



Whitecross Nursery School Newsletter

Your child, your inspiration

Spring 2 Friday 28th March 2025

Happy Nursery, Happy holidays

Nursery continues to be a fun and happy place for children, staff and their families. So many lovely activities have been planned and accessed by all of our children over the term and there are more wonderful things happening this week. A huge thank you to all parents and carers for your continued support and positivity for everything we do. We break up for the Easter holidays next week. Have a safe and happy holiday, and we look forward to seeing you back in nursery at the start of the summer term.

School places in September

Children who are starting school in September will find out which school they will be attending in April. Whilst this is very exciting for parents, older siblings and wider families, it can also be a time of great anxiety for our nursery children. Please consider that talking about a new school now, when they do not go until September, can be unsettling and cause worries for your child.

In nursery, we do not talk about new schools until later in the summer term in June and July. Our very young children do not have a grasp of time and often think they are moving straight away and as they are not fully prepared yet, it can be a scary thought. Please try not to talk about change too much with your child. Please let them enjoy their time in nursery without the pressure of talking about new schools, new teachers and new learning. Transitions will begin fully in June and July and that is the time to start to prepare for a new school.

Thank you very much for working with us on this. ☺

Lunchtimes

A number of children have now taken up the option bringing a packed lunch daily. Please can you ensure that there is an ice pack in their lunch box as we do not have the space to store them all in the fridge? If you would like your child to bring a packed lunch rather than have a hot lunch over the summer term, please let Mrs Chapman know in the office as soon as possible, thank you.

Please note that all children who bring a packed lunch, are not allowed to bring any nut or sesame food products into school. This includes hummus as it contains tahini, which is a sesame paste, Nutella, any chocolate spreads, cereal bars that contain nuts or any other products as we are a nut and sesame free site.

We do have children and staff on site who are allergic and could become very ill if these products are brought into school. Many thanks for all of your support, cooperation and understanding with this.



School Ready

For those children who are heading to school in September, we will be preparing them for their move.

We have asked all our feeder schools what is most important for children to be school ready in September. This is what they all wanted

- Independently putting on and fastening coats, hats, gloves, shoes and socks
- Recognising their own name
- Holding a pencil properly
- Being independent with toileting
- Using a knife, fork and spoon independently
- Being able to ask for help
- To remembering to say please and thank you naturally without being prompted

Please could you support us by giving your child time and support to practice these skills during the Easter holiday and throughout the summer term? ☺

Social media

We do not post pictures of any children's faces on our social media. However, we do post wonderful pictures of what children have been up to in their learning. Please follow us on Facebook and Instagram. Also, please like and share our pages with your families and friends to help us raise our social media presence. Look for the Whitecross logo. Thank you.

Safeguarding for Families

The school designated safeguarding leads will monitor the DSL emails throughout the Easter holidays on dsl@whitecross.derby.sch.uk

If you have any concerns about a child then please contact the above email address or telephone the police as Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

Please continue to be aware and continue to monitor the controls and restrictions on all devices your child might use. Please ensure you have parental controls and restrictions on your phones, iPad's and any other devices suitable for your youngest child. Children should **not** have unrestricted access to any devices as they may be exposed to things that are not appropriate for their age group.

All school staff continue to undertake significant safeguarding training. The Whitecross Safeguarding team are Mrs FitzPatrick DSL and Miss Noblet Deputy DSL. If there is anything you want to discuss with us about safeguarding or you have any concerns please call school on 01332 371876 or email on the above address. We are here to help.



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Sun and sunscreen

Hopefully summer is on the way! This could mean we see the sunshine and enjoy warmer days, even before we break up.

Children love to be outside in our gardens during the summer and to keep them safe we need to work together with families.

- **All children need to bring a wide brimmed sunhat with their name in it.**
- **All children need to have sun cream applied at home before they arrive at school whatever time they come, either breakfast club, 9.00am or 1.00pm.**

Please apply an all-day sun cream for the best protection. As you can appreciate, we do not have the capability to reapply sun-cream to all children regularly throughout the day and our very young children are unable to apply their own properly. Thank you for your continued support in this

Please close the gates

A polite reminder to our families to please close the gates behind you when dropping off or collecting children. At drop off and collection times the doors are open. Our children are carefully monitored in nursery but we have had instances of dogs running into the waiting areas and sometimes school which can cause great anxiety for children.

Thank you very much.

Waterproof trousers

A huge thank you to families in the Butterflies for sending children in waterproof trousers ready to play as they enter nursery in the winter months. Please leave them folded in your child's bag on sunny days, just in case the weather decides to suddenly change as it often does. Also, children still need waterproofs for water play in the garden. Thanks for supporting us with this.

Other helpful reminders

- If your child is absent from school, please inform the school office by phone on the first morning of their absence. If your child has suffered from sickness and diarrhoea, **they must to be kept off from school for 48 hours from the last episode.** The germ can remain in their body even if they feel well and easily spread around other children and staff.
- Please remember to send **named** spare clothes in your child's bag.
- Please label everything belonging to your child and everything in your child's bag. If they are not labelled we cannot guarantee that they will come home with the right clothes. Also if it is written in, please check it regularly as they can wash out!
- Please return any borrowed school clothes, washed and dried as quickly as you can, thank you.
- Please notify us of any change of telephone number, change of address or change of family circumstance, we need to know this for your child's safety, thank you.
- If your child needs any prescribed medicine in school, please download the form from the website or take a paper copy from the office. This must be completed and signed daily before we can legally administer any medicine. All medicine needs to be in the original bottle, box or packaging and it must have a pharmacist's printed label on it with your child's full name, the date and dose. Without this, we cannot legally administer it.
- Please email the school office if your child is poorly or going to be absent for any reason. We need to know why children are absent for school registers for Derby City Council.
- It is important that you provide school with the relevant details of who is collecting your child from school. Please inform any member of staff of any changes to the routine. We cannot send children home with adults we were not expecting to collect them. Also a reminder that if you continually late to collect your child then then you will be charged a late pick up fee.
- Please ensure children **do not** wear any jewellery to nursery. We do not permit children to wear real or toy rings, bracelets or necklaces; unless worn for religious reasons. This is because they get lost, broken or can get caught on play equipment causing injury. Only very small stud earrings are permitted in pierced ears. Thank you.
- Remember you can ask any member of staff if there is anything you need to know. You can email school at admin@whitecross.derby.sch.uk or telephone to talk to us any time, before or after your nursery session. It is always best to check if you are unsure about anything.

Many thanks for you continued support with these matters

Lost Property

We build up a lot of un-named lost property. If your child's clothes have names in then we can return it to you. If it does not have a name and it gets lost we leave it in the green lost property box in the school entrance. Please can you check the lost property box for any missing items throughout the term? Many thanks for families who name everything your child brings. It makes everything so much easier for everyone

Also a huge thank you to all families for returning things that have accidentally gone home with the wrong child. Everyone's vigilance is greatly appreciated.



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Diary dates

Tuesday 22 nd April	Return to school
Wednesday 23 rd April	Butterflies nursery trip to Rosliston Forestry
Tuesday 29 th April	Caterpillars nursery trip to Bluebells Farm
Monday 5 th May	Bank holiday, nursery closed
Friday 23 rd May	Break up for half term
Monday 2 nd June	Return for the summer term

