



Whitecross Nursery School Newsletter

Your child, your inspiration

Autumn 1, 13th September 2024

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 to all parents and carers for supporting us to settle the children so well. Seeing the smiling faces of children around nursery makes everything worthwhile. It is going to be a wonderful year.

Outdoor Learning in Nursery

We have we have enjoyed a little bit of good weather at the very start of the term but very quickly it has become autumnal and begun to be damp and wet. Please can you send your child equipped for the change in weather each day? All children need to arrive daily with a warm waterproof coat as all children will learn outside each day whatever the weather. If you have your own water proof trousers feel free to send them but we do have waterproofs in the Caterpillar room.

Also, can you please send a pair of named wellingtons to leave at nursery for children to use for outdoor play? Day shoes should fasten with Velcro rather than buckles or laces to help children to begin to learn to confidently swap between shoes and wellies. Crocs and soft plimsolls are not appropriate for school as they are not good shoes to run and climb in and they don't keep feet dry.

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! 😊

If the weather warms up, please send in a named sun-cream and sun hat but maybe we are being hopeful! 😊



ClassDojo

ClassDojo

All parents have received links 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. Where there are two parents, 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 then 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 main 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 by early 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 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 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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Diary dates

Wed 25 th September	Welcome to Whitecross meeting for all parents.
Mon 23 rd , Wed 25 th or Fri 27 th September	Grandparents Coffee mornings in aid of Macmillan. More information will follow shortly
30 th September – 4 th October	Values week
21 st – 24 th October	Diwali Week Parent consultation week
Friday 25 th October	INSET DAY, school closed for children
16 th – 20 th October	Harvest collection and autumn walk week



Contacting staff

Mrs Collins works every day to 3.15. Mrs Kauser joins Caterpillars at 3.00pm every afternoon. Mrs Higgins and Miss Hayes job share. Mrs Higgins works Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon, Miss Hayes works Wednesday morning, Thursday and Friday. Mrs FitzPatrick is full time in nursery. Please feel free to speak to any member of staff about your child.

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 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 hot lunch provided by school or bring a home 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 and on the school notice board.
- Children can have a drink at any time throughout the day and all children are offered a snack of fresh fruit and a carb product such as malt loaf, fruit loaf, crackers, bread sticks, etc. each morning and afternoon. Children can choose milk or water at snack times.
- Please do not send any food or drink bottles in bags please, many thanks.