WHITEHALL

Summer 2 Week 6

Message from the Headteacher

So here we are- the final newsletter of this year and what a year it has been!

There has been extensive work that we have done this year to the front of the school space for Reception and completely revisited our play provision for all of our children doing playtimes and at lunchtime. I hope you have seen on Instagram the way the children have really increased their imaginative play and their ability to work collaboratively and enjoy spaces together.

There have been many successes this year, particularly as our children have worked so hard to uphold our values and everything that our school stands for. I was particularly proud of the performances and the knowledge that children have around our curriculum; one of our biggest strengths is the way we are confident advocates for others, and ourselves, and to challenge injustice, particular social, so that all children, regardless where they are, are safe.

I would also like to take this time to thank all of our members of staff who have worked incredibly hard this year. You have seen how much they contribute to the experience children get at school and I am proud to lead a team where the children come first and everything we do is to align ourselves to the values we want them to have as adults when they are part of wider society, and able to make informed decisions that will positively impact on all of us.

This time, of course, comes with many sad goodbyes and this year we will be saying goodbye to a few members of staff. We are saying goodbye to Sophie who will be leaving us to take up and explore new positions in the world of education and particularly the charity sector. Will also be saying goodbye to Nada who has just returned back from maternity. We will also be saying goodbye to Sarah Williams who has completed her teacher training experience at us at Whitehall. We wish all those members of staff the very best in their new roles and positions.

Today, the children had a chance to meet their new class teacher; please see the list below. I'm sure the dinner table tonight will be filled with conversations about the first experience of their new year groups and what the new academic year will bring.

Term dates are below for all of your planning needs. Please note Meet the Teacher meetings which are in our second week back as well as class assembly dates and key events that are happening in the school calendar.

A reminder that the following emails can be used to access and action school-related matters:

For communications re children and for staff: *communications@whitehall.waltham.sch.uk*
For administrative support: *office@whitehall.waltham.sch.uk*
For payments for wraparound care and trips: *parentpay@whitehall.waltham.sch.uk*

Just a reminder that school closes on Wednesday, the 15th July at 2 pm.

Finally, I wanted to round off this year by saying a very big thank you to all of our wonderful children and families who come to school and do everything they can to make good of every opportunity being at Whitehall offers them.

We know we are unique. We know we stand for something outside of just the here and now (although we think our here and now is pretty spectacular, too!)

We want children who know they belong and who work hard to make that true for every living being.

To our families who get it and stand by us, always, thank you for your wonderful support and always coming forward to stand in solidarity with us especially when we are in a time when so many are quick to find fault, complain or spread disharmony. I know I speak on behalf of the leadership team and all our staff- we see and know you are there working alongside us and your support and encouragement makes what we do here truly possible.

To our departing Year 6 children and families- you are our first to complete your whole primary schooling under this leadership team. We hope this has been an extraordinary experience for you and your learning, and who you are, is a legacy, for us. Y6 parents- thank you for your trust and care- especially in the early days and also right up to now; for your belief in what could be achieved here by being bold and brave and understanding our vision for all of our children.

Have a wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing you all in September.

Uniform, jewellery and being school ready

All children are expected to be in full school uniform at all times. This includes wearing black shoes or black trainers on non-PE days and being properly dressed for PE. For PE, we also ask you to ensure the shorts your children wear are mid-thigh to knee length. We also recommend PE shorts rather than cycling shorts, as they are a less gendered option. We would like to see fewer cycling shorts being worn for PE.

We ask our parents to ensure that their children do not wear hoop earrings to school nor any other forms of jewellery. This includes necklaces and bracelets, rings, and bangles. We also ask parents to make sure that children have book bags that they bring into school and not any rack sacks and big bulky items. You know from the size of our classrooms big bags pose health and safety hazards particularly around doorways and blocking of fire exits.

This year, we are also asking parents to ensure that hair that is beyond shoulder length is always tied up. We have had many outbreaks of nit activity this year and, going forwards, and particular for PE and safety, we are asking parents to ensure that their children are provided with ties and hair is tied back. This is for all shoulder length, or hair that is longer, regardless of gender.

Daily School Uniform
White polo shirt
Ink jumper
Grey shorts
Grey trousers
Grey skirt
Grey pinafore dresses
Blue checked summer dresses
Black trainers or shoes
Grey tights

PE Kit- specified days
Black shorts
Black leggings
Black jogging bottoms
White crew neck Tshirt
School jumper (no hoodies at all)
Trainers

Please ensure you child is not wearing black leggings on non-PE days

Food guidance

We have tried very hard to ensure that the new guidelines re food and consumption guidance is followed. Thank you to all families who have stopped bringing in sweet treats for birthdays. We ask the rest of the parents who give out birthday treats in the playground to refrain from doing so- please support us by following what the ask is. This is to ensure that parents are able to make nutritional decisions for their children and sweet treats are things parents are now choosing for their children not to consume. Thank you for your understanding on this.

