



Head Teacher: Mrs SA Welsh
 Augusta Close, Darlington, DL1 3HT, Telephone: 01325 240499, Email: admin@whinfield.net

Newsletter - Friday 4th December 2020

Whinfield's Right of the Week is: Article 23 - Children with disabilities

Important COVID information:

We would like to thank you for all of your support during this time and for keeping us updated with information regarding absences. Please continue to report any absences to the school office either by leaving a voicemail or sending a message via school gateway. Please include in the message what your child's illness / symptoms are. As Christmas approaches, we ask that if your child is unwell you keep them at home. **IMPORTANT: if your child or anyone in your household has any symptoms of coronavirus you need to book a test for that person and ALL household members must isolate until results are received - please do not send your child to school while you are waiting for the results. If your child has been in contact with anyone (outside of the household) with symptoms and you are aware that they are having a test, please keep your child home to isolate until their results come back.**

Childcare from 1st January 2021:

As you are aware school operates our childcare on a 'Not for Profit' basis meaning the fees charged simply cover the costs of staff, food and resources for use in the childcare provision. The charges to parents/carers have remained static since childcare was established a number of years ago. Last year we trialled extending the opening hours without increasing the cost to parents and whilst this 7.30am start was popular with parents/carers it is simply financially unsustainable with the restrictions COVID has placed upon us. This has meant that we have had to revert to the 8am start. In order to operate in year group bubbles, we have had to increase the staff hours which has, in turn, increased the cost to school meaning that the childcare provision is now making a significant loss. Therefore, reluctantly, Governors have agreed a small price increase from 1st January 2021.

You are still able to book all your sessions for the Autumn term at the current price as normal 7 days ahead on the School Gateway. Bookings for Spring term have been closed on the School Gateway to allow us to change the price. The booking system will reopen for January onward sessions from Saturday 19th December 2020 and all sessions must be booked 7 days in advance.

New charges:

- **Breakfast** will operate 8.am to start of school and will cost £2.50 per session. (whilst we receive the Greggs grant this will reduce to £2.30 per session).
- **After school** will operate end of school to 5.30pm and will cost £10.00 per session.

Christmas

Christmas gifts:

Our staff are very appreciative of the gift's children bring them, particularly at Christmas. However, this year we are supporting "Feeding Families" and ask that instead of purchasing a gift for your child's teacher you make a donation to our "Feeding Families" boxes which will be distributed by "Feeding Families" to families in need this Christmas.

Examples of donations:

Sponge or Christmas pudding	Gravy granules	Savoury snacks (crisps, nuts etc
Custard or white sauce	Coffee / Tea	Cranberry or Apple sauce





Head Teacher: Mrs SA Welsh
 Augusta Close, Darlington, DL1 3HT, Telephone: 01325 240499, Email: admin@whinfield.net

Cake - Christmas, chocolate, chocolate rolls etc.	Jam, marmalade, chocolate spread	Squash, juice
Chocolates or sweets	Tinned meat	Hand wash
Mince pies	Stuffing	Shampoo
Chocolate biscuits	Part baked bread	Shower gel

"Feeding Families" are a national charity who work locally. Full information about donating to or requesting support from them can be found on their website. <https://feedingfamilies.org.uk/>

Christmas parties:

As we are limited by the current restrictions, instead of the usual party we have replaced it with a Pantomime. All classes will watch 'Sleeping Beauty' on the Smartboard in their classrooms on Wednesday 16th December 2020. Pupils can wear their own clothes all day on Wednesday 16th December. If your child has PE this day, please ensure own clothes are suitable for PE e.g. leggings and T shirt.

Christmas Jumper Day:

Christmas jumpers can be worn on Friday 11th December to support the "Save The Children" Charity <https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/christmas-jumper-day/get-involved> OR if you prefer to donate local "GREGGS" "To get involved just text JUMPER to 70470 and donate £2. • Texts cost £2 plus one standard rate message and you'll be opting in to hear more about our work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. • If you'd like to give £2 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text JUMPERNOINFO to 70470" Please do not send donations into school.

Please do not go out to buy a Christmas Jumper especially for the day as they can be expensive. If your child does not have a Christmas jumper, they may wear an ordinary jumper instead of their school sweatshirt. Christmas Jumpers can also be worn on Friday 18th November 2020 to Celebrate Christmas.

Parent Governor vacancies:

A reminder that we have a vacancy for two Parent Governors to join the Governing Board of Whinfield Primary School. We are therefore requesting nominations from parents/carers who are interested in serving on the Governing Body. A Parent Governor must be a parent/carer of a pupil at the school at the time they are elected. If you are interested in submitting a nomination, please read the 'Nomination of a Parent Governor' letter and complete the electronic application form that has been emailed to all parents/carers on Monday this week. Many thanks.

Fundraising fun:

Friends of Whinfield are registered with Easy fundraising. Easy Fundraising have created a FREE advent calendar with the support of their resellers. Log on and open the window each day to enter school into the draw to win a donation. no spending is required this is completely free.

EASYFUNDRAISING Advent Calendar: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/advent-calendar/?utm_source=adobecampaign&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=adventcalendar-2020&utm_content=NotWonDay3&origin=ACN03

Christmas holidays:

School closes on Friday 18th. December and re-opens on **Tuesday 5th**. January.

