



Whitchurch Weekly

School News

17th March
Issue 64

Dear Whitchurch Families,

Just when I thought Spring might be on its way, the weather this week has been truly horrible with Winter weather - lets hope things improve for the weekend!

I wanted to start this week with thanking each and every one of you for your tremendous support whilst I tried to manage the teachers' industrial action. Whilst of course I fully sympathise with the teachers around issues of pay and workload, headteachers are still charged with trying to open their schools as much as possible. During the last few weeks I have felt incredibly well supported by all; you have been so patient and understanding and I wanted to let you know how much your support has meant to both me and Mr Thompson-Lawrie as we have tussled with the problems this has posed.

Even though some classes have been out of school we have still had a very busy week. Year 5 have been cooking (making veg kebabs and hummus), Year 6 have had a mental health workshop, 3TG and 6OL had their class assemblies and we have been running workshops around Neurodiversity and the challenges that this presents to families and children.

Next week, on Thursday evening, we will be holding an extra special event to remember to life of Riya who sadly died in December. All members of our community are very welcome to join us as we remember her time and Whitchurch and celebrate her life. See further down in this newsletter for details.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Caroline Rowley
Headteacher

1DS and 5DA
class assemblies
next week

Celebrating Riya's
life at Whitchurch
next Thursday
from 3.45pm - all
welcome

Learners
today, leaders
tomorrow



Dates for your Diary

Monday 20th March	Year 1 Police Visit - Road Safety (1.15pm)
Tuesday 21st March	HMS String Festival 3TG and 3NL visit to Canons Park (1pm-3pm)
Wednesday 22nd March	Spring Music Concert (4pm) 3MS and 3SA visit to Canons Park (1pm-3pm)
Thursday 23rd March	Height and Weight Measurements - Reception and Year 6 (9.15am) Remembering Riya Special Event (3.45pm)
Friday 24th March	2KD visit to Florence Nightingale Museum
Monday 27th March	SPLATS Circus Skills Week (School Council)
Tuesday 28th and Wednesday 29th March	Spring Term Parents' Evening (3.30pm to 6pm)
Friday 31st March	Last Day of Spring Term

Spring Term
Parents' Evening
28th and 29th
March

Spring Music
Concert
Wednesday
22nd March
at 4pm



All Class Assemblies start at 9.05am

Parents should arrive 5 mins before the assembly starts

Infant Class Assemblies

Tuesdays
9.05am

21st March - 1DS

Tigers
class assembly
has moved to
**Thursday
30th March
(9.05am)**

Junior Class Assemblies

Wednesdays
9.05am

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

RRA Tigers Nyla
RNV Leopards Ruqayyah
RBP Jaguars Krish & Riana
RRV Lions Sheba

1ST Ali Mehdi
1DS Niragi
1MT Aaliyah
1SM Abdur Rahmaan

2GH Siyana
2LJ Malak
2KB Jahanzeb
2KD Zolay

3NL Teodora
3MS Reza
3TG Shaima
3SA Taiyan-Jai

4EH Lara
4SK Argh
4CA Niah
4BS Ashvi

5CM Reeva
5KP Laila
5HH Aryan & Kushal
5DA Danya

6AS Dhylan
6SC Hamza
6TM Ali
6OL Kushagra

This week's
Junior Stars

This week's
Infant Stars

Respect
Responsibility
Resilience
Honesty
Generosity
Aspiration



Notices

Illness

Due to a slight rise in cases of scarlet fever, the advice from the Health Protection Team is for children with flu symptoms to stay at home.

Similarly, in line with our policy, you are reminded to keep your child off school for 48 hours following diarrhoea or vomiting.

Reporting Illnesses

When reporting your child absent from school due to sickness please remember to specify symptoms or a diagnosis given by the doctor.



Pupil Reports for Parents' Evening - School Spider

A reminder that pupils' reports will be uploaded onto School Spider by **Friday 24th March**. It is vital you have School Spider to access these reports as we will not be producing hard copies.

You will need to refer to these reports prior to Parents' Evening on **Tuesday 28th and Wednesday 29th March**.

A reminder that **1ST** will have their Parents' Evening on Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd March.

2LJ will have their late Parents' Evening on Friday 24th March.



Safeguarding / PSHE Workshops

A reminder that we are hosting workshops for parents and carers on **Fridays at 9am** in the school hall.

Friday 24th March (9am-10am)

What is Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)?

Friday 31st March (9am-10am) - Years 3 to 6 only

How is FGM taught in school?

Quiz Club Regional General Knowledge Quiz

This week pupils took part in a General Knowledge Quiz against over 50 schools and got through to the semi-finals! Good luck to the team when they compete again in April. We all have our fingers crossed for you!



Notices



Clarity on the management of industrial action

A number of parents have asked me why we cannot mix the classes up so the same children are not affected every time by strike action. Whilst I appreciate this must be intensely frustrating for some families, the issue for me is that I am simply not allowed to cover the work of striking teacher. Other staff can legally refuse to cover the work of a striking colleagues so it was impossible for me to mix or change the classes around.

