

Dear Whitchurch Families,

Thank you for your incredible support again this week as we struggled with disruption caused by industrial action taken by some teachers. I am sure you join with me in acknowledging teachers' concerns regarding workload and pay. I very much hope the unions and Government can work constructively together to avoid any further planned action. The next potential date for action is Thursday 2nd March; I will work on contingency planning to let you know of any class closures at Whitchurch as soon as I can.

Well done to 3NL and 6SC who had their class assemblies this week and shared their fantastic work with us. You may have noticed we are starting to celebrate all of our Whitchurch musicians by encouraging them to play at the start and end of assemblies. We do this every week in the two celebration assemblies and have noticed what a confidence boost it is for them! Also this week, the rest of Year 6 visited to Natural History Museum and Year 5 went to The Science Museum as enrichment for their topics.

Next week is Mental Health Awareness Week; the theme is 'Let's Connect'. In assembly this week I have already started to talk to children about our school value 'Resilience' and have asked them to think about the people, places or objects we may turn to when we need support or comfort. Next week we will continue to talk to children about who they can connect with and get support from if they are feeling worried, anxious or low. We will also discuss being available for people; taking time to listen and support friends and family.

As part of next week's activities for Mental Health Awareness Week, Friends of Whitchurch will be running a 'Bake A Heart' sale on Wednesday (8th February) after school. We are asking children and parents to take some time to do some baking together at home, using the time to connect with each other and share in a joint activity. Please have a go at baking a biscuit, cake or muffin with a heart shape or decoration - then bring it into school on Wednesday morning to be sold at the sale. It would also be brilliant if you are able to come to the 'Bake a Heart' sale at the end of the day in the school hall to buy a heart for someone you care about!

A reminder that we break up for half term on Thursday 9th February at the normal time (Friday is a Staff Training Day) and return to school on Monday 20th February.



Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Caroline Rowley
Headteacher

Mental Health Awareness Week next week 'Let's Connect' Staff Training
Day on Friday
10th February no children in
school

1MT and 4BS class assemblies next week

Dates for your Diary

Monday 6th February Mental Health Awareness Week - 'Let's Connect'

Wednesday 8th February Year 5 visit to Bentley Wood - 'Matilda' (12.30pm-2.30pm)

FoW Bake A Heart Sale, 3.20pm-4pm

Thursday 9th February Year 3 Roman Day

Monday 27th February Year 4 visit to The Science Museum (4BS and 4SK)

Tuesday 28th February Year 4 visit to The Science Museum (4CA and 4EH)

Wednesday 8th to Year 5 residential visit to Kingswood Friday 10th March (day trip on Thursday 9th March)

FoW Bake A Heart Sale

Spring Half Term Break 13th to 17th February

All Class Assemblies start at 9.05am

Parents should arrive 5 mins before the assembly starts

Infant Class Assemblies Tuesdays 9.05am 7th February - 1MT 28th February - Tigers 7th March - 2LJ 14th March - 3TG 21st March - 1DS 28th March - Lions

Junior Class Assemblies Wednesdays 9.05am 8th February - 4BS 1st March - 5CM 8th March - 6TM 15th March - 6OL 22nd March - 5DA 29th March - 6AS

STARS of the Week





Well done to our stars of the week, who have been selected for excellent work and demonstrating our school values





This week's Infant Stars

1ST Dhanesh **1DS** Riyaan **1MT** Aarna

1SM Eliza

2GH Diyan **2LJ** Tia **2KB** Khateejah **2KD** Raiya

3NL Saanvi **3MS** Ella **3TG** Beatrice 3SA Riu



Respect Responsibility Generosity

4EH Kiyan **4SK** Tisha **4CA** Sianna 4BS Melissa

> **5CM** Annay **5KP** Hamza **5HH** Steven **5DA** Megan

> 6AS Aran **6SC** Alfred **6TM** Jia **60L** Amena











School Spider

The teachers are busy writing annual reports to parents which will be shared with you via School Spider in the week prior to Parents' Evening.

It is therefore imperative that every parent/carer has a School Spider account so you can access this report. In a bid to save the planet we will not be printing off reports again.

If you need any support with installing the School Spider Parent App please contact the school.



Chess Tournament

Congratulations to our Chess team who did so brilliantly in the Harrow competition at the weekend!



