

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - CONTINUED

### Term 4 continued

Important  
DATE!

5.6.20	Pupil Reports to be sent home
10.6.20	Whole School Move Up afternoon (to new classes)
10.6.20	P1 induction & Parent/Carer Information Event, 2pm
10.6.20 & 11.6.20	P7s to Forfar Community Campus (FCC) for Transition Days
11.6.20	P7 Parent meeting at FCC (details to follow)
12.6.19	P4R Class Assembly, 2.15pm (Parents/carers of P4R will be invited)
19.6.20	P7 Leavers Disco led by WPP (details to follow)
22.6.20	Whitehills Got Talent
24.6.20	P7 Leavers Celebration 2pm (Parents/carers of P7 pupils will be invited)
25.6.20	Prize Giving & Church Service, 10am (All parents/carers are invited)
26.6.20	End of Term, 3pm

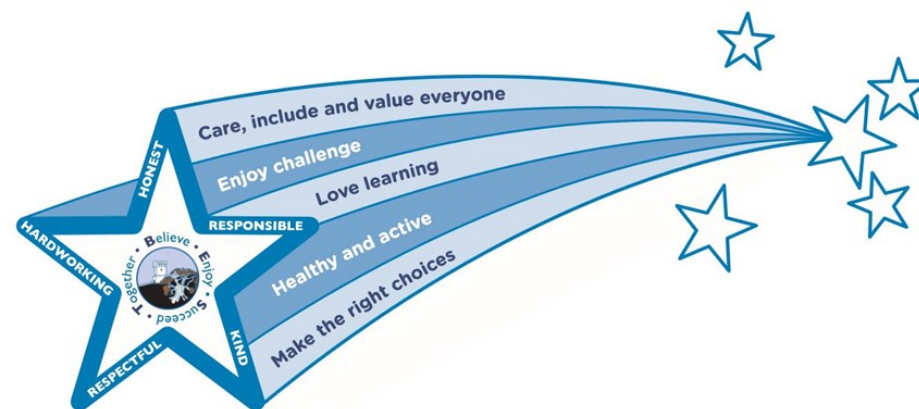
*Mrs Coureen Peters & Mrs Elaine Gallon*

### **Parent/Carer Comment**

If you have any comments you wish to make, issues you would like to raise or successes you would like to share please do so below and return the slip to school.

Comments :

# WHITEHILLS SCHOOL



## September 2019 Information Updates & Dates for the Year

**BEST at Whitehills**  
**Believe, Enjoy and Succeed Together**

*Dear Parents/Carers,*  
*We hope you all had a lovely summer holiday. We have had a very busy start to the term as always and have many events planned for the remainder of this term. This document is to share some information about school organisation and dates for your diary.*

### **Reporting Queries and Concerns**

Key ingredients of a successful school are open communication and partnership working. At Whitehills we recognise this and encourage this approach at all times. We therefore wish to communicate our procedures for reporting concerns and queries between home and school and vice versa. If you have a concern or query you can communicate this to us in several ways:

- Telephone the school office on 01307 494287
- Send in a letter or place a note in a homework diary/reading record, or send a message via class DoJo
- Email the school on whitehills@angusschools.org.uk (please do not use individual staff emails)
- Drop in at the school reception but you may be required to make an appointment if the member of staff is unavailable

Depending on which stage your child is at in the school you should contact the following members of staff:

- In the first instance the class teacher
- For further assistance please contact:

