



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Term 2

16.10.17	Start of term
17.10.17	Flu Immunisations for P1-7
23.10.17	Whitehills Parent Partnership Meeting 6.15pm
25.10.17	P7 Fairtrade Café, 9.30 - 10.30am
1.11.17	Photographer in School (Class Photos)
2.11.17	P2S Class Assembly 9.20am (Parents/carers of P2S will be invited)
6.11.17	Whitehills Parent Partnership Meeting 6.15pm
8.11.17 & 9.11.17	P1-7 Parents Evening, 4 - 7pm
10.11.17	Pre-School Stay and Play Day (parents/carers welcome to stay and play for am/pm session)
15.11.17	P7 Fairtrade Café, 9.30 - 10.30am
16.11.17	P3N Class Assembly 9.20am (Parents/carers of P3N will be invited)
29.11.17 & 30.11.17	In service Days 2 & 3 (School closed to pupils)
1.12.17	St Andrews Day Holiday
6.12.17	P7 Fairtrade Café, 9.30 - 10.30am
14.12.17	Christmas Concert 1.45pm & 6.30pm
15.12.17	Christmas Concert 1.45pm
18.12.17	Pre-School Concert, 11am & 2.30pm
19.12.17 - 22.12.17	Christmas Parties will take place this week
21.12.17	Christmas Church Service, 10am - Lowson Memorial Church
22.12.17	M & M Theatre Visiting
22.12.17	School closes 3pm

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.

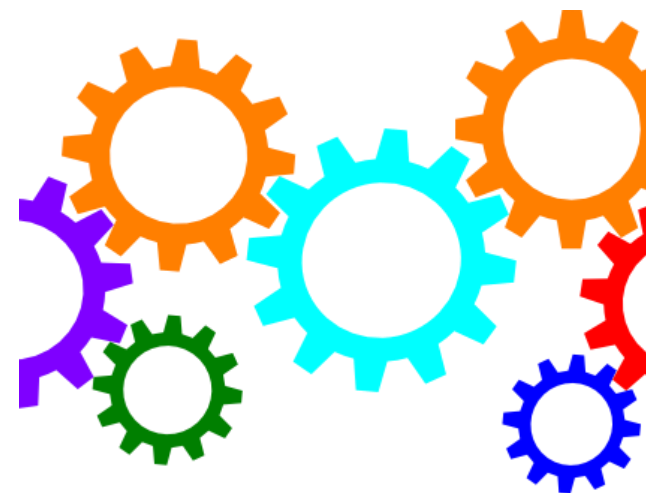
Also, if we do not have your email address, please add it below and we will update our system.

Comments :



WHITEHILLS SCHOOL

and Pre-School



September 2017 Information Updates

BEST at Whitehills
Believe, Enjoy and Succeed Together

School website: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/an/whitehillsp/>

School twitter page: @Whitehillsp

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a very busy start to the term with lots of learning taking place. We have many events planned for the remainder of this term and are already looking towards next term.

Information Updates

Open Events

It was great to see so many people at our recent Curriculum Evenings and Meet the Teacher events. Our next official event for parents will be our Parents Evenings in November, however we welcome your involvement and support throughout the year.

Parent Partnership

Our Whitehills Parent Partnership held a successful AGM earlier in the month. You will have received the newsletter they have produced and we hope that as a school we have a healthy amount of willing volunteers to work with us throughout the year.

Thanks to everyone who came along and supported the Bingo Tea on Thursday night. Your support was much appreciated.

Lost Property

We have already gathered a number of items in lost property this term. To assist with the organisation of this, all property left will be kept for 2 weeks. Items will be laid out in the entrance of the school on a Friday afternoon for pupils and parents to check. Please help with this by labelling all clothing and encouraging pupils to be responsible for their uniform. Many thanks for your support.

Outdoor Clothing

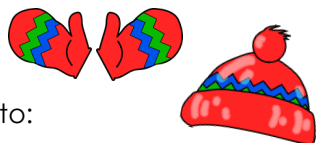
As we have already seen, the weather is very changeable with rain falling without warning. As the weather gets colder, please remember to send your child with a warm jacket and hat/gloves where appropriate.

