



Welcome to our first Newsletter of the year.



Inside you will find lots of important information. For example; allocated PE days, how to apply for free school meals, price increases, open days, trips, school closures, non-uniform days to name but a few.

Please take time to have a look through so you don't miss anything important. There is a diary of events on the back page and also the menu for the following week. There is also information regarding clubs and community activities.

Your children will be reading this newsletter with their class every week. They will be discussing important notices, celebrating any achievements and generally being aware of what is going on at school each week.

Over the summer holidays, our staff avatars on our website have had a new look. See what you think:

www.whitnashprimaryschool.com/About_Us/Meet_The_Staff

Thank you to Dave, from V-Street, for his continual hard work in making our website look amazing.
We think our new avatars are great !

Our website also contains a huge amount of information for parents and carers. Please take a look
www.whitnashprimaryschool.com

WHAT
DO YOU
THINK?



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome Back !



We hope you all had a wonderful summer and enjoyed some much-needed time together. It is always a real pleasure to open the school doors and welcome our pupils back for a new academic year. There is something particularly special about the start of a new school year!

Of course, the school would not be so well prepared for the new year without the hard work and commitment of our fantastic staff. They have been hard at work during the break to plan the learning for the weeks ahead and prepare the classrooms to ensure that everything was ready for the return of our children. We are incredibly grateful for their dedication — thank you!

It has been wonderful to see our children return so enthusiastically after the long summer break. We have been particularly impressed by how quickly they have settled back into school routines, expectations and learning. They have made a fantastic start — well done, Whitnash Primary!

A Warm Welcome

We are delighted to welcome Miss Scruby, who has joined our teaching team in Year 1. We are thrilled to have her as part of our school community and know that she will quickly become a valued member of our Whitnash Primary family. Please join us in giving her a very warm welcome.



Preparing Our School For The New Year

There has been plenty of activity around school over the summer. Alongside the usual maintenance and improvement work, we have had carpets cleaned, areas painted, the school has received a deep clean, and our gardens have been tidied and refreshed following what has been a particularly dry summer.

A huge thank you to Mr Chamberlain, who was in school throughout the summer to facilitate contractors and oversee the many jobs that needed to be completed. His hard work has helped ensure that our school was ready to welcome everyone back.

School Entrance & Office Works

Some significant progress was also made by Arden Construction on our new school entrance over the summer. Unfortunately, there has been a delay in completing the works, which means that the new entrance will not be fully operational at the start of term.

As you will hopefully now be aware, temporary arrangements are in place to allow the new office area to be used as an interim entrance to the school. These arrangements will enable us to operate safely, but we recognise that they may cause some additional disruption and congestion, particularly at the busiest times of the school day. To help us manage this as smoothly as possible, we kindly ask parents and carers to limit visits to the school office wherever possible. If your enquiry can be dealt with by telephone or email, please use these methods rather than visiting the office in person. This will help us to keep the temporary entrance clear and ensure that the beginning and end of the school day run as smoothly as possible.

We really appreciate your patience and understanding while this work is completed. The delay is expected to be short-term, with the main entrance works anticipated to be completed during the first half of the Autumn Term. Once finished, the new entrance and office will provide a much-improved and welcoming space for our whole school community.



Another Improvement Project!

As you know, our school never stands still! We are always looking for ways to improve our environment and facilities for our children — and, as you know, we also love a challenge!

From Monday 14 September, another building project will begin, with a new heating system being installed in Key Stage 1. This will include upgrading the radiators throughout this part of the school.

The majority of the work will take place when children are not in school, and we have worked closely with the Dodds Group to carefully plan the schedule in order to minimise disruption to learning. The main visible impact will be the presence of the contractors and their welfare unit at the front of the school.

We will provide a further update next week following the pre-start meeting with the contractors, when we will be able to share more information about the planned works.

Attendance & Punctuality - Starting The Year Positively



As we begin the new academic year, we would also like to remind all parents and carers that attendance and punctuality remain a significant priority for us.

Every day of school matters. Strong attendance gives children the best possible opportunity to make progress, build positive relationships, develop confidence and fully participate in all that school has to offer. Reducing persistent absence will therefore remain an important focus for us throughout the year.

The new school year provides a great opportunity for school and families to set a positive tone around attendance and punctuality from the very beginning. We will continue to work closely and supportively with parents and carers wherever attendance or punctuality concerns arise. Our aim is always to work in partnership with families to remove barriers and help every child attend school regularly and on time.

Looking Ahead To 2026-27

There is certainly lots happening at Whitnash Primary, and we are incredibly excited about the year ahead! We are proud of the progress our school continues to make and of the wonderful children, staff and families who make our school such a special place to be.