Class list for 26-27

Nursery	Mathunisaa Elm Melissa Sally	
Reception	Victoria Ash	Katie Cedar
	Karen and Sehar will work across both classes	
Year 1	Aisha Aspen Jill	Victoria Beech Stacey
Year 2	Kazia Hawthorn Caroline	Megan Maple Ria
Year 3	Nafissa Juniper Handan	Khadiza Olive Dani
Year 4	Alishah Willow Elena	Niamh Sycamore Kyri
Year 5	Sarouj Rowan Kate	Ayesha Hazel Shahina
Year 6	Samia Acer Zaiban	Nimisha Silver Birch Tracey

Deputy Head- Sarah

Phase EYFS and Y1
Designated Safeguarding Lead and SENDCO
Deputising for the HT

Assistant Head- Hema

Phase Y2-4
Curriculum Lead
Lead SLT for SRP (Deaf unit)

Assistant Head- Shireena

Phase Y5-6
Quality Of Education Lead
Attendance Lead

Childcare

An email will have gone out to all parents regarding signing up for breakfast club and after-school care.

Please can you ensure that this is completed and payment for the first few weeks is also paid so that your children have a seamless transition when school starts back, for children, on Thursday 4th of September.

We would also ask our parents to note that this day would also be the first day back for our Reception children so please be mindful at school gates that we will have new families and particularly very small children attending school for the very first time.

School reading books

As we approach the end of the academic year, please could you check at home for any school reading books that may still be with you and return them to school as soon as possible.
Returning all reading books before the end of term helps us prepare resources for the next academic year and ensures that all children can enjoy them.

Dates for next year

Autumn 2026	
	Event
2nd September	INSET- school closed to children
3rd -4th September	Children return to school (R-Y6) Nursery visits
7th September	Nursery starts
8th- 10th September	KS1 Meet class teachers (8th) Lower KS2 (9TH) Upper KS2 (10TH)
28th September to 9th October	Y4 swimming lessons (Willow)
1st October	Prospective Reception Parent Tour
9th October	Maple Class Assembly @ 9:10
WB:12th October	Family Maths Week
16th October	Acer Class Assembly @ 9:10
WB: 19th October	Art Symposium
23rd October	Juniper Class Assembly @ 9.10 End of half term
26th -30th October	Half Term
2nd November	Autumn 2 start back
5th November	Prospective Reception Parent Tour
8th November	Diwali
WB 9th November	Shakespearian Gala
13th November	Shakespeare Performance to school 3:30
13th November	Rowan Class assembly
20th November	Children in Need
20th November	Olive Class Assembly @ 9:10
24th November	Parent Consultations
26th November	Prospective Reception tour Parent Consultations
30th November- 11th December	Year 4 swimming lessons (Sycamore)
8th - 9th December	Reception Christmas Performance 9:15am Ash (8th) Cedar (9th)
10th December	Nursery Performance 11am and 2pm
16th December	Christmas Lunch, Craft and Jumper Day
17th December	Christmas Parties
18th December	End of Term – 2pm
21ST December- 1ST January	School Holidays

Spring 2027	
	Event
4th January	Children return to school for Spring term
15th January	Silver Birch Class Assembly @ 9:10
22nd January	Hazel Class Assembly @ 9:10
25th January	Restyle-Recycle
29th January	Hawthorn Class Assembly @ 9:10
5th February	Sycamore Class Assembly @ 9:10
6th February	Lunar New Year
8th February	Ramadan starts
WB 8th February	STEAM Week (Family Maths)
9th February	Safer Internet Day
12th February	End of half term
15th February to 19th February	Half Term
22nd February	School starts back Spring 2
26th February	Willow Class Assembly @ 9:10
1st March	Literary Week
4th March	World Book Day
10th March	Eid ul- Fitr (possibly)
18th March	Y6 SATs Meeting @4pm
19th March	Red Nose Day
23rd March	Parent Consultations
24th March	Parent Consultations
25th March	End of Term – 2pm

Summer Term 2027	
	Event
29th March – 09th April	Easter Holidays
12th April	Start of Summer Term (Children in school)
22nd April	Earth Day
23rd April	Aspen Assembly @ 9:10
26th April	Futures
3rd May	Bank Holiday Monday- school closed
WB: 3th May	Deaf Awareness Week
7th May	Beech Class Assembly @ 9:10
10th May	SATS week
17th-21st May	KS1 SATs and assessment week
17th May	EID (possibly)
24th May	FEAST
27th May	International Food Evening
28th May	End of half term
31st May-04th June	Half term
7th June	Children return to school
24th June	Exhibition
27th June	World Day against Child Labour
30th July	EYFS/KS1 Sports' Day
1st July	KS2 Sports' Day
2nd July	Summer Fete (possibly)
6th July	Reception and Nursery parents' meeting
6th July	Reserve EYFS/KS1 Sports Day
7th July	Y6 Leavers Play to school
7th July	Reserve KS2 Sports Day
8th July	Y6 Performance to Parents
9th July	Meet the Teacher Reports to Parents
12th July	Y6 Leavers Party
15th July	Parties PM
16th July	Year 6 Assembly and Last day of term – 2pm
19th July	INSET- school closed to children
20th July	INSET- school closed to children
21st July	INSET- school closed to children
22nd July 2026	INSET- school closed to children