



# Headteacher's Newsletter

## January 2020 ISSUE 2

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are already half way through this half term. Hopefully, we can look forward to some lighter evenings soon. However, it is very cold at the moment so children should continue to be wrapped up warm.

I would like to wish those of you who observe the Chinese calendar a Happy New Year! Chinese New year is the main Chinese festival of the year and is celebrated in either late January or early February (depending on the lunar calendar).



### Spring Term Dates

17th - 21st February: Half Term

Monday 24th February: Return to school

Friday 3rd April: Term Ends at 12:30pm

One of our School Values is RESPECT.



We all have the right to be shown respect and to show respect to others and our world.

We celebrate and value how unique we all are, respecting our differences.

We all respect our environment and play our part in looking after it.

Please help your child develop respect for others and their environment.

### Parent Workshops

We still have the following workshops scheduled for this half term:

Date	Time	Year Group	Subject
Monday 3rd February	9am & 2:30pm	Nursery	Numeracy
Wednesday 5th February	9am & 2:30pm	Reception	Literacy
Friday 7th February	9am & 2:30pm	Year 1	Reading

Please do try to attend. Information from the workshops will be available to view on our website - <https://www.whitehall-inf.hillingdon.sch.uk/parents/noticeboard> after the workshops have taken place.



Thursday 30th January- Maple Class

Thursday 6th February- Pine Class

Thursday 13th February- Beech Class

Parents of the class are welcome to attend. All class assemblies start at **9am**. Please ensure that you arrive on time. Also, please do not eat, talk or use your phone during the assemblies as this can be distracting.

### Coffee Mornings



Thank you to everyone who has attended the new coffee mornings. We hope you have found them useful. Our next coffee morning will focus on healthy eating and eating habits. However, if there is anything else you would like to talk about please do still come along. As there will be an opportunity to discuss other topics.

They will continue to be held every Friday from 9am until 10am. This is a great opportunity to ask for advice and meet other parents. To attend, please wait outside Elm class, which is off the big playground, once you have dropped your child to their class.

### Applying for Nursery



Children born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017 are eligible to start our school Nursery in September 2020.

If you or someone you know would like to apply for a Nursery place for your child, please collect an application form from the main school office as soon as possible.

### Spring Learning Overview meetings

Thank you to those who attended their child's Spring Learning Overview meeting. We hope you found it useful to find out what your child will be learning over this term and how to help them at home. The presentations are available on our website:

<https://www.whitehall-inf.hillingdon.sch.uk/parents/noticeboard>



Thank you for your donations towards our Book Week.

We received over £220. This will be used to fund lots of exciting activities to help celebrate our love of reading.

### Late Collection

We understand that, from time to time, you may be delayed getting to school to collect your child i.e. stuck in traffic, public transport delays, car issues. Please note the following guidelines for children collected late from school:

- Parents need to collect or make arrangements for their child to be collected from school on time. If you have difficulty collecting your child regularly at the end of the school day, we offer a variety of after school clubs that run until 4:30pm. You could also contact a local childminder or use the Junior After School club (we have been made aware that this is currently full but may have spaces in the future).
- We will be monitoring regular late collection of children and will work together with these families.
- We require up to date home, work and mobile contact numbers for parents and **at least one other person** who could collect your child.
- If you are not going to be able to collect your child at 3:10pm, you must telephone us to advise what time you expect to reach the school.
- If a child is not collected at the correct time and no contact has been made by their parent or carer by 4:10pm, we will inform Children's Services who will advise us about the next steps.

### Attendance

It is disappointing that we have received a high number of exceptional leave requests for holidays where flights had already been booked without having requested the leave. There are 13 non school weeks in a school year when trips or holidays can be taken. There are only 190 school days and it is very important that your child is in school for all of these days. We have seen children's attendance drop to below 90% as a result of them being taken out of school for leave. These children are then seen as persistent absentees and are referred to the Local Authority.

### Punctuality

We have seen an increase in late arrivals over the past few weeks. We understand that mornings are busy and traffic can be bad but it is very important that children arrive at school on time. Please remember you can use our breakfast club from 8am for only £3 per day. We are encouraging parents to give their children good routines such as an early bedtime so that children are able to get an early start in the morning and arrive at school on time.

