



# Newsletter



No. 01

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[www.whitnashprimaryschool.com](http://www.whitnashprimaryschool.com)

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Dear Parents / Carers,

What a relief it has been to have reached the Friday of our first week back at school. It is such a great feeling to have children back in school again, seeing them enjoying their learning and seeing their friends. We are delighted that 95% of our pupils have been in school this week.

We are astounded by how well children have returned to school. After such a long period of time away from education we are amazed at how children have adapted. We know that this has not been easy on any of them and we are very grateful of all the support parents have given in preparing their children for this return. We know that for some children, the effect of lock down and COVID-19 has been significant, and some children have struggled a great deal with the situation. We are currently supporting children where these difficulties have been identified. If you are concerned about your child and haven't informed us of your concerns, please contact us via telephone, or email [ellison.d@welearn365.com](mailto:ellison.d@welearn365.com) and let us know. We are keen to do all we can to support children through this emotionally challenging time.

As you are aware, the arrangements in school are different than "normal". We are all in a period of adjustment as we get used to these new arrangements, but we thank everyone for their patience and understanding. The arrangements are designed with your children's safety at the fore, so we are grateful of everyone's continued patience and perseverance. In particular, the staggered start and finish times that are needed to support us maintain social distancing for the school and local community. We know that this causes greater inconvenience, but we thank you all for your understanding.

We apologise that the Acre Close gate was not opened this morning. The council have been opening it, but we weren't aware until the last minute that it was still locked this morning. At this stage, we weren't able to rectify the situation. Moving forward we will endeavour to keep an eye on the gate and open it as necessary. There will be the odd day that this is not possible due to staff shortages, but hopefully these will be few and far between.

Many parents have asked about children bringing a snack for break time. The free fruit scheme for Key Stage 1 and Reception has not started for schools yet. However, we are happy for children to bring a piece of fruit from home for their break. This fruit can be sent to school in their paper lunch bag, or in their coat pocket. We insist on fruit only for the reason of promoting healthy eating. We continue to insist that all home lunches are only sent to school in paper bags so to reduce any risk of home-school or school-home transmission.

We are looking forward to welcoming our new Reception children to Whitnash Primary on Monday. Thank you to all our new parents who have visited school this week. Hopefully, you are all feeling reassured about your child starting school and have all the necessary information you need. If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will do all we can to support.

We would like to take the opportunity to thank you all for the continued support for our school. Hopefully all parents will have all enjoyed their very well-earned rest this week!! Thank you to all our amazing staff for your continued commitment to our school - you have all done a brilliant job and our school is blessed to have you all on the team.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Donna Ellison  
Headteacher

## New PE Arrangements

A letter has been emailed to you today regarding the new arrangements for PE. Please see below the days your child will have PE.

Class	Allocated PE day
Hazel / Hawthorn	Wednesday
Pine / Cedar	Tuesday
Maple	Thursday
Juniper / Chestnut	Friday
Ash	Tuesday
Oak	Thursday

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

It is crucial that Whitnash Primary ensures that pupils, staff and other adults do not come into the school if they have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms or have tested positive in at least the last 10 days. It is vital that we ensure anyone developing those symptoms during the school day is also sent home. As you are all aware, these are essential actions to reduce the risk in schools and further drive down transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19).

We therefore need all parents to be open and honest about their children's ailments and quick to respond when a request is made to collect their child from school. Please do not send your child to school if they are unwell.

If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new and persistent cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), we must ensure that they are sent home and parents will be advised to follow guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection, which sets out that they should self-isolate for at least 10 days and should arrange to have a test to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19).

If they have tested positive whilst not experiencing symptoms but develop symptoms during the isolation period, they should restart the 10-day isolation period from the day they develop symptoms.

Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.

We are increasingly aware that the symptoms may differ in children. In particular, we are mindful of symptoms relating to sickness and diarrhoea and will discuss cases of such illnesses with parents as they arise.

Anyone with symptoms can get a coronavirus test, whatever their age.

Tests can be booked online through the NHS testing and tracing for coronavirus website, or ordered by telephone via NHS 119 for those without access to the internet. Essential workers, which includes anyone involved in education or childcare, have priority access to testing.

All schools have been provided with a small number of home testing kits that we can give directly to parents/carers collecting a child who has developed symptoms at school.

Parents must inform us **immediately** of the results of a test and follow this guidance.

- If someone tests negative, if they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to coronavirus (COVID-19), they can stop self-isolating. They could still have another virus, such as a cold or flu – in which case it is still best to avoid contact with other people until they are better. Other members of their household can stop self-isolating.
- If someone tests positive, they should follow the guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection and must continue to self-isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of their symptoms and then return to school only if they do not have symptoms other than cough or loss of sense of smell/taste. This is because a cough or anosmia can last for several weeks once the infection has gone. The 10-day period starts from the day when they first became ill. If they still have a high temperature, they should keep self-isolating until their temperature returns to normal. Other members of their household should continue self-isolating for the full 14 days.

