



Headteacher's Newsletter

January 2022 ISSUE 1

Whitehall Infant School is a five star school with a FRESH approach.

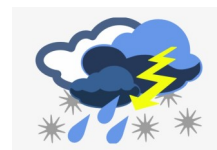
We provide five star learning for all, with family at the heart of everything we do. We teach our children to have respect at all times. We want our children to achieve excellence, whilst being safe and happy.

Dear Parents and Carers,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you back to school and the start of the Spring Term. It has been good to see our families back after the Christmas break. I hope you are keeping well and feel refreshed for the new year?

The weather is always a talking point and we have enjoyed unseasonably mild weather in recent weeks. You will have seen that the forecast is for colder weather to come. Please ensure children are wearing appropriate clothing for the weather.

Mrs Bringan



Attendance

The first half of the spring term is only **six** weeks long.

Please ensure your child is on time and in school every day allowing for illness.

I am disappointed that a number of children are absent due to parents taking unauthorised term time leave. These cases will be referred to the Local Authority Participation Officer for consideration. The dates for this academic year are on the back of this newsletter.

All children who are in school all week everyday are **ATTENDANCE HEROES!** They will continue to be praised and rewarded by:

Class Rewards

- The class with the best attendance of the week will receive an 'Attendance HERO' certificate

Individual Children Rewards

- At the end of each week the attendance officer will print out all the children's names who have been in school everyday and randomly pick two winners from each year group from the raffle box
- They will get an Attendance Hero prize!

Christmas Card Competition

Remember that the design of a Christmas Card competition which was mentioned in the last newsletter, end this Friday! See the end of this newsletter for more details.



Covid Updates and Changes

We are experiencing a number of Covid related absences amongst parents, staff and children. This is a reflection of the highly infectious nature of the latest variant of the Covid virus.

The school risk assessment has been amended with the latest government update and remains under review.

I am pleased with the high levels of engagement from our school families to ensure that we are helping keep everyone safe as possible.



We were sad to say goodbye to some members of our school family last week.

Miss Suwan of our SEN team is going to undertake further study. We wish her every success in her new ventures and thank her for her commitment to the children. We also said good-bye to Mrs Salis, part of our premises team who is awaiting the birth of her baby.

Applying for Primary or Junior School

For parents of Nursery and Year 2 pupils, you must apply for a school place by
Saturday 15th January 2022.

Applications should be made online at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/schooladmissions.

A great deal of reminders have been sent out during the autumn term. The LA admissions department asked the school to chase any late applications. Please do ensure you have applied. There are a couple of parents who have applied in the borough in which they are resident.

School Value—Safety

We all have to work together to support the children to keep safe both in and out of school.



Please be careful to leave enough time to find a safe parking space around school.

Some parents have been observed blocking the entrance to the slip road and driving and parking the wrong way along the main road!

Traffic enforcement officers are aware of the situation and will be visiting the area more regularly to support the safety of all.

There have been some reports received of children running in front of parents to a point where they can no longer be seen by the adult. It is essential that children stay with the person that collects them at all times.

Message from Miss Hall - Attendance and Welfare Officer

We have a shortage of tissues due to a supply issue. Please supply your child with a named tissue packet. If you wish to donate a box for the class it would be welcomed.



Please check children's hair regularly for head lice/ their eggs.

Please ensure children's nails are kept trimmed short.

Contact Details



If you change your phone number, email address or move house, please remember to update us with your new contact details by visiting the main school office.

We send letters and newsletters via email. If you do not receive these, please provide us with your email

Lunch Menu

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Chicken Goujons served with baked wedges	Chicken Fajita with Savoury Rice	Roast Beef with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Chicken Tikka Masala served with Basmati Rice	Breaded Fish served with Chips
Quorn Dippers served with baked wedges	Macaroni Cheese	Vegetable Pinwheel with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Vegetarian Tikka served with Basmati Rice	Crispy Quorn Nuggets served with Chips
Jacket Potato Beans/ Cheese		Halal Roast Beef with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Halal Tikka Masala served with Basmati Rice	
Halal Chicken Goujons served with Baked Wedges	Halal Chicken Fajita with Savoury Rice	Yorkshire Puddings		Mixed Fresh Fruit
Apple Crumble & Custard	Syrup Sponge with Custard	Strawberry Jelly with Peaches	Chocolate cake & Chocolate Custard	

Healthy Packed lunches

If your child brings a packed lunch in to school, please ensure that it is balanced and healthy.

Visit <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes#lunchbox-tips> for some great hints and tips on how to keep your child's lunchbox healthy and interesting.

Please no nuts, chocolate, sweets or fizzy sugary drinks.

