

# Whitehall Park School

## Newsletter 14th February 2020

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*Learn Enjoy Succeed*

### Message from Interim Headteacher

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am writing to wish you a very happy, healthy and restful half-term and to thank you for your welcome over the last four weeks since I started. I have very much enjoyed being at Whitehall Park and I would also like to thank all the staff for their excellent contribution to your children's education. I also appreciate your comments about improving communication and other aspects of school life, so please do not hesitate to speak to me if you would like to make other positive suggestions.

#### Sarah Spiers Music Leader

As many of you know last Thursday was Sarah Spiers's last day as she has moved to Reading. We had a special goodbye assembly. I would like to thank Ms. Spiers for the great contribution that she has made over the years to Whitehall Park. She initially worked full-time, providing Planning, Preparation and Assessment cover and taking classes for music, as well as organising several shows and assemblies and running a school choir. You will also be pleased to know that Ms Donovan has now taken over from Ms. Spiers as our Music leader.

#### An important reminder

This is just to remind you that if you have an issue with another child either in the playground or in the classroom please speak to your child's teacher, to Mrs. Coyle, to Ms Powell or to me. I realise how upsetting these incidents can be, but speaking to the child directly or to the child's parent is not the way to resolve it and might even lead to you being banned from the school.

#### Year 5 at PGL

It is great that nearly all Year 5 children have been to PGL this week and have had such a good time. Activities include rock climbing, abseiling, woodland exploring and building shelters, all designed to make your children more confident and independent. A big thank you to Ms Adams, Miss Siobhan, Coach Jack and our Year 5 student Max for accompanying the children and being with them 24/7!

Kind regards,  
Linda Kiernan

### Half-Term

Half term will be during the week of the 17th—21st February. School will therefore be closed for children. School will resume as usual on Monday 24th February with Breakfast Club and After School Clubs resuming on this day as well. Please also ensure you check the lost property box and your child's peg for any missing items before the end of the half-term.

### After School Club collections

Can we please ask parents to collect their child from the after school club at 5pm. If you have an emergency appointment, please let Miss Angela know by 3.30pm ([extednedschools@whitehallparkschool.org.uk](mailto:extednedschools@whitehallparkschool.org.uk) or 0207 561 0113 ext. 2). This is because coming earlier than the expected time causes disruption to the classes. Please note that we will not be opening the gate ahead of 5pm so as not to disrupt the after school clubs. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

### Year 1 Phonics workshop

On Monday 24th February, Year 1 will be workshop from 4-5pm. If you would like to attend, please send confirmation to [admin@whitehallparkschool.org.uk](mailto:admin@whitehallparkschool.org.uk) or put your name down on the sign-up sheet in the office. Thank you.

### Parents Evening

Our next parents evening will be held on Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th March. Bookings will be available on your Arbor account from Monday 2nd March. Please can we ask that parents start checking that they have access to the parent portal on Arbor. If you are facing any difficulties logging in or seeing your child's profile, please let the office know and we will help you out. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

### Mother Language Day

On Friday 28th February, we will have a non-school uniform day in celebration of Mother Language day. We encourage that children come to school wearing something from their own culture or colours to represent a country of their choice. They can also bring an item (e.g. a scarf, game, book) to share with their class.

### Parent Code of Conduct

At Whitehall Park School, we are extremely fortunate to have a supportive and friendly parent body. Our parents recognise that educating children effectively is a process that involves partnership between parents, staff and the wider school community. As partners, our parents will understand the importance of a good working relationship to equip children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons we continue to welcome and encourage parents/carers to participate fully in the life of our school. Sometimes you may need more assistance with a particular matter, maybe you need some advice or have a specific query that can't wait until Parent Evening. In which case you can ask to make an appointment with your child's classroom teacher by giving the office a call or dropping us an email. Please do bear in mind that due to the volume of emails we receive it can take up to seven days to receive a reply, so a phone call or catching the class teacher personally can be quicker! For more information click [here](#) for the parents code of conduct and [here](#) for concerns and queries.



## Gold for TFL STARS Programme

During the last few years, the children at Whitehall Park school have been doing variety of road safety activities. For example we've taken part in walk to school week, road safety workshops, Bikeability level 1 and 2, Bikeability assemblies, road safety assemblies, parking surveillance and many more. Through these road safety activities, children have learnt to be more aware and cautious of their surroundings and be safe in their school and road settings. Due to the immense hard work and dedication, particularly the participation from our junior travel ambassadors, Whitehall Park School has received a gold award from TFL STARS for the second time. The continuation of receiving a Gold award for the second time has given our students the opportunity to get a funding of £2,000 from Islington towards our Road Safety activities and workshops! We are extremely proud of our students' achievements and are excited to use this amount on travel plan. We hope to carry on the good work and would like to congratulate our children and parents for supporting our school to be the best. We would also like to take this opportunity to encourage parents to help our children be road safety aware even when out of school. Showing them how to cross the roads properly, ride their bikes and scooters safely when going out, even driving at appropriate speeds when in the car. Children often remember the good habits shown at home which encourage them to want to do better at school. When we have such workshops, our children are really enthusiastic to tell us what they do when they're out of school to show they are Road Safety Aware like walking to the store instead of taking the bus, or going to a ride around the park to stay active.



## Tube Driver Prize

Winner of the tube driver prize at the Summer Fete Ernie, enjoyed his experience. Have a look below at what he says:

*A few weeks ago I went on the tube as I won the tube driver prize. It was incredible! I sat at the front of the train with the driver. He showed me how to make the train start and stop and how to open and close the doors. My favourite part of the day was driving the train and wearing a high visibility jacket.*

We are so happy that Ernie enjoyed his experience!!



Class	Attendance	Class	Attendance
Parsley	95%	Thyme	93%
Sage	96.2%	Rosemary	95.3%
Lavender	89.7%	Myrtle	96.2%
Jasmine	94.5%	Clove	90%
Basil	89.1%	Chamomile	96.5%
Chive	93.1%	Mint	94.7%

**Our School  
Target: 95.6%**

## Attendance Matters

Achieving good attendance and good punctuality are two important factors that ensure your child has access to the best opportunities. These past 2 weeks, we haven't reached our school target with 93.7% overall attendance. We want to encourage parents not to take their child out during term time as it affects their attendance and they are missing vital time of education. Well done to Chamomile Class, keep it up!!

# Celebrations



We are always incredibly impressed with how well our children are doing at school and are so proud of their achievements. Each week we celebrate our achievements in our Golden Book assembly, where we celebrate everyone's green behaviour and learning and even award exceptional learning with special stickers and certificates!



Name	Reason
Anouk A-E.	For her positive mindset!
Libby C.	Resilient towards her learning. B Always asking for assistance to improve her work.
Da'Jahnye S.	For being super helpful and helping teachers. Demonstrating resilience to her learning.
Gulliver E-K.	His wonderful presentation on his model of the invention of a TV.
Jonah B.	For his fantastic effort with his home learning.
Alaa Y.	For being a fantastic role model.
Sophia K.	For being a fantastic role model.
Frankiemay M.	Improving her independence in all areas of her learning.

Well done to ALL our children—you are all superstars!

