

NOVEMBER 2023

10.11.23

WHITEGATE COFE PRIMARY

# Fortnightly Flyer

We have had a great couple of weeks back in school after the half-term break. The Christmas play season is definitely upon us with the school full of singing and dancing. This time of the year is one of my favourites and I am relishing the opportunity to once again direct the KS2 play. The Y6 children are already doing an incredible job. I am also looking forward to KS1 performing The Donkey Seller: this is one of my favourite nativity plays, especially as my own daughter, Bella, was an angel in this quite a few years ago now!

## Anti-bullying Week

Next week will see the whole school focus our learning on the theme of anti-bullying. Throughout the week, the children will learn how to identify when bullying is happening and how we as a school can help them and their friends should it ever happen to them. Much of their work will centre around this topic and we hope that this focus will help them to build empathy, understanding and confidence as well as sending the children the clear message of what bullying is and that it will not be tolerated in our school. We hope that the children's positive engagement with next week's learning will see them talking about it at home, so if you have any questions or would like information on further resources, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

We will be holding a parent workshop around this issue, as well as discussing the revised proposed anti-bullying policy, on Monday 27th November straight after school. (We can provide childcare.)

## FOWS News

Next Friday we look forward to seeing all of the children (and staff) in their pyjamas! In order to wear your pyjamas for the day, we ask that a teddy donation is brought in to school in preparation for our Christmas Fair.

The team were busy in school today making Christmas crafts with the children in Willow, Cedar and Beech. If you would like to buy your children's craft, please send £2.50 (or more) in a sealed envelope with the child's name on. Sorry we can't give change.



## Remembrance Service

Today, our Ethos Group attended the remembrance service at the salt mines. What a privilege it was for them to take part in such a poignant service! Again, another example of how we enjoy being part of our local community.



Thank you to Mrs Blake for taking the photographs in my absence. And, thank you to the staff who took them along.

## Parents' Evening

We were delighted to welcome so many of you into school last week to celebrate your children's hard work in Parents' Evening. It is vital that parents and carers attend these evenings so that we can keep you informed about how well your child is progressing and what their next steps are. Unfortunately, there are still a number of families who have not yet booked slots. Please make sure that if you did not attend this week's Parents' Evening that you have booked a slot for next Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November. Bookings can be made through the school website as usual. Please contact us if you are struggling.

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## Governor News

As communicated last Friday, we are looking for a new parent governor. Currently we are looking for individuals who have a background in business and have experience of developing a strategy, identifying risks and evaluating impact. If you are interested in this rewarding role and would like to know more, please do contact me by next Friday—the 17th November—using [contact@whitegate.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:contact@whitegate.cheshire.sch.uk).

I am please to introduce you to a new governor, Mrs Marshall.

My name is Jennifer Marshall and am mainly known as Jenny or Jen. Since the age of 5 years I have been in education in one form or other, with only as break of three years when I had my children. I qualified as a Primary teacher and have taught in schools across Warrington, Weaverham and Ellesmere Port. Whilst I was Head of Early Years in Weaverham, I opened a pre school which achieved outstanding status, before moving to larger premises at Weaverham Primary Academy. I have retired from teaching but remained involved in the pre school, as the Chair of Trustees.



During teaching across schools, I was responsible for Special Educational Needs and remain involved in this important area.

I have two grown up children and two grandchildren who live locally and we are a family who have many varied sporting interests. These range from horse riding, squash, golf, hockey, rugby and walking our family cocker spaniel Henry.

I have experience in governance in different schools and am currently a governor at another schools in Uttoxeter.

I support our local church with the various roles at the services and my faith is extremely important to me.

Supporting my village, I organise litter picking as part of my role as a Parish Councillor for Little Budworth.

My relaxation time is spent walking and reading and, when I have time, escaping to the sunshine in Portugal.

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I hope that you all have a lovely weekend.

Every blessing,

C Mackenzie

## Dates

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Monday 13th November	All week	Anti-bullying Week
Tuesday 14th November	4pm—7:30pm	Parents' Evening
Wednesday 15th November	1:30pm	Gripping Yarns Drama Presentation
Friday 17th November	All day	Pyjama Day
Monday 20th November	All week	Inter-Faith Week
Thursday 23rd November	All day	Cedar and Willow's visit to Manchester
Monday 27th November	3:15pm	Anti-bullying Workshop for parents
Thursday 30th November	All day	Acorns' visit to Wheelock Farm
Friday 1st December	3:30pm	Christmas Fair
Saturday 2nd December	5:15pm	Village Christmas lights switch on
Tuesday 5th December	2pm	KS1 performance of 'The Donkey Seller'
Wednesday 6th December	5:30pm	KS1 performance of 'The Donkey Seller'