

Whitehill Junior School

Head Teacher: Mr S Mills



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Dear Parents and Carers

Autumn Term Update 2

Already, the start of the term seems a distant memory and the pupils are back into the swing of things. Let's hope we can keep the school open and enable all our children to be in school as long as possible.

Now that we are returning to routines, there are a few things I would like to draw your attention to. For those of you who have been associated with the school for several years, there will be nothing new and these are just the usual start of term requests or reminders.

Uniform

The pupils all look really smart and I would like to thank you for making sure the children all have the appropriate uniform. Details of our uniform policy can be found on the school website or alternatively, please do ask if you have any questions to which you cannot find an answer.

As a reminder, the pupils should have a gold polo shirt, blue sweatshirt and grey trousers / skirt. Summer dresses can also be worn when the weather is warmer. Pupils should have a change of footwear, with black shoes worn to and from school and when the pupils are outside at break and lunch. They should also have a pair of plimsolls (or indoor shoes) kept in school to change into for indoor wear.

Our PE kit, also supplied by Beats is the blue sports shirt, but for now, a white polo shirt is also acceptable. A pair of blue shorts are also needed. Pupils also need a pair of training shoes for outdoor PE lessons and my staff team will be checking that pupils are not doing PE in their school shoes (for safety reasons).

If you require support with uniform in any way at all, please do contact Mrs Cook or Mrs Lanni in the school office.

Jewellery

Jewellery should not be worn in school. We have to consider the safety aspect as well as the possibility of loss or theft. If children do have pierced ears, small sleeper studs only may be worn for approximately six weeks after piercing during which time they will have to be taped for certain physical activities. Watches may be worn but children will be required to remove them prior to physical activities and the school accepts no responsibility.

Packed Lunches

For those pupils who bring a packed lunch or break time snack to school, please can I ask that there are no nuts or nut-based products. We have several pupils in school who are severely allergic to nuts and it is essential that we keep all areas of the school free from possible contamination.

School Photographs

Last week all pupils had their photographs taken and you should have received information and QR code giving details on how you may purchase them.



Arriving at School

Can I remind you that pupils should arrive at Whitehill **between 8.35am and 8.50am** for our 'soft start' where they will go straight into class. Whilst I appreciate the enthusiasm of getting to school early, please encourage pupils not to be on the playground before 8.30am as they will not be supervised. For those who like to 'cut it fine', any pupil who arrives after 8.50am should go into school via the main entrance where they will be signed in by Mrs Lanni. Pupils who arrive after 8.55am will be marked as arriving late.

End of the Day

It is lovely to see pupils and their younger siblings making use of the play equipment at the end of the day whilst parents have a chat. With the school having its own after school provision now in the form of Cookie Club, I must ask that you **clear the site by 3.30pm at the latest** so that Cookie Club can make use of the outdoor facilities safely. If other pupils and families are still on site, it makes supervision far too difficult. Thank you for your support with this. This is also necessary as our after school clubs start up again and the pitches and courts get used after school.

Thank you for your support with this.

Weekly Updates

For key information and updates, I will always make use of a newsletter and email such as this, so that I know it has been received by all families. That being said however, I hope you find time to read my weekly blog (published every Friday afternoon) which is a more light-hearted look at the week and also provides a preview of what we have coming up. This, combined with Twitter are two ways you can keep abreast of what the pupils are getting up to each day.

Thank you for giving this update your attention. The pupils have impressed me with the way they have settled back into the routine of school and as I have already mentioned, let's hope we can use this positive attitude to ensure our broad, balanced and interesting curriculum can be delivered in full this year.

Communication is essential to the smooth running of the school. If you have any questions, please do ask. I am usually on the playground before school starts or alternatively, my admin team are in the office before and after school as well as being on the end of a phone.

Thank you for your ongoing support and for those of you who have just started your Whitehill journey, welcome aboard.

Kind regards,



Steve Mills
Headteacher

