Whitchurch C of E Primary School

School Matters

25/09/26

Dear Parents,

This week in worship, we have been exploring the theme of teamwork and thinking about how much more we can achieve when we work together, support one another and consider the feelings and needs of others. We discussed how this applies in many areas of life, including being part of a sports team or an orchestra, where every individual plays an important role in helping the group succeed.

We also linked this theme to the story of the Good Shepherd from the Bible, reflecting on the importance of **valuing one another, showing kindness and compassion**, and recognising that sometimes we need to put the needs of others before our own. These are important messages that underpin both our school community and our Christian values.

Following on from this theme, we will be celebrating **Harvest** next week. We would be grateful if all children could bring in a food donation to support those in need within our local community. Suitable donations include non-perishable items such as dried pasta, rice, cereal, tinned food and long-life goods. Throughout the week, the children will be learning about the significance of Harvest and considering how small acts of generosity can make a big difference to others. We will conclude our celebrations on Friday by delivering the donated items to the Andover Food Bank, helping to support local families who may be experiencing hardship.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our recent survey regarding our **school values**. Your views and feedback are incredibly important to us, and many of the comments received will help to shape the values that define our school community. As a reminder, the values themselves will be represented by individual words, while the descriptions shared in the survey are intended to help explain their meaning and make them accessible for our children. Our next step is to work alongside the children to gather their thoughts and perspectives before finalising the values. We will, of course, keep you updated on our progress.

Online Safety

As part of our online safety subscription, we are pleased to offer parents a FREE online safety session on Wednesday 30th September 2026 from 4:00pm to 4:45pm. This session will provide helpful advice and guidance on keeping children safe online and navigating the digital world with confidence.

There is no need to sign up in advance. Simply join the session by clicking here.

Finally, a reminder that next Friday is an INSET Day, and the school will be closed to pupils.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I hope you all have a wonderful and restful weekend.

Kind regards,



Mr D Ware
Headteacher

Key Dates

New dates in yellow

Lunches next week – Week 2
KS2 hot dog Fridays – the first Friday in school of every month
Thu 1 October – Lunch is quorn nuggets or fish fingers (due to the Inset Day on Friday)
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

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**

Celebration

Year R Stars of the Week

Pelicans

Friday - Poppy
Monday – Zarah
Tuesday – Mayah
Wednesday – Leo
Thursday – Annie

Puffins

Friday – Rosie
Monday – Amelia
Tuesday – Elliott
Wednesday – Felicity
Thursday – Thomas

Lead Learners

Seahorses – Sylvie
Turtles – Ophelia
Dolphins – Rafe
Seals – Eloise
Jaguars – Evie
Leopards – Lucas
Pumas – Alex G
Tigers – Demi
Doves – Ricky
Kingfishers – Mabel
Eagles – Oscar
Kestrels – Alex

Roll of Honour

Jaguars - Daisy
Pumas – Oscar
Tigers – Lorna

Focus Year Group – Year 2

This week in RE, Year 2 have been exploring the importance of gratitude and thinking about the many things they are thankful for. We discussed why people show gratitude and the different ways we can express our thanks to others. The children reflected on someone special in their lives and considered why they were grateful to them. They then created thoughtful thank you cards to share their appreciation and kindness with that person.









Dear God, Thank you for the example of Jesus, the Good Shepherd. Help us to care for one another, support each other and work together as a school family. When our goals feel difficult, give us courage to keep going. Help us to encourage those around us and never leave anyone behind. May we grow in kindness, friendship and teamwork each day. Amen.

Co-op Funeral Care Pumpkin Colouring Competition
Some of you may remember colouring Easter eggs for their last competition.
You will find the template at the end of this newsletter.
Once your children have coloured them in, put their first name, surname initial and class name on the reverse and hand them to your child's teacher. They will be displayed in their window and they will judge the winners to give out prizes in worship nearer the time.

School Fundraising with FOWPS

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.

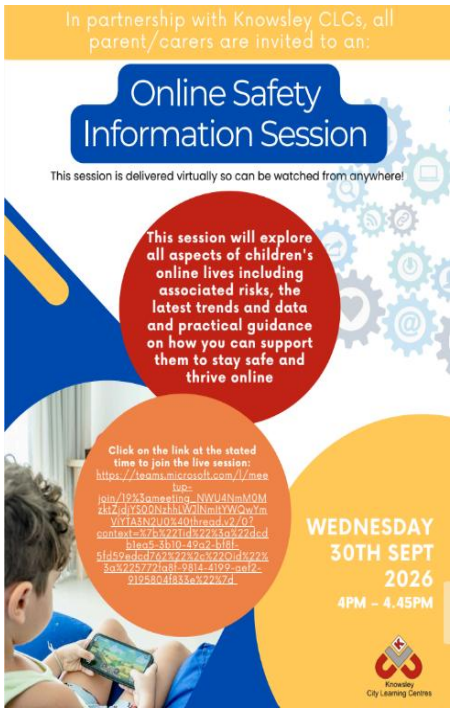
Have a lovely weekend – FOWPS PTA



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.