Our caterer's provide a variety of delicious, nutritious hot meals every day. If your child has a packed lunch every day, why not encourage them to try one hot meal a week?



Breakfast Club

Parents whose children are registered for the school breakfast club will have received a booking form and invoice will follow this week.

To register for a breakfast club place you must contact the school office in advance.



Important Dates

Event	Date
Staff Development Day	Friday 11th February 2022 (School is closed for children)
Half Term	14th - 18th February 2022 (School is closed)
Parent Meetings	14th March - 17th March 2022
End of Spring Term	Friday 1st April 2022

Today, children had an assembly about our school value of 'Excellence'. They were asked the question, 'What do you think you are excellent at?'

Some great answers were received including

- 'I am excellent at being kind to others'.
- 'I try really hard at being at school on time'.
- 'I am excellent at riding my bike without stabilizers'.

Ask your child this week the same question and see what they have to say.

We are in need of boys and girls underwear. If you have any that you would like to donate, please bring them to the main school office.



Your Big Garden Birdwatch guide



Big
Garden
Birdwatch
28-30 January 2022

How to take part

- 1 Count the birds you see in your garden, from your balcony or in your local park for one hour between 28 and 30 January 2022.
 - Please only include those birds that land, not those flying over.
 - Count the highest number of each bird species that you see at any one time, otherwise you could count the same bird twice. For example, if you saw a group of four starlings, and towards the end of the hour you saw two starlings together, please write four as your final count.
- 2 Go to rspb.org.uk/birdwatch to tell us what you saw.
 - Whatever you saw – even if nothing at all – please let us know. The more people that submit their findings, the better picture we will have of how garden birds are faring.
 - If you are unable to submit your results online, please complete and send us the enclosed form.

Making the most of your Birdwatch

Watch Big Garden Birdwatch Live!

Throughout the Big Garden Birdwatch long weekend, we're hosting Big Garden Birdwatch Live on our YouTube channel. Tune in for live commentary from our nature reserves across the UK, plus interviews and chat with special guests and wildlife experts.

Get ID tips and expert advice

You'll find lots of advice on identifying birds by sight and sound, as well as expert insights into garden wildlife at rspb.org.uk/birdwatch

Chaffinch



Female



Male

Goldfinch



Long-tailed tit



Coal tit



Collared dove



Blue tit



Great tit



Greenfinch



Duncock



Male



Female

House sparrow



Robin

Woodpigeon



Magpie



Starling



Blackbird



Female



Male

These are some of the birds that you might see. You can use the tally to help you count. You'll find lots of tips on identifying birds as well as their calls at [rspb.org.uk/birdwatch](https://www.rspb.org.uk/birdwatch)

The RSPB is a registered charity in England and Wales 207076, in Scotland SC037654.

Illustrations by Mike Langman (rspb-images.com)



Theme: Family at Christmas

Dear Parents/Carers :

We would like to invite all
children to participate in a festive
competition to showcase their artistic skills!

How to enter :

Children can draw, colour or paint a design that has a clear festive theme, be on A4 or A5 sized paper (landscape or portrait).

*They should return their design to their class teacher by the
14th of January 2022.*

*Winners will see their artwork reproduced as Whitehall's Official
Christmas Cards.*

*Winners will also receive a prize consisting of a sketch pad and
watercolour paints.*

This competition is a fantastic opportunity to test your creative
skills.

Good luck and have fun !



School Terms and Holidays September 2021 - July 2022 Whitehall Infant School

AUTUMN TERM - 2021

<i>Staff Development Day (Holiday for children)</i>	Wednesday 1st September
Term starts for the children	Thursday 2nd September
Half Term Holiday	Mon 25th - Fri 29th October
<i>Staff Development Day (Holiday for children)</i>	Monday 1st November
Term starts for the children	Tuesday 2nd November
Term Ends at 12:30pm	Friday 17th December

SPRING TERM - 2022

Term starts for the children	Tuesday 4th January
<i>Staff Development Day (Holiday for children)</i>	Friday 11th February
Half Term Holiday	Mon 14th - Fri 18th February
Term starts for the children	Monday 21st February
Term Ends at 12:30pm	Friday 1st April

SUMMER TERM - 2022

Term starts for the children	Tuesday 19th April
May Day (Public Holiday - school closed)	Monday 2nd May
Half Term Holiday	Fri 27th May - Fri 3rd June
Term starts for the children	Monday 6th June
<i>Staff Development Day (Holiday for children)</i>	Monday 4th July
Term Ends at 12:30pm	Thursday 21st July
<i>Staff Development Day (Holiday for children)</i>	Friday 22nd July