



Whitecross Nursery School Newsletter

Your child, our inspiration

Autumn 2, 13th October 2023

Parent Consultation Meetings

We are beginning to invite parents into school for parent meetings. Each family will be invited in twice throughout the year to talk to your child's key worker. We do not hold late night meetings and as you can appreciate holding meetings for over 70 families on one or two evenings is impossible. Instead we will meet with families on your child's birthday month and then at the six month point afterwards. If your child has a birthday in September or October you will have been invited into school to meet you key worker next week. Also children who have birthdays in March and April. In November with will invite families whose children have birthday in November or May. This helps us to ensure we assess all children in line with their age related expectations and is fair for autumn, spring and summer born children. More information will be explained at the curriculum meeting for parents on Wednesday 25th October.

Our Harvest Table

We are very lucky to be able to offer our children so many wonderful opportunities. Yet at this time of year we also turn our attention to those less fortunate than ourselves. Harvest is a time of sharing and giving and we have a tradition of showing others we care. On Monday we will put out a harvest table in the entrance to nursery. Please donate anything you can spare to help local families in severe food or hygiene poverty. Please donate any foods that are dried or tinned. We cannot accept fresh goods, sorry. Also soap, shampoo, deodorants, nappies are also gratefully accepted. We will deliver our donations to the food banks in the city centre. We appreciate that all families are experiencing some hardships but thank you so much for anything you can spare.



ClassDojo

ClassDojo

We hope you are enjoying seeing what we do in nursery on ClassDojo. Class Dojo does have a messaging service, however we ask that parents please email the school office with information, questions or queries as staff are busy with children throughout the day and they do not always see the messages which can be important.

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. 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.

30 hour codes, Payments & Primary School applications

Please check and renew your thirty hour codes if you have one. If codes are not renewed in time then children will either need to reduce their hours or pay in full for anything above fifteen universally funded hours.

All payments to Whitecross for snack etc. are completed through Scopay. You will have received a link to set up your account from the school office. Please contact us if you have any issues with this.

School admissions opens on 3rd November. You must apply for your child's school place by 15th January. We will email information of how to do this shortly

Safeguarding for Families

The school designated safeguarding leads will monitor the DSL emails on dsl@whitecross.derby.sch.uk The DSL email address is monitored on weekends and throughout the school holidays.

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 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

Tue 17 th Oct	Visit from the police to talk to the children about their job
Mon 16 th – Fri 20 th Oct	Harvest collection and autumn walk week
Mon 23 rd – Thurs 26 th Oct	Halloween week, lots of fun pumpkin activities
Wed 25 th Oct	Local author Susan Hughes is coming in to read her new book to the children
Wed 25 th Oct	Curriculum Meeting for Parents 6.00 – 7.00pm
Fri 27 th Oct	INSET Day, training day for staff, school closed for all children
Mon 30 th Oct – Fri 3 rd Nov	Half term week, nursery is closed
Mon 6 th Nov	School reopens for second Autumn Half Term



Winter illness

During a child's year at nursery, parents can expect them to catch lots of common childhood illnesses. This allows them to build antibodies and by the time they move on to school they have often built up a resistance to lots of germs. Unfortunately this means that children can often become ill at nursery. Norovirus, flu, Covid and other illnesses are on the rise again this winter alongside common illnesses such as chicken pox, coughs and colds. To keep everyone safe; children, staff, parents and grandparents then please –

- ✓ 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 quickly and it can easily spread around other children and staff.
- ✓ If your child develops Covid symptoms please do not be complacent and assume it is not Covid, you never know. Please follow government guidance and keep children off school for three days or until they are better.
- ✓ If you or any other adults test positive for Covid please notify school and arrange for someone else to drop off and pick up your child.

If your child is absent from school, please inform the school office by email or phone on the first morning of their absence. Please do not telephone the school from 8.50 to 9.15am as we are unable to welcome families and answer the telephone at the same time, thank you

Thank you so much for your support in this matter.

Whilst it can be inconvenient it is crucially important to ensure the health and safety of everyone

Other Reminders

- Please remember to send named spare clothes in your child's bag and please return any borrowed school clothes as quickly as you can, thank you.
- Please label **everything** belonging to your child and everything in your child's bag, 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!
- 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 one from the office. This must be completed and signed daily before we can administer any medicine.
- If your child is prescribed antibiotics then they may not return to school for 48 hours after starting the medicine. This allows the medication to start working and to ensure your child does not have any reactions to their medication.

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 your continued support.