



Newsletter

Issue No 6

Dear Parents and Carers

This has been a busy week in school with Chris Tawiah the basketball player leading our assembly on Tuesday and *World Book Day* on Thursday, not to mention Parents Evenings. Thank you to all the parents who made appointments with the teachers. I hope you found them useful, enjoyed looking at the Artwork and took away the Interim Reports.

World Book Day was a resounding success, and it was great to see the children and staff dressed up as their favourite Book Characters. Everyone in school was very impressed with the quality and number of entries for the *Book in a Box* competition. They will be displayed in the school library until next Friday 15th March, when the children will bring them home. Well done everyone!

Next Friday 15th March we will be rewarding children for their hard work this term in our *Learner of the Term Assembly*.

Mrs Davis, 4D class teacher, has had her baby, both mother and child are doing well.

We welcome Michelle McKeogh, our new Family Support Worker who will be starting on Monday 11th March.

In our *Celebration Assembly* today we shared a traditional prayer:

This is our school.

Let peace dwell here,

Let our school be full of contentment,

Let love abide here,

Love for one another,

Love of mankind,

Love of life itself

And love of God.

Let us remember,

That as many hands build a house.

So many hearts make a school.

Can I remind everyone that we are a **nut free** school because there are a number of children who are allergic to nuts. This means no nuts or nut products are allowed in any foods. Some parents have sent children into school with nuts for snacks and nut products in their lunchboxes.

We have had new water dispensers fitted into school so the children can fill up their water bottles when they need to (we are supporting a new well that has been built in Africa). Please be advised this is not usually during lesson times. This will be especially important as Spring turns to Summer and it gets warmer. Please remember to send your child to school with a named water bottle every day.



Healthy School Guidance 2024

What Is a Healthy School?

A healthy school is one where children learn to value their own health!

The research is clear: a healthy and positive school environment is fundamental to student success and effective learning—not secondary to it.

In recent years, an emerging body of neuroscience focused on child development and the science of learning has established that students' academic achievement is predicated on environments that support healthy student growth across all developmental pathways: physical, psychological, cognitive, social and emotional. Similarly, the studies reveal an absence of such supports to be causally harmful to educational objectives.

But what is a healthy school?

The core elements of a healthy school environment include access to healthcare, healthy food and physical activity, clean air and water, and education about making healthy choices.

<https://www.kent.co.in/blog/water-vs-fruit-juice-which-one-should-you-prefer/#:~:text=Water%20helps%20your%20kidneys%20to,been%20built%20up%20for%20months.>

In our healthy school, children learn—through lessons and by example—to value their own health and that of their environment. The components of a healthy school include:

1. Healthy spaces to learn and play

All students deserve access to a clean and safe environment, indoors and out. We provide students with nutritious meals and opportunities for physical activity—including PE classes, sports weeks and after school clubs—while teaching students about the importance of nutrition and activity. Facilities are maintained without the use of harsh chemicals. Playgrounds offer a connection to nature and outdoor learning spaces, as well as an opportunity to contain rainwater and reduce neighbourhood flooding.



2. Health as an integral part of excellence in education

Studies show that healthy students are more likely to attend school, are better able to focus in class, and are better positioned to achieve academic success. The definition of a successful school, therefore, should take into account how well a school integrates wellness into its plan for learning, so all students have the opportunity to thrive.



3. Knowledgeable teachers, administrators and staff

School personnel need information and support to carry out evidence-based, cost-effective strategies that improve the delivery of school health services, promote environmentally sustainable operations, and implement healthy classroom practices.



4. Access to physical and behavioural health services

As of 2019, one in four children has health issues that affect their ability to succeed in the classroom—double the number just 30 years ago. This has implications for children’s long-term health and for their opportunities to learn and succeed at school. It’s known that comprehensive school-based health care, including mental and behavioural health services, improves student wellness and academic achievement. But access to care is often unavailable or unequal. Expanding school-based health services can improve the health of all students while also addressing health disparities that mostly affect students of colour and students from low-income families.



5. Involved parents and community members

In order for these efforts to succeed, school leaders must engage parents and community members in understanding the connection between student health and academic achievement—and student health and community health. Such efforts can build support for a healthy school environment and ensure that families take full advantage of health care opportunities available at school.

By following this vision, together we can work toward creating a healthy school that supports student wellness and learning.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Kind Regards

Mr Robbie Walker

Headteacher

Whitley Abbey Primary School



Happy Birthday to the following children



| Forename | Year | Forename | Year | Forename | Year | Forename | Year |
|----------------|----------|----------|---------|----------|---------|------------|---------|
| Vedhik | Nursery2 | Justin | Year 01 | Inaya | Year 02 | Gabriel | Year 04 |
| Neil | Nursery2 | Pearl | Year 01 | Johann | Year 03 | Demario | Year 05 |
| Dhanvith Reddy | Year R | Kavish | Year 01 | Mihnea | Year 03 | Aiden | Year 05 |
| Felix | Year R | Mary | Year 01 | Danya | Year 04 | Talha | Year 05 |
| Harley | Year R | Rebecca | Year 01 | Cohen | Year 04 | Minnie | Year 06 |
| Jayden | Year R | Mohammad | Year 01 | Sharon | Year 04 | Saralkavin | Year 06 |
| Fola | Year R | Kruthvik | Year 02 | Tanvi | Year 04 | Kyron | Year 06 |
| Lucas | Year 01 | Namish | Year 02 | Joshua | Year 04 | Finley | Year 06 |
| Ethan | Year 01 | | | | | Olivia | Year 06 |

Dates for your diary

| <u>Date 2024</u> | <u>Event</u> |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Thursday 14th March | Y5 & 6 Dogs Trust Workshop |
| Friday 15th March | Red Nose Day – Wear Something Red (voluntary donation) |
| Tuesday 19th March | Coffee Morning |
| Friday 22nd March | Y1 Snowdome Trip (packed lunch required) |
| Friday 22nd March | Last day of School break up for Easter – NON-UNIFORM DAY |
| Monday 8th April | School Closed (Teacher Training Day) |
| Tuesday 9th April | All Pupils Return to School |
| Monday 6th May | School Closed – Bank Holiday |
| W/C Monday 13th May | Y6 SATs Week |
| Friday 24th May | Last day of School break up for Whitsun |
| Monday 3rd June | School Closed (Teacher Training Day) |
| Tuesday 4th June | All Pupils Return to School |
| Tuesday 9th July | Y6 go to Dol-y-Moch |
| Saturday 13th July | Y6 Return from Dol-y-Moch |

