



Headteacher's Newsletter

March 2021 ISSUE 1

Whitehall Infant School is a five star school with a FRESH approach. We provide five star learning for all, with family at the heart of everything we do. We teach our children to have respect at all times. We want our children to achieve excellence, whilst being safe and happy.



Dear Parents and Carers,

We are excited to see all our families back to school next week.

As indicated in an earlier email, we are having a staff training day on Monday 8th March to be fully prepared. Staff are planning learning activities based on book week and will be focusing on relationships, routines and helping children settle in.

I am sure there will be mixed feelings amongst the children about returning. We will work sensitively with your child to support them in settling back into class. It's lovely to hear that some children are counting the 'sleeps' until the 9th March!

It is also welcoming to see the first signs of Spring with some beautiful flowers growing around the school.

Manjit Bringan

Reminder

Monday 8th March: Training day (school closed for all children - no remote learning or special provision).

Tuesday 9th March: All children return to school.

Wednesday 31st March: Term Ends

Monday 19th April: Back to school (Summer Term)



School Reopening Update

We are pleased to be reopening for **all children on Tuesday 9th March**. A letter was emailed to you on 26th February containing full details of our reopening. Please see a summary of important points to note in the table below:

- We are continuing to stagger start and finish times as we did before the Christmas Break. Your child's start and finish time will remain the same as it was before.
- Please do not arrive at the school more than 5 minutes before your child's start or finish time.
- Children should return to school in full school uniform.
- Masks must be worn by parents / carers when they are on the school site, unless you are exempt.

World Book Week - 9-12th March

As a school we want to foster a love of reading. What better way to do this than to celebrate books along with children returning to school.

We are aware that although the roadmaps for easing lockdown begins on the 8th March, many families have been affected by the national lockdown and we do not want to add extra pressure on our Whitehall families to dress up.

On **Friday 12th March**, we would like children to talk about their favourite story or book. If children would like to bring in a prop to help them do this then that would be brilliant. Some examples could be:

- ◆ A wooden spoon for Goldilocks & the three bears
- ◆ A toy train for a non-fiction transport book
- ◆ A bear or marmalade for the story of Paddington



Red Nose Day

We will be celebrating Red Nose Day on **Friday 19th March** in aid of Comic Relief.

The money raised for Comic Relief helps vulnerable people across the World live happier, healthier and safer lives.

The theme of this year's Red Nose Day is Superheroes! On this day, children can come to school in non school uniform or, if you so wish, dressed as a superhero for a donation. Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather and wearing school shoes or trainers only please.

At the moment **we cannot accept cash in school** so we are asking parents to make donations via our justgiving page - <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/whitehall-infant-school-rednoseday21>

Media Consent Form

Thank you to everyone who has completed and returned their child's media consent form. If you have not yet done so, **please complete and email the form to office@mail.whitehallinf.org as soon as possible.**

A copy of the form can also be accessed here: [Media Consent Form](#)

New to Whitehall Infant School families

We have recently welcomed some new families to Whitehall Infant School. If your child has recently joined us and you have not yet had the opportunity to see the school, you can find some useful information on our website. We are also in the process of having a professional virtual school tour produced. Visit:

<https://www.whitehall-inf.hillingdon.sch.uk/key-information/admissions/virtual-open-day>

Parent Meetings

These will be held during week beginning 22nd March. Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, we are unable to have face to face meetings with parents in school. We will send home details soon of how our Spring Term parent meetings will be taking place.



Parent Workshops

Parent workshops provide our Whitehall parents strategies to support their child learning at home. This year, we have provided narrated versions of the following workshops on our website:



Nursery	Reception
Mathematics Reading and Writing	Mathematics Reading Moving into Writing
Year 1	Year 2
Reading	Reading
Key Stage 1 (Year 1 and Year 2) Mathematics	

To view these presentations, visit <https://www.whitehall-inf.hillingdon.sch.uk/childrens-page-1/helping-your-child-with-their-learning-at-home>

Welcome Back



We are pleased to welcome back Ms McWhinney-Tripp who is returning after her maternity leave.

