



# Whitecross Nursery School Newsletter

*Your child, your inspiration*

Autumn 1, 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023

## Welcome to our families

It has been wonderful to welcome everyone to Whitecross after the summer break. We are delighted with how well our children have begun to settle over the first few days at nursery. Moving around the school: playing with and observing and chatting to busy children engaging in a wide range of fun, high quality learning opportunities, is a real privilege. Many thanks for all of the wonderful help sending bags of spare clothes, sunscreen, wellies, waterproof trousers and coats. Seeing the smiling faces of children around nursery makes everything worthwhile.

## Outdoor Learning in Nursery

We have been enjoying some good weather at the start of the term. Please ensure your child arrives wearing a sunhat and with sunscreen already applied at home. Please leave a named sunscreen in your child's pigeon-hole to allow us to add more if it is needed due to hot weather. As the season moves on it will start to become cooler and we expect more wet weather. Then your child will need to bring a warm, waterproof coat and waterproof trousers each day as all children will learn outside each day no matter whatever the weather. Please do not send all-in-one puddle suits. They need separate elasticated waist waterproof trousers and a coat. Elasticated waist trousers allow your child to be independent at the toilet which is very important.

Please support your child in beginning to learn how to put on their coat and trousers and also how fasten their own coat independently. Giving children independence with dressing and undressing is a key part of the physical learning curriculum. Also please send named wellingtons for children to use for outdoor play. Day shoes should fasten with Velcro rather than buckles or laces to help children confidently swap between shoes and wellies independently. Crocs are not appropriate for school as they are not good shoes to run and climb in. Many thanks for your support with this. Being dressed properly will help your child be able to enjoy and make the most of everything nursery has to offer, thank you! ☺



**ClassDojo**

## ClassDojo

You will have received a link to ClassDojo. Once you activate your account you will be able to see your child's personal learning journey at nursery and follow the school story of activities we enjoy throughout the year. Initially we are inviting one parent but very soon both parents of each child will be set up on every child's account. Please share with us photos and information about your child's achievements at home. Staff can then use the pictures to develop speech and language as well as understand more about your child's next steps and learning journey. If you have any issues with using ClassDojo there will be more information at the new parents meeting next week or please ask at the office and we will be happy to help you get started.

## 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 naming everything your child brings. It makes everything so much easier for everyone.

## Payment to school

All payments to school are completed through Scopay. You will receive a link to set up your account from the school office next week. Thank you for your patience as the start of term is always very busy for the office.

## Safeguarding for Families

The school designated safeguarding leads will monitor the DSL emails on [dsl@whitecross.derby.sch.uk](mailto: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.

All school staff have undergone significant safeguarding training. The Whitecross Safeguarding team are Mrs FitzPatrick DSL, Miss Noblet and Mrs King are both Deputy DSLs. If there is anything you want to discuss with us about safeguarding or if 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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## Diary dates

Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> September	Welcome to Whitecross meeting for parents.
18 <sup>th</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Recycling Week
Fri 29 <sup>th</sup> September	Grandparents Coffee morning
2 <sup>nd</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup> October	Values week
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> October	Open Day for children on the waiting list and their families
16 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest collection and autumn walk week
25 <sup>th</sup> October	Curriculum Information meeting for parents 6.00 – 7.00pm



## Other 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. The germ can remain in their body even if they feel well and easily spread around other children and staff.

\* All clothes, bags, coats, shoes, and wellies should be clearly labelled with your child's name. 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!

\* 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 are late to collect your child then we will place them in the care of the after school club and you will be charged for the session they spend there.

\* 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 it will get lost, broken or can get caught on play equipment causing injury. Only very small stud earrings are permitted in pierced ears. Thank you

Please ask any member of staff if there is anything you need to know. You can email school at [admin@whitecross.derby.sch.uk](mailto:admin@whitecross.derby.sch.uk) or telephone to talk to us any time, before or after your nursery session.

Many thanks for you continued support.

## Lunchtimes and Snacks

All our children enjoy a social lunchtime together. Children can enjoy a delicious hot lunch provided in school or bring a packed lunch.

Packed lunches cannot contain any nuts or products containing nuts. Due to allergies we do not have any nuts in the building. Please check the contents of cereal bars and any other products and children cannot have Nutella or chocolate spread in sandwiches. Lunchtimes in Whitecross are happy calm times but it does take children a little while to get used to the routines and the food. If there are any issues with children not eating we will let you know but no news is good news. Our menu can be found on the school website or notice board.

Children can have a drink at any time throughout the day and all children are offered a snack of fruit and a carb each morning and afternoon. Please do not send any food or drink bottles in bags please, many thanks.