Principal: Mr S Robson.
Augusta Close, Darlington, DL1 3HT, Telephone: 01325 240499, Email: admin@whinfield.net

Newsletter
Friday 24th October

School closes today for October half term and will reopen to pupils on Monday 3rd November.

GEMS Assembly:
The winning team for the weekly GEM Trophy was Diamond! Well done to everyone in Team Diamond! Find out about our GEM procedures here: https://whinfield.net/parents/gems/ .

Messages from Mr Robson:

HARVEST CELEBRATIONS
Our Harvest celebrations were a huge success! The singing and readings by our Year 3/4 pupils were truly excellent, and Reception's "Soup, Story and Songs" event was a joyful highlight.
The children and I had great fun singing together with the guitar, creating a warm and memorable atmosphere. We are incredibly grateful for your generous Harvest donations, which will be going to St Andrew's Church to support those in need. A big thank you to all staff for their hard work and organisation around these events, and thank you to families for your kind feedback — it's been wonderful to hear how much you enjoyed it.
We're already looking forward to hosting more events like this in the future!

A PERSONAL THANK YOU
Today marks eight weeks since I joined the school as Principal, and I want to thank you all for your support and for making me feel so welcome.
As we move into the next term and begin preparations for Christmas, we'll be holding parent and carer consultations. If you haven't yet shared your views via the school survey sent out earlier this half term, there will be another opportunity at the school on consultation evenings. Appointment booking details will be shared on **Monday 3rd November**. We're also planning a "Stay and Play / Learn" event soon — keep an eye out for more information!

HALF-TERM SAFETY REMINDERS
As we head into the half-term break, please stay safe and take extra care during this time of year. With fireworks season upon us, we encourage families to talk to children about firework safety, stranger awareness, and staying safe during the darker evenings.
We hope you all have a restful and enjoyable break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back soon.

Have a brilliant half term break everybody!
Mr Robson

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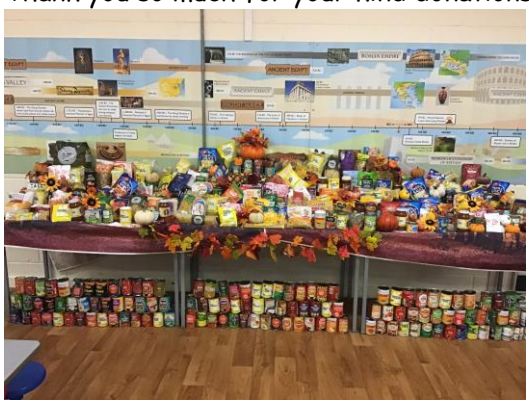
Harvest:

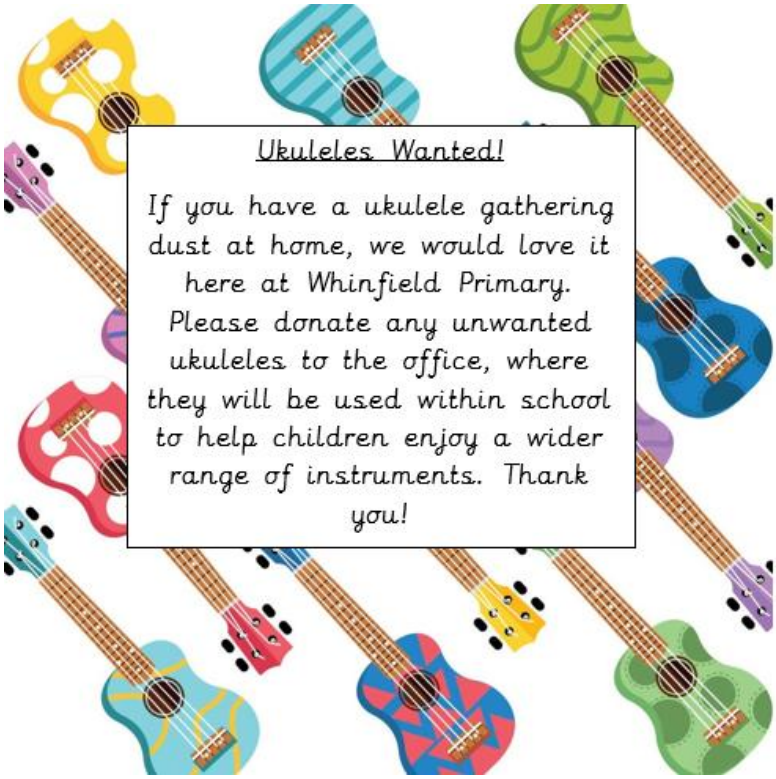
Thank you so much for your kind donations. They will be sent to St Andrews Church food bank.



Author visit:

On Friday 21st November, Author James Harris will be coming to school do an assembly with the children. James is local to Middlesbrough and has written a number of children's books, from picture books for young children to award winning titles such as "The Unbelievable Biscuit Factory"

Children can buy his books using the following link.
https://uk.bookshop.org/shop/theunbelievablejamesharris



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Afterschool Activities:

Day	Club	Year group	Time	How to book
Tuesday	Girls football training	Year 5 and 6	3:15pm – 4:30pm	Trials to be held in school. Parents of children selected will be notified.
Tuesday	Choir	Years 4, 5 and 6	3:15pm – 4:15pm	Book through School gateway. Booking will be live on Tuesday 4th November 12:30pm
Wednesday	Dodgeball club	Year 2, 3 and 4	3:15pm – 4:15pm	Book through School gateway. Booking will be live on Tuesday 4th November 12:30pm
Thursday	Football Club	Reception and Year 1	3:15pm – 4:15pm	Book through School gateway. Booking will be live on Tuesday 4th November 12:30pm
Thursday	Art club	Year ,3, 4,5 and 6	3:15pm – 4:15pm	Book through School gateway. Booking will be live on Tuesday 4th November 12:30pm
Thursday	Arts and crafts	Reception, year 1 and 2	3:15pm – 4:15pm	Book through School gateway. Booking will be live on Tuesday 4th November 12:30pm

Activities will start week commencing 10th November 2025 and finish week commencing 8th December 2025. Children need to be collected after the club by an adult from the Asda entrance. If your child is attending a sporting activity, please send them to school in their school PE kit (no football strips).

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Poppies

Poppies and poppy merchandise (wrist bands and reflectors etc) will be available to purchase in school from Monday 3rd November, for a donation. Thank you.

Important Dates for Autumn term:

Date	Event
Friday 24th October	School closes for half term
Monday 3rd November	School reopens for pupils
Tuesday 11th November	Parents evening (more information to follow)
Thursday 13th November	Parents evening (more information to follow)
Friday 14th November	Children in need (more information o follow)
Wednesday 26th November	Reception and year 6 heights and weights
Monday 8th December	Reception nativity 2pm (more informaton to follow)
Tuesday 9th December	Year 4 Christmas performance – 10am (more information to follow)
Tuesday 9th December	Year 3 Christmas performance – 2pm (more information to follow)
Wednesday 10th December	Year 1 and 2 performamces 2pm (more information to follow)
Thursday 11th December	Year 1 and 2 performamces 10am and 2pm (more information to follow)
Friday 12th December	Year 2 and 3 Christmas Party – PM (more information to follow)
Monday 15th December	Year 1 and 5 Christmas Party – PM (more information to follow)

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Tuesday 16th December	Reception and Year 4 Christmas Party – PM (more information to follow)
Thursday 18th December	Year 6 Christmas Party – PM (more information to follow)
Thursday 18th December	Christmas dinner day (more information to follow)
Friday 19th December	Christmas jumper day
Frday 19th December	School closes for Christmas holidays