

# Headteacher's Newsletter



July 2023 | Issue 2

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is my last newsletter for this school year and what an wonderful year it has been!



Thank you to all the children, parents, staff and governors for their commitment and support over the year.

Good bye to all our families who are moving on, we wish you all the best.

It has been a delight to be part of your child's learning this year.

**Carolyn Kennedy**  
Deputy Headteacher



## Reminders

**Nursery last day of term—  
Wednesday 19th July 2023**

**Reception, Year 1 and Year 2  
Last day of school Thursday  
20th July 2023.**

Class/Year Group	Finish Time
Spruce and Larch	12:00pm
Cedar and Birch	12:10pm
Year 1	12:15pm
Year 2	12:20pm

First day back for children in  
Year One and Year Two

**Tuesday 5th September 2023**

**Nursery and Reception start dates vary.**  
**Please check your child's induction letter**

**New Start and Finish Times**  
**from September 2023**

**All children** will be able to come into school from **8:30am** and will finish at **3pm**

## **School Lunches—Changes to how you order**

From September, we will be returning to ordering school lunches in school and not using the Pantry website like we have done during the last year. This will enable school staff to have more control and be able to support families and children without needing access to the website.

Your child will come home with a three week menu that rotates through the autumn term.

- Write their name and new class at the top of the menu.
- **Highlight/circle or tick** the choices you would like your child to have everyday for each menu.
- Return your child's menu to the class teacher on the **first day back to school in September.**

Thank you for your support!

**School Reports and Feedback**

All parents should now have received your child's end of year report.

Please return the report feedback form and the parent questionnaire by **20th July 2023**



Mrs Fawcett will be retiring at the end of the term after almost 30 years working at Whitehall. We would like to thank her for all her hard work and commitment to the children of Whitehall and I know she will be missed by many. Good luck and enjoy your retirement.



**Leaving Whitehall Infant School**

Please remember to let us know if your child will not be returning to Whitehall Infant School (or Whitehall Junior school for the current Year 2 children) in September.

If you move out of the area over the summer holidays, please email us on **office@mail.whitehallinf.org**

with details of the school your child will be attending.

**Starting Junior School**

If your child is starting a Junior school in September that is **not Whitehall Junior School**, please visit the main school office as soon as possible. We need you to complete a leavers form to ensure your child's file is sent to their new school.



**We have new staff who will be joining our Whitehall Team.**

**Mrs Barrow** has joined our premises team

**Mrs Hirani** will be joining us as the class teacher of Pine class.

**Miss Sennick** will be joining us as the class teacher of Beech class

**Travelling Abroad**



Please do not take leave during term time. If you do need to travel abroad, you must email us with the reason why and request the leave. It is very important that you keep us updated with where your child is during school term time. We have a duty of care to every child during this time and need to ensure we follow the correct safeguarding procedures.

If your child is abroad or you are planning to take your child abroad soon, please ensure they are back in the UK in time for school to return in September.

Please refer to the next academic year term dates to plan your holidays (end of newsletter).

Reminder - Autumn Term 2023 PE Timetable

Class	PE Days
NAM	Wednesday
NPM	Wednesday
Larch	Wednesday
Birch	Thursday
Spruce	Monday
Beech	Tuesday & Friday
Willow	Monday & Thursday
Elm	Tuesday & Friday
Pine	Monday & Thursday
Peacock	Tuesday & Thursday
Flamingo	Tuesday & Wednesday
Toucan	Monday & Thursday
Kingfisher	Monday & Friday

Your child will be taking part in PE on the day/s indicated in the table on the left

**Children should bring their PE kit to school to get changed. They will no longer be able to wear their PE kit to school .**



We are fortunate to enjoy the support of many members of our community including our Governors who attend meetings and help with the ongoing improvement and development of our school, guests who come to host an assembly, our caterers and kitchen staff, our premises team including Mr Heath, our office staff and all our teaching and support staff. All of these people help to enrich the lives of our pupils and are a valuable asset to us.

School Uniform

We are fortunate to always have families offering us donations of clean school uniform in an excellent condition. **Spare uniform will be available at the end of the day on Thursday this week.** Given the rise in the cost of living and being so close to the end of the year we are urging any families who require school uniform to get in touch and we will offer support where we are able to.

September 2023 Reminders

Labelling Uniform

There are often items that can't be returned to their rightful owners as they are not labelled. Please write your child's name on clothing, water bottles, lunch boxes and book bags.



Items your child does not need

**We do not have large rucksacks in school.** Please only allow your child to bring in a book bag or a small bag to bring in their PE kit.

**No shoes/trainers with laces.** These pose a health and safety risk as children do not know how to tie laces yet. If your child is able to tie laces please have a discussion with their class teacher so that we are confident they will be able to do this independently.

