



Newsletter

April 2017

A place to
SMILE

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you had an enjoyable Easter break. I can't believe it's nearly May already (the weather isn't helping!) and so this term is going to fly by for the children. You will see from the diary dates that there is lots happening this term, as usual. Fingers crossed for lots more sunshine and preferably a bit more warmth, too, so that we can enjoy getting out into our school grounds during the summer months.

Lesley Pennington—Headteacher

Tick Advice

Just a reminder that during May and June, the whole of the Whiteley area is prone to ticks. Parents may like to familiarise themselves with the advice on our school website regarding prevention, identification and treatment. You'll find this in the parents/health advice section.

Clothes Recycling

The next date for our clothes recycling collection is Tuesday 23rd May. Please bring any contributions of clothes, shoes or bags to the basket ball court between 8 and 9am to support the Friends of Whiteley Primary School. You can use any sort of carrier/plastic bag.



Tag Rugby—Report from Mr White

On Monday 13th March 2017, a group of 11 Year 6 children and one child from Year 5 represented Whiteley Primary School in the annual Fareham Games. This is a tournament organised by Hampshire which asks local districts to host sporting events with the top teams going through to the next stages at Aldershot Army Camp to use their wonderful facilities to play against the best sporting opposition the county has to offer. Some of the team had played rugby together for the school but some had never played competitively before, although this was not evident. From the moment the whistle was blown in the first of three group games, the communication, desire and skill was evident. The team was led by Alfie Smith and he decided to do all his leading by example. This encouraged Whiteley to go on and win all three of their group stage matches and play Park Gate in the final due to them winning their pool. The competition was well organised and showed real potential with some clinical passes and moving into space. However, Whiteley maintained their unbeaten run with some fantastic tries and now prepare themselves for the Hampshire Games in June! Well done Whiteley!

Staff Vacancies

We currently have a position for a midday supervisor available to start later this term. Please contact the office for more details. We are also recruiting two classroom based teaching assistants for September, one for KS1 and one for KS2. Full details for these positions can be downloaded from the Hantsnet job pages, or forms are available at the school office.



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Support for Whiteley Pre-School

If you shop at Tesco during May and June, please could you consider showing support for Whiteley Pre-School who have been selected as one of the charities to benefit through the 'Bags of Help' scheme next month? You can vote to support their project using the token given to you at the checkout.

Whiteley Citizenship Award

Congratulations to Emily Ashmore who was awarded the Citizenship Cup for the Spring term.

Cross Country Team—A Fantastic New Look for Next Season!

After their amazing winning streak over the past season, we are delighted that a parent has offered sponsorship to our cross country team so that they will be able to compete in new running vests next season. We look forward to being able to share a picture of the new kit on the website soon—I know the children will be really excited and they will look like professionals! A huge thank you to Mr Wilby-Lopez for his generous support.

Bookworm Reading Challenge

Congratulations to the Y1-3 children who have already managed to achieve their 'Superstar Bookworm Award'. These children have managed to read aloud 200 times over the year already to an adult—that's nearly every single day since the challenge started—and it has been a pleasure to meet them in my office to choose a book as a reward. We hope that many more children will achieve this by the end of term, and we are still delighted to be awarding the bronze, silver and gold badges as children reach these milestones. Thank you to all the parents who have supported with this challenge—it has really made such a difference with the children's reading confidence.



FOWPS Events

After a very successful Bunny Run, FOWPS have two key events this term to help raise the funds for the three interactive screens needed in Y1, as well as the clothes collection and the summer discos.

Firstly, there is another quiz night arranged on Friday 19th May with our fab quiz masters, Steve and Stuart. Please contact the school office if you would like to book a table (£16 a team for up to 8 people).

The final event of the academic year will be the Summer Fayre which is booked for the last Saturday of term, 22nd July. In our 20th anniversary year, we really hope to make this a great success. FOWPS are already taking bookings for stallholders, so please contact them through their Facebook page or via the school office if you would like to book a place.

INSET Days 2017-18

We now have all INSET days for the next academic year booked as follows:

Monday 4th September
Monday 25th September
Monday 30th October
Friday 2nd March
Monday 23rd July

Internet Safety—Update

In previous newsletters, I've referred you to an excellent website called parentinfo.org which has a host of articles to support parents, including those to support with internet safety. This month, I'd like to highlight an article about Minecraft which would be useful for any parents of children who are fans of the on-line game, or who like to watch YouTube clips of people playing the game: <http://parentinfo.org/article/staying-safe-on-minecraft>