

Whittle Weekly

Issue 1
10th January 2020

What's been happening this week.....

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the start of our Spring term. There is lots to look forward to! Hopefully the diary dates accompanying this letter will help start to give you a flavour of the upcoming events this term. Personally I love the Spring term. The children are well settled in their classes, they really start to make progress in their learning and embed some of the new skills that have been introduced to them—not to mention the nights getting lighter and the weather starting to pick up! So bring on the new term!

Firstly, I would like to welcome the new children who have joined our Nursery this week. They have made a fantastic start, so well done.

It was also lovely to welcome back a pupil who came to Whittle Academy when it first opened. He enjoyed a guided tour of the school with his family and was able to share lots about the schools history with us.

In assembly this week, we talked about what a New Year's Resolution is and shared our own. I have promised to walk more, go to bed a bit earlier and read before I go to sleep everyday. The children had lots of ideas of their own. We then came up with a New Year's Resolution for all of us at Whittle... here it is!

We talked about ways to show we care for ourselves, our learning, each other, our community and our future. We will talk a lot more about this over the forthcoming weeks.

Whittle New Year's Resolution

To show that we
CARE in all that
we do!

This week homework clubs have started and next week sports clubs will begin. Young Voices is also now in full swing with only 11 days left until we perform. We went for a rehearsal at Walsgrave today and as well as singing our hearts out, we were complimented on our excellent manners—thank you children!

Finally, our first merit assembly of the Spring term is not until the end of next week. However, if there are any classes who have achieved 100% attendance over the last 4 days, we will be rewarding them by asking them to come in non-uniform next Friday. As always attendance and lateness is something that we monitor carefully. Please try and send your children to school everyday and on time and if they are poorly for whatever reason, let us know.

So after a calm and happy first week back, I would like to wish you all a lovely weekend.

Michelle Harris

Reminder:

It has been brought to our attention that children are coming to school wearing expensive watches and fitbits. We wouldn't want any loss or damage to occur during school. To avoid any upset can we ask you not to send your children into school with any valuables.

Lost Property

Lost Property will be outside year 1 classroom on the 14th January for you to claim any lost items of clothing.

Any unclaimed items will be disposed of after this date. Please ensure to take a look!



Class attendance for last week...

Class	%
Nursery	96.6
Reception	93.1
LA	100.0
LS	98.1
HP	90.0
AC	86.8
DM	100.0
JA	88.3
TA	97.8
Whole School	

Well done to classes **LA** & **DM** for achieving the highest attendance last week.

Upcoming dates for your diary.....

13.01.2020	Reception Vision Screening tests
Week beginning 13.01.2020	Afterschool Sports clubs commence.
20.01.2020	Young Voices Concert @ Birmingham
04.02.2020	Reception & Year 6 Height and Weight Check
	For more dates see separate Diary Dates sheet.



News from around the School



EYFS

Happy New Year and welcome back to all our children, parents and carers. It was lovely to see the children bounding in to school telling us all about their special holiday and time with their families. It was also great to welcome some new children in to our nursery and watching them join in so confidently.

We are excited for the Spring Term that lies ahead of us and have lots of exciting things planned.

In Reception we have kicked it off with our new story Lost and Found. We have been acting out the story, writing some items to pack in our suitcase and making jam sandwiches to take on our travels.

In Nursery we have shared the story of Elmer and the Snow. We made some lovely Elmer pictures and talked all about winter and the snow.

With the weather getting colder, please make sure children have suitable winter coats, hats, scarves and gloves as we will be using our outdoor area even on cold days. Please ensure every item is named.

KS1

Welcome back Key Stage One! We have really enjoyed having the children back in school and have heard lots of lovely stories about the fun they have had over the Christmas holiday.

This term, the Year One children will be continuing to build upon their learning of addition and subtraction. Children will be using lots of practical resources to support their learning.

Year Two children are reading 'The Twits' by Roald Dahl. So far, they have enjoyed reading about the cheeky tricks Mr and Mrs Twit play on each other. We will be exploring more of the story and characters over the next few weeks.

Our new theme in Key Stage One is Flight. We will investigate different ways to travel through the air. Children will have the opportunity to be creative by designing and making their own flying products. They will also learn about the importance of aeroplanes and how flight changed the world!

LOWER KS2

Happy New Year! We hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas.

This week, both year groups have started a new English unit about Traditional Tales. Year Three are learning about The Three Little Pigs and Year Four about Jack and the Beanstalk. There is a twist though—ask your child about it!

In the afternoons, we have been busy making our new Theme book covers ready for our World's Kitchen theme. Keep a look out for our letter home about our launch which is happening on **Friday 17th January!** In Maths, all children have been learning about multiplication. It would be great if you could support their learning by encouraging them to go on Times Table Rockstars—their log-in details are at the front of their reading diaries.

Reminder: P.E. days continue to be Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. The Thursday afternoon session will be tennis outdoors so children should bring suitable outdoor footwear and jogging bottoms / jumper (preferably blue or black).

UPPER KS2

Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely holiday with your families—the children have told us all about the exciting things they got up to and the special memories they've made.

We have been so impressed with their positive attitudes this week; we've been discussing new years resolutions and we hope we can stick to them!

Years Five and Six will be learning all about Space this term and we have already had our launch sessions. All of the children have been enrolled to a 'Junior Astronaut Cadet Training' programme. They worked in mixed year group teams on completing physical, mental and team work challenges. Who knew re-lacing a trainer would be so tricky. We are sure the children can tell you lots more about these activities and you could also try them at home too (no specialist equipment needed!).

Our trip this term will be to the National Space Centre and we would like to hold a cake sale to raise funds so that we can subsidize the cost of the trip. Please check your emails and children's bags for letters!

Have a great weekend! :)

Afterschool clubs start next week from 3.15pm to 4.15pm, if you have sent in a slip and paid then, please assume you have a place on the club(s) of your choice.

The kitchen will be serving a special 'American Diner', themed meal on the 16th January, if your child usually has packed lunches but would like the meal just let the office know look out for more details.

Please don't forget wraparound must now be paid for in advance via SIMS PAY, and your place will be withdrawn if no payments are received.

To contact us.....

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