



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

## Newsletter

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2023

### 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/>

### Strike action Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February:

A reminder that school will be closed to the following classes on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February:

Year	Class	Closed
Reception	RL - Miss Lindsay	Closed
Year 1	1D - Miss Dunn	Closed
	1HR - Mrs Hall/Mrs Rowney	Closed
Year 2	2A - Mrs Airey	Closed
	2G - Miss Graham	Closed
Year 3	3B - Ms Bennett	Closed
Year 4	4L - Mr Legg	Closed
Year 5	5B - Mrs Bowe/Mrs Barker Jones	Closed PM
	5L - Mr Lines	Closed PM
	5H - Miss Holden	Closed PM
Year 6	6W - Miss Watkins	Closed

All Year 5 classes are open morning only -children to be collected at 12.15 pm after their lunch, from their usual pick-up point.

All other classes are open as normal. If your child's class is closed and they attend breakfast or afterschool childcare on these days the sessions will be cancelled and a credit will be added to your account. Afterschool childcare ONLY will be cancelled for Year 5.

If your child's class is open, attendance is statutory therefore any absence without a reported, valid reason will be recorded as unauthorised. If your child's class is closed their attendance will not be impacted.

### Childcare:

If your child attends breakfast or Afterschool childcare you may be eligible to pay using tax free childcare. Please see attached link for further information. <https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>



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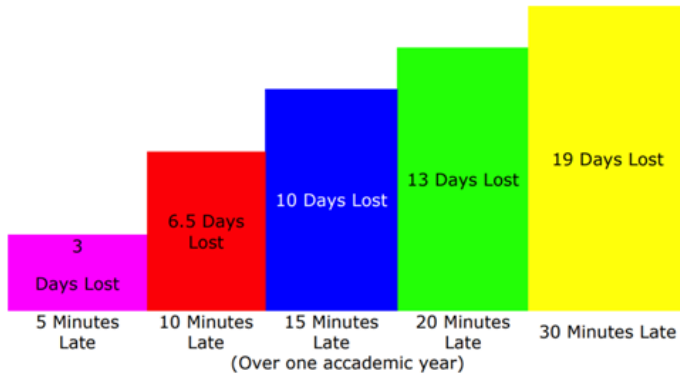
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### Late children:

Last week we had 54 children sign in late through the school office. This has improved from the previous week.

### Every Minute Counts

If you arrive late to school everyday your learning begins to suffer. Below is a graph showing how being late to school everyday over a school year adds up to lost learning time.



When pupils arrive late, they miss out on essential instructions given at the beginning of the lesson. This can significantly reduce achievement, regardless of academic ability. Your child may also feel awkward arriving to the classroom when everyone else is settled. Furthermore, when one pupil arrives late, it disrupts the entire class and the teacher - everyone's education is compromised.

### Packed lunches:

A reminder that we are a nut free school please do not send nuts of any kind in your child's packed lunch. We also ask that children do not bring egg to school in their packed lunches as we have children in school with severe egg allergies. We don't allow hot food in packed lunches due to health and safety as we have no control over the temperature - please do not send hot food in flasks. Thank you

### World Book Day:

World book day is Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Children will be taking part in exciting activities throughout the day in school. They can come to school dressed in their Gem teams' colour (Emerald - green, Sapphire - blue, Diamond- yellow, Ruby - red). This can be a dress, a t-shirt or just a hat or hair accessory. Please don't go and buy anything new especially and please make sure it is sensible clothing and footwear and suitable for school.





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**Important Dates for the Spring term:**

Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> February	Year 6 SATS meeting for parents to attend
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February	School closes for February half term
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	School closed for pupils (PD day)
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	School reopens for pupils
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	World Book Day
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 1 Educational visit - Preston Park
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents Evening
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents Evening (excluding 6AB)
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	6AB Parents Evening
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Red Nose Day (more information to follow)
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	School closes for Easter holidays

