



Headteacher's Newsletter

July 2020 ISSUE 2

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is my last newsletter for this school year.



Thank you to all the children, parents, staff and governors for their commitment and support over the year especially during these last challenging months.

It has been a delight to be part of your child's learning this year. I would like to wish all of our families a happy holiday - have fun and stay safe.

Reminder

Children in Year 1 and Year 2 return to school on Friday 4th September.

Parents of children in Reception have been emailed their child's start date.

Returning to school in September

Staff and Governors have been working hard over the past few weeks to prepare for September. We have sent you a letter with important information regarding September - a copy of the letter can be found on our website: <https://www.whitehall-inf.hillingdon.sch.uk/parents/coronavirus>

Please note the following important information:

- Thursday 3rd September is an additional staff training day—**school is closed for children**.
- Children in Year 1 and 2 should return to school on **Friday 4th September**.
- For children starting Year 1 and Year 2, you will have been sent a letter from us confirming your child's arrival and finish time and other important information.
- For children going into Reception, you will have been sent a letter from us confirming your child's start date, arrival and finish time, their induction schedule and other important information.
- Children should return to school in school uniform
- Children must bring a named water bottle, wellies and waterproof coat. **No rucksacks**.
- No breakfast or after school clubs. We will review this when Government guidance changes,
- Make sure you are familiar with the new system for dropping and collecting your child. This was sent to you along with the letter (copies can be found on the website as above).

Please refer to this table for a reminder of your child's start and finish times from September:

	Entrance to school	Start time	Finish time
Reception	Hall Door	Larch/Spruce 8:20 Cedar/Birch 8:30	Larch/Spruce 2:40pm Cedar/Birch 2:50pm
Year 1	Playground Gate	8:40am	3pm
Year 2	Playground Gate	8:50am	3:10pm

Transition



We hope you're child has had the opportunity to see the welcome videos from their new class teacher. These are available on our website along with other useful transition information: <https://www.whitehall-inf.hillingdon.sch.uk/childrens-page-1/transition-information>

End of year reports

Thank you to everyone who has collected their child's school report this week. The teacher's really enjoyed having the chance to say farewell whilst handing out reports.

If you were not able to collect your child's school report, you will be able to collect it when they return in September.



Travelling Abroad



It is very important that you keep us updated with where your child is during school term time, especially if you and your family are travelling outside of the UK. 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 remember to allow extra time to quarantine if needed).

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.

Welfare reminder

If your child uses an inhaler or epipen, please ensure you bring 2 inhalers and spacers or 2 epipens into school in September.

Farewells



Sadly at this time of year, there are always staff members who move on. This year we say goodbye to:

Mrs Sini who has been a teaching assistant with us for many years. She is moving with her family out of the area.

Mrs God who has been a SEN keyworker with us this year.

Mrs Najmudin who has been Toucan class teacher this school year and is moving to a school closer to her home.

Mrs Tsuey Tse who has been both the Chair of Governors and part of our Governing board for quite some time. Mrs Tse is moving abroad with her family.

We would like to thank them for their hard work and wish them all the best in their new roles.

Home Learning

It has been lovely to see the photos of the home learning your child has been completing over the past few months. Thank you for all of your hard work and support with this.

There will be no home learning set for the summer holidays. There is transition work on our website (<https://www.whitehall-inf.hillingdon.sch.uk/childrens-page-1/transition-information>) to help your child to prepare for September.

Remember to continue to read with your child every day!

Year 1 and Year 2 project

We have an exciting project for children in Year 1 and Year 2 to complete over the summer holidays.

We would like them to:

- write a letter about themselves (their likes, hobbies, family, etc) to their new class teacher
- Draw, paint or make a collage of their family

I'm sure the children will have fun completing these and it will help their new class teachers get to know them!





































I am fortunate to enjoy the support of many members of our community including the volunteer helpers that give up their time to assist in class or on trips, 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 and our Parents' Association who put on events and fundraise for treats for the children. All of these people help to enrich the lives of our pupils and are a valuable asset to us. I would also like to thank Mr Heath and the Premises team who keep our school safe and tidy.

Uniform and Equipment

School uniform should be worn to school every day they attend. To help prevent the spread of coronavirus, we will be making use of our outdoor spaces more often than we usually would. This may mean that your child will be using the outside areas in Autumn weather.

Please find details below of the uniform your child should wear and the items they need to bring to school with them:

	Plain or Whitehall logo red sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan	
	White shirt / blouse, red or white plain or Whitehall logo polo shirt	
	Grey or black trousers	
	Grey or black skirt or pinafore dress (leggings can be worn underneath a skirt or dress)	
	Red, white or grey socks / tights	
	Footwear – Sensible black shoes with no laces . Plain black trainers are acceptable - no logos. Plain black boots are allowed in the winter	
	Hair that is shoulder length or longer to be tied up	
	Wellies	
	Waterproof coat	
	A named water bottle – please ensure your child's name is written in permanent marker and is clearly visible	
	Bookbag	
	Any books they have borrowed from the school	
	On days when your child has PE, they should wear their PE kit to school rather than their normal school uniform. This will reduce the need for children to change and have additional clothes in school: PE kit – plain black shorts and plain white t-shirt. Plimsols or trainers with no laces . If the weather is cold, they can wear plain black jogging bottoms.	

	Rucksack	
	Pencil case	
	Equipment from home such as pencils, ruler, etc	
	PE kit – see information regarding PE in table above	

Children should not bring any other items into school with them.

