



Newsletter



No. 35

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Dear Parents / Carers,

Many thanks this week to all parents who are continuing to support their children's learning at home. We thought it might be worth explaining that teachers send work to Miss Hall by the close on a Friday afternoon. Miss Hall then has the job of putting this all onto the website. Most of this uploading is completed on a Monday morning. Therefore please be mindful that there may be a slight delay in the new work being available, but it will all become live for use as swiftly as possible.

As you are all aware, schools have been requested to make plans for a possible, wider reopening from 1st June 2020. This reopening was advised for Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. The government has also stated that where schools are able, they would welcome the return of other year groups. The decision around how and when to reopen to more pupils is an operational one which sits with head teachers and school governors.

We originally stated that after the phase return of Reception, Year 1 and 6, Whitnash Primary were keen to ensure all children have had the opportunity to return to school before the summer holiday. This is intended to support pupils with feeling ready for September and to maintain a link with school for children's mental well-being. At Whitnash Primary School we want to offer a phased reintegration for some other year groups. This proposed phase return will begin from Wednesday 24th June with Year 4. Details regarding this, and the reintegration proposed for Year 3 have been sent to the relevant families.

The school has the intention to work towards the reintegration of Year 2 and 5 also, but we need to take a stage approach to ensure we can deliver what is offered. As you can appreciate this relies on us being able to maintain our staffing capacity, and the number of pupils returning. We want to make it clear that any proposal is always subject to change, so it is worth making this clear to your children so not to cause any future disappointment if we can't proceed for any reason.



It is worth noting the school has informally discussed more full-time provision for Year 1 and Reception with some parents and the teachers. It is felt at this time, that we need to take a sensible and steady approach to this. The children returning have been incredibly resilient, but it is clear that this is an anxious and unsettling time for many of them. We are mindful that we don't want to cause any further emotional pressure, or lengthen the day in the controlled environment we are having to operate at the expense of their enjoyment of school. We will of course keep this under continued review. We are also mindful that we do not know the government's plans for September. If social distancing continues due to an increase in the spread of the virus, you can appreciate that there may well need to be a continuation of some part-time schooling for some or all year groups. We want to thank you all for your understanding. We also want to make it clear that we understand that sending your children to school at this time is a big decision for parents and one which is personal to each and every family.

The teachers were hard at work during the lock down period. Not only were they working alongside Key Workers' children on a rota in school, they were also liaising with parents and preparing work for Home Learning. In addition they have written school reports for each and every child as we would normally do this time of year. However, these reports can only report on children's progress up until the Spring Term at the point we closed. These reports will be sent via email to parents on Monday 6th July 2020.

A letter will also be sent out next week to inform you of your child's class teacher for September 2020. Of course, despite not knowing what life will be like at this time, we are planning for all eventualities and therefore thought early notification of any staff changes would be helpful.



Wishing you all a wonderful weekend. Mrs Ellison, Headteacher

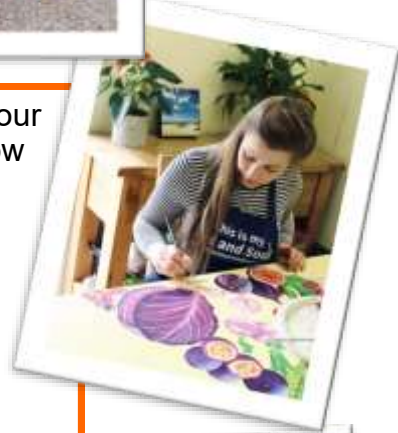
Eat The Rainbow



Mrs Gougeon has created this wonderful sign for our school. It will be placed above the kitchen window for all to see.

FACTS:

It is 5.5m long and 1.2m high
It took five weeks to paint
There are 104 different fruits, vegetables and health foods - can you name them all?



Class Photos

As we will not be having the school photographer this year for class photos, they have compiled group photos using the individual shots taken last year. There is now a link on the home page of our website.

whitnashprimaryschool.com



Don't forget to make your pom poms!

Easy to make by using:



Darcy enjoying her lesson in diffusion.



Message from Miss Hall

If you would like to put a message, joke, picture, anything in the year 6 leavers book, please email it to: admin2324@welearn365.com.

Also

If you have any wonderful recipes you would like to contribute to our 'Whitnash Lockdown Cook Book' please email these to:

admin2324@welearn365.com

Please add your child's name so we know who it is from..