If you do arrive late, children must be signed in at the main school office. Please stay with your child until a member of staff has taken them. Please do not leave your child unsupervised in the office or outside in the playground.

## Safeguarding

We are committed to the Safeguarding of our children here at Whitehall Infant School. If there are any accidental injuries or upsets that occur at home, please make sure you inform an appropriate member of staff. Our Child Protection Policy has recently been updated and approved by Governors. A copy is available to view on our website, within the Policies section

## Weather

In the event of snow or severe ice, the entrance on Whitehall Road will not be opened. Please enter the school through the main entrance on Cowley Road.



If the school is closed, we will inform parents as early as possible via email and on the website. For further information, please see the winter weather information on our website [homepage](#).

Please do not smoke or vape on the school site, outside the school entrances or in the vicinity of the school. This is to protect the health of the children at our school.



## Welfare Reminder

Please return any clothes borrowed from the Welfare Room as soon as possible. If your child does bring home clothes from the Welfare room, they should say 'Welfare' inside the label.

## Parent Workshops

Thank you to everyone who attended the recent parent workshops. Information from the Nursery Reading & Writing workshop, the Year 2 Reading workshop and the Reception Numeracy workshop can be found on our website: <https://www.whitehall-inf.hillingdon.sch.uk/parents/noticeboard>



## School Council

I would like to introduce our School Council. The representatives were voted for by their classmates. They will be meeting with staff to make the school an even better place for the children by discussing key topics and feeding back to their classmates.



## NSPCC Assembly

We were very lucky to receive a visit from the NSPCC today who held their 'Speak Out, Stay Safe' assembly for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. They discussed what type of things would make them feel sad and how they all have the right to speak out to help them stay safe.



## Lunch Menu

Week of 3rd February (Week 2 of menu):

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Beef Bolognese with Pasta Vegetable Bolognese with Pasta Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise Apple & Cinnamon Sponge with Custard	Chicken Korma with Rice Macaroni Cheese Halal Chicken Korma with Rice Jelly with Fruit Wedges	Roast Beef with Roast Potatoes Roast Quorn with Roast Potatoes Vegetable Pasta Bake Peach Oat Bar with Custard	Piri Piri style Chicken Tomato and Basil Pasta Halal Piri Piri style Chicken Chocolate Brownie with Orange Wedges	<u>Pizza Bar</u> Cheese & Tomato or Sweetcorn & Pepper Salmon Fishcakes Natural Yoghurt with Fruit Puree topped with Homemade Granola

### New Year's Resolutions

One of our New Year's Resolutions is **Being Healthy**.

We are eating healthier lunches and encourage the children to make healthier choices.

We have also started having 'Keep Fit' classes after school for our staff and a walking club at lunchtime.

Well done to parents who bring a piece of fruit as an after school snack.

If you have any tips for a healthier lifestyle, please email them to [office@mail.whitehallinf.org](mailto:office@mail.whitehallinf.org)

**HEATHROW PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
Harmondsworth Ln, Sipson,  
West Drayton UB7 0JQ

For more information and to book,  
visit [www.superstarsportwl.com](http://www.superstarsportwl.com) or call 07949 261 124

[www.thechildrenssleepcharity.org.uk](http://www.thechildrenssleepcharity.org.uk)

**Sleep Success  
For Parents and Carers**

**Wednesday 5th February 2020  
10am-2.30pm**

**Barra Hall Children's Centre**  
Wood End Green Road, Hayes, Middlesex, UB3 2SA

Delivered by Wendy Thomas, Sleep Practitioner within Hillingdon's Outreach Service, this workshop is accredited by the Continuing Professional Development Standards Office and has been developed by the Children's Sleep Charity. Primarily focusing on children aged 4-18 years, the day will provide an insight into the importance of sleep and the impact this can have on family lives. The workshop includes;

- Why sleep is important
- Understanding sleep cycles
- Keeping sleep diaries and interpreting the data
- Common sleep issues and strategies to manage these
- Establishing appropriate routines
- Environments
- Delegate resource pack

Register  
<https://forms.gle/GSzqRwRHQmwnFaWc6>

Please note we are unable to provide crèche facilities for this workshop.

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[www.hillingdon.gov.uk](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk)