

Whitchurch C of E Primary School

School Matters

20/03/26

Dear Parents,

Today you will have received separate communications about our healthy school and snack policy, as well as attendance policy and guidance. Please do take time to read through these and ensure you understand what is expected at Whitchurch.

OPAL Update

It has been lovely weather this week, long may that continue. We have recently been increasing the range of resources our children have to play with on the playground at break and lunch. Play is a vital part of child development. Children spend on average 1/5 of their primary school time at 'play'. At Whitchurch, we are regularly seeking ways to improve our play and have been part of OPAL for the past few years. OPAL is franchised company – where annual subscription and training is needed to maintain the title of OPAL. There are various aspects we must provide as a school to retain OPAL status. Although we have significantly improved our outside offer, we have not met all the thresholds, and as such will no longer use the phrase OPAL to describe our playtimes. We will not stop providing any of the things we currently offer. In fact we plan to increase what we provide on the playground to further enrich our playtimes. We may well consider accreditation through OPAL in the future.

Ambling Path

With the warm weather finally here, I wanted to share the following website with you – which details numerous FREE family walks and bike rides. Getting outside, away from technology and screens, has significant benefits for our mental health and brain development. I encourage you all to find new walks and new playparks to explore this Easter time.

[The Ambling Path - Family Friendly Walks - Family Walks Hampshire, West Sussex, Surrey](#)

Arbor

Please can all parents log in to Arbor and check that information we hold on you and your child is up to date and accurate. This includes, your phone numbers, address details (for you and your child), priority contact list of adults, any medical information including diagnosis.

Bikes and Scooters

It is great to see so many children travelling to school in a variety of ways. However, we have had several near misses in the centre of town and outside the school. Please speak to your children about road safety for their journey to school. Remind them to check both ways before crossing any road and look out for pedestrians. Additionally, please remind them that scooters and bikes should not be ridden on school grounds, including the playgrounds before or after school.

Thank you for your ongoing support, I hope you have a lovely 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

Tue 24 March – Y4 Production 2pm

Wed 25 March – Choir Performance at the Anvil

Thu 26 March – Y4 Production 6pm

Fri 17 April – Year 1 Jungle Jonathan visiting

Thu 14 May – Year 5 theatre visit

Sun 17 May – Whitchurch 5K

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

Fri 26 June – Year R Wellington Country Park trip

Tue 30 June – Year 5 Taster Day at Testbourne

Wed 1 July – Reserve Sports Day

Sat 11 July – Parish Fete at the school

Mon 13 July – Year 6 Testbourne Transition Day

[School holiday dates | Education and learning | Hampshire County Council](#)

Forest Church this Sunday

Join All Hallows in the Millennium Meadow on Sunday 22nd March at 4 o'clock. We can meet with God through our five senses and taste yummy food shared in fellowship.

Children, please bring your adults!

Celebration

Year R Stars of the Week

Pelicans

Friday – Flo

Monday – Freya

Tuesday – Eleri

Wednesday – Reuben

Thursday – Gian

Puffins

Friday – Reuben

Monday – Oliver

Tuesday – Arietta

Wednesday – Archer

Thursday – Jj

Lead Learners

Seahorses – Ted

Turtles – Ella

Dolphins – Oliver

Seals – Ava

Jaguars – Bella

Leopards – Annabelle

Pumas – Amber

Tigers – Lily

Doves – Delilah

Kingfishers – Ollie

Falcons – Frankie

Kestrels – Alex

Roll of Honour

No Roll of Honour this week.

Focus – Year 5

This week Year 5 had their Café event. The children were fantastic hosts and chefs!

We made our pizza, including dough from scratch after practising the week before, perfecting our dough rolling and cutting skills.

Thank you to all of the families who attended and supported the children with this. It was an amazing atmosphere.



Dear God, Thank you for the special time of Easter. Please help us to put others first, to treat everyone as equals and to love others as you love us. Amen.

House Points



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

Half Term House Point Winners



Endurance collected the most house points this half term. The children in Endurance House may come to school dressed in non-uniform on Friday 27th March. Parents of children in this house will receive an email.