Ms McWhinney-Tripp will be teaching Beech class for half the week, with Mrs Patel teaching Beech class for the other half.

I am sure you will all join me in welcoming her back to school.

Helping your child's mental health

Alliance for Learning are offering all parents a free online course to assist you to help your child's mental health. The course will take place on Wednesday 28th April at 10:30am for 1 hour and will be via zoom (a link will be sent to attendees prior to the meeting).

For more information and to book a place on this course, please visit: <http://allianceforlearning.co.uk/cpd/mental-health/helping-your-childrens-mental-health/>



RSE Consultation

We shared our new RSE policy with you before half term. Thank you for your email responses and to those parents who took part in the stakeholder consultation. We have received valuable feedback which has been used in producing our Question & Answer document which will be available to view on our website soon.

There seems to have been some misunderstanding from parents who read the title of the policy but not the content. In an Infant school the statutory focus is on relationships and health. Sex education is **not** taught to Infant school children. Children learn about the human body as part of the science curriculum. To make this clearer, we will rename our policy 'Relationships and Health Education'.

Preparing your child to return to school

Here are some tips to help you prepare your child for their return to school:

- Check their school uniform (including shoes) still fits
- Stick to the same routine as if they were in school
- Ensure they go to bed early
- Have set mealtimes for lunch, breakfast and snacks
- Wake them up at the same time as they would wake up if they were going to school.

If you would like any help from us in preparing your child to return to school, please email office@mail.whitehallinf.org and a member of staff will contact you.

Back to school

New Zebra Crossing on Whitehall Road

The new zebra crossing on Whitehall Road should hopefully be installed before all children return to school. We hope this will make everyone's journey to school safer.



Curriculum Overviews

As children return to school, our focus will be on supporting their personal, social and emotional development.

The curriculum overview for each year group for the second half of the Spring Term are now on our website: <https://www.whitehall-inf.hillingdon.sch.uk/curriculum>

We will be sharing information about our Whitehall Infant School Family in our newsletters.

Staff Profile - Mrs Castle-Mason, Attendance and Welfare Officer



How long have you worked at Whitehall Infant School?

I have worked at Whitehall Infant School for almost 9 years.

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

I enjoy spending time with my family and going for walks, watching films, going on holiday.

What is your favourite meal?

Chilli!

What was your favourite subject when you were at school?

I enjoyed Child Development and English.

What is your favourite school value and why?

Family - to achieve the best for my family all of the time.

Remember to regularly check the year group pages on our website using the links below. We will continue to add relevant year group information, links and home learning photos to these pages:

Nursery: <https://www.whitehall-inf.hillingdon.sch.uk/childrens-page-1/nursery>

Reception: <https://www.whitehall-inf.hillingdon.sch.uk/childrens-page-1/reception>

Year 1: <https://www.whitehall-inf.hillingdon.sch.uk/childrens-page-1/year-1>

Year 2: <https://www.whitehall-inf.hillingdon.sch.uk/childrens-page-1/year-2>

Lunch menu for Spring Term

Remember that all children have access to a free lunch at school.

