



Newsletter



No. 17

✉admin2324@welearn365.com ✉head2324@welearn365.com

21 January 2022

www.whitnashprimaryschool.com

Telephone No:
01926 426773



Dear Parents / Carers,

What a week it has been!

We thank everyone for being so proactive and being so helpful with sending evidence of negative LFTs to school where children have been a close contact. This is really helping control the spread of the virus. Of course, controlling this spread is so important, especially in the middle of an outbreak, to help us maintain staffing levels to remain open. This week we have had 11 staff off, which is already placing the school under tremendous pressure.

Whilst it is not part of the national guidance that we check and evidence LFT results, we are finding this is important for the safety and maintaining the operation at our school. We have had cases where parents have not undertaken these tests when asked to do so, and this has led to more cases arising in school at this already challenging phase. The only way to ensure a fair, safe and transparent approach, is to insist on these tests being evidenced to school by everybody requested to test. We appreciate your co-operation.

Due to the large number of positive cases, it has been necessary to move to the next step of our Covid Management Plan. Therefore we have been asking children, where there is a positive case of Covid in the household, to also remain off school over the last week or so. This is because we are trying to get on top of the current outbreaks and prevent the situation from deteriorating further. As from Monday we will put the following into place:

Where there is a positive Covid test in a household or sibling, the remaining child/children of the household, who have not contracted Covid, can return to school on Day 7 or Day 8 providing that a negative LFT can be evidenced to school from Day 6 and 7, taken 24 hours apart. We will reduce this to Day 5, when we have seen a further reduction in cases in school.

We fully appreciate that this is not the national guidance, but as we stress, we are trying to remain fully operational for the vast majority of pupils and cannot do this if we do not take measures in-house to control and slow the spread.

We want to apologise again for the inconvenience caused to families related to the closure of Breakfast Club and Treetops After-school Club. We took this decision as a last resort, as we only had one member of staff left in the team to run these provisions. We will credit your Parent Pay account for the days closed. **We aim to reopen on Thursday next week and will keep parents posted if this changes.**

We want to thank all of our amazing team for keeping our school going this week. Special thanks to teachers, and staff working from home during their isolation, our site services team for keeping our school clean despite staffing issues, our teachers and teaching assistants for covering and patching classes when asked, Mrs Norris for holding the school at a senior level, and to Mrs Middleton for being a real trooper! We are very lucky to have you all!

We wish our children, staff and families who are poorly with Covid a speedy recovery.

The weekend respite is finally here! Let's hope next week treats us all well.

Mrs Ellison
Headteacher

Word Count

CLOSURE OF CLUBS

Breakfast, Treetops and Ballet

As we have had to cancel these clubs, you will be getting a credit for all closures on Parent Pay, which will carry forward.

School Photographer

Due to the amount of absences with pupils and staff the school photographer has had to be postponed again. Therefore they will not be coming in on Monday.



This is what the classes will be cooking this term. I hope you have all been enjoying your children's cooking!

Class	TOTAL	Words read
Pine	242,539	3,852
Cedar	223,244	22,562
Maple	318,018	35,930
Sycamore	417,369	57,827
Juniper	173,435	77,772
Ash	3,621,384	750,289
Elm	6,238,803	929,348
Oak	6,991,639	511,709
TOTAL	18,226,431	2,389,289

So, word count winners this week are ...

ELM

What a total !!

A super start to the year.

Keep reading! Mrs Norris



Date	Recipe	Class
24.01.22	Lemon & Cumin Biscuits	Ivy
31.01.22	Pea & Feta Couscous	Hazel
07.02.22	Honey Tea Loaf	Hawthorn
14.02.22	Soda Bread & Herb Butter	Cedar
28.02.22	Rhubarb Crumble Shortbread	Maple
07.03.22	Provençal Tart	Elm
14.03.22	Double Chocolate Muffins	Juniper
21.03.22	Halloumi Parcels	Oak
28.03.22	Chocolate & Banana Bread & Butter Pudding	Sycamore
04.03.22	Stuffed Peppers	Ash

Do you live in an Orbit property?

Brunswick hub is holding a coffee morning at the Syndi Centre, Cottage Square Sydenham, Leamington Spa, CV31 1PT on Tuesday 25th January 2022.

If you would like more information please call the hub on 01926 422123.

Please come and join us between 10:00 and 12:00 where you will be able to meet your local team to discuss the following:

- Employment and benefit advice
- Foodbank/chilled foodbank/veg bags
- Dementia support
- Bereavement support
- Tenancy issues and property maintenance
- Debt and money advice



We will be serving free coffee and cake.



Space Synergy

Whitnash Art Exhibition

East Lodge, Jephson Gardens, Willes Road,
Leamington Spa CV32 4ER

Cllr Franklin recently visited the exhibition and stayed for two hours, he liked it so much. It was also lovely to see a few families visit and they were very pleased and impressed with the show.

