

JANUARY 2024

2.2.24



WHITEGATE COFE PRIMARY

# Fortnightly Flyer

January has come and gone and there are only 27 days until we will be back into the season of spring. It's 5pm and there is still some daylight! Signs of life are sprouting up around school and I am looking forward to seeing the brightness of the daffodils in our school grounds once more.

We are continuing to have a busy and exciting time in school. I have been in London at a conference this week but have very much enjoyed seeing the children's smiling faces on X (Twitter) and keeping up to date with their adventures.

## Safety Central

Oak had a fantastic time on their trip to Safety Central last week. The children learned about how to stay safe in a range of places both in and out of the house. They spotted hazards in train stations, by farms, in the kitchen and in bedrooms. They also spent time learning how to stay safe online as well as how to identify and address bullying when it happens. Their highlights were learning how to put injured people in the recovery position and being amazed (and slightly horrified!) by the amounts of sugar, salt and fats in different types of foods. The hula hooping and dancing also went down well!



## Willow's American Diner

What a great time was had last week when Willow served their parents with a taste of America! It was an interesting combination of food! Thank you to Mrs Heathcote who had spent a long time researching it (with the help of her family who live in the States) and then planning it out and bringing it all together. The children did a great job. Thank you to all of the Willow parents for your support.



## World Book Day

World Book Day is just around the corner (Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024) and this year, the whole school will be dressing up as characters from their favourite stories. (No football strips please.) We ask that the children bring a copy of the book that they have based their character on with them. We can't wait to see what inventive and creative ideas people come up with this year!

## After School Behaviour

We have noticed a few children are sliding and rolling down the new green slope on the playground after school. We have had a lot of conversations with the children about not doing this during break and lunchtime and they have responded well to these reminders. Please can you ensure that once your children are under your supervision at the end of the day, that they do not roll or slide down the slope. Thank you for your support in this matter.

## Hockey

Well done to our Y5 and Y6 hockey players who attended the Hartford cluster hockey tournament this week. They played incredibly well and came second overall. What another great achievement!



## Sharing Assemblies

Next week sees the beginning of our run of Sharing Assemblies. On Friday, starting at 9:10am in the hall, Oak will be presenting the learning that they have been engaged in so far this year. These are always lovely events and all are welcome to come along and watch.

## Read All About It!

Attached with this edition of the Fortnightly Flyer is the latest edition of our school's book recommendation newsletter Read All About It! The latest edition contains some cracking recommendations from children in Acorns, Beech and Willow, as well as one from one of our governors that might appeal to parents with children for whom getting to sleep isn't always easy!

Reading is the foundation of all of the academic learning children do in school. The most effective way for children to learn to read is for them to practise their reading regularly so I would like to thank all of our families for the support you give your children with reading at home. As a reminder, children in Acorns and Key Stage One are expected to read at least 5 times a week and children in Key Stage Two are expected to read at least 4 times per week. Please record what you have read in you child's Home/School Contact Book so that we can keep track of which children are getting the regular practise they need to be successful in their reading journey.

## Clubs

Next week, we will be thinking about which clubs to offer the children after the half-term break. We'd love to hear from you and your children. If you have a great idea of a club that we could run, why not pop a note in your child's Home/School Contact Book?

## FOWS Bonkers Bingo

Please sign up for this event if you have not already done so. It is going to be a great evening of fun and laughter. For those of you who are worrying about partying when the staff are present, I can assure you that we will definitely be joining in with all of the fun! As well as playing bingo and having a dance (if you want to), there will be a bar and food; and I am cooking my famous homemade chicken curry! I am sure that it will be a memorable evening! As always, the monies raised will continue to go to the replacement of our mobile classrooms which is definitely taking place this summer.

Many thanks for your continuing support.

I hope that you all have a lovely weekend. The forecast isn't great for Saturday but Sunday is looking dry at least. We are hoping to get up to the Lake District with Buddy and Reggie now that he can go for short walks!

Every blessing,

C Mackenzie



## Dates

Friday 9th February	9:10am	Oak's Sharing Assembly
Friday 9th February	6pm	FOWS Bonkers Bingo
Friday 16th February	9:10am	Willow's Sharing Assembly
Friday 16th February	3:15pm	Break up for half term
Monday 26th February	8:50am	School re-opens
Wednesday 6th March	TBC	Parents' Evening
Friday 8th March	9:10am	Cedar's Sharing Assembly
W/B 11th March	All week	Science Week
Thursday 14th March	TBC	Parents' Evening
Friday 15th March	9:10am	Beech's Sharing Assembly
Friday 22nd March	9:10am	Elm's Sharing Assembly
Friday 22nd March	6pm	FOWS Family Ceilidh
Thursday 28th March	10am	Easter Service
Thursday 28th March	3:15pm	Break up for Easter