We look forward to continuing to work in partnership with you throughout 2026–27, building on our successes, embracing new opportunities and ensuring that every child is supported to achieve their very best.



We are very proud to be Whitnash Primary — and we are looking forward to another fantastic year together!

have
a
great
weekend!

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.
Mrs Donna Ellison, Headteacher

have
a
great
weekend!



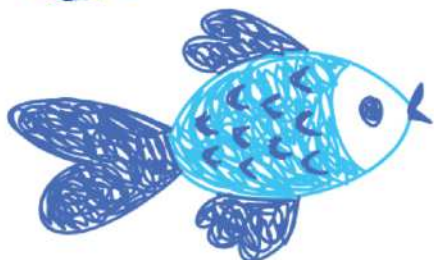
What's in your
newsletter this
week?



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Please click on page number to take you directly to the page.

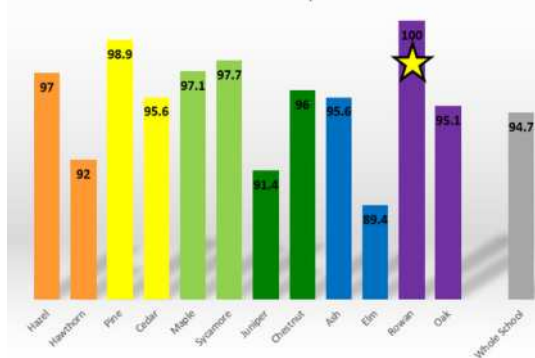
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Attendance

Well Done Rowan

Attendance - 02-04 September 2026



We want to remind parents and carers of the importance of getting children to school on time, so that they do not miss their learning.

We would also like to remind parents and carers that you need to call the absence line each morning that your child is absent, before 9am with their symptoms or reason for absence. You can also email admin2324@welearn365.com

Thank you for your co-operation.

Miss Emma Lindon
Attendance Champion



Children MUST be in the school building before 9.00am for registration. Doors will be closed at this time and if children have missed this, they will need to be brought to the office by parents/carers to ensure that we have them marked as present in school and to make sure they have their lunches ordered. If this does not happen, it runs the risk of the office not knowing children are in class and they will not be ordered a lunch.

LATE CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY THEIR PARENT/CARER SO THEY CAN SIGN THEM IN AND NOT LEFT TO ENTER ON THEIR OWN.



Mrs Miller Says ...

Chestnut class

Reminder that swimming will start next week. All children must have their PE kit in school with them every Tuesday. The payment item is now live for payment on Parent Pay.

Guitar

If your child was having guitar lessons last term with Mr Beatty, they will resume this week. The payment item is now live on Parent Pay for payment. If your child no longer wishes to take part, please let me know and I will offer the place to another pupil.

Year 1

Now that your child no longer receives free milk automatically in school, please see page 10 of the newsletter which shows how you can order it should they wish to continue.

Year 3

Now your child has moved to year 3, they will no longer be entitled to the Universal Infant Free School Meals. This means that you will need to pay for your child to have a school dinner. The cost of a dinner is £3.05 per day. However if you receive certain benefits, then your child may be eligible for Free School Meals. To see if your child is eligible, you can apply online at

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals.

Please remember that all children must have a named coat and water bottle in school every day.

Reminder that if your child is late to school for any reason and require a school lunch, this must be emailed or called through to the school office before 9.30am



We are a NUT FREE school

As we have several pupils with severe nut allergies, please do not send your child in with ANY nuts, or products containing nuts. **This does include sesame seeds.**

Please clearly label all cardigans, jumpers, PE kit, hoodies and coats.



Learning Behaviours Reward System

A letter has been email out to parents and carers today about our new Learning Behaviours Reward System. At Whitnash Primary, we are committed to helping every child develop the behaviours and attitudes that enable them to become effective, confident and independent learners. To support this, we use a consistent language of Effective Learning Behaviour across the school. This helps children understand not only what they are learning, but also the behaviours and attitudes that help them to learn successfully.

Effective Learning Behaviours in Reception and Year 1

In Reception, Effective Learning Behaviours are already woven throughout the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum. Children receive regular encouragement, specific praise and rewards when they demonstrate these important learning behaviours.

Our Reception learning behaviours focus on:

- Perseverance
- Resilience
- Imagination
- Collaboration

Children are introduced to these behaviours through our four animal characters:

- Rosie Rabbit – Resilience
- Peter Pug – Perseverance
- Colin the Cat – Collaboration
- Iggy Iguana – Imagination



Children are praised for demonstrating these behaviours through specific verbal feedback, Effective Learning Behaviour stickers and certificates.