You can order Whitehall logo uniform from PMG Sportswear

Healthy Week - 26th June—30th June 2023

Healthy week was a great success! All children took part in different workshops to develop their understanding of healthy living. By the end of the week the children were confident with explaining different ways to keep healthy. This included:

- getting enough sleep
- brushing their teeth twice a day
- eating a balanced diet
- getting lots of exercise.

The children also learnt that being healthy incorporates having a healthy mind. The children took part in a Bhangra dance workshop which allowed them to express themselves in a new way!

Thank you to all the parents/carers who attended sports day. The morning provided a good opportunity for the children to showcase their athleticism. Each child was awarded a special sports day sticker and medals were also given out in classes to award good sportsmanship and determination.



**AFTER SCHOOL SPORTS CLUBS**

**WHITEHALL INFANT SCHOOL**

**RECEPTION**

MULTI SPORTS CLUB

Monday

11th Sept - 11th Dec 23

£65 (13 weeks)

**YEARS 1 & 2**

FOOTBALL CLUB

Tuesday

5th Sept - 12th Dec 23

£70 (14 weeks)

**YEARS 1 & 2**

MULTI SPORTS CLUB

Wednesday

6th Sept - 14th Dec 23

£70 (14 weeks)



**Book Online:**  
[www.thepsdgroup.org.uk/psd-clubs](http://www.thepsdgroup.org.uk/psd-clubs)



0203 397 7409

info@thepsdgroup.org.uk



We have had lots of performances during the last two weeks of term.

Well done to **Larch class** for an excellent class assembly where you recapped on all the learning that you have done this year.

Well done to the **whole of Year Two** on their excellent graduation performances. The singing was some of the best I have heard so far! We wish you all the best of luck for the future.

### Family Newsletter

We have recently sent out our family newsletter that provides lots of different advice and tips around safeguarding your children at home and during the holidays. Please do refer to this newsletter if you have any worries or concerns for advice.

### School contact during the summer holidays

The **school is closed** from Friday 21st July until Sunday 3rd September 2023.

The office emails will not be checked as regularly as they would be during the school year. If you do contact the school it will take longer for us to reply and you may not receive a response until September.

In the mean time we will be adding dates and information to our website. Please keep an eye out throughout the holidays. Any important information will be communicated via email or text.

### Parent Coffee Morning

It has been lovely to meet parents / carers at the Coffee Morning where a range of topics are discussed. Parents are making new friends whilst sharing their own experiences and supporting one another.

### Hillingdon Libraries Summer Reading Challenge

Join Ready Set Read!, the Summer Reading Challenge 2023, for free in all Hillingdon Libraries from Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July for ages 4-11. Children are encouraged to borrow books across the summer holidays and they will receive some great incentives such as posters, stickers, bookmarks and games\*. Children who complete all four visits will receive a medal\* and certificate!

Don't forget to check out our free events running across the library service this Summer including our new LEGO Education SPIKE™ Essentials events.

[www.hillingdon.gov.uk/summer-reading](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/summer-reading)

\*While stocks last



## Summer Events

The Colne Valley Festival Fortnight is a full programme of events and activities.

Website link: [Festival Fortnight - Colne Valley](http://Festival Fortnight - Colne Valley) ([colnevalleypark.org.uk](http://colnevalleypark.org.uk))

For some events spaces are limited so secure your ticket - <https://www.colnevalleypark.org.uk/festival-fortnight/#festivalprogramme>



Storyteller at Denham Country Park

**Scotty**  
plants  
a Seed

Meet Children's  
Illustrator  
**LIZZY DUNCAN**  
Draw along  
& plant your pot  
2-3pm Sat.  
22nd July  
Woodoaks Farm  
WD3 9XQ

During the holidays take a walk, enjoy the fresh air and look after your health.

Visit your local parks, open spaces, leisure centres and museums.



- Fassnidge Park
- Uxbridge Common
- Cowley Recreation Ground
- Hillingdon Court Park
- Hillingdon Sports & Leisure Centre
- Colne Valley Regional Park
- Swakeleys Park
- Ruislip Lido
- Denham County Park
- Langley Park
- Black Park

### Colne Valley Regional Park Festival Fortnight 2023

22nd July -  
4th August

A fortnight of events and activities for everyone to enjoy across the whole Colne Valley Regional Park. In collaboration with our partner organisations.

**Programme includes:**  
Guided walks around the Regional Park, Harmondsworth Barn Open Day and a village tour, Colnbrook Museum open days, Family Fun days at Iver Environment Centre, Rivers Day at Denham Country Park, Meet the Farmer walk and talk, Geology Society talk and exhibition, Family volunteer days, Sketch and Stroll, and plenty more...