We are having lovely feedback from visitors and volunteers alike. I think it's given a real morale boost to all the members of the gallery and is a lovely way to start a new year there.

It will be open to the public until Sunday 6th February 2022.
10.30am—3.30pm. The gallery is shut on Mondays and Tuesdays.



We may think that 'being brave' means not being afraid, but this is unrealistic. Bravery comes in all shapes and sizes, and what we consider 'brave' may be very different for somebody else.

When it comes to mental health, one of the bravest things we can do is acknowledge that it's OK to feel how you feel, especially when we may be feeling sad or low. Taking steps to get help when you need it is a sign of bravery, not weakness. Bravery is not about coping alone, but about finding ways to overcome difficult physical or emotional challenges. We can develop our bravery by developing our confidence and self-esteem.



Try one, or both, of the below activities throughout this week:

1. Find and highlight moments from films, books or TV where characters have needed to be brave.
2. Write down a time where you have needed to be brave.

Books related to bravery, confidence and self-esteem:

- Be Brave Little Penguin – Giles Andreae
- The Lion Inside – Rachel Bright
- The Huge Bag of Worries – Virginia Ironside
- Wonder - RJ Palacio
- I Am Thunder – Muhammed Khan



Message from the Safer Neighbourhood Team

The local Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) has received complaints regarding vehicles being parked inconsiderately on the pavements, junctions and driveways around school drop-off and pick-up times. Members of the public have raised concerns that they have to walk on to the road and cannot view oncoming traffic when crossing the roads.

Whilst we appreciate the roads are narrow and parking is difficult you must also consider pedestrians, the use of pushchairs and mobility scooters on pavements.

The SNT will be patrolling the area and offering advice before giving out parking tickets for vehicles causing an obstruction.

Please park in a considerate manner. Always report incidents via 101 / www.warwickshire.police.uk and only 999 in an emergency.

Whitnash Safer Neighbourhood Team
01926 684248
whitnash.snt@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk

Apply for free school meals (FSM)

Meals are available free of charge to:

- ✓ all infant pupils (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) – known as universal FSM
- ✓ pupils who meet the free school meals eligibility criteria – known as benefits-related FSM

You can apply for benefits-related FSM at any time online
warwickshire.gov.uk/education-learning/apply-free-school-meals

Eligibility

Families who receive the following are eligible for free school meals:

- income support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- income-related employment and support allowance (ESA)
- guarantee element of state pension credit
- Universal Credit (with an annual income of less than £7,400)
- Both income-based and contribution-based JSA/ESA if you receive the same amount for both. You should also qualify if you receive both, but the income-based amount is greater, but not if the contribution-based amount is greater.
- Families who are awarded Child Tax Credit and have an annual income assessed by HMRC to be no more than £16,190, providing there is no entitlement to Working Tax Credit (unless in respect of a 4-week 'run-on').

Reasons to apply

Even if your child is currently receiving free school meals because they are in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, you should still apply for benefits-related FSM if you think you may be eligible.

Doing so means that your child's school will be given extra funding for six years, which can help to fund valuable teaching and learning support for your school.

Applying for benefits-related FSM also means you will be eligible to receive funding for the holiday periods from the **Warwickshire Local Welfare Scheme**.

School Governance Professional (part time)

Warwickshire Governor Services runs a successful clerking service for schools in the county and surrounding area. They wish to recruit additional School Governance Professionals (formerly known as clerk to the governing board) to deliver a high-quality clerking service to schools, to meet demand.

The main duties are:

- providing advice to the governing body on governance, constitutional, and procedural matters.
- providing effective administrative support to the governing body and its committees, including minuting meetings to a high standard.
- ensuring the governing body is properly constituted.
- managing information effectively in accordance with legal requirements.

School Governance Professionals will be employed by Warwickshire County Council but will usually be allocated to specific schools. Day to day accountability is to the governing body.

This is a flexible part-time role, and the hours can be agreed with candidates on an individual basis. Pay (including holiday enhancement) is £12.85 per hour. You will mainly work from home, with some attendance of meetings at times convenient to the governing body, typically early evening. These are both on-line and in-person meetings (when covid restrictions allow).

We are looking for someone who:

- has good numeracy and excellent written skills, including being able to identify relevant information, take accurate notes at meetings and summarise information to prepare high quality minutes
- is computer literate, especially with Word, web, and email, and has access to equipment for working from home
- is an efficient administrator, able to use initiative and able to work under pressure including meeting deadlines
- can research and manage advice from a variety of sources
- is able to work with detailed information, such as DfE governance regulations and provide detailed and accurate advice
- can support volunteers and lay people in a professional way
- has excellent communications skills, including the ability to liaise, and build effective relationships with senior school staff and support them in a professional way
- understands the importance of confidentiality and integrity
- is willing to work in the evenings
- will undertake CPD and an accreditation programme

School Governance Professionals will receive support, full induction and will be expected to attend the Induction training course, held termly, after appointment. You will also be expected to attend the follow-on Effective Clerking course within the first or second term. Continuing professional development is provided. The role is subject to a DBS check.