**Nursery – Primary 1 (Early Level)** - the Depute Head Teacher - Mrs McDiarmid

**Primary 2 – Primary 4 (First Level)** - Principal Teachers– Mrs Flynn (Mon-Thurs), Mrs Jarosz (Friday)

**Primary 5 – Primary 7 (Second Level)** - Principal Teacher Miss Donnachie

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

### **Term 3**

6.1.20	Back to school, Term 3 begins at 9am
8.1.20	WPP Meeting 6.15 - 7.45pm
13.1.20	Cuppie & Catch Up with DHT for Nursery parents/carers, 9.15am
17.1.20	Cuppie & Catch Up with HT for P1-P7 parents/carers, 9.15am
17.1.20	P5S Class Assembly, 2.15pm (Parents/carers of P5S will be invited)
20.1.20 & 21.1.20	Nursery Parent Meetings, 3.45 – 6pm
28.1.20	WPP Meeting 6.15 - 7.45pm
6.2.20	WPP Internet Safety Evening 6pm
7.2.20	P1M Class Assembly, 2.15pm (Parents/carers of P1M will be invited)
13.2.20	Inservice Day 5 (School closed to pupils)
14.2.20 & 17.2.20	Mid-term Holiday
21.2.20	P3S Class Assembly, 2.15pm (Parents/carers of P3S will be invited)
26.2.20	P7 Transition visit to Forfar Academy
27.2.20	Nursery Stay and Play Day (parents carers welcome to stay and play for am/pm session)
5.3.20	WPP Fundraiser Event (details to follow)
6.3.20	P1E Class Assembly, 2.15pm (Parents/carers of P1E will be invited)
10.3.20 & 12.3.20	P1-7 Parents Meetings, 4 - 7pm
13.3.20	P5/6 Class Assembly, 2.15pm (Parents/carers of P5/6 will be invited)
18.3.20	WPP Meeting 6.15 - 7.45pm
27.3.20	GMU Class Assembly, 2.15pm (Parents/carers of GMU will be invited)
2.4.20	Easter Disco led by WPP (details to follow)
3.4.20	Easter Church Service, 10am
3.4.20	End of term, 3.10/3.20pm

### **Term 4**

20.4.20	Back to school, Term 4 begins at 9am
27.4.20	Cuppie & Catch Up with HT for P1-P7 parents/carers, 9.15am
30.4.20	Belmont Meeting for P7 parents/carers, 5.45pm
1.5.20	Cuppie & Catch Up with DHT for Nursery parents/carers, 9.15am
5.5.20	WPP Meeting 6.15pm
7.5.20	Nursery Stay and Play Day (parents carers welcome to stay and play for am/pm session)
8.5.20	May Day Holiday
13.5.20	P1– 7 Open Afternoon, 2pm—3pm (parents, carers, families and friends welcome)
15.5.20	P3/4 Class Assembly, 2.15pm (Parents/carers of P3/4 will be invited)
20.5.20 to 22.5.20	P7 trip to Belmont
22.5.20	P2 Class Assembly, 2.15pm (Parents/carers of P2 will be invited)
25.5.20 & 26.5.20	Inservice Day 6 & 7 (School closed to pupils)
28.5.20	P1 - 7 Sports Afternoon, 1.45pm
5.6.20	P6L Class Assembly, 2.15pm (Parents/carers of P6L will be invited)



## Calendar of Events

On the next few pages you will find the provisional dates for this school session. We hope this is helpful for requesting time away from work for any school events that you wish to attend. Monthly newsletters will keep you updated of any date changes or additional events.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### Term 1

- 13.9.19 P4H Class Assembly, 2.15pm (Parents/carers of P4H will be invited)
- 23.9.19 Nursery Stay and Play Day (parents carers welcome to stay and play for am/pm session)
- 24.9.19 Whitehills Parent Partnership Meeting 6.15 - 7.45pm
- 27.9.19 P5J Class Assembly, 2.15pm (Parents/carers of P5J will be invited)
- 3.10.19 End of term, 3.10/3.20pm
- 4.10.19 In-service Day 2 (School closed to children)



#### Term 2

- 21.10.19 Back to school, term 2 begins at 9am
- 28.10.19 Cuppie & Catch Up with HT, 9.15am for P1-P7 parents/carers
- 31.10.19 Halloween Discos (Details to follow)
- 1.11.19 Cuppie & Catch Up with DHT, 9.15am for Nursery parents/carers
- 1.11.19 P2 Class Assembly, 2.15pm (Parents/carers of P2 will be invited)
- 7.11.19 Tempest Photographers in school (Individual & P1 & P7 classes)
- 15.11.19 P1W Class Assembly, 2.15pm (Parents/carers of P1W will be invited)
- 18.11.19 & 20.11.19 P1-7 Parents Meetings, 4 - 7pm
- 22.11.19 P3T Class Assembly, 2.15pm (Parents/carers of P3T will be invited)
- 25.11.19 Whitehills Parent Partnership (WPP), 6.15pm - 7.45pm
- 26.11.19 Nursery Stay and Play Day (parents carers welcome to stay and play for am/pm session)
- 29.11.19 P6W Class Assembly, 2.15pm (Parents/carers of P6W will be invited)
- 4.12.19 & 5.12.19 Inservice Days 3 & 4 (School closed to pupils)
- 6.12.19 St Andrews Day Holiday
- 11.12.19 Christmas Concert P1- 7 2pm & 6.30pm
- 12.12.19 Christmas Concert P1 - 7 2pm
- 17.12.19 Nursery Concert, 11am & 2.30pm
- 16.12.19 - 20.12.19 Christmas Parties will take place this week
- 19.12.19 Christmas Church Service, 10am
- 20.12.19 M & M Productions (Panto at Whitehills)
- 20.12.19 End of term, 3pm

If you require to contact the head teacher directly Mrs Peters is in school Monday to Wednesday and Mrs Gallon Thursday and Friday.

