WHITMORE
PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

Newsletter 5th September 2025

Welcome back to a brand new school year at Whitmore Primary School And Nursery! I'd like to extend a special welcome to all our new families joining us, and a heartfelt thank you to everyone for making the start of term so smooth and joyful. It's been fantastic to see the children back in school this week. There's been real joy on their faces, and it's clear how pleased they are to be reunited with friends and staff. A special mention to our new Reception children, who have settled in so well – we're incredibly proud of how quickly they've adapted to their new environment!

The children have already been busy developing important skills that will support them throughout the year. We've also focused on our school's core values and reinforced our school rules, including how to stay safe both in and out of school.

This week, all our KS2 children took part in exciting kung fu lessons delivered by Meridian Kung Fu Basildon. The sessions were a big hit – the children absolutely loved them and I hope some of our pupils will be inspired to sign up and continue learning these skills.

A few reminders for everyone:

- Please ensure your child is in the correct school uniform every day. You can find our uniform policy on our school website.
- The school gates close at 08:55 each morning. If you arrive late, please register your child at the school office.
- With so many families using the school gates and paths, please be mindful and respectful of others as you move around the site.

It's been wonderful to see you and your children back in school this week. Thank you for your ongoing support in making Whitmore a happy and safe place to learn. I look forward to seeing everyone again on Monday.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Mr Wade
Head of School

Diary Dates:
September

W/C 15th—Year 6 residential to Mersea

October

1st—KS2 School Council trip to UK Parliament
3rd—Year 3 trip to Thorndon Country Park
9th—Year 3/4 Dodgeball Competition (selected children)
14th—Flu Immunisations
21st—Individual photos

Inset Dates—3rd November 2025, 20th,21st & 22nd May 2026

Year 6—Secondary School applications

If your child is in year 6, the admissions process for secondary schools opens on 12th September 2025 and closes on 31st October 2025. Many schools will run open days and evenings where you and your child can tour the schools and find out more about them. You can find out more about each school's open events by contacting them directly. You can apply for a secondary school place for your child at this website: https://www.essex.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/secondary-school-places , or by scanning this QR code.

'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 week's topic will be—

Early Years—How can we move different things? This links to the British Value — Mutual Respect and Tolerance.

KS1 & KS2—What makes a building special? This links to the British Value —Mutual Respect and Tolerance.

BERLESDUNA ACADEMY TRUST

BERLESDUNA ACADEMY TRUST – VACANCIES

FAIRHOUSE – DEPUTY HEADTEACHER closing date 15th September
MERRYLANDS – SEND LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT closing date 16th September
WILLOWS – CARETAKER closing date 14th September
WILLOWS – NURSERY MIDDAY ASSISTANT closing date 17th September

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

Certificate of Achievement

Week of 1st September 2025

Daffodil Class— Tommy C
Buttercup Class— Theo B
Primrose Class— Clara
Bluebell Class— Ava P
Rose Class— Harvey G
Tulip Class— Dennis
Lavender Class— Logan M
Orchid Class— Parker
Sunflower Class— Cheyenne H
Birch Class— Maximillian
Hawthorn Class— Rosie B
Pine Class— Ava M
Ash Class— Jenson A
Beech Class— Poppy C
Maple Class— Azlan
Olive Class— Amelia B
Sycamore Class— Mya-Lily G
Willow Class— Halo S
Elder— Vivien M
Elm— Lola Q
Oak— Ollie W

Year Group	Next week, we will be reading….
Nursery	
Reception	**Where the wild things are** by Maurice Sendak
Year 1	**Supertato** by Sue Hendra
Year 2	**The bear under the stairs** by Helen Cooper
Year 3	**The boy who grew dragons** by Andy Shepherd
Year 4	**The Chronicles of Narnia** by C.S.Lewis
Year 5	**The boy at the back of the class** by Onjali Rauf
Year 6	**Windrush Child** by Benjamin Zepaniah

