



January Newsletter No 2

We are already half way through this half term so hopefully we will now avoid any severe weather, and we can look forward to some lighter evenings. However it is still very cold so children should be wrapped up warm.

2017/18 Term Dates

The term dates for the **next** academic year have now been completed and are attached to this newsletter. Please ensure that any holidays are booked outside of term time.

Staff Training Day - Friday 10th February

Don't forget school is closed for staff development on **Friday 10th February**. Also please remember that half term is coming up, Monday 13th February - Friday 17th February.

Punctuality

It is just as important to collect your child promptly at the end of the day as it is to ensure they arrive on time. Children worry when there is no-one to meet them and it is helpful if you can let us know in advance if you are delayed. If you arrive after 3.40pm, please come to our main reception to pick up your child and be prepared to sign them out. We have strict protocols to follow when children are left after school.

SENCO-Parent Information Group

Mrs Luth has arranged another session taking place 10:30 - 11:30 on Wednesday 22nd February. This is a chance to catch up after the holidays and consider the content of future sessions.



Family Support Volunteers

Are you a parent or grandparent with 3 - 4 hours per week to spare? **Home Start Hillingdon** are looking for volunteers to support families in their homes who are struggling with various difficulties. Full training is provided and training sessions will be starting in February. For further information, please see the posters that are up around the school or you can contact them directly on 01895 252804 or visit the website www.homestart-hillingdon.org.uk

Class Trips

The reception classes went to the local shops last week and have been learning all about money. Thank you to all the parent helpers who came along and supported the children - we loved having you there.

Basil's Farm Visit

Year One pupils were treated to a visit from Basil's Farm. Children have been learning about farm animals as part of their 'Once upon a time at the farm' topic this term. The children met lots of different animals and were able to groom and feed them. Everyone had a great time!



No Smoking!

A gentle reminder to all, that our school and grounds are no smoking zones. This extends to the immediate vicinity around our school gates including our Nursery. We have recently received complaints regarding people ignoring the 'No Smoking' signs. Your consideration and co-operation is appreciated.

Things to do

Kids Run Free - the first Saturday of every month at Hillingdon Court Park for under 16's. To register, please log on to www.kidsrunfree.co.uk. There are individual races for each category as follows:



Under 2's - 50 metres

3-4 year olds 100 metres

5-6 year olds 250 metres

7 years and up - as many laps as they can manage
(each lap is 250 meters) up to 5km (20 laps!)

Minor Ailments Scheme

The minor ailment scheme is designed to enable anyone with minor health conditions to access medicines and advice that they would otherwise visit their doctor for. You will be able to speak to a qualified health professional, at convenient and accessible times and places.

The scheme is designed to reduce your waiting time for a doctor's appointment and to reduce the number of valuable A&E spots that are being taken up with minor illnesses.

Childhood illnesses that may be treated under the scheme include:

- colds
- coughs
- diarrhoea
- earache
- hay fever
- head lice
- nappy rash
- mouth ulcers
- high temp or fever
- conjunctivitis
- constipation
- indigestion
- teething
- sore throat

To find a pharmacy local to you, please visit the NHS website:

<http://www.nhs.uk/Service-Search/Pharmacy/LocationSearch/10>

Safeguarding

Parents should be aware that the school is required by law to take any reasonable action to ensure the safety of its pupils. Please let us know if your child has an accidental injury or an upset at home so that we are aware. As a school we will always notify parents of any upsets, accidents or injuries that occur during school time, and as such we understand that children often get bumps and scrapes so please just keep us informed.

Class Assemblies

We have a few class assemblies' coming up in the next few months. Please see times and dates below. If you will be attending your child's assembly please ensure that you are seated on time and please also be aware that you must remain seated throughout.

Date	Time	Class
Thursday 2 nd February	2:55pm	Kingfisher
Monday 6 th February	2:55pm	Toucan
Thursday 23 rd February	2:55pm	Flamingo
Thursday 2 nd March	2:55pm	Peacock

Appeal from Mrs Castle-Mason

Please return any clothes borrowed from the welfare room so that we can loan them out again if needed. We would also appreciate any donations of clothing, particularly girls clothes including pants, tights, skirts or trousers.

Allergies

This is just a reminder that some children at Whitehall infants suffer with severe nut allergies, and as such no children are allowed to bring nuts into school with them. Please ensure that you are not providing nuts as a snack or part of your child's lunch during school time.

30-hour childcare

From September 2017, working parents will be entitled to receive 30 hours of free childcare for their three or four year old child (from the term after their child's third birthday).

The additional hours will be available where both parents are working (or the sole parent is working in a lone parent family), each parent earns at least the equivalent of 16 hours a week at the national minimum or living wage and less than £100,000 a year. The school is currently looking into whether any changes to our current provision are to be considered. To support this, a consultation is being held by the London Borough of Hillingdon to see what demand locally there will be for this. Your responses will help to inform the planning that will be done to prepare for this.

If you feel you may benefit from this new initiative, please follow the attached link and complete the survey.

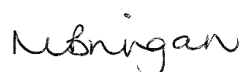
<http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/31144/30-hour-childcare>

A Big Thank You

We would like to say a big thank you to the parents who have visited the Reception classes with their babies. The children have really learnt a lot from the experience. The children, have since, been even more engaged in the 'Baby Clinic' in their classrooms. The amount of talk has developed in the Baby Clinic and the babies were so well behaved!

If you have any concerns regarding any aspect of school life please don't hesitate to contact me.

You are welcome to email any queries on office@mail.whitehallinf.org



Manjit Bringan
Headteacher



School Terms and Holidays

2017/2018

Whitehall Infant School

AUTUMN TERM – 2017

Staff Development day (Holiday for children)

Monday 4th September 2017

Term starts for the children at 8.50am

Tuesday 5th September 2017

Half Term Holiday

Mon 23rd – Fri 27th October 2017

Term Ends

Thursday 21st December 2017

SPRING TERM – 2018

Staff Development day (Holiday for children)

Tuesday 2nd January 2018

Staff Development day (Holiday for children)

Wednesday 3rd January 2018

Term starts for the children at 8.50am

Thursday 4th January 2018

Staff Development day (Holiday for children)

Friday 9th February 2018

Half Term holiday

Mon 12th – Fri 16th February 2018

Term ends

Thursday 29th March 2018

SUMMER TERM - 2018

Term starts for the children at 8.50am

Monday 16th April 2018

May Day (Public Holiday – school closed)

Monday 7th May 2018

Half Term holiday

Mon 28th May – Fri 1st June 2018

Staff Development day (Holiday for children)

Monday 2nd July 2018

Term Ends

Friday 20th July 2018

AUTUMN TERM 2018

To be advised