

Whitnash Primary School

'Learning, growing and succeeding together'

Headteacher
Mrs Donna Ellison



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Dear Parents/Carers

We are really delighted that you have chosen Whitnash Primary School for your child this September.

We are immensely proud of our school, passionate about providing an 'inclusive' education for all children, and committed to the development of the whole-child. Since being appointed as Headteacher at Whitnash in January 2016, I have been tremendously excited and proud to lead a school which is absolutely committed to enriching the lives and education of all its pupils. You will find our school to be supportive, welcoming and nurturing.

As parents, you are the first educators of your child and so we will actively seek and value your contribution in working with us to give your child the best education that we can. We are really looking forward to working with you and your child.

Due to the unfortunate circumstances with COVID-19, our arrangements for new pupils has had to adapt. Having been unable to do our usual Transition Day and Home Visits, we would like to offer the opportunity for parents and children to visit the school. We realise some of you have not been able to visit the setting and may have questions about your child starting school. Therefore we want to provide an outdoor 'Questions and Answers / Meet and Greet' opportunity.

Even though restrictions are relaxing, this gathering will be held outdoors in an appropriately socially distanced way for everyone's safety. This session has been arranged for **Tuesday 29th June 2021**, with two sessions **10.30-11.00am** and **11.30am-12.00pm**. You will be allocated a slot when class allocation has been finalised.

At this session you will be able to meet your child's class teachers. On leaving the session, you will have the opportunity to walk through the Reception classrooms. Your Reception child is welcome to attend this session, but please be mindful that the current classrooms are organised in a slightly different way due to COVID-19 and may not be reflective of what it will be like in September.

Please find attached to this email the following information:

- **A booklet** which explains practical information and some useful advice to help your child's transition into the Reception Class as smooth as possible. You can bring this booklet to the meeting for reference and to make notes.

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- **Admission Form** – Please read and complete both sides of this form and return to school at your earliest convenience. If you are the main point of contact please put your details first, followed by any other contacts. It is extremely important that every section of the form is completed. Please include any mobile numbers and email addresses as we send important information through texts and emails. If your details change at any time, **please inform the office as soon as possible**.
- **School Uniform** – List of our current uniform suppliers.
- **School Uniform Policy** – For your information.
- **School Meals** - All children up to year 2 receive Universal Free School meals. If, however, you qualify for Free School meals under the entitlement criteria i.e. if you receive certain benefits, the school receives additional funding called Pupil Premium. This is used to help raise achievement levels.
- **Free School Meals Letter** – How you can apply for free school meals.
- **Lunch Menu** – Due to COVID-19, the current menus are slightly different. Attached shows you a cooked meal and a deli bag. Currently we alternate weekly between the cooked menu in a box and the deli bag. We shall look to resume lunches to the pre-COVID menu when it is deemed safe to return all children in the dining hall to consume their lunch. You will be notified when this will happen.
- **School Milk** – See enclosed letter and leaflet which explains when your child receives free milk and what to do if you wish to continue to pay for School milk.
- **Privacy Notice, Data Sharing with Third Parties** – For your information.
- **Consent for the Recording and Use of Images** – Please read, sign and return this form to school.
- **School Calendar for 2021/22**– This calendar gives you the main school holidays and INSET days. This will also be available on our website and from the school office.
- **Newsletter** – This is a sample of our weekly newsletters. This gives you information on a variety of things, such as events coming up, what the children have been doing and also community events. It also has the following week's dinner menu on the back each week. These are sent via email through Parent Pay and are on the website, but you can pick up a hard copy from the school office.
- **Breakfast Club Information** – Please see letter enclosed explaining the process of booking your child into our Breakfast Club. Please note, that places at Breakfast Club are limited, and we cannot guarantee a place.
- **After School Club** – After School Club will be run by Go Go Makers or the school itself. Please complete the attached 'Expression of Interest' form if you are interested in an after school place

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Additional Information

- **Achievement Assembly** – Every Friday we have an achievement assembly where one or two children from each class are chosen to share their achievements with the rest of the school and family and friends. **Please note** that currently, due to COVID-19 restrictions, these assemblies have been recorded and are uploaded onto our website each week. Any certificates are emailed home. We will resume normal assemblies when it is deemed safe to do so.
- **Fruit** – Your child will receive free fruit every morning.
- **Parent Pay** – Once your child starts school, you will receive a letter which will contain unique log in and password information for you to activate your account. Please activate your account as soon as possible, as all payments/newsletters etc are sent through Parent Pay.

If there are any questions you may have, doesn't matter how big or how small, please do not hesitate to contact us at admin2324@welearn365.com or telephone 01926 426773. We are very happy to help you and your children in this very exciting start to their educational journey.

Best wishes.

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Mrs D Ellison
Headteacher