# Whitmore Primary School & Nursery

# Newsletter

Part of the Berlesduna Academy Trust

6th November 2026

## Diary Dates

November

6th - Residential 2027 meeting with parents (current Year 5 pupils)
9th - Yr5/6 football match v Phoenix Primary (H) (selected children)
10th - Year 5 Saxon Workshop (in school)
12th - Maths Challenge (selected children)
W/C 16th - Book Fair in School
W/c 16th - Anti-bullying week
16th - Odd Sock Day
17th- Parent Consultations 15:30-18:00
19th - Parent Consultations 15:30-17:30
20th - Year 5/6 football match V Lincewood(A) (selected children)
24th - Flu Immunisations - details being sent by Nursing Team
26th - Year 2 Chrsitmas performance (9:15am & 2:30pm)
26th - Year 5/6 football match v Kingswood(H) (selected children)
30th - Year 3-4 football match v Liandon Park (A) (Selected children)

December

3rd - Year 1 Christmas performance (9:15am & 2:30pm)
3rd - Year 3-4 football match V Lee Chapel (H) (selcted children)

Inset Dates - 27th & 28th May 2027

## Talk it Topic

'Talk it' topics are an opportunity for children to discuss an issue or idea throughout the week which is linked to 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.

The coming week's topic is:

EYFS - What are your favourite family traditions?

KS1/KS2 -Should traditions always stay the same?

The topics are linked to one of the following British Values: Individual Liberty, Rule of Law, Demorcracy or Mutual Respect & Tolerance

We hope you all had a wonderful October half term and are feeling refreshed. It's lovely to see all the children back in school, ready for what is always a busy but exciting half term. As we know, this time of year seems to fly by in the blink of an eye, with lots happening as we build up to our Christmas events and celebrations. Please keep an eye out for key dates over the coming weeks.

We've certainly come back to very different weather! As the temperature drops, please remember to send your child to school each day with a winter coat clearly marked with their name. This helps us ensure coats don't get mixed up and that every child stays warm during playtimes. If you are struggling to provide a winter coat for your child, please don't hesitate to speak to Mrs Thorn, our Family Support Officer, who may be able to help.

We've noticed that our school's attendance dropped slightly before half term. Good attendance is so important for your child's learning and wellbeing, so over the coming weeks we will be carefully looking at attendance patterns across the school. As always, if you feel you need any support with your child's attendance, please contact Mrs Hafsi (Attendance Officer) or Mrs Thorn (Family Support Officer) – both are here to help, not to judge, and we want to work with you to ensure your child gets the most out of their time at school.

Next week is set to be an exciting one! Our Year 5 children will be taking part in a Saxon workshop as part of their learning in History – we're sure they'll have a fantastic time bringing their learning to life. We will also be hosting new intake tours for prospective parents and children who are hoping to join our school community in September 2027. It's always wonderful to welcome new families and show them what makes Whitmore such a special place.

This year for Children in Need, we will, as always, invite the children to come to school wearing something yellow. There is no obligation for donations, however, we will provide QR codes on classroom doors in case you would like to make a donation to this wonderful cause.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.
Mr Wade
Headteacher




Poppy Appeal 2026.

Whitmore Primary are pleased to be helping with the Poppy Appeal 2026. Poppies and Royal British legion items will be on sale on the school gate in the morning and afternoons until 11th November 2026.



