



Head Teacher: Mrs SA Welsh

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## Newsletter - Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2021

### Reminder:

**School is closed on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December.** This is the additional days holiday we can take this academic year for Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee in 2022.

### GEMS Assembly:

The winning team for the weekly GEM Trophy was Diamond. Well done to everyone in Team Diamond!

### Parent Governor:

As you are aware, we have a vacancy for a Parent Governor to join the Governing Board of Whinfield Primary School. We have extended nominations from parents/carers who are interested in serving on the Governing Body. The closing date for nominations is now **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December**.

[Please click here to view the Governing Body - Nomination of a Parent Governor letter.](#)

[Please click here to complete the electronic nomination form.](#)

### Afterschool Activities:

If you have booked an afterschool activity on the School Gateway, please note that all activities start next week (week commencing 8.11.2021). Your child **must** be collected by an adult at 4:30pm. Thank you.

Year 5 - Monday Boys and Girls Football - 3:10pm - 4:30pm

Year 4 - Wednesday Boys and Girls Football - 3:00pm - 4:30pm

Year 6 - Thursday Boys and Girls Football - 3:00pm - 4:30pm

### Parents/Carers Meetings:

You should have now received an email with instructions on how to book your parents/carers meeting. If you have not yet booked an appointment and would like to do so, please visit <https://whinfield.schoolcloud.co.uk>

Parents/carers who choose the face-to-face option must follow the guidance to keep both them and the staff safe.

- please conduct a lateral flow test prior to the appointment
- please wear a face covering at all times
- all staff will wear a face covering
- you will be invited into the classroom by the member of staff using the outside classroom doors - please do not come to the main entrance, go to your child's classroom. Parents/carers of children in Years 4 and 6 will be told the specific room to use.
- sanitise hands on entry
- maximum of 2 adults per appointment and no children to attend
- sit on the chairs provided
- the room will be set up so that the teacher is more than the recommended 2m away
- doors will be left open to ensure that the ventilation is good
- there will not be any books to look at during the appointment
- if there is a positive case in your household book a virtual meeting
- if there is an outbreak in that class then all appointments will be conducted virtually
- appointments will be 10 minutes long and staff will stick to these timings to ensure the evening runs smoothly

We thank you for your support. As you will appreciate, we want everyone to stay well.

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### Showbie:

Reminder that work on Showbie is for children who are isolating due to COVID. Please complete the work only if your child is well.

Year groups have included a reading folder on Showbie to encourage children to read more. This is in addition to their reading book. This is accessible to all pupils.

Staff are also beginning to put homework on Showbie. This will be in a folder that says 'homework.' Children may need to learn spellings, do some maths etc. Paper copies of homework are also available if you would prefer.

### Gems:

The children have been working really hard to achieve their Gems. There will be an end of term treat for the overall winning team. Please speak to your child about the Gems they have received across the week. We are currently holding weekly Gem assemblies. Weekly certificates are given out to the children. This is a very exciting event! We have also elected our Year 6 Gem captains and they will be working with Mrs O'Callaghan. One of their responsibilities will be to unite teams and organise the end of term treats.

Dr Tom has finished working with the children and staff for this term, however, the good news is that he will be back in the Spring term! And yes, he will be bringing in Jed and Archie who all the children and staff love!



### Year 6 Inclusion Festival:

Well done to the Year 6 children who represented Whinfield at the Darlington Inclusion Festival on Wednesday. Your behaviour and attitudes were exemplary, and you all showed 'Emerald' power through your resilience when taking part in a variety of sporting activities. We are extremely proud of you!

### Times Tables Rockstars England Rocks!

Next week we will be taking part in Times Tables Rockstars England Rocks! It is a competition involving schools in England with prizes to be won. It takes place from Monday 8th November to Thursday 11th November. For every correct answer to a multiplication or division question, your child will earn their class a point. All game modes will count but only from games played between 7:30am and 7:30pm. To support player wellbeing, there is a daily time limit of 60 minutes per player. In other words, each player can earn competition points for up to 60 minutes between 7.30am and 7.30pm. Once the player goes beyond 60 minutes of play on a given day, they will still earn coins but will no longer earn points towards the competition. The children really enjoy getting involved, it really helps them with their times tables recall and there is always some friendly rivalry between classes! Let's get rockin'!

### The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal:

Poppies, snap bands, reflectors, zip pulls and wristbands are now available to buy from school. All items are 50p. Thank you.

### Continuing COVID Safety:

Please can parents/carers wear a face covering when they come into the school office. If you wish to speak to a member of staff, please stay outside the green fence and wear a face covering.