

Whitchurch C of E Primary School

School Matters

09/01/26

Dear Parents,

Welcome back and a happy new year to you all. I hope your children have enjoyed returning to school and getting back into routines. Hopefully you have been trying one of the following questions with your children to engage them in reflecting on their day.

- 1) What was the best part of your day?
- 2) What mistake did you learn from today?
- 3) Who were you proud of today and why?
- 4) What one thing could you have done better today?
- 5) Who did you help today?
- 6) What was the most interesting thing you learned today?
- 7) What is something new you want to try tomorrow?

In worship this half term, we will be focusing on our school value of RESPECT. On Tuesday, I spoke to the children about new year resolutions, and this year I asked them to think of a way they could show respect in their lives and to try to turn this into a habit. This could take on many forms, for example: being kind and caring to others, offering to help tidy up, showing appropriate manners, listening to others and following instructions, looking after school resources or things at home, or taking care of the environment. Can you discuss this with your child at home, and help hold them to account for the challenge they have set themselves? See if they can continue to turn their resolution into a habit both at home and at school.

We may have had all the snow we will see for this year, but if it returns again this term, please ensure your child wears appropriate clothing and footwear to be able to go outside. If all children have their own boots/wellies in school, we will hopefully be able to take children outside in smaller groups if it is safe to do so.

Thank you for all the offers to join the new Parent Forum, I now have enough volunteers and will send out further information to these individuals in due course. We are also still looking for donations of resources for our OPAL provision. Please see the information flyer in this newsletter.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Have a good weekend.



Mr D Ware
Headteacher



Key Dates

New dates in yellow

Next Week – Lunches Week 2

KS2 hot dog Fridays – the first Friday in school of every month

Thu 15 January – change to lunch (see below)

Wed 21 January – Year 5 Hampton Court

Thu 12 February – Year 3 Fishbourne

Thu 12 February – FOWPS Disco

Fri 27 February – Second Hand Uniform Sale 3.30pm Small Hall

Thu 5 March – World Book Day

Fri 17 April – Year 1 Jungle Jonathan visiting

Thu 14 May – Year 5 theatre visit

Thu 21 May – FOWPS Disco

Friday 22 May – Inset day

Wed 10 June – Sports Day

Thu 11 June – Year 6 Natural History Museum

Mon 15-Wed 17 June – Year 4 Ufton Court

Thu 18 June – Class and group photos

Tue 23 June – Year 6 Winchester Cathedral

Tue 30 June – Year 5 Taster Day at Testbourne

Wed 1 July – Reserve Sports Day

Mon 13 July – Year 6 Testbourne Transition Day

Year R 2026 applications opened on 1st November [Apply Here](#)

Please don't miss the deadline of this coming Thursday **15th January (change to date)**. Please check with friends and neighbours to see if they've applied.

Thank you.

Celebration

Year R Stars of the Week

Pelicans

Monday – INSET Day

Tuesday – Ellis

Wednesday – Oliver

Thursday – Evie

Puffins

Monday – INSET Day

Tuesday – Nella

Wednesday – Archer

Thursday – George

Lead Learners

Seahorses – Harriet

Turtles – Willow

Dolphins – Joshua

Seals – Ava

Jaguars – Evelyn

Leopards – Alex G

Pumas – Dorothy

Tigers – Chloe

Doves – Ffion

Kingfishers – Megan

Falcons – Clayton

Kestrels – Christa

Roll of Honour

Raising Issues or Concerns

The following process is best used for parents needing to contact the school with an issue or concern:

1. If the issue is a quick handover of information, eg my child forgot their PE kit today or they had a sleepless night so might be tired today. This can be handed over at the door to an adult in the morning. In most cases across the school, LSAs greet children at the door, whilst teachers are in the classroom settling children onto early morning tasks.
2. If your communication needs to be longer, eg is about a behaviour incident, academic concern or just requires a longer conversation this should be handled via a request for a phone call or meeting with the class teacher. Please do not have this conversation at the door. The primary role of adults on the door in the morning is to meet and greet children into the school, they cannot do this if they are engaged in a long conversation with a parent. Please arrange a meeting or speak with a member of SLT on the gate.
3. To arrange a discussion with the class teacher, either email the phase leader email, or admin office. This will be passed to the class teacher who will be in touch.
4. If you feel you have already explored this issue with the class teacher and would like to raise it further, then please contact the phase leaders via their email address (available on our website under Our School/Contact Details).
5. Finally, if you still feel your issue is unresolved, please contact the office for Mr May, Mrs Dunwell or Mr Ware to contact you.

Dear God, Heavenly Father, Thank You for the gift of a new year and fresh opportunities. Help us to start well, making choices that show respect for ourselves and others. Give us strength to keep our promises and courage to try again when we make mistakes. May our words and actions bring kindness and peace to our school community. Amen.

House Points



House Point winners this week are Endurance, well done children!

