

Whittle Weekly

Issue 2
17th January 2020

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

Despite some miserable weather and indoor playtimes, generally the behaviour and attitude of the children has been exemplary. Thank you children.

This week we put our lost property out so that you could come and claim it... we still have lots of uniform in school unlabelled that is currently being washed. We have a new idea which you might be interested in - to introduce a 'Swap Shop'. If your child has grown out of any uniform, you can come and swap their uniform for something bigger, where possible. The Swap Shop will be open once every half term.

Next week a group of our Year 5 children will be undertaking some work with our local PCSO to look at the parking outside the front of school. This is something that we are constantly trying to improve and the children are very excited, so watch out for them in their tabards!

We also have our Young Voices concert on Monday... wish us luck!!

Today we have a group of children taking part in an Endball Competition so we will let you know how we get on next week.

Next week we will be carrying out a Reading Review across school looking at what is going well in reading and what we can do to continue to improve provision in this area. If your child is in Year 4, please look out for our parental workshops about 'times tables' too.

Could I please remind you all of the importance of phoning in to the school office when your child is absent. Please can you do this on every day of their absence.

Finally well done to all of you who got Merit Awards in our first Merit Assembly of 2020. We talked in assembly about how the journey to achieving our goals is not always easy but by working hard we can do it!

Looking forward to another lovely week at Whittle next week.
Wishing you all a lovely weekend,
Michelle Harris

The internet is essential in 21st century life for education, business and social interaction. As children move up through the school, their access to various types of technology increases and it stands to reason that their exploration and curiosity increases too. The positives of the digital world overwhelmingly outweigh the negatives but children, schools and parents all need to be aware of various online risks. As a school, we try to prepare the children by teaching them about e-safety and about what is and isn't appropriate use of the internet. A parent at one of our MAT schools has raised concerns about a website (Omegele) which facilitates talking to strangers and I felt it was important to bring it to your attention so that you can safeguard your children from it.



Class attendance for last week...

Class	%
Nursery	93.5
Reception	96.6
LA	91.1
LS	95.8
HP	92.4
AC	89.7
DM	98.6
JA	91.0
TA	98.7
Whole School	94.3

Well done to class TA for achieving the highest attendance last week.

Upcoming dates for your diary.....

20.01.2020	Young Voices 2020 in Birmingham
23.01.2020	Times table Parent workshop Year 4 2.30-3.10pm 6.00-6.40pm
27.01.2020	Early Bird Week
29.01.2020	Whittle Local Governing Body Meeting 6pm
29.01.2020	Sports Cup Final Years 5 & 6
03.02.2020	Library Quiz first round
04.02.2020	Reception and Year 6 children Height and Weight checks



News from around the School



EYFS

This week in Nursery we have been on a very exciting bear hunt. We have thought about how to stay warm and look after ourselves in the cold weather and we have even made edible snow flakes!

In Reception, we have been working on our cutting skills and making some lovely penguins linked to our book 'Lost and Found'. We thought about what we could see in the South Pole and wrote to the boy to tell him what to look out for when he travels there.

We have had a really positive start to our Sound Books in Reception, thank you for completing them at home and getting them back to school on time. Just to remind you they will come home every Wednesday and can come back as soon as you have done them but definitely by the following Wednesday so that the new sound can be stuck in. In school, we have started to learn some new phonic sounds and Nursery are going to be starting phonics in class from next week too, how exciting!



KS1

This week, Year One and Year Two launched our new theme by having a whole day of learning all about 'Flight'! It was lovely to see how excited the children were to visit our school airport and to board the school plane to Spain! Thank you parents and carers for ensuring that children had their Summer clothing. They had a brilliant time during the afternoon whilst pretending to be on holiday. We are excited to continue this theme throughout the term.



Children have received their homework packs. The packs are not compulsory. The worksheets are designed to inform parents and carers about what your children are being taught this term at school. They will support your child's learning, however the priority in Key Stage One is for children to focus on reading their books and high frequency words, practising spellings, and completing POWER Projects.

LOWER KS2

What a busy week it has been this week in Years Three and Four!

We have been particularly impressed with the children's learning behaviours around deriving and recalling their times-tables. We are really focusing on multiplication facts across both year groups and the children are rising to the challenge! There is a real buzz around Times Tables Rockstars and this wet and windy weather we are having is providing the perfect excuse to stay in and log-on!

Our PSHE focus this term is Dreams and Goals. It has been lovely to hear the children's aspirations. We've got budding hairdressers, plumbers, flight engineers, marine biologists, footballers, YouTubers and much more! Our message is "If you can dream it, you can achieve it!"

Our Thrive theme last week was 'encouraging words'.

As a group, we looked at the power of words and collected a bank of statements to refer to if we saw others facing a challenge.

Ask your child if they have used any encouraging words this week!



UPPER KS2

This week our Year Six started off with a visitor from the Royal Shakespeare Company who delivered a workshop all about 'Macbeth'. The children absolutely loved it and we are so excited to see what they produce with their knowledge.

Year Five have also started to work with Kirstie from Step Onto Stage to learn a dance routine linked to our Space theme—this will be showcased to you at our next Come and Share!

By now you should have received your child's POWER Projects and homework for this term. Year six have three revision guides that are due on Monday's, Wednesday's and Friday's. Please see the front of these books for pages set and due dates.

Year five have a homework pack for the term and they will receive Dojo points if they complete it.

Have a lovely weekend!
Y5/6 Team



KS1 - Ciara

Lunchtime Awards

KS2 - Roman



Awarded by the dinner ladies to children who have shown excellent manners and impeccable behaviour during lunchtimes.

MERITS FROM TODAY

REC	Sofia has been an absolute superstar in class recently. She is trying so hard
LA	Shreyansh always comes to school with a beaming smile and is ready to learn straight away.
LS	Lionel is such a ray of sunshine to have in the classroom, he take on challenges with a smile.
HP	Lilah is such a kind friend and is always happy to help the other children in our class.
DM	It has been brilliant to see David start the Spring Term so focused and determined.
AC	Emily is trying incredibly hard with her writing, and listening to feedback on how to improve.
JA	Lola-Mai continues to focus, work hard and be a brilliant work partner to others.
TA	Oliver it is a pleasure to teach you and we can't wait to see what else you achieve this year.

To contact us.....

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