

# Whitehall Park School

## Newsletter 13th November 2020

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*Learn Enjoy Succeed*

### Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,  
I would like to start with a couple of Thank You's.

### Thank you!

Thank you to those of you who attended my webinar last Friday and for all the positive comments and your enthusiasm for joining working parties. If you did not have the opportunity to attend the Zoom, a link was emailed to you earlier on this week. A reminder that the deadline for the survey is 5pm on Monday so I look forward very much to reading your views and suggestions. A summary of the responses will be emailed to you in due course, along with invitations to follow up for those of you that are able to volunteer your time. Secondly, I would like to thank all of you that have attended the Structured conversations via Zoom. I have had feedback that you have welcomed the change in format but will be sending a survey out in a couple of weeks to formally gather all of your views.

### Plea for iPADS

I am desperate for every Year 6 child to have an iPad to use in the classroom each day. Currently, we have 15 for the whole of KS2 hence a huge plea from the heart to ask if you are able to donate an iPad or give a financial contribution towards this. A link will be available on SchoolsBuddy by the end of the day. Thank you in advance for your support!

### Staffing Update

We are delighted that Miss Fynaut has returned from Maternity Leave. She is currently working three days a week, which will increase to four after Christmas and be class based. Miss Nash is also officially returning on Monday 7th December following her Maternity Leave.

### Fundraising Plans

I can hardly believe that we have 5 weeks left before we break for Christmas. Due to the lockdown restrictions, we are unable to do Christmas events as we planned but we will certainly make up for it once we have got some kind of normality next year! Obviously, we won't be able to deliver big events. However, our PTCA has been busy gathering fundraising ideas and will be in touch with you all shortly.

### Lines of communication

Many parents have been in direct contact with me regarding concerns they might have in their child's class. Most of these issues could be dealt with by the class teacher. We have attached a document regarding lines of communication so you clearly know who to contact should you need support with anything. Thank you for your ongoing support and understanding.

Today, we are celebrating World's Kindness Day. Our children have been thinking of ways they can show acts of kindness, made cards to show their appreciation for someone and way more so I would like to end this paragraph with one of my favourite quote:  
"No kindness how ever small is ever wasted."

Best wishes  
Ms Helen Tyler



### Odd Socks Day—Anti Bullying week

To mark the start of the week, we will be wearing odd socks on Monday 16th November. This is an opportunity to raise awareness and for children to celebrate their uniqueness. For more information on Anti-Bullying week, please have a look at the next page.

### Individual pictures—16th, 17th November and 18th Nov

Pret-a-portrait will be coming in from Monday 16th to Wednesday 18th November to take individual student pictures. Sibling pictures have been postponed and will take place in the Summer Term. Please make sure your child comes to school in their full uniform including blazer. If your child has PE or a sports based After School Club on either of these days, please do send them into school in their full uniform for these days. Thank you for your cooperation.

### Meet the Teacher—Mint Class

You will have the opportunity to meet Mint class's new teacher, Mr Martin, on Tuesday 17th November at 5pm. Please use the zoom link that has been emailed to you to join this meeting. We hope that many of you can join!

### Meet the Teacher—Lavender Class

You will have the opportunity to meet Lavender class's new teacher, Miss Lutumba on Thursday 19th November at 5pm. Please use the zoom link that has been emailed to you to join this meeting. We hope that many of you can join!

### Families in need

Islington are providing foodbanks for the increasing number of families who are struggling. There are many ways to support [your local foodbank](#) (such as donating money, food, organising a collection or [donating](#)) for the most vulnerable residents during the pandemic. If you are a business and are able to make a large food donation, please email [weareislington@islington.gov.uk](mailto:weareislington@islington.gov.uk). Thank you in advance for your continued support for our community.



### Reception survey

If you are a Reception class parent, please make sure you complete the survey through [this link](#). The deadline for this to be completed is Wednesday 18th November. Thank you for your cooperation.



### National School Meals Week

This week was National Schools Meals Week. This campaign highlights the benefits of school meals and to celebrate school caterers. A big Thank you to our amazing chef Mpaka and her great team for cooking delicious meals for our children every day!

## Anti-bullying week—16th-20th November 2020

Anti-Bullying Week 2020 is happening from Monday 16th – Friday 20th November and has the theme '**United Against Bullying**'. It is coordinated by the Anti-Bullying Alliance, which is based at leading children's charity the National Children's Bureau. We have worked with over 300 children and young people to decide the theme for this year.

Whether it is verbal, physical, online or in-person, bullying has a significant impact on a child's life well in to their adulthood. This year, more than ever, we have witnessed the positive power that society can have when we come together to tackle a common challenge. Anti-Bullying Week is no different. Bullying has a long lasting effect on those who experience and witness it. But, by channelling our collective power, through shared efforts and shared ambitions, we can reduce bullying together. From parents and carers, teachers and politicians, to children and young people, we all have our part to play in coming together to make a difference. We are all a piece in the puzzle, and together, we are united against bullying.



This year we are holding Odd Socks Day with the support of Andy Day, CBeebies star and front man of Andy and the Odd Socks. It is a chance for primary schools to celebrate Anti-Bullying Week in a positive way by asking pupils to wear odd socks to school. There is no pressure to wear the latest fashion or buy expensive costumes.

All you have to do to take part is wear odd socks, it could not be simpler! Odd Socks Day is designed to be fun! It's an opportunity for children to express themselves and celebrate their uniqueness.



# 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 certificates!



Name	Reason
Scarlett M.	Picking up the pace with her learning
Kasper H.	For his resilience in overcoming obstacles in his writing!
Jonelle A.	For an amazing piece of writing this week.
Zoe W.	For pushing herself to do challenging work this week.
Felipe B.	For writing an amazing acrostic poem linked to remembrance.
Archie M.	For creating a fantastic acrostic poem about Remembrance Day.
Lola U-W.	For being an exceptional and respectful member of Nutmeg. Continue having a growth mindset, I am proud of you!
Eva W.	An improvement in her learning and handwriting.
Thierry C.	For his amazing attitude towards his learning this week! Fabulous writing too!
Dexter W.	For being kind and displaying green behaviour especially during tidy up time.

## Attendance Matters

Achieving good attendance and good punctuality are two important factors that ensure your child has access to the best opportunities. During these unprecedented times, unless we have medical evidence that your child is required to shield, he/she needs to be in school as per the DFE Statutory requirements. This is paramount in these times of recovering children's loss of learning and routines. Well done to Jasmine class!

Class	Attendance	Class	Attendance
Parsley	94.5%	Rosemary	96.2%
Sage	90.3%	Clove	98.6%
Lavender	98.8%	Myrtle	96.6%
Jasmine	99.6%	Chamomile	94%
Basil	96.7%	Mint	99.2%
Chive	97%	Cinnamon	98.5%
Thyme	94.6%	Nutmeg	98.1%