Whitchurch C of E Primary School

School Matters

11/09/26

Welcome back! I hope you all had a wonderful summer break. It has been lovely to see familiar faces and welcome everyone back to school. The children have settled in brilliantly and have enjoyed a positive and productive first week, including our first whole-school worship today.

A warm welcome to our new Year R children, who have made a fantastic start, and to all families joining Whitchurch. Starting somewhere new can feel daunting, but we hope you will quickly feel part of our school community. It may feel like a long way off, but if you have children set to join in September 2027, please add 4th November to your calendar. We have our open day, with a talk in the hall followed by a tour of the school. There are two sessions, 10am and 6pm. No need to book, please just turn up, and children are welcome.

Thank you for your patience this week as we adapt to changes at drop-off and pick-up times. The arrival of Rising Fives Pre-School and classroom moves for Years 2 and 3 have increased congestion around some gates. In addition, the Year R outdoor area is now closed before school so staff can prepare learning activities ready for the children's arrival.

We appreciate these changes have caused some delays, but we are monitoring arrangements closely and adjusting where needed. The first few days of term are always particularly busy, and we hope this morning's drop-off felt a little smoother.

Google Classroom is almost set up and you should be receiving invitations to join the classes. Teachers will be posting weekly updates on the class pages so please do have a read of these and leave an emoji or short comment to let them know you have seen it. Year group classes will be set up soon and you will receive invitations to those too. Year R, you will receive logins next week, but in the meantime, you will receive information via email instead.

Please can I give a gentle reminder that we are now a Smart Phone free school. No child should be bringing a smart phone or smart watch onto the school site. Should a child need a phone to walk to or from school, these should be 'brick phones' or similar watches (no internet capability) and be handed into the class teacher at registration (Year 5 and 6 only). Year 5 and 6 have permission forms for you to sign, so if your child wishes to bring these to school, please ask them to collect one.

As previously mentioned, we are looking to collect parent views on potential new school values. Please find attached a survey. This closes on Monday 21st September. Please can all parents spare 5 minutes to complete it.
New Values – Fill in form

Kind regards,



Mr D Ware
Headteacher

Phase Leader and SEN Contacts

EYFS Lead - Mrs Wersby - **YearR@whitchurch.hants.sch.uk**
KS1 Lead – Mrs Meade - **Year1and2@whitchurch.hants.sch.uk**
LKS2 Lead – Mrs Glynn - **Year3and4@whitchurch.hants.sch.uk**
UKS2 Lead – Mr Rutledge - **Year5and6@whitchurch.hants.sch.uk**
AHT Inclusion Lead – Mr May - **Senco@whitchurch.hants.sch.uk**

Key Dates

New dates in yellow
Lunches next week – Week 3
KS2 hot dog Fridays – the first Friday in **school of every month**
Tue 22 September – Year R Phonics and Reading Information Evening 6pm
Thu 24 September – FOWPS AGM
Thu 1 October – Whole school flu sprays (info to follow)
Fri 2 October – INSET Day
Wed 7 October – individual photos
12-15 October – Parent consultations (info to follow)
Thu 22 October – FOWPS School Disco
Wk beg 9 November – book looks
23-27 November – Y6 Calshot
Fri 12 February 27 – INSET Day
Fri 16 April – Year 1 visit from Jungle Jonathan
Fri 28 May 27 – INSET Day
School holiday dates | Education and learning | Hampshire County Council

Celebration

Year R Stars of the Week

Will begin next week.

Lead Learners

Seahorses – Tommy
Turtles – Gian
Dolphins – Pearl
Seals – Paxton
Jaguars – Joseph
Leopards – Oliver
Pumas – Ben
Tigers – Elsie
Doves – Nova
Kingfishers – Aoife
Eagles – Ffion
Kestrels – Rowan

Roll of Honour

Seahorses - Lilian
Jaguars – Harvey
Pumas - Jesse
Kingfishers – Amber

House Points

House points will recommence next week.

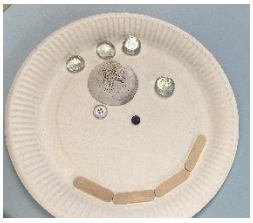
Focus Year Group – Year R

We have had a wonderful first week welcoming the children and their families into school. It has been lovely to see so many smiling faces and such enthusiasm as the children come through the doors each day, ready to see their friends, make new ones, and begin their exciting learning journey.

This week, we have focused on settling into our new routines, exploring our classrooms and outdoor learning areas, and learning about what makes each of us unique and special. The children have embraced these experiences with confidence and curiosity, and we are so proud of how well they have settled in.








Dear God, Please help us to remember that we are all important in our school community, that we each matter. Help us to be thankful for each other as we come together again and learn to live as one community.

Achievement
Following a successful trial period, Matilda from Doves was recently accepted into AFC Bournemouth girls football team for the upcoming season! Fingers crossed with lots of hard work she will continue through the ages and into a full pro contract when she is of age!

Congratulations Matilda!

All Hallows Pet Service - Sunday 13th September
What do a sheep, goat, cow, lion, bear, wolf, jackal, dove, raven, snake, locust and ant have in common?
They all appear in the Bible!
God gave all these creatures breath of life - Psalm 150 says "Let everything that has breath, praise the Lord!"
Do you have a snake, goat, cow or wolf at home? Bring them along to All Hallows Pet Service this Sunday 13th September at 10.30am.
All other pets are welcome! Please bring your dogs on a lead and all other pets must be in secure cages.

School Fundraising with FOWPS

Welcome back from FOWPS
Guess who's back? It's the Friends of Whitchurch Primary School (FOWPS) and we hope you all had a wonderful summer break! We're super excited to welcome back our returning families to a new school year and extend a warm hello to all of the new parents and carers joining the Whitchurch Primary School community.
Thanks to your incredible support, event attendance, and fundraising efforts last academic year, we were able to contribute more than £17,000 directly back into the school. We've got a great programme of activities coming up this year, with the return of some favourites and also some new contenders for the calendar – watch this space!
We are already hitting the ground running with a few things on in the next couple of months:

- **FOWPS AGM, Thursday 24 September** – Come along to hear about our plans, share ideas, or see how you can get involved.
- **FOWPS School Disco, Thursday 22 October** – Details on timings and tickets will follow soon.

FOWPS is run entirely by parent and staff volunteers, and every penny raised goes directly toward enhancing our children's school experience. Whether you can give an hour at an event, help behind the scenes, or simply come along and enjoy the fun, every bit of support makes a huge difference. For more information, please check out https://fowpswhitchurch.co.uk.
We wish all the children a fantastic start to the new term, and we look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events!

Thank you for your support.

Have a lovely weekend – FOWPS PTA

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.


WHITCHURCH YOUTH PROJECT
Y@H
YOUTH CLUB
£1 ENTRY
AGES 10-14
@ THE GILL NETHERCOTT CENTRE
FRIDAYS 7.30 - 9.30PM
MEMBERSHIP FORM:
POOL TABLE AIR HOCKEY
TABLE FOOTBALL TUCK SHOP
BOARD GAMES MILKSHAKES
GAMES CONSOLES ICE CREAMS


overton RUGBY
MINIS RUGBY
STARTS SUNDAY
13TH SEPTEMBER
From 09:00am
Ages: Year R-Year 6
3 weeks free trial!
All welcome!
For more info email us at:
overtonrugbyminis@gmail.com
Overton RFC
Oddball lane
Freefolk
RG28 7NU
GRASS ROOTS RUGBY AT ITS BEST