

Thank you once again for working with us and all of your support. After the excitement of the school disco, I hope you all have a wonderful October half term. We look forward to seeing you again when we return on Monday 3rd November.

All the best



Mr D Ware
Headteacher



Key Dates

New dates in yellow

- After half term – Lunches Week 1
- KS2 hot dog Fridays – the first Friday in school of every month
- Fri 24 October - Inset day
- Mon 3-Fri 7 November - Book look week (details to follow)
- Fri 7 November – second hand uniform sale in the small hall 3.30pm
- Wed 12 November – Whole school visit to All Hallows (helpers needed)
- Thu 13 November – Open Day for Sept 26 starters – 10-11am or 6-7pm (no need to book)
- Friday 21 November – Mufti Day (bring a bottle for FOWPS Christmas Fair)
- Mon 24-Fri 28 November - Year 6 Calshot trip
- Mon 1 December - Inset Day
- Tue 9 December – Puffins Nativity 9.30am
- Wed 10 December – Year 1 Nativity 2pm
- Thu 11 December – Pelicans Nativity 9.30am
- Thu 11 December – KS2 panto visit to school
- Fri 12 December – Year 1 Nativity 9.30am
- Fri 12 December – Christmas Fair 3.30-5.30pm
- Tue 16 December – Year 2 Nativity 9.30am
- Wed 17 December – Year 2 Nativity 2pm
- Mon 5 January – Inset day
- Wed 21 January – Year 5 Hampton Court
- Thu 12 February – Year 3 Fishbourne
- Fri 17 April – Year 1 Jungle Jonathan visiting
- Friday 22 May – Inset day
- Mon 15-Wed 17 June – Year 4 Ufton Court
- Thu 18 June – Class and group photos

Show Racism the Red Card – we raised £276 in school and doubtless more through online contributions – thank you all for your support.

A reminder to label all items of clothing, lunch boxes, bottles, shoes. Especially if you are buying new over the holiday.

Year R 2026 applications open on 1st November [Apply Here](#) Please don't miss the deadline in January!

Celebration

Year R Stars of the Week

Pelicans

Friday - Lucas
Monday - Emilia
Tuesday - Edith
Wednesday - KJ
Thursday - George

Puffins

Friday - Delilah
Monday - Nella
Tuesday - Theo
Wednesday - Grace
Thursday - Reuben

Lead Learners

Seahorses – Rafe & Harry
Turtles – Eloise
Dolphins – Freya
Seals – August
Jaguars – Lacey
Leopards – Oswyn
Pumas – Mattie
Tigers – Averly
Doves – James
Kingfishers – Esme W
Falcons – Georgia
Kestrels - Alex

Roll of Honour

Seahorses - Isobel
Turtles – Timothy
Dolphins – Harrison
Seals - Poppy
Jaguars – Thomas
Leopards - Ada
Pumas – Ava and India
Doves – Care home visitors
Kingfishers – Rowan & Jake
Year 5/6 netball team
Falcons – Holly
Kestrels – Flo and Riley

Focus Year – Year 6

This week, Year 6 have been proudly completing their final mixed-media artworks, showing great independence, technical skill, and creativity. Over the half term, they have carefully planned and created pieces that tell a story, using drawing techniques to express ideas with line, tone, proportion, perspective, and movement. Each child considered foreground, middle ground, and background, selecting media, surfaces, and scale to suit their personal style, resulting in vibrant, imaginative, and highly skilled finished artworks. We are delighted to share some photographs of their exemplary pieces in this week's newsletter.



Prayer:

Thank you, Jesus that you are so kind. You look after us and care for us.
Help us to be kind to each other. To lend a hand, an ear, a smile or a kind word. Amen

Flu Immunisations

If your child missed their flu immunisation and you would still like them to have it, access to the electronic e-consent will soon reopen and if you then submit a form, you will be invited to a community clinic. The community clinic will not be held at the school.

Additional Uniform Item

We have now added a wine-coloured logo zip up fleece to the uniform list, as an alternative to the logo jumper or logo cardigan. You can order them here [Skoolkit](#). PLEASE LABEL THEM!



Whitchurch Year 5/6 Netball Team Shine in First Match!

A huge congratulations to the Whitchurch Year 5/6 Netball team, who played exceptionally well in their very first game of the season against North Waltham, securing an impressive 5–2 victory! The team demonstrated fantastic teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship throughout the match. Every player gave their all, showing real dedication and enthusiasm. Well done to Pippa A, Flo F, Riley H, Robbie B, Alex K, Ella P, Mia E, Evie A, and Alex B for representing Whitchurch so brilliantly!





School School Fundraising with FOWPS

The Friends of Whitchurch Primary School or 'FOWPS' is your parent-teacher association. We are a registered charity whose mission is to enhance the educational experience and wellbeing of all the children at school. FOWPS funds initiatives that enrich school life – like providing sports, bringing in theatre performances, and so much more.

We bring together parents, teachers and children and raise funds through donations, sponsored events and activities to strengthen our school community. The committee is made up of volunteer parents and we continue to explore different ways to raise funds, as well as provide fun and exciting events and opportunities for Whitchurch CofE Primary School children, their families and friends to get involved in.

Upcoming FOWPS events

Second Hand Uniform Sale – Friday 7 November – 3.30pm – Small Hall. As well as uniform, we will have coats and shoes available. We are very happy to receive donations of school jumpers and cardigans at the sale, but we are at capacity for other types of uniform and won't need anything else for the time being.

Mufti Day – Friday 21 November – Bring a bottle for the Christmas Fair

FOWPS Christmas Fair – Friday 12 December – 3.30-5.30pm

More info

Want to keep up to date with FOWPS? Find out more at our website www.fowpswhitchurch.co.uk or follow [FOWPS on Facebook](#) or the [FOWPS channel on WhatsApp](#)

If you would like to help with any FOWPS activities – please enter your details [HERE](#) or we have a WhatsApp channel for volunteers [HERE](#). You can do as much or as little as you like – even an hour or two could help.

If you can regularly donate or match fund, please see the details on our [HOW TO DONATE PAGE](#)

You can also email us at admin@fowpswhitchurch.co.uk

GLURBS

LANGUAGE LEARNING MADE SIMPLE

Completely safe, ad-free and designed by the specialists at Language Angels for children to learn and play independently in a way parents can trust.

- ★ It's not just fun, it's effective - from first word to fluency.
- ★ The more you play, the more you learn!
- ★ Boosts memory, creativity & communication.

HOW TO GET AN ENTIRE YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION FOR JUST £1.99:

1. Register a new account
2. Go to 'Settings'
3. Tap LAOFR25

ON MOBILE? [CLICK HERE](#)