



WHITEHILLS PRIMARY SCHOOL
Acre Lane
Northampton
NN2 8DF
Telephone: 01604 843780
Fax: 01604 843847
head@whitehills.northants-ecl.gov.uk
www.whitehillsprimary.northants.sch.uk

Headteacher: **Natalie James**
Deputy Headteacher: **Liz Abel**

October 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

NEWSLETTER

It has been a very busy end to the term. We have held four parents visits for potential new starters for September 2023. We will be having one final open evening for potential parents on 10th November at 6pm. Please pass this information onto any prospective new parents who may be considering Whitehills. All details can be found on our website.

Year 6

A reminder that if your child is in Year 6, you will need to have completed on the online applications for secondary school by 5pm on 31st October. Our website has the link for applications should you need it.

Class Dojo

We now have almost every parent from Year 1 - 6 signed up to Dojo. For those who have not done so, I have sent home invites to join. Please check your child's book bags for the information. If you are having trouble signing in, please let me know. We will be posting lots of information on DOJO and it is a great way of communicating with us. I have sent out invites to foundation stage parents yesterday.

TLCs / Parents' evening

We had our first face to face parents' evenings for this academic year. We have a wonderful turn out with more than 95% attendance. Unfortunately, we did have to change our plans for Miss Mitchell's, Mrs Healy's and Miss Neary's classes and these will be held the first week back after half term. We have sent a separate Parentmail to you to confirm this. Thank you for being understanding.

The book fair during parents evening was a huge success and thank you for purchasing books. We are delighted to announce that this has raised £974.84, which gives us £524.69 to spend on books for the children.

Attendance

I am having a lot of requests for absences as a result of postponed holidays due to Covid. If the holiday is in school time it cannot be authorised, whatever the reason and you will be likely to incur a fine.

For every child that attends school every day, the child is entered into our termly raffle. The prize this term was a family voucher for Vue cinema. I will announce the lucky winner on DOJO today.

RE enhancement

Today, our Year 3 children visited a mandir in Wellingborough to enhance their understanding of Hinduism. The children had a wonderful experience and the visit developed their understanding of the topic. As ever, their behaviour was excellent.

On Monday's assembly, we had visitors from the Interfaith Forum to talk to the children about Diwali – the festival of light. Year 6 also had visits from Rev Sarah Lee learning about Christianity and their roles in



church this week. The children posed some excellent questions to our visitor which were thought provoking. Wherever we can, we want to enhance our children's learning and experiences.

Parent view

It is really important that we get your view about our school, as this helps us with future planning and ensures we can be the best we can for your child. Please could you spend some time completing the survey to share your views. I will collate all the information and share this with staff and yourselves in the new term. Please [click here](#) to access the survey and could the survey be completed by Wednesday 2nd November.

Resident artist experience

In the last week of the summer term, our children in Years 5 & 6 worked with an artist Marvin Mudzongo to complete three pieces of art linked to our core values. They had discussions with Marvin about what the values meant to them and how this could be represented through art. I am pleased to inform you that the finished art has now be returned to school and will be on display outside the IT suite.

Parking

Over the last two weeks, I have been patrolling the staff car park. I still have some parents trying to access the school carpark despite my presence. The carpark is only for members of staff. It cannot be used at any point of the day, to drop off or collect your child. Please think carefully about parking. As adults we should be demonstrating our school's values of respect and responsibility.

Flu vaccination

I am pleased to confirm we have the nursing team visiting school to administer the flu nasal vaccine to our children on 6th December. You will receive more information and a link to register your child in a Parentmail nearer the time.

Year 4 residential

We have been trying to source an alternative to Kingswood, our usual provider for our summer residential for Year 4. We are very conscious of the cost of residentials and cannot find a cheaper alternative for this coming year. Therefore, we have provisionally booked Kingswood, Staffordshire for 3 days (2 nights) on 21st June 2023. I will send out the costings in a separate Parentmail. We will also have an information evening on Tuesday 1st November at 4:30 to show you the centre and answer any questions. A £40 deposit will secure your child's place and this will need to be paid by 16th December. If you have any problems with payment, please contact the school office. I would like all of our children to attend as I feel it is such a worthwhile experience.

Christmas

We will be having Christmas performances in the penultimate week of next term.

EYFS Nativity based show 8th December at 2pm

Years 1 & 2 Christmas show 13th December 9:15am and 2pm

Years 3 & 4 Carol concert 14th December 9:15am and 2pm

Years 5 & 6 Carol concert 15th December 9:15am and 2pm

We are not holding evening performances but we will try to record the performances for anyone who cannot attend during the day.

Kingswood

Kingswood caterers will be providing Christmas lunch for the children on Friday 9th December.



Christmas parties will be held on Friday 16th December and Kingswood caterers will not be providing food on that day. All children must bring in a packed lunch from home.

I hope you and your families have a lovely half term and we look forward to seeing you all when we return to school on Monday 31st October.

Kind regards,

Mrs James