Also we would love some photos of your creation, plus some of you making it too!

Madison has been working very hard on her fractions workbook.



Look how busy you have been this week!



Evie's work.



This is Tyler on his first day back at reception and he was super excited to see Miss Russell.



Phoebe and Lily have been super busy this week! They both cooked us dinner (sweet and sour chicken with rice) following a zoom cook along and made a pizza oven to play with. Lily threw herself into a huge comprehension about Henry VIII and Phoebe has really enjoyed the more play based activities this week, setting up a toy hunt round the house, painting a sunflower and making a mermaid 2D shape scene (complete with underwater snowman!)



Captain Reagan has been getting into character for her pirate work.



Also Darcy and Reagan have copied out their stories from their home learning and written a covering letter and sent them to the queen.



Sophie's brilliant art work.



This story has been written by a sister of one of our parents. She has very kindly shared this with our school.

The Back to School Superheroes



Once upon a time there was a little girl called Annie. She was a very special little girl with a very special job. She was a superhero. A real-life, Stay Home Superhero!

One day she heard that because Stay Home Superheroes all around the world had been doing such a good job of staying at home, the Big Problem was getting smaller and smaller. This was great news! Their superpowers were working! Did this mean she could go and see her friends and her grandparents again? She hoped so. She was missing them SO much. She went to ask her daddy.

"Soon it will be time to see everyone again, but first, there's a brand-new superhero mission to complete!" he explained. "A brand-new mission? What is it?" asked Annie.

"Well, the world had to close down for a little while to help shrink the Big Problem, but now it's time to start opening it back up again! We can't do it all at once, it has to be little by little so that the Problem keeps getting smaller. We need some superhero help, so you are going to become a Back to School Superhero!" said daddy.

Annie felt excited, then nervous, then excited again. She really wanted to go back to school and see all her friends, but she felt a little scared too. It had been such a long time. And the Big Problem was getting smaller, but it wasn't completely gone yet... Was it really safe to go back?

Her daddy explained that all the teachers had been working extra hard to get the school ready. "They have made lots of changes to help all you Back to School Superheroes complete your missions safely." He said. "What kind of changes?" asked Annie.

Her daddy sat down with her and explained that they had got lots of Superhero Soap ready for all the extra hand washing and that all the classrooms had been transformed into special Superhero Headquarters! "You're going to be put into special teams for this mission, so you might not be with all of your friends, and you might have a different teacher too." Daddy explained.

But that wasn't fair! Annie wanted to be back with all her friends and her teacher, just like before. "I know it might seem strange. But each team needs to stay inside a special protective bubble, and the bubbles can't fit whole classes inside just yet. But it won't be like that forever. It's just until the Big Problem gets even smaller and the bubbles get even bigger," said Daddy. "Bubbles? Do you mean like superhero forcefields?" "Yes! Just like that. Your bubble will be invisible, but still super strong."

Annie felt very proud that she was going to be a Back to School Superhero. She was excited to see her new classroom headquarters and to try out her brand-new superhero bubble. She was still nervous, but she knew she'd had lots of practice at being brave and coping with big changes as a Stay Home Superhero. Annie knew she could use her superpowers to take on this next mission too.

So after weeks and weeks of staying at home, she finally went back to school! Annie loved being back, learning and having fun, but her daddy was right, lots of things were different to before.

There weren't many tables and chairs and lots of things had been packed away. They all had their very own special set of pencils and pens and they weren't allowed to share. They didn't have big assemblies or eat their lunch together in the hall and there were lots of stickers on the floor to show them where to go too.

Sometimes all the changes and the long list of new rules made Annie feel worried and frustrated too. She wished things could be like before. She wished she could hug her teacher and share her pencils and sit right next to her very best friend. She wished she could eat hot dinners in the big hall and be back in her old classroom.

Everyone felt the same the same as Annie, even her teacher! They all missed things being like they were before, and they all felt sad and grumpy and worried sometimes too. This just meant they had to take extra special care of each other. They used their superpowers to be extra kind and show how much they cared about each other, even from a distance. They wrote letters, drew pictures and found new creative ways to play and learn together while staying apart.

Annie and her superhero friends worked and played in their bubbles each day. And although lots of things were different, lots of things stayed the same too. School was still a happy, safe place to be. There were still always grownups there to help. There were still friends to play with and talk to. There was still lots of laughter and lots of learning. And they were all still superheroes, working together to help to save the world.