

White Court School Newsletter

Autumn Term 2018



Issue 3

Friday 23rd November 2018

We are now well in to the second half of the Autumn Term and everyone has come back from half term with a positive attitude! The transition from one year group to another is not an easy process for some children; the change in teacher and adapting to the higher expectations of the year group can cause them some anxiety and effect their self-esteem. By this part of the term the children become settled and familiar with the routines. We hope that you would approach your child's class teacher if you have any concerns about your child as we have an 'open door' policy and want to work with you to support your child.

Early Finish

School will finish at **2:00 p.m.** on the last day of this term, **Wednesday 19th December**. Staff will be working in school, so if you are not able to collect at this time, then please contact the school office so that we can make the necessary arrangements for them to be cared for until 3:15 p.m. There will be **no After School Club available** on that day.

Phonics

We are very proud to share a letter with you which we received from Nick Gibb MP, the minister of state for School Standards. We received the letter because White Court's Phonic Check results were in the top 9% of primary schools across the country. Well done to all the children who took part (current Year 2) and all of the staff who worked hard with these children in order to achieve the impressive 95% of our children achieving the Expected Standard.

Autumn Weather

Now the weather is beginning to turn much cooler and wetter, please remind your children to bring a coat to school. Children who arrive by car often arrive without one! At playtimes and lunchtimes the children all need some fresh air and a run around, so we aim for them to be outside whenever possible. It is therefore essential that they have appropriate clothing. As the weather has turned to rain the children will no longer be able to use the field. Therefore, please do not allow your child to bring their own ball to school. Each year group have timetabled slots on the football pitch and access to school balls.

We would also like to remind you that on wet days we do not have space in classes or cloakrooms to accommodate umbrellas. We have also had issues in the past of young children finding it difficult to handle their umbrella and injuries occurring.

Bags2School

Thank you to everyone who de-cluttered during half term and brought their sacks of old clothing etc. into school. We raised £192 which will be put to good use across the school. Dates will follow for our next collection in the new year. Thank you to FoWCS for organising this fundraiser!

Parent Volunteers

A big thank you to all of the parents who have volunteered to help in school. We really appreciate the time you have generously donated!

Some of our parent helpers will be supporting children within guided reading sessions or listening to readers. They will initial the Reading Record but will not make comments. Do not be alarmed if you see a different set of initials!

If you would like to volunteer, please complete a form at the office.

British Legion Poppy Appeal

Thank you for all the donations towards the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, we will inform you of the total shortly.



Christmas Fundraising

This year's Christmas fundraising will go to the NSPCC, this includes the non-uniform day on 18th December and the collections from the Nativities. All donations are gratefully received and we would like to thank you in advance for your support.



Friends of White Court School – Reminders:

- **Christmas Fair Non-Uniform Day** - Friday 30th November – Children can wear their own clothes to school if they bring a gift for the 'Secret Shopper' stall, where children can purchase gifts for their parents or the bottle tombola.
- **Christmas Fair - Friday 30th November 5:30 -8:00 p.m.**
- **Elves' Workshop** – The booking letter for these events has already been sent out. To ensure disappointment, book your place.
- **Santa's Grotto** – this is now sold out.
- **Bedtime Stories, KS1 Party & KS2 Disco - Friday 7th December, doors open 4.15 p.m. for a 4:30 p.m. start.**



Amazon Smile

Please remember to use Amazon Smile when you do your Christmas shopping on Amazon!

When you shop at smile.amazon.co.uk, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as amazon.co.uk, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to FoWCS.

To shop at AmazonSmile, simply go to smile.amazon.co.uk from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. On your first visit to smile.amazon.co.uk you need to select Friends of White Court School to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Amazon will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.co.uk will result in a donation. You will need to shop at smile.amazon.co.uk each time, not Amazon.co.uk!

FoWCS will not see any personal details about your account or your purchases.



