

Whitwell Primary School

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Head Teacher: Mrs S Tomlinson
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10th May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to give you important updates of news in and around our school.

Staffing

Miss Adele Webster is retiring at the end of the school year in July. She has worked at Whitwell Primary School for 33 years and has made a huge impact on the school and the community during this time. We know that the majority of you who know her, have had children in her class or have even been taught by her yourselves. She believes she has taught over 1000 children in her classes and we think she has made a massive difference to many more lives in her time in school! She will be hugely missed. From now until the end of term we intend to celebrate all the wonderful contributions she has made.

I am pleased to tell you that we have successfully recruited a new teacher to join the school from September. Miss Charis Binge will join the team in Key Stage Two and we are thrilled to have her at our school.

Mrs Karen Geeson is also retiring at the end of the year from her position as a member of the support staff. She has also worked at our school for many years. We wish her all the best as she intends to spend more time with her family.

SATs

Next week is an important week for Y6 across the country as the children sit their Standard Assessment Tests. Our Y6 children have worked really well to prepare for these and we know they will do their best! Please ensure the children are in school on time and that they have some breakfast and a drink before school. If there is a problem, please let us know **as soon as possible** on the day as alternative arrangements need to be made, due to formal test conditions. Good Luck Year 6!

Qualitas

A reminder that we are delighted to have arranged the after-school care package and that the booking links are now open for September. Please check your email from Tuesday 7th May for more details.

Uniform

Finally, the weather is improving! Some children are now in summer dresses and shorts which is so lovely to see. However, cropped t-shirts and very short shorts are not suitable for school uniform or PE. If children continue to wear these items for school, we will provide items for them to wear for the day and they will be expected to change into borrowed clothes.



Believe, Endeavour, Succeed Together!



Please check what your children are wearing when they leave for school. School t-shirts should be plain white or blue with no patterns or designs.

Earrings – many children are wearing earrings that are not suitable for school. This is due to safety at playtimes and in PE. Earrings easily ‘snag’ on clothing, other children or equipment such as ropes, hoops and gymnastic mats. The only earrings that are suitable for school are stud earrings. Staff will ask children to remove other earrings as this is important for the safety of all. Again, please check what earrings your children are wearing as they leave for school.

Playscheme

I just wanted to inform you that Whitwell Parish Council will be holding the Summer Playscheme in our school during the first 3 weeks of the 6 weeks holidays. This is staffed by members of the local community and also by members of the school community who work at the Playscheme as well as in school during term-time.

Ofsted Big Listen

Please take time to consider whether you would like to give your views with regards to the Ofsted processes. They have asked schools to share this information.

Ofsted - The Big Listen – we want to hear your views!

The National Centre for Social Research (NatCen) is carrying out a short survey on behalf of Ofsted. We want to hear from parents/carers of children who are under 18 years old. It should only take around 10 minutes to complete. We are interested in views of, and any experiences with, Ofsted, including Ofsted’s inspection, regulation and reporting practices. We really want to hear from a wide range of parents and carers, even if you don’t have strong opinions about Ofsted, or haven’t had much experience of Ofsted.

Please click on the following link to find out more or take part in the survey:

survey.natcen.ac.uk/TheBigListen

You can look at our [Taking Part webpage](#) for more information about the research, and our [Privacy Notice](#) for what will happen to any information you give. Links to these webpages are also included in the survey.

I hope the weather stays beautiful for the weekend ahead so that everyone can enjoy themselves outside where possible!

Have a lovely weekend,



Mrs Tomlinson