Communication from Simon Bryant, Director of Public Health, Hampshire County Council

You will have seen in the media reports of a meningococcal disease outbreak in Kent in which schools and the university have been involved. Understandably, this will cause concern in Hampshire, and students and staff may be feeling worried about the risk of this disease. The UK Health Security Agency is following up each case in the Kent outbreak and will contact schools and universities linked to the outbreak directly. If you have not been contacted there is nothing additional that you need to do. Meningococcal disease does not spread easily, and outbreaks of this size are rare. Staff and students should continue to attend education settings as normal unless directly advised otherwise by the local health protection team. For more information, including symptoms of meningococcal disease, visit the NHS website <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/meningitis/> or see the information available The Meningitis Research Foundation www.meningitis.org



School Fundraising with FOWPS

Easter activity coming up, Whitchurch 5K and Parish Fete

The FOWPS team will be offering an egg-stra, fun, free activity for you and the family to crack over the Easter holidays – keep an eye out for more details next week. It's no yolk!

Also, don't forget to enter the new Whitchurch 5K run on Sunday 17 May. The race is open to adults of all abilities, and on the same morning, there will also be a fun run for children on the school field as well as free kids activities. Registration details available here: fowpswhitchurch.co.uk/run

Finally, it may seem a long way in the future but the Whitchurch Parish Fete returns to the school grounds on Saturday 11 July. The fete team are now taking bookings for stalls so if you, or someone you know, runs a small business, charitable organisation, craft venture or local club or society, then it would be great to have you on board and we'd love to hear from you! Take a look at fowpswhitchurch.co.uk/fete for more information.

More info

Find out more by following [FOWPS on Facebook](#) or sign up for updates on the [FOWPS channel on WhatsApp](#). You can also email us at admin@fowpswhitchurch.co.uk

Cleaner Supervisor and Cleaner Vacancies

We have vacancies at school for an evening Cleaning Supervisor and a Cleaner, Monday to Friday 15:45 to 18:15. if you are interested in keeping our school clean and welcoming for our pupils, please call Paula Crowe, Atlas Cleaning, on 07984 114233 or apply via Atlas Cleaning on the links below.

[Cleaning supervisor advert](#)

[Cleaner Advert](#)



Easter Holiday Crafts

Whitchurch Library
Monday March 30
at 3pm

£2 per child

Book online: shop.hants.gov.uk/collections/library-events



FACE April 2026 Timetable
All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long
£24 each or FREE with School Membership
Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk
Recordings available for 48 hours

Understanding Anger	6 April 10am
School Anxiety	6 April 7pm
Facing Defiance	7 April 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	7 April 7pm
Anxiety Explained	13 April 10am
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	13 April 7pm
Introduction to OCD	14 April 10am
What is ACT?	14 April 7pm
Decreasing Depression	20 April 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	20 April 7pm
Understanding the Teenage Brain	21 April 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	21 April 7pm
FREE Decreasing Depression	23 April 7-8pm
Improving Family Communication	27 April 10am
Autism: Improving Communication	27 April 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	28 April 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	28 April 7pm



1878
Out of School Club

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

At Testbourne School
COVERING WHITCHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL

WALKING BUS FROM SCHOOL TO CLUB

OPEN UNTIL 6PM

FROM **£15.00** PER SESSION

ARTS AND CRAFTS, GROUP GAMES, SPORTS, FREE PLAY CHOICES

FOR BOOKINGS AND ENQUIRIES
ISISCLUB@AOL.COM
07516828567/07516209578

LIGHT SNACK INCLUDED

OFSTED REGISTERED: 2859781



Scouts

EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA FUN DAY!

SATURDAY 21ST MARCH
MIDDAY-3PM
£2 ENTRY*

EASTER TRAILS FOR ALL AGES!
FUN GAMES & STALLS!
BBQ & REFRESHMENTS

TOMBOLA!
ARTS & CRAFTS
VISIT FROM THE EASTER BUNNY!

SATURDAY 21ST MARCH
AT THE SCOUT HUT, BERE HILL, WHITCHURCH
*Entry £2 - includes Easter Trail with guaranteed prize for all entrants

MIDDAY-3PM
LOTS OF FUN ACTIVITIES FOR ALL THE FAMILY TO ENJOY!

POLSKA 2027
World Scout Jamboree Scoutspirit

Project 27 Hampshire and Isle of Wight Scouts - America 2027