

23rd July 2021



End of Year Newsletter

Dear Parents,

I am very glad that we have managed to run some of the end of term events for the children, despite covid and the need to be creative and adapt. It was wonderful this morning to hold our final Celebration Assembly altogether, outside in the sunshine. The sound of the whole school clapping once again was quite unexpectedly, an emotional moment and brought some of the adults close to tears...and that was before we had got to the 'goodbyes'!

We say goodbye to all our Year 6 children, Mrs Laurie and Mr Grinham but we remember all their individual and group contributions which they have added to Whitewater – a huge thank you! We wish them every success for the future.

Last night we held our Year 6 Leaver's Service on the school field, enjoying the last warm evening of this week. It was a very moving occasion but also a time to celebrate and wish our Year 6 children good luck as they prepare for the next step at secondary school. Congratulations to Isabella Buck who was awarded the Tylney Trophy this year.

As we come to the end of another, rather extraordinary year, it is great to look back on the progress children have made, their resilience with the challenging covid situation and the sense of happiness they bring into school, each and every day. Thank you.

School Improvement

During the summer, I will be reflecting on the progress we have made so far with our school improvement and preparing our next steps for the following academic year. I will share the main themes and key objectives in this plan in September. In the interests of improving our communication and exploring how parents and the school can work more effectively together, I will be seeking the views of parents during September.

Staffing update

We were delighted that our three new teachers could join us yesterday and were able to meet their new classes. They have written the following messages:

My name is Miss Katie Hairsine. I live near Winchester and I have taught in Hampshire for nearly 25 years. I am delighted to be teaching Rabbit Class and becoming part of the Whitewater community.

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My name is Mr Mark Reynolds and I am so excited to be joining Whitewater and teaching your children next year. I have been teaching for 12 years and am passionate about teaching all children to fulfil their potential and nurture their abilities and talents.

My name is Mrs Elaine Basham. I am married with a two-year old daughter and live in Fleet. I have been teaching for 12 years. In this time, I have taught years 3 to 6, been English coordinator and Director of Studies. I am looking forward to working with your children in Fox Class and the whole of the Whitewater family.

Our staffing structure came out in a recent parentmail, but I have included a reminder in the table below:

Class	Years	Teacher/s
Rabbit Class	EYFS/Yr 1	Mrs Berna Jolliffe & Miss Katie Hairsine
Otter Class	Yr 1/2	Ms Ailsa Lamble
Hedgehog Class	Yr 3/4	Mr Christian Ralph
Fox Class	Yr 5/6	Mrs Elaine Basham & Mr Mark Reynolds
SENCo (covering Mrs Burningham's maternity leave)	Working on Mondays at Whitewater	Mrs Jane Derry

Room change

In September, Hedgehog and Otter Classes will be switching around and returning to their usual classrooms. Therefore, Otter Class will be located in the classroom next to Rabbit Class at the back of the school and Hedgehog Class will be in the classroom at the end of the building next to the playground. This will enable Otter class to access the outdoor learning space, in this area, with greater ease. This is particularly important for the year 1 children as they transition away from continuous provision.

Rabbit class will remain in the same classroom and Fox Class will increase in size with both classrooms (Fox and Red Kite classrooms) opening up into one space. This will enable greater flexibility with teaching for years 5 and 6.

September

We are looking forward to seeing our children back in school, all together, from September. We are unsure what the covid recommendations for schools will be, but the current information states that schools will be operating to as near normal as possible, without the need for bubbles.

Therefore, our current plan is to return to our regular timetable in regard to school start and finish times. I am well aware, that for some of you, you have not experienced our normal opening hours so I have explained them below. This will also serve as a useful reminder for those of you who have experienced normal arrangements at Whitewater, before the pandemic.