To support a smooth and consistent transition into Key Stage 1, we will continue to use the same approach in Year 1. This means that children will already be familiar with the language, expectations and ways in which their positive learning behaviours are recognised and celebrated.

INSPIRE Learning Behaviours – Year 2 to Year 6

From Year 2 onwards, our Effective Learning Behaviours develop further through our INSPIRE approach.

INSPIRE represents seven key characteristics that we want all our children to develop as they become increasingly independent and successful learners:



- I – Imagination and Creativity
- N – Negotiation and Collaboration
- S – Strategic Thinking and Organisation
- P – Perseverance and Resilience
- I – Independence and Responsibility
- R – Resourcefulness and Reflectiveness
- E – Engagement and Motivation

Together, these behaviours help children to INSPIRE their learning and develop the skills, attitudes and confidence they need to tackle challenges, overcome difficulties and make the most of every learning opportunity.

These behaviours are promoted throughout classrooms through displays, discussion and, importantly, through specific praise and recognition when children demonstrate them.

We will also be writing to you next week with further information about some changes to our Achievement Assemblies, which will strengthen and complement our Effective Learning Behaviour and INSPIRE approach.



Please see the letter emailed home for more information.



BoomReadathon

Your mission:

To read as much as you can for the Big BoomReadathon across **the month of September.**

Your class is in with the chance of winning a prize if you read more books than any other class !

What you need to do:

Read and log your reading on BoomReader.

Starting on Wednesday 2nd September until Wednesday 30th September read as much as you can to help your class be the winners and maybe win a prize for yourself!

Prizes



First prize
A bundle of class author books for your class



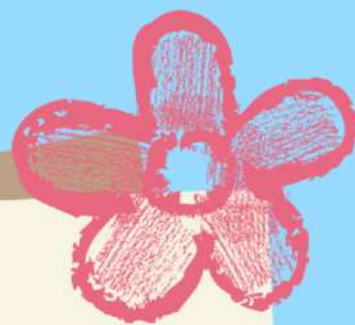
Second prize
Two books of your class author for your class



Third prize
A class author book for your class



A £5 voucher for the top children/parents logging reading in each class

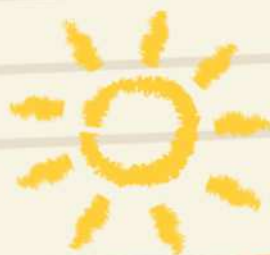


Don't Be Late Through The Gate! School Starts at 8:55am

5 minutes late every day
= 3 days of lost learning

10 minutes late every day
= 6.5 days of lost learning

30 minutes late every day
= 19 days of lost learning



Important Dates - Applying For School Places

Warwickshire Secondary Schools

Date	Deadline
01 September 2026	Application opens
31 October 2026	Closing date for applications
31 December 2026	Extended closing date for house moves
01 March 2027	National Offer Day
12 April 2027	Deadline for submitting appeals

Warwickshire Primary Schools

Date	Deadline
01 November 2026	Application opens
15 January 2027	Closing date for applications
01 February 2027	Extended closing date for house moves
16 April 2027	National Offer Day
14 May 2027	Deadline for submitting appeals

For more information go to:

warwickshire.gov.uk/school-admissions-appeals

FUEL YOUR... LITTLE HEROES!



Dear parent/guardian,

As you may be aware your child's school has a milk scheme, administered by Cool Milk. Mid-morning milk provides a much-needed nutritional boost and keeps children hydrated between breakfast and lunch. Children receive free milk until the age of 5. After that, they can continue to reap the benefits of fresh mid-morning milk at a subsidised* cost.

If you'd like to opt in and have not already done so, simply register your child at www.coolmilk.com/parents. Your child(ren) will continue to receive free milk whilst under the age of 5 and Cool Milk will get in touch with further information by email shortly before their 5th birthday.

For children who are already over 5, it's not too late – our scheme is flexible! As well as being able to register and make payment straight away, you can join and cancel the scheme at any time. We offer yearly, termly and half termly payment periods and a recurring payment option to give you one less thing to remember.

If you already have an online Cool Milk account for a sibling, you can manage your account, make payment and add extra children by logging in at www.coolmilk.com/parents.

Should you have any questions or need any help, send us a message at www.coolmilk.com/contact or give us a call on the number listed below – we're here to help!