Note from the Governors

Dear Parents and Carers,

I cannot believe we have come to the end of yet another academic year and what a year it has been. I can fondly remember the children bouncing into school last September, being excited to see their friends and looking forward to meeting their new teacher.

All the staff at the school have worked very hard throughout the year to support the children in their learning in school and recently at home. The Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdown certainly challenged the way the school had to operate and new ways of working and teaching had to be established. All the staff, the senior leadership team and the governing board have risen to the challenge by working together to implement the new government guidelines. I am immensely proud to be working with such a professional team of people and I would like to thank them for their invaluable contributions and determination.

As it is the end of the academic year it is also the time to say goodbye to families who will move on to Whitehall Juniors, families who might move away or staff moving on. I wish every family and staff member who will be leaving us all the very best for their future and hope you will remember us well!

The Governing Board will also have to say goodbye to Mrs. Manny Tsuey Tse who has guided the Governing Board as Chair through many changes until May 2020. She will be sorely missed and we would like to wish her well in all her future endeavors.

We have vacancies on our Governing board that we would love to fill with members of our Whitehall family.

Please visit <https://www.whitehall-inf.hillingdon.sch.uk/governors> for more information about the Governing Board.

I would like to use this opportunity to wish everybody a lovely and relaxing summer break and I am looking forward to seeing everybody, albeit from a social distance, back in September.

Best wishes,

Sandra Lange

Chair of the Governing Board



Community Solutions

Summer Holiday Activities

Summer holiday activities available during the week from 27th July to 28th August 10am-3pm.

Saturday Club sessions are also available.



£5 PER HOUR



Activities based at the Wren Centre

Ages 5-7 & 8-18

These activities are available to children and young people with a disability and/or additional needs who require support to access social, play and leisure opportunities.

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cypsharrowmencap.org.uk

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Celebrate playing at home

Playday is a national day of play for children in the UK, and this year the council is encouraging families to celebrate at home on Wednesday 5 August.

Play is central to children's happiness and wellbeing, and the Playday campaign highlights the importance of giving children the freedom to play and have adventures.

Playing not only helps with a child's physical, mental and emotional health, but also contributes to their learning and development.

The council will be offering free videos and online sessions for children to play safely at home, including superhero fitness sessions, storytime, tennis coaching videos, and ideas for games and messy play.

Parents can find a range of play sessions, videos and fun ideas on the council's Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages on Wednesday 5 August.

For more information, visit www.hillingdon.gov.uk/playday.



Travelling Back to School

Advice for parents and carers on social distancing practices during the journey to and from school

Below are several recommendations on how to maintain proper social distancing when travelling with your child to school. Overall we recommend adding **extra time in your journey** to school to ensure safe social distancing practices.

The Journey to School:



To avoid car congestion outside of the school, try to walk, scoot or cycle with your child. Be mindful to remain 2 metres apart from others when locking your child's scooter or bicycle, which may mean waiting your turn.



Try to avoid using public transport. If you must use it please wear a facial covering and sanitize & wash your hands before and after you travel. Also, try your best to avoid busy interchanges. Please plan ahead and allow more time for your journey as travelling at the busiest times may take longer than it would normally.



If you live too far away to travel actively or don't feel it is possible for you, please try and park and stride - parking a 5-10 minute walk away from school, ideally using an off-street car park, and walking the rest of the way with your child.

Important Measures to Keep in Mind:



- Check with your school on important updates or temporary rules they may have in place eg. Designated parent zones, staggered start and end times.
- Vary your route if possible, especially if you can stay away from busy roads.
- Try and keep at least 2 metres distance away from other parents and children.
- When walking on the pavement, if you must step in the road to pass others, reinforce looking and listening with your child.
- Remind children about slowing, stopping and giving space on the pavement, especially when scooting and cycling.
- Speak with your child about the changes in the way you travel; what is different about their journeys, how do they feel, what have they noticed. Talking and being active will help ease any anxiety they or you may have.

The Reading Agency and Libraries Present



SILLY SQUAD

Summer Reading Challenge 2020
sillysquad.org.uk

Join the Challenge online - it's free!

summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

Join the Silly Squad, pick your avatar

Discover awesome books to read

Read at least 6 books over the holidays

Rate and review your books to unlock badges

Play games and download free activities from the website

Complete the challenge and get your own certificate



School Terms and Holidays

September 2020 - July 2021

Whitehall Infant School

AUTUMN TERM - 2020

<i>Staff Development Day (Holiday for children)</i>	Wednesday 2nd September
<i>Staff Development Day (Holiday for children)</i>	Thursday 3rd September
Term starts for the children	Friday 4th September
Half Term Holiday	Mon 26th - Fri 30th October
Term starts for the children	Monday 2nd November
Term Ends	Friday 18th December

SPRING TERM - 2021

Term starts for the children	Monday 4th January
<i>Staff Development Day (Holiday for children)</i>	Friday 12th February
Half Term Holiday	Mon 15th - Fri 19th February
Term starts for the children	Monday 22nd February
Term Ends	Wednesday 31st March

SUMMER TERM - 2021

Term starts for the children	Monday 19th April
May Day (Public Holiday - school closed)	Monday 3rd May
<i>Staff Development Day (Holiday for children)</i>	Friday 28th May
Half Term Holiday	Mon 31st May - Fri 4th June
Term starts for the children	Monday 7th June
<i>Staff Development Day (Holiday for children)</i>	Friday 2nd July
Term Ends	Friday 23rd July

AUTUMN TERM - 2021

Term starts for the children	Thursday 2nd September 2021
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