

SEPTEMBER 2023

22.9.23



WHITEGATE COFE PRIMARY

Fortnightly Flyer

What a fabulous time we had last Wednesday when we all join together at Vale Royal Abbey for our whole school picnic (minus the Acorns who had only just started full days). After eating lunch, we thought about the importance of the abbey and how the construction of it led to the settlement here which is now Whitegate village. We then spent some time sketching the current building which was built in the 1540s using the original stone, after the earlier abbey was closed by Henry VIII during the dissolution of the Monasteries. How wonderful to have such history on our doorstep!

It is such a lovely walk from here to the abbey. Can I encourage you to park there and walk either to or from school, or both, with your children to get to school. As well as getting some fresh air and exercise, it would help with congestion in the village.

Uniform

As previously communicated, I would like to thank the vast majority who are following our policy. I would like to take this opportunity to confirm that the policy has not changed. In fact, I have gone back as far as 2010 to check this - I cannot find a policy which pre-dates this. The only change that has taken place since then was the introduction, and then removal, of the navy zip through hoodie. The purchase of a Whitegate PE hoodie is optional: your child may wear their jumper or cardigan with logo.

On PE days, children are to wear either navy shorts or jogging bottoms; again, this isn't new. Please do not allow your child to come to school in leggings or skorts.

As I confused people with my Fortnightly Flyer in July regarding the PE t-shirt, please do not worry about having a logoed top for PE days in school for now, although we really appreciate those who have sorted this.

Curriculum Evenings

Thank you for your attendance at our Curriculum Evenings over the past week. We've just got Oak's to go on Monday at 5pm. Overviews of this term's curriculum are available to view on our school website on each class page. Our school website also provides a wealth of information, including the Calculation Policy for mathematics, which will hopefully help you to provide support at home. The calendar is also regularly updated with the activities and events happening each week.

FOWS

Friends of Whitegate School (FOWS) held their Annual General Meeting this week. Thank you to all who attended. There are lots of great events planned for the year ahead. If you're thinking of joining the committee or helping at our events when you can, then that would be brilliant! Please do get in touch with our Chair, Mrs Hough via email. We'd love to welcome you on-board.

fows@whitegate.cheshire.sch.uk

Consultation on Proposed Academy Conversion

The Governors at Whitegate CofE Primary School have taken a decision to consider applying for academy status and join Chester Diocesan Academies Trust (CDAT). Governors are now entering the consultation phase.

The consultation will run from 25th September 2023 until 20th October 2023 and a pack of information will be sent out on Monday.

We are holding a meeting on Monday 2nd October at 5pm in the school hall whereby we would welcome the opportunity to talk to you about academy status.

MacMillan Coffee Morning

A reminder that next Friday we will be holding our annual Macmillan Coffee Morning, hosted by Y6. All parents, carers, grandparents etc. are invited. Each class will visit the coffee morning, which is taking place in the hall, during the following times:

9:30am—9:50am: Acorns

9:50am—10:10am: Elm

10:10am—10:30am: Beech

10:30am—10:50am: Cedar

10:50am—11:10am: Willow

Please bring cake donations in on Friday morning. This is always a lovely event where we raise lots of money for the worthwhile cause.

Parking for The Ark

We ask that parents who are dropping off or picking up from The Ark do not park in the staff parking area. Thank you.

Elm's Visit to Blue Planet

The children in Elm had a wonderful time when they visited the aquarium on Wednesday this week. They enjoyed learning about the different sea creatures and participating well in the workshop. The highlight of the visit was watching the sharks swim by. The children's behaviour was perfect - well done Elm!

Harvest Festival

We invite you to join us in church on Monday 2nd October at 10am to celebrate harvest. This service will be led by Beech Class with Elm and Acorns Classes taking part. Again this year, we are asking for donations for our local Foodbank. This year please can we ask for the following:

Acorns: Jelly

Elm: Instant noodle meals

Beech: Custard

Cedar: Rice pudding

Willow: Jam

Oak: Coffee

Clubs

A reminder of the extra-curricular clubs that are on offer this half-term.

	KS1	KS2	The Ark
Monday	Lego	Choir	Cooking
Tuesday	Engineering Craft Ball Games	Recorders Football	Art
Wednesday			
Thursday		Drama and Debate Ball Games Ukulele	Outdoor Activities
Friday	Gymnastics		

Dates

Monday 25th September	All day	Willow and Y5s from Oak visit to Chester
Monday 25th September	5pm	Oak Class' Curriculum Evening
Friday 29th September	9:30am — 11:15am	Macmillan Coffee Morning
Sunday 1st October	9:30am	Harvest Family Service in St. Mary's
Monday 2nd October	10am	Harvest Festival in St. Mary's
Monday 2nd October	5pm	CDAT Consultation Meeting for parents in the hall
Friday 6th October	9:30am	Open Morning for New Starters in 2024
Wednesday 11th October	1:30pm	Open Afternoon for New Starters in 2024