



Newsletter

SPRING 2017 – NUMBER 1 – WEDNESDAY 11TH JANUARY 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

A belated “welcome back” and Happy New Year to you all. I hope the Christmas break went well for you all and that there was some peace amid the chaos! We start back to a very important term in the school year. Teachers and children have established class routines and children should be working hard and making good progress. I know that you will do all you can at home to support your children in their learning, be it giving them time to do homework, reading with them or simply showing an interest in their school day. As always, if there is anything you need to discuss about your child, then his/her class teacher is around every morning as are Mrs Wills, Mr Norman and I.

Here's to a good term!

Whipton Barton Federation Clubs

You will all have had a letter about the clubs on offer this term. Just to remind you, I have included the information again on the reverse of this newsletter. Do encourage your children to take up these additional activities; they all look like great fun.

Welcome to Ms Holmes

With Mrs Saunders' departure from Year 2, we welcome Ms Holmes to our teaching staff. Ms Holmes is an experienced teacher with whom I have worked in the past and it's good to have her on board.

Bad Weather Procedures

There is a spot of bad weather forecast and it always causes a bit of excitement in schools. In the lowlands of Exeter, schools are rarely affected by severe weather but still we need to take precautions and make sure we communicate well with you. With that in mind, there is one very clear

message that you as parents need to hear from both schools. It is this:

If you do not hear anything from us, then the schools will remain open!

We have a very clear procedure for ensuring safe staffing levels and Mr Waite and Mr Guest will ensure that the site is safe. There are two reasons why I would close the schools. One is that the site is unsafe and the other is if we are unable to provide safe staffing levels. In the unlikely event of a decision to close the schools, you will receive a text message, there will be a message on our Facebook page and it will be announced on BBC Radio Devon and Heart FM. Please make sure that if it is safe for you to get in, that your children are in school even if there is snow on the ground. We will let them play in it when they are here!

Parents' Evenings

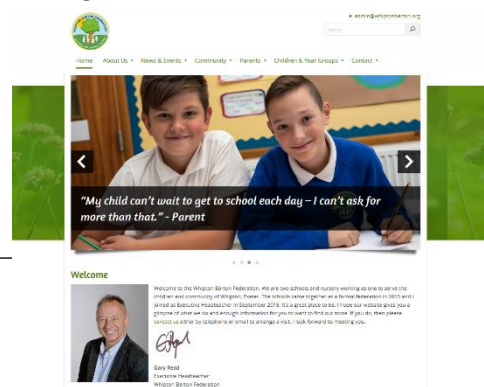
You will be receiving a letter about parents' evenings for this term, but I thought I'd give you advance warning of the dates: 14th, 15th, 16th March. I hope this gives you a good bit of notice.

New decoration

The first phase of our redecoration is complete (Y4 and Y5 stairwells and corridors). They really did need some work and we think they look great. See over the page (Y4 on the left and Y5 on the right).

New Federation Website

Our new federation website is nearly ready for launch. Our target date is 18th January, which should also coincide with our new federation Facebook page. It will look something like this:



Infant School Clubs

Club Name	Year Group	No of Places	Staff Members	Day	Time	Dates
New Club Books and Stories - A	Reception Year 1	12	Mrs Williams	Tuesday	3.20 – 4 pm	<i>First half term</i> 10 January – 7 February (5 weeks)
New Club Books and Stories - B	Reception Year 1	12	Mrs Williams	Tuesday	3.20 – 4 pm	<i>Second half term</i> 21 February – 21 March (5 weeks)
New Club Coding (ICT)	Year 1 Year 2	12	Mrs Cocks	Tuesday	12.40 – 1.10 pm	<i>First half term</i> 10 January – 7 February (5 weeks)
Computer Club	Reception	12	Mrs Cocks	Tuesday	12.40 – 1.10 pm	<i>Second half term</i> 21 February – 21 March (5 weeks)
Easter Craft Club	Reception Year 1 Year 2	16 plus parents	Mrs Ramsdale Mrs Crocker	Thursday	3.20 – 4.30 pm	<i>Second half term</i> 9 - 23 March (3 weeks)
Gardening Club	Year 1 Year 2	6	Mrs Cheriton Miss Timms	Monday	12.35 – 1.05 pm	<i>Second half term</i> 27 February - 20 March (4 weeks)
New Club French Club	Year 1 Year 2	10	Mrs Ebdon	Thursday	3.20 – 4 pm	<i>All term</i> 12 January – 23 March
New Club Yoga Club	Reception Year 1 Year 2	15	Mrs Grogan	Tuesday	3.20 – 4 pm	<i>All term</i> 10 January – 21 March

Junior School Clubs

Club Name	Year Group	No of Places	Staff Members	Day	Time
Maths Calculation Club	Year 6	20	Mrs Blewett	Monday	3.20 – 4.00pm
Football Club	Year 5 and 6	20	Mr Norman	Tuesday	3.20 – 4.20pm
Tennis Club (Girls only)	All Years	20	External Coach	Wednesday	3.20-4.20pm
Bananagram Word Puzzles	All years	NA	Mr Morris	Friday	Lunchtime
Rugby Club	All	20	Mr Read	Wednesday	Lunchtime
Rugby Club	All	20	Premier Sport	Wednesday	3.20 – 4.20pm
Gym Club	All	20	Premier Sport	Thursday	3.20 – 4.20pm

