

OCTOBER

22/10/18



WHITEGATE C / E PRIMARY

Newsletter

How quickly our first half-term has gone! As ever, we are having a busy and exciting time in school. This half-term has seen our Open Mornings; Harvest celebrations, including a visit to St John's, Hartford; our first FOWS events (Bags2School and school disco) and this week we will be holding our first ever Autumn Fair.

Autumn Fair

Oak Class are gearing up to hold our Autumn Fair this Wednesday (24th) at 1:30pm until 4pm. We are raising money for our link school in Nyakabungo, Uganda. In order for this to be a success we urgently need: toys, raffle prizes and bric-a-brac. Please drop off your items in Oak Classroom (in the mobiles). This is a good opportunity to have a 'clear out' to make space for new items which Father Christmas will be bringing. Many thanks for your support. Cake donations would be appreciated on the day of the fair. All parents, grandparents, friends etc. are welcome to join us throughout the afternoon.

The Loop

Last Monday I emailed out a message from St Mary's.

'We would like to reiterate to all parents that the church loop is not a car park, and should not be used as such. The loop can be used by parents for dropping off their children, but it should remain free flowing at all times.'

Disappointingly, a number of parents are not taking note of this message and are continuing to park on the loop. St Mary's have now put up notices around the edge of the loop by church and on the wall on the Mews to inform parents that the loop is not for school parking. Please adhere to this so that we can continue to have an excellent relationship between church and school.

Uniform

A further reminder that our uniform is: a royal blue jumper, sweatshirt or cardigan (with school logo); a white/blue school shirt or white polo shirt (tie optional); grey skirt, trousers, shorts or pinafore; and black school shoes. (Black boots can only be worn in icy or snowy weather.)

There a number of children who are still not adhering to our school uniform policy— notably the wearing of black skirts and black trainers. After half-term, I will be enforcing our school uniform policy and any child not wearing the correct colours will be sent home to change. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Open Meeting for Parents

This takes place on Tuesday (22nd) starting at 6pm in the school hall. This time we will be looking at our school vision, school rules and the importance of respect. We will also updating parents on new developments as a result of the questionnaire that was conducted at the meeting in the summer term. Please make every effort to attend as lots of new information is given to parents at these meetings; it is also an opportunity for you to raise any concerns and to 'grill' the Head teacher!

Dates

Once dates have been set for the school year we do our utmost not to make any changes; however, we have had to revise some of our Christmas dates. Our Christmas Jumper Day will now take place on Friday 14th December; Christmas dinner will be on Monday 17th December; and the Y5 Carol Service will take place on Tuesday 18th at 10am. Sorry for any inconvenience caused.

Please note that we will break up at 1:15pm on Friday 21st December.

We have also altered the dates of our assessment weeks in the Autumn and Spring terms. The calendar on the school website has been updated accordingly.

New Library

Our new library furniture arrived in school on Thursday; this week we will have the grand unveiling. We are so thankful to you, our parents, and our FOWS team who have funding this in addition to the new tables and chairs in Willow Class. The new library will be created in the 'Practical Area' and once it is ready, we will open our doors after school so that you can come and see what the fundraising last year was spent on. (Please look out for a text.)

Photographs

Our photographer will be in school on Thursday to take individual and sibling photographs. If you would like your child to have a photograph with a sibling who does not attend Whitegate, please arrive at 8:30am for this to be done. The photographs will be taking place in the school hall.

Christmas Cards

On Friday your child should have brought home their Christmas card design for this year. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to purchase beautiful cards designed by your child, but also to raise some additional funds for school (which we would like to spend on books to fill our new library). Please ensure that all orders and money are in school by this Wednesday (24th).

Parents' Evenings

These take place on the 6th and 15th of November. The purpose of these evenings is to discuss with the class teacher how your child has settled into their new class. There will be the opportunity to talk about some of the key objectives that your child has been taught in English and Mathematics and how they have succeeded in requiring these new skills. The teachers will also discuss targets for your children, which will be reviewed in the Spring Term. Appointments last for 10 minutes and take place in the school hall. It is important that we run to time, therefore if you feel that you need longer than the allocated ten minutes, please contact the school office. Appointments need to be booked online by logging on as a parent on our school website. These will go live tomorrow afternoon. If you are unable to make one of these evening, a written report card will be sent home.

Poppy Week

Our first week back in school after the half-term break will be a themed week looking at WWI and poppies as we mark the 100th anniversary of the ending of WWI. The children will take part in a variety of activities including the making of poppies using a range of materials and art techniques.

We already have our British Legion poppy box in school; the children in Oak Class are selling poppies, badges, wristbands etc. at break times this week. If your child would like something, please send in some change. (The suggested donations range from 50p to £2.)

NOW Northwich Dance Festival

This dance festival was a huge successful. We were so proud of our children in Willow (and the fact that we were the only primary school in Northwich to take part). They danced superbly and through the use of props, created a stunning visual. If your child still has their yellow t-shirt at home, can it be brought back as soon as possible please.

Pebbles

A reminder that each child needs to bring a pebble into school after half-term so that we can paint them. If you are able to bring more than one, that would be great. (The children can leave their pebbles in their trays for now.)

Tuesday 23rd October	6pm	Open Meeting for parents in the school hall
Wednesday 24th October	1:30pm	Autumn Fair in the school hall
Thursday 25th October	From 8:30am	Individual/sibling school photographs being taken
Thursday 25th October	3:15pm	Break up for half-term
Friday 26th October	All day	School closed for staff training
Monday 5th November	8:50am <i>All week</i>	School opens <i>Poppy Week</i>
Tuesday 6th November	3:30pm onwards	Parents' Evening
Monday 12th November	All week	Anti-bullying Week
Thursday 15th November	3:30pm onwards	Parents' Evening
Friday 16th November	All day	Oak Class Jodrell Bank trip
Monday 19th November	All week	Assessment Week
Tuesday 20th November	9:10am	Collective Worship in St Mary's led by Willow Class
Friday 30th November	All day	Beech and Willow Chester trip