Class	Reader of the week…
Year 1—Bluebell	Hadassah C
Year 1—Rose	Caliph O
Year 1 - Tulip	Florence
Year 2 - Orchid	Noah
Year 2 - Sunflower	Isla-Alanna T
Year 2 - Lavender	Gabriella O
Year 3 - Birch	Matthew
Year 3 - Hawthorn	Remy
Year 3 - Pine	AJ Y
Year 4 - Maple	Elsie
Year 4 - Beech	Maisy
Year 4 - Ash	Hunter H
Year 5 - Olive	Vanessa G
Year 5 - Sycamore	Alana H
Year 5 - Willow	Amber M
Year 6—Elder	Harriet L
Year 6—Elm	Asher
Year 6—Oak	Jaci-Jay W

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/

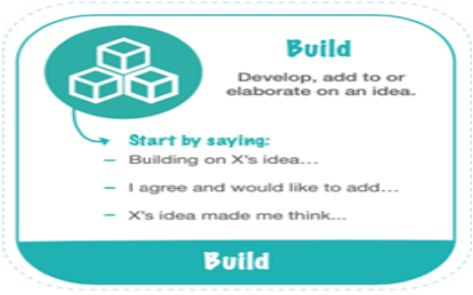
We're teaching every child to read with Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised
A complete SSP validated by the Department for Education
Little Wandle LETTERS AND SOUNDS REVISED ™

We are thrilled to inform you about the upcoming Library Summer Reading Challenge! From 19th July to 6th September, children can take part in this fantastic initiative by reading six books or completing a variety of enjoyable activities during the summer holidays. Each participant will earn a medal and certificate as a reward for their efforts.

Leaflets with more information are attached. We encourage parents to send photos of their children engaged in the challenge to admin@whitmore-pri.essex.sch.uk for display in our school library. This initiative not only significantly boosts reading skills and confidence but also prevents the summer 'dip' in
literacy, aiding a smooth transition to new year groups and key stages. Best of all, it's simple, free, and libraries will host free activities for families throughout the

Oracy Corner

"We will be happier if we show kindness and compassion to people." Discuss.



Recommended Reads

Please keep a look out for recommended books for different ages over the coming week.

Times Table Rockstars and Numbots

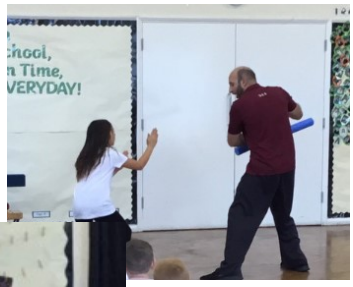
TTR class of the week— Beech Class — 50%.

Player of the week—
Lavender— Nisla G
Orchid — Sonia
Sunflower— Alexander G
Birch— Ben
Hawthorn— Jake
Pine— Ralph C
Ash— Muhammad R
Beech— Lamia M-A
Maple— Adebambo
Sycamore— Alec B
Olive - Dilara T
Willow— Freddie J
Elder— Kai M
Elm—Amber
Oak— Evie O

Numbots class and player of the week will begin next week

Meridian Kung Fu

This week, we have had Meridian Kung Fu Basildon visit KS2 to teach us a lesson in self-defence. They taught us about learning to stay calm under pressure, about feeling more confidence in ourselves and helped us to understand the importance of self-respect and respect for others. These are life skills that go far beyond self-defence — they're the foundations for strong character development and healthier mental wellbeing. The children thoroughly enjoyed the session and showed fantastic perseverance throughout!



New Reception Intake

The Reception children have had a fantastic time settling into their new classes! They have shown lots of confidence with trying new activities and it has been lovely to see their personalities start to shine through. The children have shown enthusiasm towards making new friends and have enjoyed choosing their learning in both the indoor and outdoor environment. We are super proud of how well the children have settled in this week! Well done Reception!