# Well done to the following children

**Certificate of Achievement**

Buttercup - Aliyah-Grace
Daffodil - Harry
Primrose - Nola
Bluebell - Delilah B
Rose - Evelyn M
Tulip - Teddy
Lavender - Varshik
Orchid - Lucie H
Sunflower - Gray W
Birch - Delsina
Hawthorn - Cruz
Pine - Mason M
Ash - Bradley B
Chestnut - Ochuwa Y
Maple - Keegan A
Olive - Maisy D
Sycamore - Jay-J W
Willow - Jeremiah B
Elder - Emily W
Elm - Freya P
Oak - Amelia

## Reader of the Week

Bluebell - Jessica B
Rose - Bailey R-S
Tulip - Clara
Lavender - Elsa
Orchid - Eva C
Sunflower - Beau O
Birch - Maria
Hawthorn - Fatima
Pine - Eliza P
Ash - Phoebe V
Chestnut- Shabiyah R
Maple - Milaniia S
Olive - Poppy C
Sycamore - Maddie R
Willow - Huxley
Elder - Augustus
Elm - Sammie R
Oak - Alec

# Reading Corner

This week, we will be reading....

Nursery - Emer's Birthday

Reception - Where the Poppies Now Grow

Year 1 - Traction man

Year 2 - There's a Rang-Tan in my bedroom

Year 3 - Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

Year 4 - Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the witch and the wardrobe

Year 5 - When the Mountain Roared

Year 6 - Suffragette: The Battle for Equality

# Phonics

We're teaching every child to read with Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised
A complete SSP validated by the Department for Education
Little Wandle LETTERS AND SOUNDS REVISED

Please scan the QR code or click the link to take you to the Little Wandle Parents page where you will find how we teach a new sound, how we teach children to read decodable words and tricky words. You will also find how to pronounce all GPCS your children learn.
https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/

| | |
|---|---|
| Reception | This week in phonics, Reception have been reviewing all of the phase 2 sounds learnt in the autumn term. We have also learnt the sounds j and the diagraphs ss / ff / ll in our phonics lessons. We have been practising orally blending words and reading words containing these sounds and digraphs. |
| Year 1 | This we week have been learning the following in phonics - Phonics ir/ur/, ie/igh, ue/oo/yoo, u/yoo<br>Tricky words- their, people, oh, your |
| Year 2 | This week, Year 2 have been reviewing their phase 5 graphemes and tricky words to help prepare them to start the new phase 5 review phonic lessons next week. |

# DON'T FORGET

On Monday 16th November we are encouraging your children to come to school wearing odd socks (the bigger and brighter the better!)
Odd Socks Day supports the launch of anti-bullying week and is designed to be fun! It's an opportunity to encourage people to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique!
Thank you for your support




TTRS Class of the week - Chestnut Class - 42%

Player of the week—
Lavender - William
Orchid - Elissia O
Sunflower - Nathaniel O
Birch - Millie
Hawthorn - Henderson
Pine - Anastasia G
Ash - Victor D
Chestnut - Buddy McN
Maple - Jaskirat K
Olive - Aman G
Sycamore - Kevin T
Willow - Lexi
Elder - Bogdan
Elm - Olivia V
Oak - Imogen

Numbots Class of the week - Bluebell Class - 18%

Player of the week—
Bluebell - Zarah O
Rose - Hamidah Y
Tulip - Chloe




A reminder to all parents that we are taking part in the walk to school campaign that aims to encourage children to take at least 2 active journeys to school each week (this could be walking, scooting, cycling or park and stride). Active journeys to school help to reduce congestion and pollution and support pupils physical and mental health.

We were really pleased to receive our accredited certificate (see photo below) that supports our school travel plan. We now have an 'approved' travel plan and we are working towards the next level of accreditation.

Here is our Walk to school October round-up:

Whole school achievement:

