

# Newsletter



October 2023 Issue 33

## Welcome to Whitehall Nursery and Infant School newsletter!!



We have had a busy few weeks settling back in to a new school year. We would like to welcome all the new families who have started here at our school. This is the first of many newsletters for this year and is valuable in sharing parenting information and upcoming events in school. We have had some building work completed in FLAC but our coffee mornings will be returning !!! We would love to see new and existing parents/carers and grandparents at our FRIDAY coffee mornings from 8.45-9.30am, LC building.

**Mrs Ware: Parent Support Advisor**

## School information



**Gate Times:** Reception gate opens at 8.30. Children will walk themselves up the reception garden path into class. Main school gates open at 8.20 for years 1 & 2, where staff are able to receive children from parents who need to leave. Please ensure you inform a member of staff you are leaving your child on the playground. Pupils should be in school at 8.30am to start lessons. All school gates will close at 8.40 prompt.

**Uniform:** Already we have had a few lost items of clothing. With the colder weather nearly upon us, children may be changing into their winter uniform. Please, please can we ask that your child's uniform ( including coats, jumpers, shoes etc) are clearly labelled with their name on it. Staff can't always use the "sniff test" to determine who clothing belongs to!!! The lost property box is situated at the bottom of the stairs leading to the main office. If you have lost anything please check there as it is brimming with items.



**Pack lunches:** All pupils who attend Infant schools are entitled to **FREE SCHOOL MEALS**. If by choice your child would prefer NOT to have a hot meal in school, we ask that parent/carers follow the guidance notes sent out earlier this term for what constitutes as a healthy lunch box. We know we have many "fussy eaters" within school and they may limit the choices you want to offer them. If this applies to your child please come and speak to me on the school gate.

**Water bottles:** Children are encouraged to bring water bottles to school each day. As a school we promote healthy eating/drinking. It is important that children are encouraged to drink water rather than an alternative drink which may be high in sugar and calories.



**FREE FOOD FRIDAY:** On this day (Fridays!!) we share with our families, food donations from the local community and businesses. This means families can stock up on a few store cupboard items which may help them out over a few days. If you would like to donate to this good cause we will leave "dump bag" by the kitchen steps next to the bagels each morning. ( Please note we can not receive fresh produce. Store cupboard items may include, sugar, salt/pepper, cakes, biscuits, tins of potatoes, rice, pasta, cooking sauces etc.) We know how hard times are at the moment and we want our families to feel supported. If you need additional information for food banks in the local area please speak to me and I will do my best to sign post you to the right provision.

**Toys/Valuables:** Children love to bring items from home into school to show their friends. We understand this but it can be difficult to manage when items get lost or given to other children!! Can we ask for your support and discourage children from bringing items into school?



## School Fund

Please remember to donate £1 a week for our school fund. If you are able to do this, payment should be made on Mondays.



## Toileting Training Parent/Carer Workshop



The school Nursing Team will be visiting our school to deliver a parent/carer workshop for Toilet Training. Information shared will include what toilet training is and how to do it, developing physical routines, advice and support. All Parent /Carers are welcome to attend. This will be on Monday 23 Oct at 9.15am in The FLAC building.



## Adult learning



Over the past few years we have been fortunate to work with the Adult Education team from Walsall College. They have delivered courses for us here at school including First Aid, Health Lifestyles, Employment advice, supporting children's Maths and English at home. We would like to give you the opportunity to take part in some more of the various courses they offer and ask that you let me know if there is something specific you would like to learn about. Our school website "Parent and Carer Learning" section is also an ideal place to check for information of courses within the local community.



## Parenting Programmes

We all know that parenting can be hard and there are times that we need some additional support, advice and guidance. The School Nursing Team are able to deliver a wide variety of free parenting workshops online.

These include :

- Understanding Your Child's Emotions
- Understanding Your Child's Behaviour
- Understanding Your Child's Emotions (SENDi)
- Understanding Your Child's Behaviour (SENDi)
- Understanding Your Child's Behaviour (Solihull approach)



If you would like more information on any of the above workshops, please come and speak to me.

As a parent/carer you can contact the Nursing Team directly on 01922 423349 to book your place.

# Calendar

Some times dates for school activities change. We do our best to let you know!!! Don't forget to look at our school website as it is updated regularly by the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and class teachers. Here you will find the most up to date school calendar, including school holidays and teacher training dates. <https://www.whitehall-i.walsall.sch.uk/news-and-events>

**Thursday 5 Oct—2.30pm MacMillan Coffee Afternoon (rescheduled from 28.9.23)**

**Cake and biscuits donated will be sold and served with Tea/Coffee in the FLAC building followed by a cake sale after school at 3.30pm. Lets see if we can beat last years fundraising total of £216!!!**

**Friday 13 Oct Guest speaker Sian Kennedy 9.30 FLAC (following coffee morning)  
Internet Safety Workshop for parent/carers.**

**Weds 18 Oct —Reading Festival, Guest authors Alice Hemmings and Adam Guillian in school  
Children will have the opportunity to spend time with authors and listen to some wonderful stories.**

**Monday 23 Oct — 9.15 Toilet Training Parent Workshop FLAC  
School Nurse will share Advice and Support around toilet training**

**Monday 30 Oct—Friday 3 Nov school Closed  
Half Term Holiday**