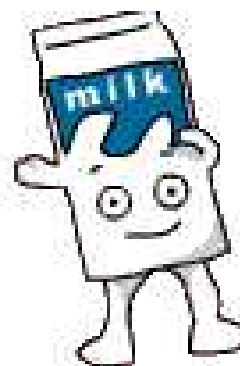
Kind regards,

Cool Milk

☐ : 0800 321 3248
☐ : www.coolmilk.com



SCAN TO REGISTER



*Milk for under-5s is fully funded by DHSC via the Nursery Milk Scheme. Milk for over-5s is subsidised by Defra via the School Milk Scheme.





Children's Clubs and



The following pages are filled with information of things to do, things to see for you and your children in and around Warwickshire.



Family Support

The following pages contain lots of information
for parent/family support.





Tuesday 01 September 2026

This week's Family Information Service newsletter includes information about:

Cloud Control
Support for victim survivors of domestic abuse
Autumn breaks with Entrust

and much more!

[Click here for Newsletter](#)



Thursday 04 September 2026

As we look ahead to Youth Mental Health Day on Friday 18 September, this special edition of the Family Information Service newsletter shines a spotlight on supporting mental health and wellbeing so that every child and young person across Warwickshire is happy, healthy and heard.

[Click here for Newsletter](#)



SEND PARENT/CARER SUPPORT GROUP

With the Brunswick Hub team members Laura and Georgia

Group or one to one support

Supporting with but
not limited to:

- DLA and benefits
- EHCP and education
- Housing Support
- Employment Support
- Health and Wellbeing
- SEND support

**Every Wednesday
1pm-2:30pm**

At the Lillington Children's Centre
3 Mason Avenue,
Leamington Spa
CV32 7QE



For more information contact:

Laura - 07356123171 or Georgia - 07923230579



SEND Support Group

Come and join us!

If you have any worries or
concerns surrounding SEND
please come and have a chat
with us!

Meet with other
parents/carers in similar
positions.

We can help with a wide
range of concerns.

**Running on the third
Thursday of every
month 10am-12pm at
the Brunswick Hub.**

Contact us:

Georgia.mansell@brunswickhlc.org.uk

Megantownsend@brunswickhlc.org.uk



Coventry and Warwickshire
Talking Therapies

NHS Talking Therapies

Living well with Long-term Physical Health Conditions

Talking Therapies offers support to patients who have been recently diagnosed or living with a physical health condition.

- Are you worried about your health?
- Does your health get you down?
- Do you feel embarrassed or frustrated by your health condition?
- Do you feel your health holds you back in life?

If yes, all of these are normal responses that can be difficult to manage, but Talking Therapies can help. We work with conditions that include, but are not limited to:

Diabetes, Respiratory conditions, Cardiac problems and Chronic pain

Register with us today for an initial appointment online, by phone or by speaking with your GP. Talking Therapies works with people aged 16-plus, who are registered with a GP, across the Coventry and Warwickshire area.



for anxiety and depression

Telephone: 024 7667 1090

Lines are open from 9:00am to 4:30pm Monday to Friday

Visit www.talkingtherapies.covwarkpt.nhs.uk
or scan the QR code for more information.



HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD



Any young person aged 4 - 16 years old (in full-time education) who receives benefits-related free school meals can request a HAF code



The programme offers free support to families on lower incomes, giving eligible young people access to enriching activities and healthy meals during the main school holidays.

You can attend up to 4 sessions during Christmas and Easter and up to 16 sessions over Summer



The activities available include sports, animal care, performing arts and so much more!



Contact the Family Information Service for more information.

Call 0800 408 1558 Email fis@warwickshire.gov.uk



www.warwickshire.gov.uk/haf



FREE SCHOOL MEALS



School meals are free for lots of families, check if you are eligible to apply!

So much more than lunch...

A free school meal:

- creates healthy eating habits
- improves learning and behaviour
- saves money and time
- helps schools get extra funding

Did you know that claiming free school meals means that your child will get access to free school holiday activities and food?



To find out more and for help to apply for free school meals, please contact: freemeals@warwickshire.gov.uk or call 01926 359189



Can I apply?

Your child could be eligible for free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support or Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support from National Asylum Support Service (NASS)
- Guarantee Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

You should still apply if your child is aged 4-7 and receives a universal free school meal

Find out more and apply at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fsm



Lunch Menu - 07 September 2026

Week One

Allergy Key:

vg - Vegan	G - Gluten/Wheat	F - Fish
v - Vegetarian	C - Celery	M - Mustard
h - Homemade	S - Sesame	SU - Sulphates
D - Dairy	E - Egg	SB - Soya

MONDAY

Choose a main meal ...

(G) Pork Meatballs in Tomato Sauce with Pasta
 (v)(h) Vegetable Cottage Pie with Crusty Bread (G,D,SB)
 Jacket Potato - (v) Cheese (D), Tuna (F,E) or (v) Baked Beans
 (v) Tuna Mayonnaise Bap (F,E,G)

On the side ...