Playleader Role

We are seeking to recruit another Playleader for our Night Owls after school club.

As a Playleader you will love working with children and have an interest in arts and crafts, outdoor play, cooking or computing. Playleaders for Night Owls are required to support children during our after school club provision between 3pm and 6pm (term time).

If you want more information please visit the Vacancies page on our website (Our School > Vacancies).





Car Parking

We have noticed that the car parking situation has improved slightly - thank you for your support.

However, unfortunately, the Avanti Trust have decided that parents can no longer use their staff overflow car park at the end of the day. This is clearly extremely frustrating as we know this car park sits empty. Sadly this is a decision that has been made by the Avanti Trust Board - please no longer use this car park.

Year Group Highlights

We're Going on a Bear Hunt

This week in Nursery the children have been acting out the story 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' both indoors and outdoors. We have also been busy drawing story maps and sequencing the story!



We're
Going on a Bear Hunt

This week Reception enjoyed the story 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. We went on an exciting bear hunt walking through wavy grass, swimming through a splashy river, walking through squelchy mud and stumbling through dark woods!

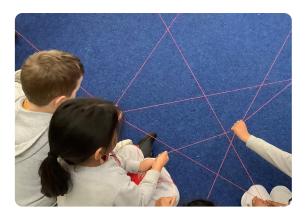
Whitchurch



Year 1

Friendships

In RE this half term, Year 1 have been discussing friendship. We have looked at the qualities we seek in our friends and how we can be better friends to others. We realised how connected we are when we created our very own friendship web!



Year 2

Great Fire of London

In Art this week, Year 2 have been exploring warm colours. We enjoyed using these colours to create our own flames, in preparation for painting masterpieces of the Great Fire of London!



Reception

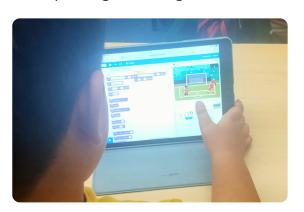
Year 3

Year Group Highlights



Scratch Animation

In Computing, Year 3 have been exploring how to create characters and dialogue for animation using Scratch. We also used sounds and other effects to bring our animation to life. What a great way to develop coding skills and get creative!



Area

In Maths this week, Year 4 have been looking at measuring area. We have used non-standard measures to work out the surface area of 2D shapes. We also learned about rectilinear shapes and created some using post-it notes.



Year 5

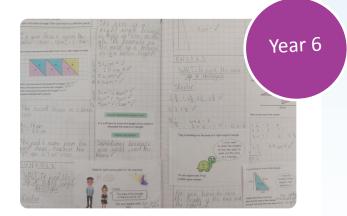
The Science Museum

Year 5 enjoyed a day at the Science Museum in London. We visited the Space Gallery first where we saw a real moon Rick. We then visited the mathematics gallery to learn more about inventions including a computer from 1954!



Area, Perimeter and Volume

In Maths this week, Year 6 have explored area, perimeter and volume. We learnt how to calculate the area of different triangles and parallelograms using formulae. For some shapes we applied our algebra skills to work out the area.











Bake A Heart Sale



'Let's Connect' for Mental Health Awareness Week

It's that time once again to get the baking tins and oven gloves out. Why not bake a treat from your heart in memory and appreciation of those you love this Valentine's.



Cash only event

Create heart themed cakes, muffins and biscuits, then come along to our sale. A great opportunity to connect with each other for Mental Health Awareness Week!



Bake A
Heart Sale:
Wednesday
8th February,
3.20pm-4pm
Infant Hall









All bakes must be clearly labelled with ingredients



Strictly NO NUTS

Disposable containers preferred



6th to 9th February



Let's Connect
Childrens Mental Health Week 2023

Mental Health Awareness Week

The theme for Mental Health Awareness Week next week is **'Let's Connect'**, which is all about making connections with others in healthy, rewarding and meaningful ways. There will be assemblies in school getting children to think about how to make meaningful connections, as well as some classroom activities.

Connections with others are vital for our wellbeing. When we have healthy connections to family, friends and others, this can support our mental health and our sense of wellbeing. If our need for rewarding social connections is not met, we can sometimes feel isolated and lonely, which can have a negative impact on our mental health.

We will be selling 'Let's Connect' rubber bracelets at the playground gate before and after school during the week. Children can wear these at school for the month. The idea is that the bracelet can help us to feel connected to a family member we are apart.