Rule of the Month

The Rule of the Month for September / October is to:

- **Do as you are asked to the first time**

Please help us to encourage everyone to follow this rule.



PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

The children have been very busy this first term and have settled well into the Pre School routines.

While they were digging the garden and preparing it for harvest time, they found some carrots. After a discussion they decided to make carrot cake. Rosie's mummy came in to help and the children made a delicious cake. This was repeated after more carrots were found and more children wanted to make carrot cake. The children were motivated into finding more food that grows either in the ground or on trees to make some snack with. Some children found apples on their Daily Mile and made apple crumble, while some other children brought vegetables they had grown at home to make soup with the help of Mille's mummy. The cooking and baking choices continue as the children enjoy & learn many skills from the health and wellbeing outcomes and maths as well as building confidence to take ownership of their own learning.

Three of our children attend Inverarity nursery on various days through the week and share their interesting outdoor learning with us. We have discussed what the garden and outdoor play is like there, especially the about the hammock and the huge outdoor woods. We enjoy listening to their stories and will possibly introduce more natural outdoor play here. We are always pleased to welcome parent/carer help and if anyone would like to help and share ideas on how to extend our outdoor learning space please speak to us - we would love to listen.

It was lovely to met so many of you at our Curriculum evening a few weeks ago. We have our first Stay and Play session on Thursday 28th September. You are welcome to pop on at any time throughout the session and play alongside your child.

As the weather begins to turn a bit colder, please can we ask that your child comes to Pre School dressed appropriately for going outside. We encourage the children to access the outside area every day so it is advisable for them to have a jacket every day.

House Captains and Vice Captains

We had a very good response to the positions of House and Vice Captain in P3 and P7. The children had to apply for these positions and the successful candidates prepared a speech for presenting at assembly. The speeches were of a very high standard and we were so proud of the effort children had put in to preparing these. All children were able to vote through a secret ballot. Well done everyone and thank you for your effort with this! The results are as follows:

	Cherry	Chestnut	Oak	Willow
P3 Vice Captain	Tunay Ersoy	Flora Conway	Katie Moore	Josh Forrest
P3 House Captain	Holly Donaldson	Isla Green	Jamie Craig	Jessica Patullo
P7 Vice Captain	Kieran Fairweather	Eilidh Samson	Ellie Craig	Cole Guthrie
P7 House Captain	Cara Buchan	Kerys Livingston	Sophie Garrigan	Sophie Milne

Parking

We thank the many parents and visitors that are using our car park safely and adhering to our car park rules. We are aware it can be very busy and at certain times, no parking is available. Unfortunately this is outwith our control and we therefore kindly ask you to work in partnership with us and adhere to the following:

- ~ **No parking in the drop off bay at the front of the school, this is for dropping off children and moving on**
- ~ **Keep clear of the service bay at all times**
- ~ **Do not park on the grass**
- ~ **Do not park on the one way system - only park in designated spaces**

As a health promoting school we do encourage you to walk to school or park further away and walk to school. We thank you in advance for your support with this.



Playground drop off/pick up

Our Primary 1 pupils have taken the full time schedule in their stride and it is wonderful to see how confident they are becoming. We love to see them looking smart and ready for the day. May we encourage all parents and carers to drop off and pick up their children outside the school gates and encourage the children's independence after the October holidays.

May we also remind all pupils and parents that any bikes used to travel to school must be walked with when inside the school grounds and especially in the car park area.

Attendance

Please try to have your children at school for the first bell in the morning. Learning in the classroom begins immediately after registration and we wish that all pupils take advantage of this.

We also wish to make you aware that if attendance drops below 80%, an automatic alert is generated and a letter may be sent home. We appreciate that when your child is unwell they need time to recuperate, however, we hope they return as quickly as possible. If they do have sickness then a 48 hour period still applies.

Gardening Club

Have you got green fingers? Perhaps the desire to enter the Chelsea Flower Show? The gardening club is looking for parent volunteers to assist with the running of this lunchtime activity. Please contact the school and speak with Miss Donnachie if you are keen to help. The dates are from now until the end of October and from April 2018 to the end of the summer term.