| ACTIVE JOURNEYS TAKEN | NUMBER OF BADGES EARNED | LEVEL OF ENGAGEMENT |
|---|---|---|
| 5349 = 86% | 361 | 62% |

Class leaderboards:
Levels of engagement

KS1 winner
Sunflower 75%
KS2 winner
Maple 94%

Active journeys taken

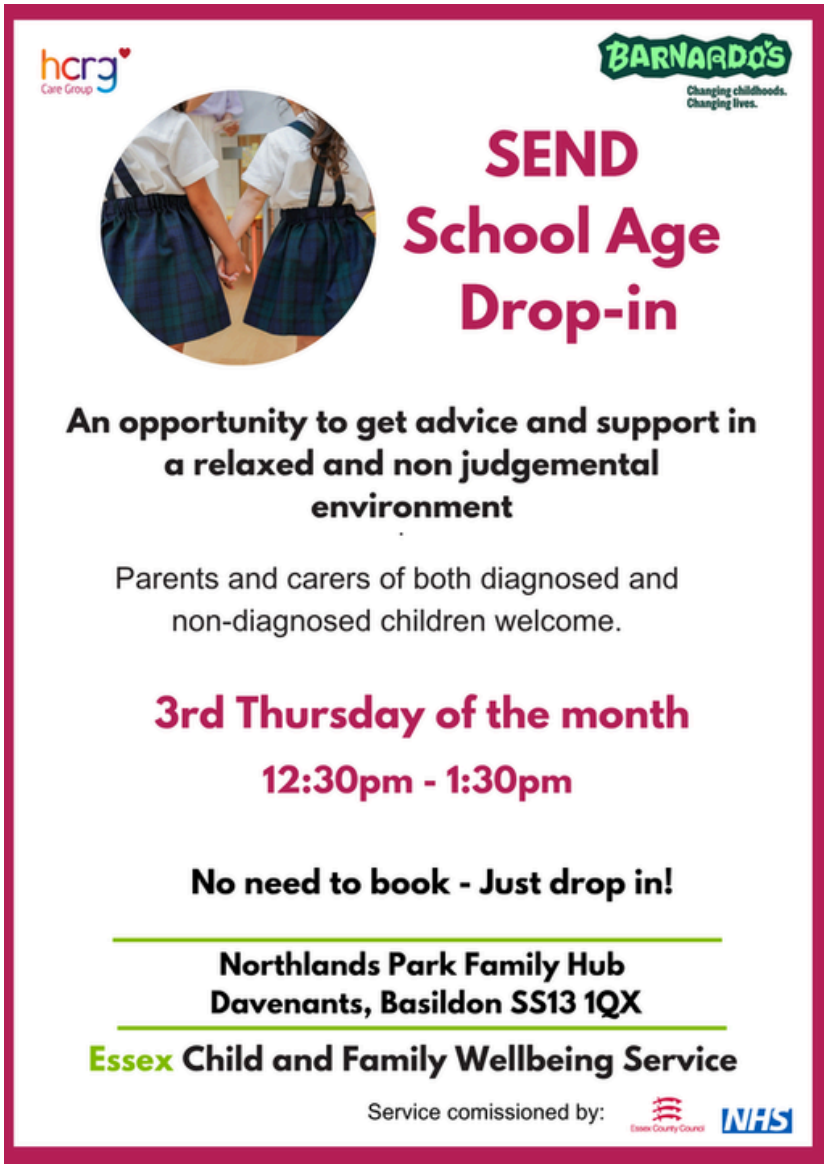
KS1 winner
Sunflower 99%
KS2 winner
Hawthorn 99%

Congratulations to the winning classes and congratulations to all the pupils who earnt their October badge.

Good luck to everyone for the next month and we are hoping to give out even more badges in November! Please help your child to meet our school target and earn their badge.

If you want to find out more about the walk to school scheme then the website is:
https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/walk-to-school






# Berlesduna vacancies

BERLESDUNA ACADEMY TRUST

BERLESDUNA ACADEMY TRUST – VACANCIES

CHERRY TREE – CLASS TEACHER closing date 15 December
CHERRY TREE – NURSERY MANAGER closing date 10 November
FAIRHOUSE – FIXED TERM CLASS TEACHER closing date 8 January
MERRYLANDS – FIXED TERM CLASS TEACHER closing date 27 November
ST NICHOLAS – CLEANER closing date 16 November
WILLOWS – SEND LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT closing date 27 November

For more information and to apply for any of these exciting opportunities, please follow the link to our website Vacancies – Berlesduna Academy Trust