If you are feeling lonely or isolated and need some support remember that Tom Schwab, our Therapeutic Lead from Harrow Schools Counselling Partnership, is available in school on Wednesdays. To make an appointment to see Tom please get in touch by phone or email:

Email: tom@schoolscounsellingpartnership.co.uk

Call: **07799 028461**

Parents/Carers
You are invited to join your child in class on Thursday
9th February from 8.45am to 9.30am for an activity exploring meaningful people in our lives.



Let's
Connect
bracelets
50p-£1
donation



Friendly February
Calendar on the
'Support for Families'
page of our website,
featuring lots of ideas
for families to feel
connected





Family Liaison Support

If you need any support please reach out to Mrs Chikhlia, our Family Liaison Officer. We know times are tricky and some families may be struggling financially. If you need any advice or support please email: nchikhlia@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk

support and advice



Romanian Hub

The Romanian Hub offer a range of support for the community including a Food hub, Coffee Morning, Walking Group and Warm Space.

For more information please see the parent notice board outside the main playground gate or visit www.rcct.uk



Spring Menu



Salad bar, bread and milk are available daily



Week 1 w/b 3 Jan, 23 Jan

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|----|-------------|--|--|--|--|---|
| n, | | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
| | VEGETARIAN | Vegetarian Sausages, Mashed Potato & Green Beans | Vegetarian Bolognese Pasta Bake, Malted Wheat Baguette & Garden Peas | Vegetarian Cottage Pie with Fresh Broccoli & Carrots (Ve) | Vegetable Curry, Pilau Rice, Natural Yogurt, Naan Bread & Sweetcorn | Cheese Lattice, Chips & Baked Beans |
| | ALTERNATIVE | Spicy Tomato Pasta with Side Salad (Ve) | Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (Ve), Cheese or Tuna Mayo & Side Salad | Neapolitan Pasta with Carrots & Broccoli (Ve) | Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (Ve), Cheese or Tuna Mayo & Side Salad | Veggie Wrap with Tomato Topping, Chips & Salad (Ve) |
| | MEAT | Chicken Sausages, Mashed Potato and Green Beans | Beef Bolognese Pasta Bake, Malted Wheat Baguette & Garden Peas | Roast Turkey, Roast Potatoes, Fresh Broccoli & Carrots | Chicken Curry, Pilau Rice, Natural Yogurt, Naan Bread & Sweetcorn | Fish Fingers, Chips & Baked Beans |
| | PUDDING | Beetroot Sponge with Natural Yogurt | Fruit Tuesday Orange/Apple/Banana | Apple Crumble & Custard | Strawberry Mousse | Ginger Snap |

Week 2 w/b 9 Jan, 30 Jan

| | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|-------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| VEGETARIAN | Cheese & Tomato Pizza, Diced Potatoes & Sweetcorn | Vegetable Enchiladas, Potato Wedges & Mixed Vegetables | Macaroni Cheese, Garlic Bread & Garden Peas | Vegetable Pie, Mashed Potatoes & Broccoli | Vegetable Burger, Chips & Garden Peas |
| ALTERNATIVE | Tomato & Herb Pasta, Malted Wheat Baguette & Side Salad (Ve) | Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (Ve), Cheese or Tuna Mayo & Side Salad | Veggie Wrap with Tomato Topping, Coleslaw & Salad (Ve) | Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (Ve), Cheese or Tuna Mayo & Side Salad | Neapolitan Pasta with Garden Peas (Ve) |
| MEAT | Cheese & Tomato Pizza, Diced Potatoes & Sweetcorn (V) | Chicken Enchiladas, Potato Wedges & Mixed Vegetables | Macaroni Cheese, Garlic Bread & Garden Peas (V) | Creamy Turkey Pie, Mashed Potatoes & Broccoli | Battered Fish Fillet, Chips & Garden Peas |
| PUDDING | Orange Drizzle Cake with Natural Yogurt | Fruit Tuesday Orange/Apple/Banana | Strawberry Jelly & Fruit (Ve) | Orange & Sultana Oat Bake | Cornflake Cake |