Start Time

The green side gate will open at 8:40am. Children will then be able to go through independently and straight round into their classrooms, where they will be met by their class teacher. Adults remain at the front of the school. We recognise that for some children this change back may be a challenge, so the class teachers and I will support your children during the first weeks of school. We will help Year 1 children, in particular, as they have only experienced the numbered spots system as Reception children. The gate will close at 8:55pm. Please bring your child to the office if you arrive after this time. Your child will be recorded in the register as late if they arrive at the office after 9:00pm.

We will also return to our message book and letter bucket. If you have any messages, such as a change in collection for your child, forgotten school items or any welfare messages for the class teacher, please speak to me at the gate. I will record it in a book and ensure that this message is passed onto the relevant person.

Finish Time

School will finish at 3:30pm for all children. The green side gate will be opened at 3:25pm to allow the adults collecting children, to come onto the playground. The class teachers will bring the children out of the building and hand them over to you, once we checked who is collecting them. This is also a time when you can speak directly to the class teacher.

We will send a Parentmail communication in the week before your child starts back in September, reminding everyone of this information and outlining any changes.

Equipment for September

Please ensure that your children are prepared for the first day back in September with everything they may need: correct school uniform, including suitable school shoes; book bags; PE kit and water bottles. All stationery the children need for learning will be provided by the school.

Summer Reading Challenge



The Reading Agency is delivering the Summer Reading Challenge, once again, in partnership with public libraries. You can sign up for the challenge at your local library or online. All the information you need can be found using the following link:

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

The **Summer Reading Challenge 2021** is now here! We can't wait to introduce you to our brilliant heroes and get you set up on your reading journey!

We're teaming up with **WWF** for a very special nature-themed Challenge that will inspire you to stand up for the planet!

Take a trip to Wilderville, where the Wild World Heroes are learning how to make their town a cleaner, greener place for all the people and wildlife that live there. As you read books for the Challenge, you'll get to go exploring all over Wilderville, from the woods to the farm and even the beach!

With your help, the heroes will transform Wilderville into an even cooler place to be, and will discover lots of brilliant books along the way!

We hope that lots of you will take on the online challenge this summer and we look forward to hearing about the books your child has read.

End of Year PTA News

What a beautiful end of term the children have had! The sun has been shining for them to enjoy their sports week and the last week of the summer term!

Summer Fundraising Project

We are currently fundraising for visualisers for each classroom and are hoping to raise £1000 over the coming months to be able to purchase these early in the next academic year.

Visualisers are an important resource for the teachers in their classrooms as they enable them to share pupils work, share resources, share texts without the need for photocopying and enlarge learning resources for all the class to be able to see. They help bring lessons to life, allow for immediate feedback and interaction and also provide an engaging and fun teaching resource with huge benefits to teaching and learning.



Ice Lolly Sale



Don't forget we will be hosting an ice lolly sale after school on the last day of term!

"£1-2-3...DONATE WHAT YOU CAN"

Rather than individually pricing the ice lollies we are asking that you pick a donation amount (£1, £2, £3 or any other amount) to help support our current fundraising project.

As with our last couple of sales can we please ask that **adults only** attend the sale before you collect your child(ren) and that you follow the usual COVID arrangements.

Cash will be accepted and contactless card payment/Google & Apple Pay are also available (minimum of £1).



Rotherwick Summer Nature Trail



The PTA have organised a fun summer activity for all of our Whitewater families and our local community to enjoy. The Rotherwick Summer Nature Trail will run from Monday 26th July until Friday 3rd September. The trail starts from the school and there are 20 markers to find along the route, which is approximately 5km in total. Simply scan the relevant QR codes on the signage outside school to view the map.

Don't worry though, you do not have to complete the route all in one go, you can always break it up and come back another day to complete it. At each marker on the route you will also find a fun nature quiz question to keep everyone entertained!

There is no charge for taking part in the trail and quiz, however, there will be an option if you have enjoyed exploring our trail to make a donation to the PTA and all monies raised will be going towards our summer fundraising project.

Remember this is not just for Whitewater families to enjoy so please spread the word to family and friends!



