

Whittle Weekly

Issue 14

18th December 2020

LATEST COVID INFORMATION

Thank you for being vigilant and spotting coronavirus symptoms.

- a **high temperature** - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a **new, continuous cough** - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a **loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** - this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Thank you for following the guidance.



1. Get a test to check if you have coronavirus as soon as possible.
2. Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get your test result - only leave your home to have a test.
3. Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get your result.

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

Dear all,

Well, what a term it has been! Whilst it has not been an easy time we navigated our way through this global pandemic, Mr Darling and I are so proud of how the children, staff and Whittle community continue to pull together to do the very best we can. Thank you to you for all the words of encouragement and support. Thank you to all of the staff at Whittle who have worked so hard this term to keep life at school as 'normal' as possible. And... most importantly, thank you to the children who have come into school with big smiles on their faces and knuckled down to their learning after such a long period away from school! Well done.

It has been lovely this week to see the children enjoy our Whittle Christmas Day with a little present, a video call from Father Christmas, a Christmas lunch and the virtual Belgrade Panto. It was also lovely to be able to celebrate all the birthdays so far this year with a little 'Bubble Party' and give out our special end of term awards. I know that the relaxed final day of term planned for tomorrow will be enjoyed by all too. I do hope that you have enjoyed some of the suggested activities linked to our assemblies this term and are enjoying watching your child's class 'Christmas Surprise' - if you haven't watched it already, then have a look at Class Dojo!

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to Miss Pavlova who has worked with us in Year 4 this term but is heading off to do another placement in one of our Inspire Schools. We look forward to welcoming her back in the summer term. I would also like to thank Miss Rushton-Nesbitt who has been with us for a few weeks supporting our Reception class. A special thank you also goes to Mr Darling, who as you know has been leading Whittle on Thursdays and Fridays this term. It has been brilliant to work alongside him! After Christmas however, I will be at Whittle as Head 4 days a week with Mr Thomas - Deputy at Hearsall - who has been coming to Whittle regularly this term - coming to provide additional leadership capacity on a Friday. Mr Darling will not be disappearing - he will be continuing to work with us in his role of Head of Education Primary for Inspire Education Trust. I am very much looking forward to continuing to work closely with Mr Darling and Mr Thomas.

There is somebody else who will be temporarily leaving us after Christmas to go and have her baby. We are all very excited for Miss Charles and would like to wish her lots of luck. We can't wait to welcome another baby into the Whittle fold. Whilst Miss Charles is on maternity leave, Mrs Henry will be teaching Year 4 - she is already known to the children as she has been providing cover for Miss Charles this term. Mrs Husband, who is one of our Leaders across the Trust, will be coming to Whittle to lead Inclusion and SEND provision - again she has worked closely with Miss Charles this term to support the transition. We look forward to Mrs Husband and Mrs Henry being with us a little more.

Finally, A huge congratulations to our Governor Dave Barker and his family who have welcomed a new baby boy - Nathaniel George into their family.

Looking ahead to the New Year. Please can you ensure that children come to school on time every day. Although we have a filter time into school, classroom doors close at 8.55am.

I think that brings me to the end of the Whittle News. Please do remember to read as much as you can over the holidays children - we can't wait to hear about the books you have enjoyed. Take care, stay safe and from all of us at Whittle, enjoy a Very Merry Christmas.

Mrs Harris

How do I notify school if my child displays COVID symptoms during the start of the Christmas holidays?

Please send an email and your contact phone number to us at COVID@whittleacademy.org if your child tests positive for COVID during the start of the Christmas holidays. It is very important that you let us know as we may need to inform people in their bubble straight away.

Senior staff will be regularly checking the inbox throughout the Christmas break.



Gold Merit Awards



Cup Winners	
Head Teachers' Award	Kyra Year 6
Creativity	Johith Year 1
Academic	Aria Reception
Sporting Excellence	Archie-Noah Year 3
Special Recognition	Lisa Year 6
Class Gold Merit	
Ducklings	Ashlee
Robins	Charlie
Wrens	Carter
Sparrows	Nayan
Hummingbirds	Lilly-Mai
Eagles	Nigar
Puffins	Martin
Owls	Kian
Peacocks	Freddy