IMPORTANT DATES

Term dates for this year: **2018 – 2019**

Autumn Term:	Tuesday 4 th September 2018 – Wednesday 19 th December 2018 <i>Half Term 22nd October – 26th October</i>	72 days
Spring Term:	Thursday 3 rd January 2019 – Friday 5 th April 2019 <i>Half Term 18th – 22nd February</i>	62 days
Summer Term:	Tuesday 23 rd April 2019 – Wednesday 24 th July 2019 <i>Half Term 27th May – 31st May, and May Bank Holiday 6th May</i> Non-pupil days: Tuesday 4th September 2018 Monday 29th October 2018 Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th January 2019 Tuesday 23rd April 2019	<u>61 days</u> 195 days

Residential Trips 2018/2019

Flatford (Year 5): Week beginning 29th April 2019

Kingswood (Year 6): Week beginning 10th June 2019

Letters Sent Home to Parents Recently

30 th October	Year 5 Mexicolore change of date letter
30 th October	Year 5 Fairtrade Coffee Morning letter
30 th October	Year 1 Bedtime Story Event letter
1 st November	FoWCS Christmas Grotto and Elves' Workshop booking form
2 nd November	Year 6 Parent Event Information
2 nd November	FoWCS Wreath Making Workshop letter
5 th November	Headlice letter
6 th November	Operation Christmas Child Information
9 th November	FoWCS Christmas Fair Information letter
12 th November	Foundation Stage Christmas Nativity Information
12 th November	Children In Need Non Uniform Day Information
12 th November	FoWCS Christmas Party/Disco/Bedtime Stories booking form
13 th November	FoWCS Winter 2018 Newsletter & Wreath Making Workshop reminder
13 th November	Foundation Stage 'Aladdin' letter
14 th November	Year 2 Nativity Performance letter
16 th November	Letter from Mrs Deans
19 th November	Foundation Stage Nativity letter
19 th November	Year 5 Fairtrade Coffee Morning - reminder
19 th November	Year 5 Maya Day (Mexicolore) letter

Dates for your Diary

November

Friday	23 rd	Year 1 Witch & Wizard Day
Tuesday	27 th	Year 1 Bedtime Story Event – 4.30 p.m. – 5.30 p.m. - Year 1 Classrooms
Thursday	29 th	Year 5 Fair Trade Coffee Morning – 9.30 a.m. – 10.30 a.m. Main Hall
Friday	30 th	Last swimming session for Year 3
Friday	30 th	Non-Uniform – please make a donation for the 'Secret shopper' Room/bottle tombola
Friday	30 th	FoWCS Christmas Fair – 5.30 p.m. – 8.00 p.m.

December

Tuesday	4 th	Nursery Class Nativity – 10.30 a.m. Main Hall
Wednesday	5 th	Nursery Class Nativity – 2.15 p.m. Main Hall
Thursday	6 th	Foundation Stage Nativity for Grandparents – 9.30 a.m.
Friday	7 th	FoWCS Children's Christmas Party/Disco/Bedtime Stories
Monday	10 th	Year 2 Nativity Dress Rehearsal – 9.30 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.
Monday	10 th	Foundation Stage Nativity – 2.00 p.m.
Tuesday	11 th	Year 2 Nativity – 9.30 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.
Tuesday	11 th	Year 2 Nativity – 1.45 p.m. – 2.45 p.m.
Wednesday	12 th	Flu Immunisation Day – Please ensure forms are returned to school
Thursday	13 th	Foundation Stage Nativity – 9.30 a.m.
Friday	14 th	Year 1 Christmas Performance – 2.30 p.m. – Main Hall
Monday	17 th	KS2 Carols Round the Tree – 2.30 p.m. start on the Playground
Tuesday	18 th	Non-Uniform – Party Day – further information to follow
Tuesday	18 th	Foundation Stage Craft Event – 2.15 p.m. Main Hall
Wednesday	19 th	School closes at 2.00 p.m. for children

January 2019

Thursday	3 rd	Inservice Day – school closed for children
Friday	4 th	Inservice Day – school closed for children
Tuesday	15 th	Year 5 Maya Day (Mexicolore)

Communicate with us by e-mail on:

- admin@whitecourt.essex.sch.uk for the main school.
- EYadmin@whitecourt.essex.sch.uk for our Early Years Nursery