School Lunches – Thursday 15th January

Thursday 15th January is our Spring School Census day. The number of school lunches chosen by the children in Years R, 1 and 2 is one part of how the budget is calculated. Therefore, please can we ask that as many children as possible in these year groups choose a school lunch on Thursday. At present, lunches are free for all children until they start Year 3. The choices for all year groups will be:

Red – pork bockwurst hot dog with potato wedges, or

Green – macaroni cheese

Yellow – tomato pasta

Orange – cheese jacket potato

with veg of the day

followed by popping candy brownie, jelly or fruit



School Fundraising with FOWPS

Second Hand Uniform Sale – Friday 27th February

More info

Want to keep up to date with FOWPS and our fundraising activities which are designed to enrich school life? Follow <https://www.facebook.com/F.O.W.P.S/> or the [FOWPS channel on WhatsApp](#). You can also email us at admin@fowpswhitchurch.co.uk



Whitchurch CofE Primary School recognises that the welfare of the child is paramount and takes seriously its responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of the children and young people in its care. The Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mr David Ware and the Deputy DSLs are Mrs Michelle Dunwell, Mr David May and Mrs Emma Cooke. The Designated Safeguarding Leads can be contacted through the school office on 01256 892755 or email to adminoffice@whitchurch.hants.sch.uk marked for the attention of one of the safeguarding leads.

School Nurse Clinic
On Tuesday 20th January
Starting at 8.45am



Open to all parents!



Our School Nurse Michelle will be running a 1:1 clinic for parents to offer advice and signposting. The 30 minute sessions will be running at: 8.45am, 9.15am, 9.45am, 10.15am, 10.45am and 11.15am.

The School Nursing Team can help with all kinds of things such as:

Please email our Family Link Worker Mrs Cooke at e.cooke@whitchurch.hants.sch.uk if you would like to book a 1:1 slot with Michelle on 20.01.26 stating your preferred time slot.

WE NEED MORE OPAL PLAY EQUIPMENT!

The School has asked for some play equipment so if you want to, you can give the school the following things. Thank you. :)

- Lego
- Fancy dress costumes
- Toy cars, Toy dinosaurs and Play dolls
- Any spare kitchen equipment (no cutlery)
- Skipping ropes
- Bean bags
- Hula-hoops
- Any figits
- Any sandpit tools
- Watering cans
- Any beach toys
- Laundry baskets or just baskets
- Wooden or plastic building blocks
- Wooden planks
- Cardboard tubes
- Action figures
- Cones and barriers
- Aprons
- Chalk
- Plastic crates
- Empty cereal boxes

From Jack

Whitchurch Town Council Newsletter



FEBRUARY HALF TERM HOLIDAYCAMPS

Monday 16th - Friday 21st February 2025

AGE: 5 - 12 Years

VENUES

BASINGSTOKE SOCCER CENTRE RG22 4HS 9am - 5pm	TESTBOURNE SCHOOL RG28 7JF 9am - 4pm	THE HURST SCHOOL RG26 5NL 9am - 4pm	VIGO SCHOOL SP10 1JZ 9am-3.30pm
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Prices from £35 per day or FULL week from ONLY £150

EARLY BIRD OFFER:
FULL WEEK FOR ONLY £145
 * Must be booked and paid by 31st January.

We are OFSTED registered and our camps have been thoroughly risk assessed to ensure that we are creating a fun and safe environment for your children to enjoy. Our coaches are fully qualified and DBS checked.

BOOK NOW! www.goleliteprocoaching.co.uk



Whitchurch Town Council

ANNUAL COMMUNITY AWARDS

These Awards were the brainchild of the late Cllr. Peter Pelling. His intention was to honour those who work voluntarily for the good of our local community, or who inspire others through their achievements. The first Ceremony was held in 1994.

The closing date for this year's awards is 31 January 2026.

If you know of someone, or a group of people who, without financial gain and by their selfless actions, benefit local individuals or the Community as a whole, please let the Town Council know. There is also a special Youth Award which is given to young people who have achieved or inspired others in the course of their activities.

You can make your nominations to the Town Clerk

- (i) by e-mail: townclerk@whitchurch-hampshire-tc.gov.uk
- (ii) in writing to: The Town Clerk, Town Hall, Newbury Street, Whitchurch RG28 7DW.

If more than six nominations are received, an independent committee will be convened to consider the submissions. In order to assist the members in their difficult choice, they need to have specific information which can also be used to prepare the citation read out at the Awards Ceremony. Nominations should provide:

- The nominator's name and contact details
- Each nominee's name, address and ideally an email address
- Information with dates where appropriate, about the person(s) and why they deserve an award. Only information provided by the nominator will be used to prepare the citation which will be read out at the Award Ceremony so plenty of detail is always appreciated.

Insufficient information may result in the nomination being turned down.

Your nomination will be acknowledged, but the names of those selected to receive the Award will not be released until the Award Ceremony, which will be during the Annual Town Assembly on Thursday 26 March 2026.