



WHITSTONE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter Spring Term - Issue 2



MESSAGE FROM MRS MOULD

We've had a productive week in school and the children are well settled into class and school routines again. It's been lovely to see the children running and skipping through the school gate in the mornings and it always makes me proud how polite our children are saying good morning each day.

The children are enjoying the variety of lunchtime clubs available which include, Colouring Club, Friendship Club, Chess Club and Choir. On Friday lunchtimes we have music and dancing outside which the children (and staff) love!



Look forward to seeing everyone again next week and sending best wishes to you all for the weekend ahead.

Mrs Mould



TERM DATES

Spring Term

Monday 5th January - Thursday 2nd April
(Half term Monday 16th - Friday 20th February)

Summer Term

Monday 20th April - Friday 17th July

INSET Days: Monday 20th July - Thursday 23rd July



EVENTS COMING UP...

Wednesday 28th January - Family Worker drop ins

Thurs 22nd Jan - Reception & Y6 Height & Weight Checks

Wednesday 4th February - Sports Hall Athletics Y6

Children's Mental Health Week - 9th - 15th February

Tuesday 10th February - Safer Internet Day



ATTENDANCE

Explorers	100%
Voyages	96%
Adventurers	96%
Trailblazers	98%



HOUSE POINTS

Atlantic	221
Sahara	246
Amazon	198
Krakatoa	245



BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to...



Ella
Oliver
Auley
Bradley
Issy R
Mr L (today!)



CERTIFICATE AWARDS



REMINDERS

As the weather continues to be chilly, please ensure your child comes to school with a warm and waterproof coat, including optional extras like hats, scarves, and gloves.



REMINDERS

PE Days:

Explorers: Monday

Voyagers: Monday

Adventurers: Wednesday and Friday

Trailblazers: Thursday and Friday



REMINDERS



Any child with diarrhoea and/or vomiting symptoms must stay away or be excluded from the school until they have been free of symptoms for 48 hours (the '48 hour rule') and feel well. If your child is sick at school, we will ask you or your emergency contact to take your child home. They should not return for 48 hours to the school premises. We appreciate that this is inconvenient in many cases, and you may not believe your child is ill, but you will appreciate that we do this in all cases and it should reduce the risk of infection for all children in school.



TERM TIME HOLIDAYS

We would like to remind all parents that holidays taken during term time are not considered exceptional circumstances and will result in unauthorised absence. If your child is absent without authorisation, it may lead to penalties under the Education Act 1996. Unauthorised absences could result in a penalty fine issued as £80 per liable parent, per child if paid within 21 days, or £160 per liable parent, per child if paid after this but within 28 days.

Please read the statutory statement regarding unauthorised absence during term time.

If your child is absent from school without authorisation, you will be committing an offence under the Education Act 1996. We may submit a request to Cornwall Council for a Penalty Notice to be issued, in accordance with Sections 444A and 444B of the said Act. Penalty Notices are issued per liable parent, per child and each carry a fine of £80 if paid within 21 days or £160 if paid after this but within 28 days. If your child is further absent from school without authorisation within any 3-year period, you will be committing a further offence under the Education Act 1996. We may submit a request to Cornwall Council for a Penalty Notice to be issued, in accordance with Sections 444A and 444B of the said Act. Penalty Notices for a second offence are issued per liable parent, per child and each carry a fine of £160, payable within 28 days. Importantly, fines per parent will be capped to two fines within any three-year period. Once this limit has been reached, other action such as a parenting order or prosecution will be considered. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice may also result in legal action. If you are prosecuted and attend court because your child has not been attending school, you could get a fine of up to £2,500. Cornwall Council may also apply for the costs incurred in taking the matter to Court, including legal costs. Absence not authorised by the school may also result in a prosecution in the Magistrates' Court under Section 444(1) or Section 444(1A) of the Education Act 1996, leading to a fine of up to £2,500 and/or a custodial sentence. Again, Cornwall Council may also apply for the costs incurred in taking the matter to Court, including legal costs. Money raised from fines is only used by the local authority to cover the costs of administering the system, and to fund attendance support. Any extra money is returned to the government.



SPRING TERM CLUBS

We are excited to offer a variety of clubs this Spring Term, providing opportunities for enrichment and social interaction outside of the classroom:

- Daily Breakfast Club
- Monday: Games Club
- Tuesday: Wellbeing Club
- Wednesday: Year 6 SATs Club
- Thursday: Computing Club
- Friday: Film Club



All clubs, except for the SATs Club, are £2 per child per session. Please book and pay through Arbor.

NURSERY PLACES

We are pleased to announce that we have spaces available in our Nursery for children aged 2 to 4 years, with funded places for up to 30 hours.

If you are interested or know someone who might be, please don't hesitate to contact the school office on 01288 341241 or email school@whitstone.cornwall.sch.uk.



FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Could you be entitled to income-related free school meal?

All children have in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to free school meals, but if you are in receipt of certain benefits, your child may be entitled to income-related free school meals.

This means that not only would your child be guaranteed free school meals for the rest of their time in primary school, but the school would also receive extra funding to support your child.



SAFE PARKING

For the safety of our children and the surrounding community, we kindly ask that parents do not park on the zigzag lines outside the school or block neighbours' driveways. We have received complaints from neighbours in recent months, and we appreciate your cooperation in maintaining a safe environment during drop-off and pick-up times.

Respecting our neighbours and ensuring safe access to the school is crucial for the well-being of our children. We encourage families to walk or cycle to school where possible. Thank you for your understanding and support in fostering a positive community spirit!



CLASS SPOTLIGHT

VOYAGERS CLASS

Our First Wild Tribe Session in the School Garden.

We had an amazing time during our first Wild Tribe session in the school garden! The children enjoyed a variety of activities, including whittling sticks, toasting marshmallows over a fire, and making clay models. They even got to drink hot chocolate around the campfire and enjoy exploring the mud in their wellies! Thankfully, the rain held off, allowing everyone to fully immerse themselves in the fun. The smiles on their faces said it all!

We can't wait for another Wild Tribe session next Friday!

