



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

Newsletter

Friday 17th February 2023

February Half Term holiday:

Please note the dates below as school closes today and does not re-open until **Tuesday 28th February**.

GEMS Assembly:

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

Find out about our GEM procedures here: <https://whinfield.net/parents/gems/>

World Book Day:

World Book Day is Thursday 2nd March. Children will be taking part in exciting activities throughout the day. 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 for the day, however, can we request that all clothing and footwear is sensible and suitable for school.

Your child has been given a book token in school today. Visit www.worldbookday.com/participating-retailers to see where you can swap your token.

Year 5 Aqua splash:

Well done to the children in 5B this week who attended an extra swimming session this week but with a difference; you took part in lots of team building games to build your water confidence and it was lovely to see you all have lots of fun in the water!

Football:

Well done to the children that took part in the Friendly match against Holy Family at Eastbourne sports complex on Monday. Whinfield won 1-0.

Football Tournament:

Well done to the children that played in the 5 aside football tournament on Thursday at the Dolphin centre. Whinfield came 2nd in the tournament.





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Mid-year reports:

Today all children will bring home their mid-year report. Parents evenings will take place after half term to enable you to discuss your child's report with the class teacher.

Parents evenings:

Parents evening is now available to book. Please visit <https://whinfield.schoolcloud.co.uk> to book your appointments.

International day of Mathematics:

We are celebrating International Day of Mathematics on Tuesday 14th March, the theme is 'Maths for Everyone'. The children will take part in fun maths activities and investigations throughout the day. To add to the maths theme, the children can come dressed as maths for the day. This could be very simple such as patterns, numbers, shapes, stripes, stars etc. on clothing they already have, or if they want to get creative over half term they could make something.

For some fun ideas, [click this link](#) but please don't feel any pressure to create anything extravagant!

Afterschool Activities:

Monday - Reception and year 1 - Numbots club - 3:15pm - 4:15pm

Monday - Year 2 - Dance - 3:15pm - 4:15pm (carried on from Spring term 1)

Monday - Year 3 and 4 - Gardening club - 3:15pm - 4:15pm

Monday - Year 5 and 6 Lego Club - 3:15pm - 4:15pm

Monday - Years 5 and 6 - Netball - 3:15pm - 4:30pm

Thursday - Years 5 and 6 boys' football - Children will be selected to attend this. Football trials will take place in school WC 27th February 2023.

Activities need to be booked through School Gateway. There are limited spaces available and are on a first come first served basis. **Activities will be available to book from 11:00am on Tuesday 28th February** via the school gateway. You must select all sessions to secure your place.

School Meal Price increase:

Our current catering supplier, Chartwell's have informed us that from Monday 27th February (following the half-term break) the cost of a school meal will increase to £2.41 per day/ £12.05 per week.

If your child is in Key Stage 1 (Reception to Year 2) then school meals will continue to be free under the Government Universal Infant Free School Meal Scheme.

Strike action Tuesday 28th February:

A reminder that school will be closed to the following classes on Tuesday 28th February:

Year	Class	Closed
Reception	RL - Miss Lindsay	Closed
Year 1	1D - Miss Dunn	Closed
Year 2	2M - Mrs Murphy	Closed PM
	2A - Mrs Airey	Closed
	2G - Miss Graham	Closed
Year 3	3B - Ms Bennett	Closed



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Year 4	4L - Mr Legg	Closed AM
	4S - Mrs Souter	Closed AM
	4G - Mrs Golightly	Closed AM
Year 6	6W - Miss Watkins	Closed

Parking Safety:

We cannot emphasise enough how important it is that cars park SAFELY. Please do not park across driveways or in bus lanes. You must ensure you drive at a sensible speed and be vigilant as you are driving and parking so that you are always watching where children are walking. The safety of our children is paramount.

School Council and JRSO's:

Our School Council and JRSO's have been looking at how to improve our road safety around school. We are working with our local council to raise awareness of parking and high speeds around our school. We have put up some posters that you may notice at the KS1 and KS2 entrances to help remind our community to drive responsibly around our area!



Vacancies:

We currently have vacancies for a Buildings Maintenance Supervisor and a cleaner. For more information and information on how to apply please visit our website. <https://whinfield.net/our-school/job-vacancies/>

Uniform:

School uniform should be worn in school by all children.

The school uniform is red, white and grey:

Winter:

- Red sweatshirt or cardigan with or without school logo (hoodies are for PE only)
- White shirt or white polo shirt with or without school logo
- Plain grey skirt (knee length) / pinafore or trousers
- Red Fleece can be worn in addition to sweatshirt Autumn / Winter 2022/23 (Covid guidance requires windows to be open to provide ventilation in classrooms)





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Summer:

- Red sweatshirt, cardigan or pullover with school logo (hoodies are for PE only)
- White shirt or white polo shirt with or without school logo
- Plain grey skirt (knee length) / pinafore or trousers / shorts
- Red and white checked dress

Footwear

- Plain tights / socks
- Sensible black shoes without heels - no training shoes or logos
- Summer - plain flat sandals with a back support may be worn - white, black or red
- Winter - Wellingtons or plain boots may be worn but should be changed to indoor shoes
- Children may bring trainers into school for the days they participate in the 'Active mile'

If it is your child's PE day children should come to school wearing the School PE kit:

- For indoor - Black shorts and red t-shirt (with or without school logo), plimsoles NOT trainers as they damage the hall floor.
- For outdoor - Plain Black jogging bottoms & red or black hoodie (with or without school logo) , trainers (or football boots for football)
- For Year 4 and top up Swimming - Towel, swimming costume and cap (if children have long hair), waterproof bag.

Important Dates for the Spring term:

Friday 17th February	School closes for February half term
Monday 27th February	School closed for pupils (PDday)
Tuesday 28 th February	School reopens for pupils
Thursday 2 nd March	World Book Day
Tuesday 7 th March	Year 1 Educational visit - Preston Park
Tuesday 7 th March	Parents Evening Please visit https://whinfield.schoolcloud.co.uk to book your appointments.
Thursday 9 th March	Parents Evening (excluding 6AB) Please visit https://whinfield.schoolcloud.co.uk to book your appointments.
Tuesday 14 th March	International Day of Maths (more information to follow)





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Thursday 16 th March	6AB Parents Evening Please visit https://whinfield.schoolcloud.co.uk to book your appointments.
Friday 17 th March	Red Nose Day (more information to follow)
Friday 31 st March	School closes for Easter holidays

