

# Headteacher's Newsletter

February 2023 Spring Term 2



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back from the half term. It has been good to see all of you back at school this week. I hope all our families had an enjoyable break. The weather is still very chilly so please wrap up warmly.

We are looking forward to the exciting events planned for the rest of this term.

We hope you are enjoying our beautiful crocus and daffodil flowers that are beginning to bloom on the grass verge alongside the driveway.

One of our school values is 'Respect'.

We want all our families to be able to enjoy and show respect to our school environment.

Please do not allow children to pick the flowers or stand on them. This will damage the plant and they will not grow back.



Daffodil Flowers



Crocus Flowers

Regards,

Manjit Bringan

## **Shrove Tuesday and Lent**

Shrove Tuesday is a Christian festival celebrated in many countries across the world. Christians also refer to Shrove Tuesday as Pancake Day! Pancakes are made with 'luxury' ingredients such as flour and eggs that Christians would traditionally use up before the beginning of Lent - a period of around six weeks leading up to Easter.

During Lent, Christians give up something to remember when Jesus went into the desert for 40 days to fast and pray.

In school, we learn about Shrove Tuesday and Lent as part of our social, moral, spiritual and cultural learning, RE curriculum and Understanding of the World area of learning in the Early Years. We saw how pancakes are made and tried some in school last week.



### Book Week

This week is 'Book Week' at Whitehall Infant School. The theme is '**You Are a Reader**'. Book week encourages a love of books and reading. We have lots of exciting things happening this week including World Book Day! All classes will start the week with a story.

### Bring in your favourite book

If you have a favourite book/magazine/comic that you like to read at home, we would love you to bring it in during the week to show to your class. Please send photos of your child reading or family reading to [office@mail.whitehallinf.org](mailto:office@mail.whitehallinf.org)

### Story Time

Every day before going home we have story time. Staff will be reading books chosen by children and will have special visits from other staff from around the school to read to them.

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, Whitehall Infant School will be celebrating World Book Day on: **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023** (not Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023). We are welcoming all children to dress up as a favourite book character or their own favourite character.

Children could bring in an item from their favourite book rather than dress up if they so wish. For example, porridge oats or different sized spoons to represent Goldilocks and the 3 bears, a train toy, if their favourite book is to do with trains.

The mission for World Book Day is to promote reading for pleasure, offering every child and young person the opportunity to have a book of their own.

With this in mind all children will receive a £1 book token.

Please visit <https://www.worldbookday.com/books/> to check where the book tokens can be used. Parents are not expected to buy a costume specially.

Here are some ideas:

| Gruffalo  | Charlie and Lola  | Super Soccer Boy   | Lost and Found  |
|---|---|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |
| You will need:<br>Brown clothes,<br>Gruffalo mask                                 | You will need:<br>Boy / Girl clothes  | You will need:<br>Football kit   | You will need:<br>Stripy top, hat,<br>penguin toy (optional)                        |

The display at the front of the school is all about books.



### Coffee Morning Update - School Nurse Visit

Our school nurse, Ann Browne, joined us on Friday 24th February. She provided parents with tips on dental hygiene, healthy eating suggestions for fussy eaters, bed wetting and immunisations.

Here is the link for further information: <https://www.hillingdoncyp.cnwl.nhs.uk/>

Please let us know if you would like more information on a particular topic.

### Uniform:

#### School shoes

Please ensure children are wearing well-fitting school shoes or black trainers no logos and no laces unless your child can tie laces up themselves.

You can view the school uniform policy by following the link <https://www.whitehall-inf.hillingdon.sch.uk/parents/uniform>



#### St David's Day

St David's Day will be celebrated on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023 and commemorates the patron saint of Wales, Saint David.

#### Holi

Holi, the festival of colours begins on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023 an important Hindu festival. Also known as the celebration of spring, people famously throw colourful powder and water at one another celebrating the end of winter.

#### Gold Book Awards

Teachers choose a number of children each week who are praised for using their learning powers in our Gold Book Achievement Assembly each week.

| Class      | Children                      |
|------------|-------------------------------|
| Cedar      | Ella, Sophia, Macie           |
| Larch      | Sara, Mariyam, Bowen          |
| Birch      | Mokhammad, Evan, Malik        |
| Spruce     | Idris, Alahn, Amalia          |
| Elm        | Suleyman, Dania, Yusuf        |
| Willow     | Eleazar, Mikelle, Afaan       |
| Pine       | Ernest, Zala,                 |
| Beech      | Cara, Hallie, Jawad           |
| Peacock    | Yusuf, Saminia, Rion          |
| Flamingo   | Yusuf, Aleena, Reem           |
| Kingfisher | Ates, Vera, Zenith            |
| Toucan     | Abdullah, Anjanashri, Ibrahim |



### Attendance Hero Winners

Children who are present every day for the whole week are selected from a list to receive an attendance hero certificate/prize (2 per year group).

| Attendance Superheroes | Class   |
|------------------------|---------|
| Andreea                | Larch   |
| Ismail                 | Spruce  |
| Bayaan                 | Elm     |
| Mikelle                | Willow  |
| Ibrahim                | Toucan  |
| Ruya                   | Peacock |

### Diary Dates

| Day      | Date             | Month    | Event  |
|----------|------------------|----------|--|
| Friday   | 24 <sup>th</sup> | February | Coffee Morning - Hall  |
| Friday   | 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | March    | World Book Day - Dress in as a book character or wear your own clothes |
| Friday   | 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | March    | Coffee Morning - Hall  |
| Thursday | 9 <sup>th</sup>  | March    | Flamingo class assembly  |
| Friday   | 10 <sup>th</sup> | March    | Coffee Morning - Hall  |
| Tuesday  | 14 <sup>th</sup> | March    | Parent's evening (details to follow)                                   |
| Thursday | 16 <sup>th</sup> | March    | Parent's evening   |
| Thursday | 16 <sup>th</sup> | March    | Toucan class assembly  |
| Friday   | 17 <sup>th</sup> | March    | Coffee Morning - Hall  |
| Friday   | 31 <sup>st</sup> | March    | Term ends - Early collection   |



## **WHITEHALL INFANT SCHOOL**

**Cowley Road, Uxbridge, Middx UB8 2LX**  
**Telephone: 01895 590112 Fax: 01895 812690**  
**Email: [office@mail.whitehallinf.org](mailto:office@mail.whitehallinf.org)**

# **SCHOOL CLEANER VACANCY**

**10 hours per week, Monday-Friday (afternoons 3.30pm-5.30pm)**  
**Year round contract**

Whitehall Infant School requires a Cleaner to join our friendly, dedicated team who clean the school to a high standard for the children and staff to work in. You will be responsible for your own specific areas to clean.

During periods when the school is closed, routine cleaning is undertaken throughout the school. This may include stripping and sealing floors, high level dusting, wall washing etc. Hours of work will vary at these times so some flexibility will be required.

You will be required to apply for an enhanced disclosure from DBS. Further information can be found at [www.gov.uk/dbs](http://www.gov.uk/dbs).

To apply, please contact the school office for an application form.

Closing date: Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023