

# Whitehall Park School

## Newsletter 31st January 2020



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*Learn      Enjoy      Succeed*

### Message from the Interim Headteacher

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I thought you would like to know that I visited all the classes this Wednesday and was very impressed with the quality of teaching and learning that I saw in every class and with how well the children were working.

#### A few reminders:

##### Packed lunches

If your child wishes to change from packed lunches to school dinners or vice versa, please note that from now on this can only be done half-termly for administrative reasons.

##### Long Hair

If your child has long hair please could you ensure that it is properly tied back in school for health and safety reasons (e.g. in a plait, pony tail or bunches - hairbands are not sufficient).

##### Breakfast and After School Clubs

This is to give due notice that from April 2020 we will be asking for payment in advance for all clubs.

##### PTCA

Today I met members of the PTCA to look at the next stage of the playground development in the habitat area and I just wanted to thank all of you for your financial support and the PTCA in particular for all the work they have done in providing such a great playground for Whitehall Park children.

##### Class cards for Ms Birkett

As it has not been possible to say a proper goodbye to Ms. Birkett the children will be making class goodbye cards for her next week which the Office will send on to her.

Thank you for your kind words and support over the last two weeks.

Kind regards,  
Linda Kiernan

### Clove Class Assembly

On Tuesday 4th February, Clove class will be performing its assembly. If you'd like to come, there's no need to book—just come in after drop-off.

### Myrtle Class Assembly

On Tuesday 11th February, Myrtle Class will be performing its assembly. Please remember to bring in a costume if your child needs one, as soon as possible. If you'd like to come and see the assembly, there's no need to book—just come in after drop off.

### Half-Term

Half term will be during the week of the 17th—21st February. School will therefore be closed for children. Friday 14th February will be a normal school day with Breakfast Club and After School Clubs still running. The school will therefore close at 5pm. School will resume as usual on Monday 24th February with Breakfast Club and After School Clubs resuming on this day as well.

### Thyme Three Store Workshop

Thyme class will be going on its workshop on Friday 14th February 2020. Please make sure you give consent on SchoolsBuddy if you want your child to go. Unfortunately if consent is not given your child will not be able to attend this trip. Thank you in advance for your support and understanding.

### Year 5 PGL

Both Year 5 classes will leave for their PGL trip on Monday 10th February and will return on Friday 14th February. Children are welcome to arrive at school for 10am on the 10th February for a later start. Children will be returning to school on Friday 14th February for 1pm and you'll be able to collect your child once they arrive. If you have any queries or questions, please don't hesitate to speak to your class teacher at pick-up.

### Lock-down procedure

On the week returning back from the half term we will be having a lockdown procedure. This is nothing to worry about, it's just so we can get the children used to it, should we need to have one in the future. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask Mr Michael or to view our policy (copies are available in the office).

### PE at Whitehall Park School

At Whitehall Park we provide the children with an excellent opportunity to experience a wide variety of sports and activities in their PE lessons. In key stage one the children can expect to have an introduction to the world of physical activity, learning basic fundamental movements such as agility, balance and co-ordination, alongside running, throwing and catching. As children progress through the key stage they will be introduced to team games and learn all about spatial awareness. In key stage two the children have a focus on different sports e.g. cricket, tennis, athletics, invasion games and football. The children experience the tactical, social and technical side of sports and are encouraged to take the skills they learn into game based activities. The children receive specialist coaching from our sports coach, Jack, and this is supported by teacher led sessions all following our curriculum which is mapped out below. [Click here](#) to find out more.



## After School Clubs

At Whitehall Park School, we provide a wide range of after school club activities. We have active outdoor activities such as football, archery and cricket, as well as calm indoor activities such as arts and crafts, film club or puzzle club. We also have a range of creative clubs such as ballet, capoeira and performing arts and languages including Spanish, French and Italian. After school clubs run from 4-5pm and from Monday-Thursday we have Twilight sessions which run from 5-6pm. To find out more about our after school club team, [click here](#) to visit our website. Also, have a look below at some pictures of the activities the children get up to and enjoy!



## Mindfulness Day

On Thursday 6th February 2020, Whitehall Park School will take part in the national 'Inside Out' as a way of making us all stop and think about how someone may look OK on the outside but be feeling different on the inside. We will therefore have a non school uniform day where children will wear an item of clothing inside out.

Last year, throughout the day, the children enjoyed a numerous amount of mindfulness activities. For example, a parent came in to teach the pupils, and the teachers some yoga to help keep their minds at ease. The children were also guided through an exercise where the pupils used their imagination to visualise special places in their mind. They also had a session with Miss Spiers and used drama to explore their emotions. They came up with some ideas of how to keep our minds happy and healthy. Here are a few...

"We can challenge ourselves and set ourselves goals to keep our minds happy"



"We need to eat healthy food to keep our bodies and minds healthy"

"If I don't get enough sleep I find it hard to concentrate, so we need to make sure we go to bed on time"

"We can help each other, and put a smile on our friends face if they are feeling sad"

Class	Attendance	Class	Attendance
Parsley	93.9%	Thyme	91%
Sage	95.5%	Rosemary	93%
Lavender	67.6%	Myrtle	95.6%
Jasmine	81.4%	Clove	80%
Basil	91.1%	Chamomile	93.6%
Chive	88.5%	Mint	91.4%



### 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 89.2% 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 Myrtle 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
Umut A.	His resilience and reflection in his Maths learning.
Cyrus S.	For his improvement in his presentation across all lessons.
Andrii B.	Really concentrating on improving his handwriting
Eleanor S.	For always sharing great ideas, contributing in class and helping others.
Benjamin W.	For his fantastic descriptions in his Myth.
Rafa BB.	Going above and beyond in his home learning.
Jade M.	Consistently using finger spaces!
Hugo C.	For his improvements and hard work in his English learning.
Sara A.	Fantastic writing in English and great home learning.
Khalid Y.	For making positive contributions to class discussions.
Ernie M.	Amazing performance and commitment to his roles in our class assembly.
Eve M.	Amazing enthusiasm in our topic!

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