We expect all parents to adhere to this guidance and follow the governments guidance relating to social distancing.

There remains a risk to the school and community if the guidance is not followed by all.

We appreciate your cooperation.

## Darcy & Reagan get a letter from the Queen!



*"The Queen wishes me to thank you both for your letter and imaginative stories."*

*Although unable to reply to you personally, Her Majesty much appreciates your kind thought for her at this time, and hopes you are keeping safe and well during the*

*current situation;*

*I am to thank you very much once again for your letter, and Darcy's story about her own mythical beast, and Reagan's story about her favourite toy."*

## While Anaïs and Andrei make their own instruments.



### PARENT PAY

Thank you to everyone who has activated their Parent Pay account. Even though we have minor problems now and then, this has proved to be an invaluable system which makes us able to process payment in a totally secure way.

**We now only have 20 pupils not registered from Year 1 to Year 6.**

**Parent Pay is not only a system for paying in money, it is also our main source for communication with parents and carers and we would not want you to miss important information**

If you have not already done so can you please activate your Parent Pay account. You won't need to register a payment card and no bank details are requested. This is only asked for when you make a payment. However, you can pay cash at any store showing the PayPoint Logo.

For your nearest PayPoint store go to:  
<https://consumer.paypoint.com/>

If you need your Parent Pay activation details, please contact the school office.

### New Reception

Once your child starts next week, they will be added to the system and you will receive activation details. We ask that you activate your account as soon as possible.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Warwickshire County Council

### Adult and Community Learning

Family Learning - Making learning fun!  
Free Course for Parents/Carers with children starting in

Would like:

- to understand how to support your child's literacy development
- ideas to help your child at home
- to get to know other parents

Then this **free** short ONLINE course, could be right for you!

Sessions are 1 hour long and run once a week for 4 weeks. Times and dates to be confirmed.

Topics Covered: Early Reading  
Early Writing  
Oral Language  
Print in the Environment

There are two sessions available:

Tuesday evenings  
7.30 – 8.30 pm 29<sup>th</sup> Sept – 20<sup>th</sup> October  
Thursday mornings  
1<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> October 9.30 – 10.30 am

If you are interested, please email Jo Parvez – Family Learning Tutor:  
[joanneparvez@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:joanneparvez@warwickshire.gov.uk)

Holidays 2020/21	
26.10.20 - 22.10.20	Half Term
21.12.20 - 01.01.21	Christmas Holiday
15.02.21 - 19.02.21	Half Term
02.04.21 - 16.04.21	Easter Holiday
03.05.21	May Day
31.05.21 - 04.06.21	Half Term
20.07.21	Summer Holidays

Breakfast Club starts on Monday  
14th September 2020

### **INSET DAYS**

Friday 23rd October 2020  
Monday 4th January 2021  
Monday 22nd February 2021  
Wednesday 21st July 2021



## Claim your free school meal today

- ✓ Get your child a tasty nutritious meal every day.
- ✓ Save over £400 a year and hours of time on making packed lunches.
- ✓ Our school gets over £1,300 for every registered pupil.






To find out if you are eligible go to:

[www.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-learning/apply-free-school-meals](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-learning/apply-free-school-meals)

For menu information go to: [www.educaterers.co.uk](http://www.educaterers.co.uk)



## Lunch Menu - Week 2 - 7th September 2020

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
 <p>(v) Cheese Soft Bap</p> <p><b>Chicken Fillet Wrap</b></p> <p>Flapjack Fresh Fruit Juice Carton</p>	 <p>Roast Chicken Wrap</p> <p><b>Hot Dog</b></p> <p>(v) Veggie Hot Dog (for vegetarians only)</p> <p>Homemade Sponge Fresh Fruit Milkshake</p>	 <p>Ham Soft Bap</p> <p><b>Beef burger in a Bap</b></p> <p>(v) Veggie Fingers in a Bap (for vegetarians only)</p> <p>Ice Cream Tub Juice Carton</p>	 <p>Tuna Mayo Sandwich</p> <p><b>(v) Margarita Pizza</b></p> <p>Chocolate Shortbread Fresh Fruit Milkshake</p>	 <p>(v) Cheese Soft Bap</p> <p><b>Fish Fillet Finger Bap</b></p> <p>Dinky Doughnuts Juice Carton</p>

All deli bags are served with either vegetable sticks or salad. Ketchup is offered with the hot bap of the day.

Please note that the colour of meal is the colour that is ordered with the kitchen.  
Any vegetarian dishes are display with a (v)