Fresh Salad Bar
 Vegetables of the Day

For dessert ...

(v)(h) Honey and Ginger Cookie (G)
 (v) Yoghurt (D,SB) or Fresh Fruit

TUESDAY

Choose a main meal ...

(h) Mild Chicken Curry with Rice
 (v) Cheese & Tomato Pizza Wedge with Diced Potatoes (G,D)
 Jacket Potato - (v) Cheese (D), Tuna (F,E) or (v) Baked Beans
 Egg Mayonnaise Bap (G,E)

On the side ...

Fresh Salad Bar
 Vegetables of the Day

For dessert ...

(vg)(h) Chocolate Cracknell (G)
 (v) Yoghurt (D,SB) or Fresh Fruit

WEDNESDAY

Choose a main meal ...

British Roast Chicken Fillet, Sage & Onion Stuffing & Gravy with Roast Potatoes (G)
 (vg) Quorn Roast with Gravy and Roast Potatoes (G)
 Jacket Potato - (v) Cheese (D), Tuna (F,E) or (v) B/Beans
 British Ham Soft Bap (G)

On the side ...

Fresh Salad Bar
 Vegetables of the Day

For dessert ...

(vg)(h) Jam Tart (G)
 (v) Frozen Swirl Mousse (D)
 (v) Yoghurt (D,SB) Fresh Fruit

THURSDAY

Choose a main meal ...

(v)(h) Broccoli & Sweetcorn Pasta Bake with Malted Wheat Baguette (D,G)
 (v) Plant Sausages in Gravy with Mashed Potato (D)
 Jacket Potato - (v) Cheese (D), Tuna (F,E) or (v) Baked Beans
 Cheddar Cheese Bap (G,D)

On the side ...

Fresh Salad Bar
 Vegetables of the Day

For dessert ...

(v)(h) Eves Pudding (G,E,D) (vanilla apple sponge cake)
 (v) Yoghurt (D,SB) or Fresh Fruit

FISH

FRIDAY

Choose a main meal ...

(msc) Fish Fillet Fingers with Chips (F,G)
 (v)(h) Cheese & Baked Bean Pasty with Chips (G,D)
 Jacket Potato - (v) Cheese (D), Tuna (F,E) or (v) Baked Beans
 British Roast Chicken Bap (G)

On the side ...

Fresh Salad Bar
 Vegetables of the Day

For dessert ...

(vg)(h) Flapjack (G)
 (v) Yoghurt (D,SB) or Fresh Fruit



What's On ...

September 2026

07	Monday	Day	Reception Home Visits
08	Tuesday	Day	Reception Half Days am/pm
09	Wednesday	Day	Reception Half Days am/pm
09	Wednesday	3.15-4.00pm	Year 1 Parents Meet & Greet
10	Thursday	Day	Reception Half Days am/pm
11	Friday	am	Reception am plus lunch
14	Monday	Day	Roald Dahl Day
14	Monday	Day	Reception in Full Time
17	Thursday	5.00pm	Reception Parents Curriculum Meeting
21	Week	Week	Harvest Week
25	Friday	Day	European Day of Languages
28	Monday	9.10am	Imagination & Creativity Achievement Assembly
30	Wednesday	Day	BoomReaderthon Ends

October 2026

01	Thursday	5pm/6pm	Reception 2027/28 Open Day - Booking Required
02	Friday	tbc	Harvest Festival
08	Thursday	5pm/6pm	Reception 2027/28 Open Day - Booking Required
19	Monday	9.10am	Negotiation & Collaboration Achievement Assembly
20	Tuesday	Day	Year 2 Transport Museum
20	Tuesday	tbc	IEP Meetings
21	Wednesday	Day	School Photographer - Individuals
22	Thursday	3.15pm	Pupils Break up for Half-Term
23	Friday	Day	INSET day
26-30	Week	Week	HALF-TERM

November 2026

Month	Month	Month	Well-being Month
02-06	Week	Week	Road Safety Week
04	Wednesday	9.00am	Rags2Riches Collection
04	Wednesday	9.45am	Beauty & The Beast Performance to KS1
10	Tuesday	3.30-5.30pm	Parents Evening
12	Thursday	3.30-6.00pm	Parents Evening
16-20	Week	Week	Anti-Bullying Week
17	Tuesday	1.30pm	Reception & Year 6 National Child Measurement
23	Monday	9.10am	Strategic Thinking & Organisation Achievement Assembly

Please note that dates are subject to change

[View 2026/27 calendar here](#)