Poppy's Hair Cut for the Little Princess Trust
Poppy from Jaguars will be cutting over 30cm (12") of her hair off, in just under four weeks.
Poppy will be donating this hair to The Little Princess Trust, which makes and donates wigs, free of charge, to children who have lost their hair after cancer treatment or through alopecia.
Poppy hopes to raise £700 or more to cover the cost of making the wigs for each child and all associated charity expenses.
If you are able to donate, please please do so. All donations, regardless of amount, will be gratefully received and will go to the charity, along with Poppy's hair.


A sponsored haircut in aid of
The Little Princess Trust
Poppy Copping is cutting it all off.
Every strand becomes part of a real-hair wig for a child who needs one.
The Trust gives free real-hair wigs to children and young people (up to 24) who've lost their hair to cancer treatment or alopecia.
14–16 ponytails make one wig, so every donation counts.
60 hrs of hand-knotting go into every wig.
Poppy's hair, before the cut
cut here
Please sponsor Poppy
Every penny goes straight to the Trust.
Scan or tap to donate
https://fundraise.littleprincesses.org.uk/fundraising/poppys-big-cut
The big cut
17 October
Going to Hereford
12+ inches
Our target
£700
one full wig
Registered charity no. 1176160
Made by Poppy's family
littleprincesses.org.uk


In partnership with Knowsley CLCs, all parent/carers are invited to an:
Online Safety Information Session
This session is delivered virtually so can be watched from anywhere!
This session will explore all aspects of children's online lives including associated risks, the latest trends and data and practical guidance on how you can support them to stay safe and thrive online
Click on the link at the stated time to join the live session:
https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NWU4NmM0MzktZjdlYS00NzhhLWQlNmItYWQwYmViYTA3N2U0%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22dcdb1ea5-3b10-49a2-b181-5fd592edcd76%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%2275774a81-9814-4199-ae12-9195804f833e%22%7d
WEDNESDAY 30TH SEPT 2026
4PM – 4.45PM
Knowsley City Learning Centres


FUN! ACTIVE! MAKE NEW FRIENDS!
GOL!
ELITE COACHING
AGES 4-12
OCTOBER HALF TERM FOOTBALL CAMPS
FUN & ACTIVE
MAKE NEW FRIENDS
GAMES, SPORTS & MORE!
LEARN. PLAY. REPEAT!
VENUES
BASINGSTOKE SOCCER CENTRE) RG22 4HS
TESTBOURNE COMMUNITY SCHOOL) RG28 7JF
THE HURST LEISURE CENTRE) RG25 5NL
DATES
26TH – 30TH OCTOBER (ALL VENUES)
SEE WEBSITE FOR TIMES AND DETAILS
FOOTBALL COACHING
INFLATABLES
DAILY CHALLENGES
PLAYER OF THE WEEK
PRIZES TO BE WON
MAKE NEW FRIENDS
PRICES
£35 PER DAY
OR
£150 FOR FULL WEEK!
GIRLS ONLY FOOTBALL DAY
28TH OCTOBER
Basingstoke Soccer Centre
EARLY BIRD OFFER
Use code HALLOWEEN5 to receive 5% OFF
Book by 27TH SEPTEMBER
Ofsted Registered
www.goleliteprocoaching.co.uk/kids-camp/


Hampshire County Council
Library Service
Autumn Poetry Writing Competition
at Whitchurch Library
Under 7s
Ages 8-11
Prizes for each category
Five categories
Ages 11-18
Adult
Best decorated
Closing date 31st October. Poems should be themed around Autumn and be no longer than 1 side of A4. Please include first name and age on the front of the poem, and full name and Library Card Number on the reverse. Winners will be announced 5th November.
@hantslibraries
hants.gov.uk/library
All prizes have been donated


Funded by UK Government
Hampshire County Council
Raising Resilient Children
Online course
Mondays 28 September - 19 October
7pm - 9pm
FREE - Eligibility criteria applies
This is an online course using Microsoft Teams. Participants will be required to use Microsoft Teams.
Booking is essential, please visit https://shop.hants.gov.uk/collections/library-courses to book your place. If you have issues booking online please contact branch staff or call 02392 232957
Funded by UK Government
Hampshire County Council
Positive Parenting
Online course
Mondays 2 November - 30 November
7:30pm - 9pm
FREE - Eligibility criteria applies
This is an online course using Microsoft Teams. Participants will be required to use Microsoft Teams.
Booking is essential, please visit https://shop.hants.gov.uk/collections/library-courses to book your place. If you have issues booking online please contact branch staff or call 02392 232957

DECORATE YOUR OWN PUMPKIN!