We will also ensure early communication of any queries or concerns regarding your child at school, again by telephone/Do Jo message or a note/letter home. If we need to contact you urgently and we are unable to obtain a response through telephoning we will send a text alert/group call/Do Jo message asking you to contact the school.

Please may we take this opportunity to remind parents/carers to refrain from reporting concerns, derogatory or inflammatory comments about the school and/or staff members on social media networking sites as we cannot address concerns reported in this manner which prevents partnership working to resolve a situation.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to achieve successful outcomes and experiences for all of our children.

### **Allergies in School**

We currently have Pupils who attend our Nursery and School who are known to have severe food allergies to PEANUT and TREENUTS or foods which have nut based products in them. Within the School setting, Nursery & Primary 1 to 7, we ask for your assistance and co-operation in minimising the risk of exposure to PEANUT and TREENUTS for these Pupils. To help us to achieve this, we request that Parents/Carers provide safe PEANUT and TREENUT free snacks for their own children during school hours, and no snacks containing nuts. We have also been sharing these messages at assembly.

We thank you for your cooperation with this.

### **Whitehills Parent Partnership (WPP)**

Thank you to the parents that attended our Parent Council AGM on Monday 26th August. Your support is very much appreciated and committee vacancies have now been filled. Mrs Claire Nisbet and Mrs Jill Brown are co-Chairs this year and look forward to working with the whole school community. Dates of meetings are as follows: 24/9/19, 25/11/19, 8/1/20, 28/1/20, 18/3/20, 5/5/20. All meetings take place at school in the staffroom at 6.15pm.

## **School Improvement Plan**

We have started to follow our School Improvement Plan for this session. Our main priority is to raise attainment in maths through the following:

### **Learning & Teaching**

Continue to develop learning and teaching approaches, and raise attainment:

- Implement Abacus maths programme at all stages
- Use Abacus maths planner to support planning and progression in maths
- Develop a Whitehills maths glossary to develop consistency in use of mathematical terms
- Deliver staff training on IEPs; create clear calendar for update of IEPs
- Use Do-Jo at all stages to communicate and share learning with parents
- Implement our new planning processes for context/outwith context and updated pathways (RME, L&T)
- Begin to create a Gaelic Languages Pathway (in conjunction with P&K)
- Audit and review transition processes
- Audit and review assessment processes

### **Using Data**

- Identify pre/ post measures at school improvement planning stage to provide clear baseline and evidence of impact
- Introduce and use a new tracking and monitoring system, and ASN database to:
  - ◇ Track and monitor children that are not making as expected progress and identify actions/interventions to improve this
  - ◇ Enable SLT to carry out more rigorous tracking and monitoring of data to identify those facing additional challenges and those not making as expected progress
- After monitoring activities, as well as individual feedback, provide whole school feedback so we collectively understand our strengths and improvements across the school

## **School Improvement Plan - Continued**

### **Culture and Ethos**

Across the school, implement the following:

- 'Relationships' policy
- Whitehills Core Procedures
- Our Staff Charter - 'The Whitehills Way'
- Updated Vision, Values and Aims
- Actions linked to our 3 year playground plan

### **P1/2 Parents in the Playground**

We would like to thank P1 and P2 parents for remaining in the playground during this term to help ensure children are settled and ready for starting the school day. From the start of next term we would like to ask all P1 and P2 parents to drop off children and let them be unaccompanied in the playground as this helps to encourage the children's independence.

### **Staffing Update**

#### **Retiral - Mrs Jones**

Last week we said a fond farewell to Mrs Barbara Jones who has been a classroom assistant with us since Whitehills Primary opened. In her time with us she has supported many children in class and out in the playground and as a result has developed excellent relationships with the children. She was also a very caring and supportive colleague. She will be missed by many but we wish her a long, healthy and happy retirement and thank her for her dedication to the Whitehills community.

#### **Baby news**

I am delighted to share with you that Mrs Lisa Wyllie and Miss Caitlin Hally have had their babies. Mrs Wyllie had a little boy called Finn and Miss Halley also had a little boy called Cameron. We wish them all best and look forward to them visiting soon.

#### **Welcome to new members of staff**

We have had a few new members of teaching staff join us this session: Mrs Lawson P5L, Mrs Ewing P1E, Mrs Bell, various classes; and we have had some new classroom assistants join us: Mrs Wilson and Mr Whyte, and Mrs Tisdall is starting with us next week. We hope they enjoy their time working at Whitehills and I am sure you will join with me in making them feel welcome.