There are two or three different teaching unions and this series of strikes was just the NEU (National Education Union). We have approximately 10 members of this union and other staff are in other unions not taking strike action. Therefore, if your child's class teacher is part of the NEU then they have been liable to be affected.

I hope this clarifies why I could not have managed this in any other way.

Mrs Rowley



Massive 'Thank You's

This week we would like to say a massive thank you to Friends of Whitchurch who have organised two days to present wrapping with children for Mothering Sunday. We have helped children think about a significant female in their life, buy a secret present here in school and be helped with wrapping it.

Also a massive thank you to Rofu, father of Sabah and Eva, who came and built our sheds for us. You were amazing and we can't thank you enough!

Readathon

We have extended our Readathon until next Friday (24th March). It is not too late to take part and raise some vital funds for children's hospitals!

Please do sponsor your child's reading if you can, even the smallest amount will have an impact on the total amount raised by Whitchurch pupils.

Go to www.readforgood.org and click 'Sponsor a Pupil' or send the cash in a sealed envelope along with sponsor cards.





Year Group Highlights

Mother's Day Cards

In Nursery this week, we have been creating Mother's Day cards using our hand prints and finger prints. We are personalising the cards with special messages to our female relatives.



Nursery

Year 1

Invasion Skills

In PE, Year 1 have been learning all about invasion. We did very well at practising how to use an overarm throw to get the ball to another player without being obstructed by a defender.



3D Shapes

This week in Maths, Reception have been exploring 3D shapes. We brought in recyclable materials and used our new shape blocks to make 3D models. We also enjoyed printing shapes into play dough.



Reception

Year 2

Easter and Spring

This week Year 2 have been learning about how Easter and Spring represent new beginnings. We had fun working together creating chocolate Easter nests.





Year 3

Year Group Highlights

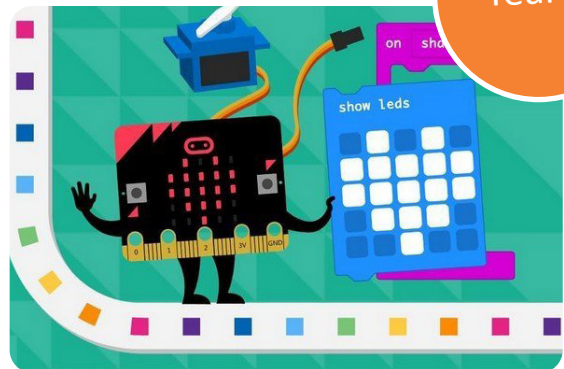
Nature Art

This week in Art, as part of our topic Nature Detectives, Year 3 have created artwork inspired by nature artist Max Ernst and botanical artist Maud Purdy. We used textured rubbings to create some lovely effects - what do you think?



Coding

Year 4 have been looking at Micro:Bits as part of our learning in Computing. The focus has been coding using the program MakeCode. We have learnt to program a Micro:Bit for games such as 'Rock, Paper, Scissors'.



Year 4

Year 5

Greek Meals

This week in DT, as part of our topic about Ancient Greece, Year 5 started to create menus based for our Greek meal buffet. We have been working very hard to research and design our meals and have enjoyed cooking.



Mental Health

This week for PSHE, Year 6 were visited by two psychotherapists who gave a talk about mental health. We learnt what mental health is, the triggers of stress and anxiety and how to manage these feelings. We found the session fascinating!



Year 6



Remembering Riya

**A special event to fondly remember
Riya's time at Whitchurch**

**Thursday 23rd March from
3.45pm onwards in the school hall**

3.45pm

Welcome drinks and refreshments

4pm

Headteacher's welcome

4.10pm

Words from Riya's friends
and teachers

4.30pm

Riya's friendship benches and
music studio viewing

All welcome
to attend

Spring Menu



Salad bar,
bread and milk
are available
daily



Week 1
w/b 20 Feb,
13 Mar

	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 27 Feb,
20 Mar

	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 6 Mar,
27 Mar

	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)

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SEND Co-ordinator (Mrs D Qudsiyeh)

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Assistant Headteacher for Early Years (Mrs R Ahmed)

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Assistant Headteacher for Years 1, 2 & 3 (Miss G Harris)

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Assistant Headteacher for Years 4, 5 & 6 (Mrs K Portou)

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Year 1 Leader (Miss S Tezel)

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Year 2 Leader (Miss G Harris)

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Year 3 Leader (Miss N Lakhani)

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Year 4 Leader (Mrs B Solanki)

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Year 5 Leader (Mrs K Portou)

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Year 6 Leader (Mrs S Chentouf)

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Family Liaison (Mrs N Chikhliya)

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Director of Music (Mrs E Leutfeld)

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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

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

School Office

Tel: 020 8951 5380

office@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk



School Term Dates 2023-2024

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

Friday
31st March
Last day of
Spring 2023

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