Week 3 w/b 16 Jan, 6 Feb

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|----|-------------|--|--|---|--|--|
| n, | | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
| | VEGETARIAN | Vegetarian Biryani, Naan Bread & Yogurt with Garden Peas | Vegetarian Lasagne, Garlic Bread & Side Salad | Vegetarian Toad in the Hole, Roast Potatoes, Fresh Carrots & Green Beans | Macaroni Cheese, Garlic Bread & Sweetcorn | Grilled Cheese Sub, Chips & Baked Beans |
| , | ALTERNATIVE | Vegetarian Biryani, Naan Bread with Garden Peas (Ve) | Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (Ve), Cheese or Tuna Mayo & Side Salad | Spicy Tomato Pasta with Side Salad (Ve) | Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (Ve), Cheese or Tuna Mayo & Side Salad | Tomato & Herb Pasta, Malted Wheat Baguette & Side Salad (Ve) |
| | MEAT | Chicken Biryani, Naan Bread & Yogurt with Garden Peas | Beef Lasagne, Garlic Bread & Side Salad | Chicken Toad in the Hole, Roast Potatoes, Fresh Carrots & Green Beans | Chicken Burrito Bake, Homemade Potato Wedges & Sweetcorn | Fish Cake, Chips & Baked Beans |
| | PUDDING | Fruity Flapjack | Fruit Tuesday Orange/Apple/Banana | Iced Sponge & Custard | Courgette Muffin Traybake | Banana Bread & Natural Yogurt |



Useful Contacts

Headteacher (Mrs C Rowley) head@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk

Deputy Headteacher (Mr M Thompson-Lawrie) mthompson-lawrie@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk

SEND Co-ordinator (Mrs D Qudsiyeh) senco@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk

Assistant Headteacher for Early Years (Mrs R Ahmed) rahmed@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk

Assistant Headteacher for Years 1, 2 & 3 (Miss G Harris) gharris@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk

Assistant Headteacher for Years 4, 5 & 6 (Mrs K Portou) kportou@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk

Year 1 Leader (Miss S Tezel) stezel@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk

Year 2 Leader (Miss G Harris) gharris@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk

Year 3 Leader (Miss N Lakhani) nlakhani@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk

Year 4 Leader (Mrs B Solanki) bsolanki@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk

Year 5 Leader (Mrs K Portou) kportou@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk

Year 6 Leader (Mrs S Chentouf) schentouf@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk

Family Liaison (Mrs N Chikhlia) nchikhlia@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk

If you have any concerns or communications about your child, please speak to the class teacher in the first instance

Director of Music (Mrs E Leutfeld) eleutfeld@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk

Music Department music@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk

Friends of Whitchurch
FoW@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk

Childcare (Early Birds and Night Owls) childcare@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk

School Office

Tel: 020 8951 5380 office@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk



Spring and Summer 2023 School Term Dates

Spring Term 2023

Spring 1st Tuesday 3 January to Thursday 9 February
Half Term Monday 13 February to Friday 17 February
Spring 2nd Monday 20 February to Friday 31 March

Staff Training Days Friday 10 February

(no children in school)

Holidays during term time are **not** permitted

Summer Term 2023

Summer 1st Monday 17 April to Friday 26 May Half Term Monday 29 May to Friday 2 June Summer 2nd Tuesday 6 June to Friday 21 July

Staff Training Days Monday 5 June

(no children in school)

Bank Holidays Monday 1st May

Monday 8th May

Term dates are posted on the school website





2023-2024 term dates on following page



Autumn 2023 - Summer 2024 School Term Dates

Autumn Term 2023

Autumn 1st Wednesday 6 September to Friday 20 October
Half Term Monday 23 October to Friday 27 October
Autumn 2nd Monday 30 October to Thursday 21 December

Staff Training Days Monday 4 September, Tuesday 5 September,

Monday 13 November (no children in school)

Holidays during term time are **not** permitted

Spring Term 2024

Spring 1st Monday 8 January to Thursday 8 February
Half Term Monday 12 February to Friday 16 February
Spring 2nd Monday 19 February to Thursday 28 March

Staff Training Days Friday 9 February

(no children in school)

Term dates are posted on the school website

Summer Term 2024

Summer 1st Monday 15 April to Friday 24 May
Half Term Monday 27 May to Friday 31 May
Summer 2nd Tuesday 4 June to Wednesday 24 July

Staff Training Days Monday 3 June

(no children in school)

Bank Holiday Monday 6th May