Check our website for more information:  
<https://www.colnevalleypark.org.uk/festival-fortnight/>

### SEND Family Support

A virtual support group for Parents caring for individuals with special educational needs & disabilities (SEND)  
Where you will be free to talk, ask questions, be advised on SEND related topics, or just have a chat with us and other Parents like you, about anything that has helped or can help you and your family throughout the SEND world

#### SEND Family Support's Parents Group

Every second Tuesday starting at 630pm  
Lasts between 1 – 2 hours (during School term-times)

To book and read the guidance for the group go to: [www.sendfs.co.uk/parents-group](http://www.sendfs.co.uk/parents-group)  
For more information and dates for forthcoming SEND workshops clubs, support groups & events go to: [www.sendfs.co.uk/parents](http://www.sendfs.co.uk/parents) & social media pages  
The meeting link will be emailed to all that have booked and all previous attendees within 1-2 days of the group date  
If you would like to contact our support team email: [support@sendfs.co.uk](mailto:support@sendfs.co.uk)  
Please note you don't have to be online with ZOOM, you can also call in if you don't have internet access

Summer Universal Youth Offer: <https://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/universal-summer-offer>

Holiday Activities & Food Programme  
<https://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/haf-programme>

Supporting families caring for Individuals with SEND (special educational needs and disabilities)

Visit: <https://sendfs.co.uk/events/>

## Summer Events

FRESH July 2023 / 2



**Iver Environment Centre**  **Family Fun Evenings**  CHANGING PLACES CHANGING LIVES

# Pond Dipping & Pitta Pizzas

Follow our food chains trail, learn about life cycles, and design your own pitta pizza to cook in our outdoor oven!

**Workshop: Family Pond Dipping**

<b>Tuesday 25th July</b>	<b>5pm-7:30pm</b>	<b>£6 child without pond dip</b> <b>£8 child with pond dip</b> <b>£2 per pita pizza (limit 1 per person)</b> Accompanying adults and under 3s go free
<b>Tuesday 15th August</b>		
<b>Tuesday 22nd August</b>		

**CONNECTING PEOPLE TO NATURE**



**Iver Environment Centre**  **Family Fun Day**  CHANGING PLACES CHANGING LIVES

# Plants & Pollinators

Take our pollinator trail to discover amazing facts about pollinators, and learn all about pollination.

**Workshop: Flower dissection and compostable flower pots**

<b>Thursday 27th</b>	<b>10am - 12:30pm</b> or <b>1:30pm- 4pm</b>	<b>£6 child no workshop</b> <b>£8 child with workshop</b> Accompanying adults and under 3s go free
or <b>Friday 28th July</b>		

**Colne Valley Festival Fortnight Event**

**CONNECTING PEOPLE TO NATURE**



## Playday 2023

**Hillingdon Athletics Stadium**  
**Wednesday 2 August, 10am to 3pm**

Celebrate children's right to play at this fun packed day. A variety of activities will be on offer, including cycling, the youth bus, arts and crafts, a fire engine and lots more...

This is a free event but booking is essential via [www.hillingdontheatres.uk](http://www.hillingdontheatres.uk)  
Booking closes at 4pm on Tuesday 1 August



**NGDON LONDON** 

[discover.hillingdon.gov.uk](http://discover.hillingdon.gov.uk)

### Hillingdon Libraries—Events during the Summer Holidays

Please click on the link below for a guide to lots of different activities that are happening across the borough at our local libraries.

<https://discover.hillingdon.gov.uk/library-events>



Enjoy the summer, stay safe and spend quality time with your family and friends.



# School Terms and Holidays

## September 2023 - July 2024

### AUTUMN TERM - 2023

<i>Staff Development Day (Holiday for children)</i>	<b>Monday 4th September 2023</b>
Term starts for the children	<b>Tuesday 5th September 2023</b>
<b>Half Term Holiday</b>	Mon 23rd - Fri 27th October 2023
Term starts for the children	<b>Monday 30th October 2023</b>
Term Ends	Wednesday 20th December 2023
<i>Staff Development Day (Holiday for children)</i>	<b>Thursday 21st December 2023</b>

### SPRING TERM - 2024

Term starts for the children	<b>Monday 8th January 2024</b>
<b>Half Term Holiday</b>	Mon 12th - Fri 16th February 2024
<i>Staff Development Day (Holiday for children)</i>	<b>Monday 19th February 2024</b>
Term starts for the children	<b>Tuesday 20th February 2024</b>
Term Ends	Thursday 28th March 2024

### SUMMER TERM - 2024

Term starts for the children	<b>Monday 15th April 2024</b>
May Day (Public Holiday - school closed)	Monday 6th May 2024
Term ends for the children	<b>Friday 24th May 2024</b>
<b>Half Term Holiday</b>	Mon 27th May - Fri 31st May 2024
Term starts for the children	<b>Monday 3rd June 2024</b>
<i>Staff Development Day (Holiday for children)</i>	<b>Monday 1st July 2024</b>
Term Ends	Tuesday 23rd July 2024
<i>Staff Development Day (Holiday for children)</i>	<b>Wednesday 24th July 2024</b>
<i>Staff Development Day (Holiday for children)</i>	<b>Monday 2nd September 2024</b>