

SEPTEMBER

7/9/18



WHITEGATE C/E PRIMARY

# Newsletter

Welcome back! I hope that you have all had a great summer and are feeling refreshed after the break. The children certainly seem raring to go and have settled in really well to their new classes and routines. A special welcome to our 20 new starters—we have really enjoyed welcoming you into our Whitegate family.

## **Whitegate Village Show**

This takes place at the Recreation Room on Saturday the 15th of September. It is open to the public from 2pm until 4:30pm. The children are encouraged to enter; Reception and KS1 children are asked to decorate a hard-boiled egg and KS2 children are asked to make a 'space' model building from junk. All ages can create something using recycled plastic. Entries need to be brought between 9am and 11am. The prizes will be given out at approximately 4pm. It would be great to see many entries from our school community.

## **Behaviour**

At our school we pride ourselves on the children's excellent behaviour and how they care and look after each other—this was highlighted in our recent OFSTED report. As part of our INSET days we have updated our behaviour policy, which will be available to parents soon. Just to clarify, dojo points are awarded to the children for good behaviour and stars are given out when the children have produced excellent work. When the children have collected ten stars they are presented with a certificate as part of our Celebration Assembly on a Friday. Dojo points are collected throughout the week and there are a variety of rewards given in each class to the children who have collected the most dojo points. These points are added to our school total each week and when we have collected 15,000 across the school, we will all have an award afternoon.

## **Can anyone help?**

Does anyone live on or near to the Taylor Wimpey estate near to the police headquarters, who could help with transportation? We have a family who are finding it difficult to get their child to and from school as Mum does not drive. If you could help out, please could you contact Mrs Shephard.

## **Curriculum**

Overviews for each class will be available to view on our school website by next Friday. Each teacher will explain in detail what your child will be learning this year as part of the 'Meet the Teacher' evening.

## **School Dinners**

School dinners are now provided by Dolce. The children seem much happier with the choice and the quality of the food—it really is yummy! Please can I encourage you to choose your meals, with your child, at home so that our cook, Mrs Dakin, is aware of what she is cooking as early as possible in the day. You should have received an email with the 'live-kitchen' link. Please check your spam or junk mail if you haven't received it. Please do not pay for dinners via Parentmail, unless they are outstanding from last term. Dinners are paid directly to Dolce Catering (Live-kitchen). Children in Reception and KS1 remain free under UIFSM; all other meals are charged at £2.30 per meal.

## **Snacks**

As we are a healthy school please ensure that your child has a healthy snack for break times. There are still a number of children who are bringing snacks containing chocolate and items such as marshmallows, which are definitely not healthy! (Please make sure that any grapes are cut in half as whole ones are a choking hazard.) Water is available throughout the day—your child must have a water bottle which needs to be brought home each night to be cleaned.

## FOWS

Friends of Whitegate School (FOWS, which is the main fundraising body for the school) will be holding their Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 25th September 2018 at 7.30pm in the school hall. To make it as sociable and as much fun as possible, there will be cheese and wine for everyone that attends! We'd love to see as many of you there as possible to discuss this year's events, fundraising targets and objectives.

If you're thinking of joining the committee or helping at our events when you can, then that would be brilliant! Please come along to the meeting or get in touch with one of the current committee at [www.facebook.com/WhitegatePTA/](http://www.facebook.com/WhitegatePTA/), we'd love to welcome you on-board.

## Guitar and Piano Lessons

As part of our end of year survey, parents asked for the opportunity to have piano and guitar lessons. I am in discussions with a piano teacher and hope that lessons will be held on a Wednesday morning. Guitar lessons will be starting next week as a taster session for all of those who are interested in Y2 upwards. Your child is bringing home tonight a flyer from 'CREATEMUSIC'. If you wish for your child to have a taster session, please fill in the slip and send it back into school. Your child does not need to have their own guitar for the taster session.

## Clubs

All clubs will start week beginning the 17th of September. There will be a variety of clubs on offer for both key stages. Information will be coming out next week.

## Uniform

Already we have got missing uniform! A cardigan has gone missing which belongs to a Y3 child, which is named—please can you check that it has not gone home by mistake. I have picked up many jumpers and cardigans already this week which have not been named and they are brand new! Please name your child's uniform so that we can return it to its owner if it is found in school. Many thanks.

## Homework

We are continuing to have a focus on reading at home. The children must read 4 or 5 nights out of 7. Reading needs to be recorded in the children's 'Home School Contact Book'. If there is no comment, we assume that the child has not read at home. In addition to reading maths homework will be sent out every two weeks. It will be sent on a Friday and the children will return it on a Wednesday (apart from Reception, who will receive phonics activities and Y6, who will receive more homework as part of their transition to high school). The first piece of maths homework will be given out on Friday the 21st September.

## Dates

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Tuesday 11th September	6pm	ELM Meet the Teacher Evening in the classroom
Wednesday 12th September	6pm	OAK Meet the Teacher Evening in the classroom
Thursday 13th September	am	Guitar taster sessions
Monday 17th September		Clubs to start
Tuesday 18th September	9:10am	OAK Class' Family Worship in church
Tuesday 18th September	6pm	WILLOW Meet the Teacher Evening in the classroom
Monday 24th September	6pm	BEECH Meet the Teacher Evening in the classroom
Tuesday 25th September	3:30pm	Parent meeting led by the NSPCC in the school hall about internet safety
Tuesday 25th September	7:30pm	FOWS AGM in the school hall
Thursday 27th September	6pm	ACORNS Meet the Teacher Evening in the classroom
Friday 28th September	10am	Macmillan Coffee Morning in the hall—all invited