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Week One Week commencing: 15th March	Chicken Madras with Rice Tuna Pasta Bake Jacket Potato with Baked Beans & Cheese	Beef Burger with Wedges Macaroni Cheese Halal Beef Burger with Wedges	Roast Turkey with Roast Potatoes & Gravy Cheese & Tomato Pasta Bake Halal Roast Turkey with Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Shepherd's Pie Jacket Potato with Bakes Beans Cheese Halal Shepherd's Pie	Fish Fingers and Chips Homemade Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Chips
Week Two Week commencing: 22nd March	Spaghetti Bolognese (beef) Chinese Style Stir Fry Egg Noodles Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise	Chicken Tikka with Rice Macaroni Cheese Halal Chicken Tikka with Rice	Roast Beef with Roast Potatoes & Gravy Quorn Roast with Roast Potatoes & Gravy Halal Roast Beef with Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Chicken Sausages with Mash and Gravy Veggie Sausages with Mash and Gravy Halal Chicken Sausages with Mash and Gravy	Breaded Fish with Chips Tortilla Stacks with Chips
Week Three Week commencing: 8th March 29th March	Beef Pie with New Potatoes Salmon Paella Macaroni Cheese	Lamb Lasagne with Garlic Bread Jacket Potato with Baked Beans & Cheese Halal Lamb Lasagne with Garlic Bread	Roast Turkey with Roast Potatoes and Gravy Vegetarian Pinwheel with Roast Potatoes & Gravy Halal Roast Turkey with Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Piri Piri Style diced Chicken with Rice Jacket Potato with Baked Beans & Cheese Halal Piri Piri Style diced Chicken with Rice	Breaded Fish with Chips Homemade Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Chips

ENGLAND LOCKDOWN

STAY AT HOME

**THE NEW STRAIN OF CORONAVIRUS IS SPREADING FAST.
WE ALL NEED TO PLAY OUR PART TO STOP THE SPREAD.**

▶ LEAVING HOME

You must not leave, or be outside of your home or garden, except for a very limited set of exemptions e.g. to shop for basic necessities, exercise, go to work if you cannot do so from home, or to escape risk of harm.

▶ MEETING OTHERS

You cannot leave your home to meet socially with anyone, except with your household or support bubble (if eligible to form one). Stay 2 metres apart from anyone not in your household or support bubble.

▶ EXERCISE

You may exercise on your own, with your household or support bubble, or with one person from another household (when on your own). Stay 2 metres apart from anyone not in your household or support bubble.

▶ BARS, PUBS AND RESTAURANTS

Hospitality closed aside from sales by takeaway (until 11pm), click-and-collect, drive-through or delivery. Alcohol cannot be purchased through takeaway or click-and-collect from hospitality venues.

▶ RETAIL

Essential shops can open. Non-essential retail must close and can only run click-and-collect and delivery.

▶ WORK AND BUSINESS

Everyone must work from home unless they are unable to do so.

▶ EDUCATION

Early years settings open. Primary and secondary schools and colleges move to remote provision except for vulnerable children and children of critical workers. Most university students to move to remote learning.

▶ LEISURE AND SPORTING FACILITIES

Closed, with limited exceptions.

▶ ACCOMMODATION

Closed, with limited exceptions.

▶ PERSONAL CARE

Closed.

▶ ENTERTAINMENT

Closed.

▶ OVERNIGHT STAYS

You must not stay overnight away from home. Limited exceptions apply e.g. to stay with your support bubble.

▶ WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS

Funerals of up to 30 people permitted. Weddings up to 6 people permitted in exceptional circumstances. Wakes and other linked ceremonial events of up to 6 permitted.

▶ PLACES OF WORSHIP

Places of worship can remain open and communal worship is permitted, but you must not mix with those outside your household or support bubble.

▶ TRAVELLING

You must stay at home. If you do leave home for a very limited set of exemptions, you should stay local in the village, town, or part of the city where you live where possible. Do not travel abroad unless an exemption applies.

▶ CLINICALLY EXTREMELY VULNERABLE

Shielding reintroduced across England. You should not travel to work, school, college or university and should limit the time you spend outside the home. You should only go out for medical appointments, exercise or if it is essential.

▶ CARE HOME VISITS

Visits can take place with arrangements such as substantial screens, visiting pods, or behind windows. Close-contact indoor visits are not allowed. No visits will be permitted in the event of an outbreak but end of life visits are permitted in all circumstances.

STAY HOME ▶ PROTECT THE NHS ▶ SAVE LIVES

For more information go to:
[gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)