If you would like to have a conversation about the role, please email catherinechatterton@warwickshire.gov.uk or alternatively, you can apply via the WCC website.

The closing date is 28th February 2022.

<https://www.wmjobs.co.uk/searchjobs/?>

[Keywords=school+governance+professional&radialtown=Warwickshire&LocationId=292&RadialLocation=5&LocationId=None](https://www.wmjobs.co.uk/searchjobs/?Keywords=school+governance+professional&radialtown=Warwickshire&LocationId=292&RadialLocation=5&LocationId=None)

Class	Allocated PE day
Holly / Ivy	Thursday
Hazel / Hawthorn	Wednesday
Pine / Cedar	Tuesday & Wednesday
Maple / Sycamore	Maple - Monday & Friday Sycamore - Friday
Juniper	Monday
Ash / Elm	Thursday
Oak	Friday

Friday Achievements



Friday achievements are posted on our website each week.

Please go to:

www.whitnashprimaryschool.com



Thank you to everyone who has activated their Parent Pay account.

Parent Pay is not only a system for paying in money, it is also our main source for communication with parents and carers and we would not want you to miss important information

If you have not already done so can you please activate your Parent Pay account. You won't need to register a payment card and no bank details are requested. This is only asked for when you make a payment. However, you can pay cash at any store showing the PayPoint Logo.

For your nearest PayPoint store go to:
<https://consumer.paypoint.com/>

Thank you for your co-operation.



Don't let your child miss out on school milk after their 5th birthday

When your child turns 5, your child's supply of free milk finishes. However, if you would like to pay for your child to receive milk we have made arrangements with Cool Milk to supply milk at a subsidised cost.

What you need to do:



Visit www.coolmilk.com as soon as possible and select "Register your child for milk here", then follow the on-screen instructions to register and pay.

If your child is registered for Free School Meals (i.e. NOT the Universal Free School Meals) the school can continue to supply your child with free milk. Please let the office know if you wish this to continue.

Should you have any queries regarding your child's registration or milk supply in general, please do not hesitate to contact Cool Milk directly at
customerservices@coolmilk.com.

Holidays 2021/22

25.10.21 - 29.10.21	Half Term
20.12.21 - 01.01.22	Christmas Holiday
21.02.22 - 25.02.22	Half Term
11.04.22 - 22.04.22	Easter Holiday
02.05.22	May Day
30.05.22 - 03.06.22	Half Term
21.07.22	Summer Holidays

INSET DAYS

Thursday 2nd September 2021
Friday 3rd September 2021
Tuesday 4th January 2022
Monday 28th February 2022
Thursday 21st July 2022

What's on ...

Please note that these dates are subject to change

February 2022

7-11	Week	Week	Internet Safety Week
8	Tuesday	DAY	Internet Safety Day
16	Wednesday	3.30-5.30pm	Parents Evening
17	Thursday	3.30-6.00pm	Parents Evening
18	Friday	3.15pm	Break up for Half-Term
21-25	Week	Week	Half-Term
28	Monday	DAY	INSET day - School Closed to pupils

March 2022

3	Thursday	DAY	World Book Day
---	----------	-----	----------------

Claim your free school meal today

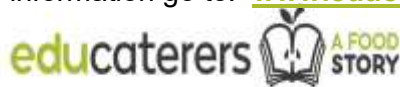


- ✓ Get your child a tasty nutritious meal every day.
- ✓ Save over £400 a year and hours of time on making packed lunches.
- ✓ Our school gets over £1,300 for every registered pupil.

To find out if you are eligible go to:

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-learning/apply-free-school-meals

For menu information go to: www.educaterers.co.uk



Lunch Menu - 24 January 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>Pork Sausages</p> <p>(v) Chinese Style Quorn Noodles</p> <p>(v) Jacket Potato</p> <p>(v) Strawberry Swirl Mousse Cheese, Crackers and Apple</p>	<p>BBQ Chicken Fillet Wrap</p> <p>(v) Farmhouse Omelette</p> <p>(v) Jacket Potato</p> <p>Homemade Peach Melba Sponge with Raspberry Drizzle Icing</p>	<p>Roast Pork or Gammon</p> <p>(v) Vegetarian Korma</p> <p>(v) Jacket Potato</p> <p>Apple Pie Ice Cream Tub</p>	<p>Pasta Bolognaise</p> <p>(v) Cheese & Potato Pie</p> <p>(v) Jacket Potato</p> <p>Chocolate Mousse Homemade Cherry Cookie</p>	<p>Crispy Fishcake</p> <p>(v) Pizza</p> <p>(v) Jacket Potato</p> <p>Homemade Chocolate Frosted Sponge</p>

Any vegetarian dishes are display with a (v)