Your School Lottery

Our School Lottery raises money for the school to purchase much needed library books and with thanks to all those who have signed up since December 2020 we are on course to make over **£600** for the school this year!

Sign up and registration is very simple, and even better still is that all payments are managed online!

If you would like to support the lottery and be in with a chance of winning a weekly cash prize along with a jackpot and other additional prizes (like the amazing £250 Lego Gift Card!) then you can sign up at any time by going to:

yourschoollottery.co.uk and search for **Whitewater C of E Primary School**.

Get September Ready with Stikins Name Labels!

Easy, one-size, multipurpose, non-iron name labels for your child's uniform and belongings from a family owned business.

Stikins promotes a school fundraising scheme through which we can receive 15% commission on every order placed quoting the school reference number (**25264**).

You can order online at www.stikins.co.uk

COMING UP IN SEPTEMBER! DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

WELCOME COFFEE MORNING – Tuesday 14th September – drop off to 9.30am, School Hall we would like to welcome all of our families back to a new school year so please join come and join us!

PTA AGM & COMMITTEE MEETING – Thursday 30th September – 7.00pm, School Hall

All are welcome and it would be great to see some new faces... the more the merrier!

Bags 2 School – Thursday 11th November 2021 – 9am

(We are hopeful that COVID restrictions will be lifted in school settings in September, however, the above are subject to change)

WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR HELP AND NEW IDEAS ON THE PTA COMMITTEE. WE HAVE A FEW VACANCIES TO FILL (PLEASE REFER TO OUR RECENT PARENTMAIL).

THESE ROLES DO NOT HAVE TO TAKE UP A LOT OF TIME.

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**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN FINDING OUT MORE PLEASE SEE A MEMBER OF THE PTA or EMAIL
whitewaterpta@gmail.com.**

Finally, we would once again like to say a big **THANK YOU** to everyone who has supported the PTA over the last year and we are really looking forward to returning in September and being able to offer a lot more fun events for the children and to start raising some more much needed funds for Whitewater.

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

Sports Week

Sports Week was a fantastic success and thoroughly enjoyed by all the children in their classes. Congratulations to Diamond House who were the overall winners. Special recognition went to Rabbit class for displaying the school values of Fellowship, Courage and Creativity.

House Cup

Congratulations to everyone in Diamond House, the winning House for this half term!

Exercise books

The children will be bringing their main learning books home at the end of the day. We hope that you will enjoy sharing them together at home, as we have not had the opportunity to share them in school this year. A small number of books will be kept by the class teachers as records of learning.

INSET Days

Here are the INSET days for the next academic year:

Thursday 2nd September

Friday 3rd September

Monday 1st November

Tuesday 4th January

Monday 6th June

Term Dates

The new academic term dates can be located using this link:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schoolholidays>

Celebrations!

Gold Book

Congratulations to the following children who have been in the Gold Book in July:

Rabbit Class: Aidan, Ian, Phoebe, Izzy, Rupert, Harriet, Maggie and David

Otter Class: Isobel, Harry C, Olivia, Charlie, Anouk, Remy, Lola and William Cad.

Hedgehog Class: Harry, Evan, Bella, Scarlett, Hanna, Seren, Bertie and Lilly

Fox Class: Oliver, Evan, Ethan, Elliott, Ivy, William and all of Fox Class

Red Kite: Bella, Esme and Mia

Clubs and Outside School

Well done to the following children who have achieved sporting, musical or academic success outside school and in clubs:

Harry (Rabbit Class) for receiving a medal as part of his team coming second at a football tournament;

Bertie (Hedgehog Class) for receiving a medal for participating in six or more virtual karate sessions;

Aidan (Rabbit Class) for receiving a medal in football, recognising his tackling skills;

Olivia (Rabbit Class) for achieving Stage 1 in swimming;

Isobel (Otter Class) for achieving Stage 3 in swimming.

Final word...

It only remains for me to wish you a very restful summer break. Please keep well and we look forward to seeing you on the first day of the new school year – **Monday 6th September.**

Miss Edwards