Class Dojo

We hope you are all enjoying sharing the children's learning and successes through Class Dojo. It is a wonderful tool for communicating and celebrating. Please can we ask that you do not contact the School Leadership Team through Dojo as we do not check all class pages every day therefore may miss your message. Absences and appointments should also not be passed on through Dojo as we can not guarantee that they will be seen before the start of the school day.

Successes and Achievements

Head Teacher Award Winners - September

A major emphasis of our positive behaviour policy is recognising and celebrating achievements. Six times within the school session we present The Head Teacher Award. This is to recognise exceptional attitudes/efforts/behaviour/successes. The recipients are as follows: Well done everyone!

Pre-School am Alice McEwing	Pre-School pm Grace Bosman	P1H Lucie Wilson	P1J Jack Williams
P1W Harrison Yool	P2H Molly Dingwall	P2R Kate Balmane	P2S Fiona Jolly
P3N Eliza Craig	P3W Lois Sturrock	P4T Mega Wilson	P4W Jessica McBride
P5M Alfie Longmuir	P5S Logan Gourlay	P6G Robyn McGregor	P6J Holly Pearson
P6S Owen Ramsay	P7D Jordan Smith	P7L Magda Nilova	P7W Hasher Sagheer

Class Assemblies

Primary 6G and Primary 5M both shared very successful assemblies this term. Primary 6G showcased their skills and talents sharing the message about Bullying while P5M told us what they had been learning about Diversity. Both classes performed confidently and it was wonderful to see so many parents and friends in attendance. Well done to Primary 6G and Primary 5M!

School Lunches

Our P1 pupils have now settled in nicely to the school routines. Many thanks to all P1 parents who came along and joined their children for school lunch. This gives parents the opportunity to experience the lunch hall with their children and also try out the food that is on offer. Remember that lunch options for all children can be selected via the ipay system up to four weeks in advance and we encourage you to do this at home with your child.

An Clas Gàidhlig

Bha Bob, an Lolli, air chèilidh air a' chlas againn mar phàirt dhen chuspair againn air riaghailtean is lughan. Bha sinn ag ionnsachadh mu sàbhailteachd aig an rathad agus na riaghailtean a tha na chois. Tha PC Anderson a' dol a thagal oirnn cuideachd agus tha e dol a dh'innse dhuinn mu na laghan co-cheangailte ri trafaig agus clann.

Bob the Lollipop man, visited our class as part of our topic on rules and laws. We were learning about safety at road crossing and the rules that we should follow to keep safe. We have also been looking at the laws cars must abide by around roads and traffic. Our community policeman PC Anderson visited our class to discuss laws connected to traffic and children.

Here is this month's phrase - "Bi faiceallach aig an rathad!" (Bee fy-kell-ach eck in ra-ad – Be careful at the road!).

Sumdog

You may have heard your child talking about Sumdog, a maths online programme to encourage the development of maths through games based learning. 10 of the classes at Whitehills entered the Scotland Maths Week contest and competed against 4901 classes around Scotland. Our top class was Primary 5S and with over 50000 students playing, Ryan Reid of Primary 6J was our top student with a very respectable 327th place. Well done Ryan! Each pupil in the school has their own individual login that can be accessed at home as well as at school. Please speak to your child's teacher if you wish to have the details.

Staffing

As you know, Mrs Thornton will be taking up the post of Acting Head Teacher when we return after the October holidays. Unfortunately, this means that Mr Leith will be leaving us on Friday. He will be taking up a new post at Langlands Primary School. We wish him well for the future and thank him for his contribution during his time with us. Mr Webb will be teaching Primary 7 when we return.

MacMillan Coffee Morning

Our P7 classes will be holding a Macmillan coffee Morning on Friday 29th September from 10 –11.30am in school. Tea/coffee, juice and cake awaits those attending in return for donations to Macmillan. If you feel inspired to bake, please send in any contributions by Thursday. We look forward to seeing you at this event.