



Welcome back to another school year at Whitmore and a warm welcome to all the new families that have joined us this week. It has been great to see you all and your children back with us.

The children have settled in really well and are already excited and engaged in their learning. I have walked around the school each day to see the children and have been really impressed with the calm and purposeful learning environments in each class. A special mention to the new Reception children who stayed for lunch today for the first time and are also settling in really well.

As you know we are still waiting for our OFSTED inspection visit, they can call anytime from next Wednesday, we are all on hyper alert!

Next week we will be starting the meet the teacher sessions after school. This is an opportunity for you to see what your children are going to be learning this year and how you can help them at home.

During the Summer term we further developed our 'Whitmore Curriculum' to ensure that the children are learning the skills and the knowledge across the subjects we teach. A particular change is that we are now teaching History in Key Stage 2 chronologically so that the children have a much better understanding and can remember what happened and when in the distant past.

See the grid below:

Stone Age & Iron Age Year 3	Egyptians Year 3	Greeks Year 4	Celts & Romans Year 4	Anglo-Saxons & Scots Year 5	Mayans Year 5	Vikings Year 5	World War 1 Year 6	Local History Year 6
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The children will also be having a theme day each week to immerse them in a specific area of learning like Art, DT, Geography, History. Year 3 and 4 have kicked started their topics with a history theme day this week which the children and staff have really enjoyed.

I hope you have an enjoyable weekend.

Mrs N Kemp
Headteacher




Diary Dates:

September

- 9th—Year 2 Great Fire of London workshop
- 9th—Woodlands in to meet parents and pupils in year 6 (3.15pm Studio)
- 10th—Year 1 Meet the teacher—3.15pm KS1 hall
- 11th—Year 6 Meet the teacher—3.30pm KS2 hall
- 12th—Individual photos
- 13th—Individual photos
- 13th—Year 2 Meet the teacher—3.15pm KS1 hall
- W/C 16th—Year 6 Isle of Wight trip
- 16th—Year 3 Meet the teacher—3.30pm KS2 hall
- 17th—Year 4 Meet the teacher— 3.30pm KS2 hall
- 18th—Year 5 Meet the teacher—3.30pm KS2 hall
- 23rd— Year 2 Great Fire of London talk

Inset days—25th October, 4th November 2019, 22nd May & 22nd July 2020.

Reminders



- KS2—Please ensure you have applied for your child's free school meals if eligible. Any meals taken before application approval will incur a £2 charge per meal.
- Any outstanding monies need to be settled as soon as possible, letters and texts will be issued next week for monies owed for breakfast club and dinner and phone calls will be made for any outstanding workshop money.

Talk it topics and British Values

Talk it topics are an opportunity for children to discuss an issue or idea throughout the week which is linked to the British Values. It encourages children's communication skills as well as debating skills and is fun. We cover a different topic in school each week. It would be fantastic if you could talk about it at home too. This weeks topic will be—
Are our actions more important than our words?.....
This links to the British Value Individual Liberty

Wall of Achievement

Week of 2nd September 2019



Bluebell Class— Reggie W
Rose Class— Albie G
Tulip Class— Logan A
Lavender Class— Will F
Orchid Class— Lillie E
Sunflower Class— Shyanna C
Birch Class— Troy S
Hawthorn Class— Keira W
Pine Class— Ana R
Ash Class— Kobi K
Beech Class— Eleanor L
Maple Class— Leo L
Olive Class— Max M
Sycamore Class— Charlie WF
Willow Class— Skye B
Elder Class— Riley S
Elm Class— Megan S
Oak Class— Alex H



Attendance and Punctuality

Reminder of school start and finish times—

Nursery—8.30-11.30am and 12.30-3.30pm

Reception & KS1—8.50am-3pm

KS2—8.45am-3.15pm.

It is vitally important that children arrive at school on time and ready to learn. We would like to bring to your attention that **children arriving after 9.05am will now be marked down as an unauthorised absence**, which can result in a referral to Essex County Council and a possible fine. A fine may be issued for 10 or more unauthorised late sessions. We would really appreciate your help in making sure children attends school on time and we will be contacting parents for persistent lateness. We would ask that you also try to arrange doctors/dentist and other appointments outside of the school day as we have an increasing number of children being collected early or throughout the day. If you do need to collect your child early for an appointment please provide evidence of this.

If your child is absent from school please contact the office on the first morning and keep the school updated, where relevant please provide medical evidence.

Please be aware if your child is absent for a term time holiday in the first two weeks of September for 6 or more consecutive sessions a penalty notice may be issued.

