

The Whitleigh Weekly!



Despite the fact we have two more school days left of 2023, this will be the final newsletter. I wanted to thank all of the Whitleigh family who have welcomed me into the team and I reflect back on so many positives in my first term here. It has also given me some ideas in what we want to achieve moving forward so that as a school, we continue to grow and ensure all of the children here at Whitleigh thrive in an environment that is purposeful and safe. I want to wish you all a very Merry Christmas.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Mr Dyson

EYFS Nativity

I was 'wowed' on Wednesday watching our children in Foundation perform their Whoops-a-Daisy Angel production. The children spoke and sang brilliantly. To perform so confidently in front of a big audience made me incredibly proud. It was great to see both shows so well supported by parents. Thank you everyone.

Book Fair

Wow! We sold £337.67 worth of books at the Book Fair which resulted in £84.42 in rewards to spend in school. Thank you to Miss Elliott for organising this and to all of you for encouraging your children to purchase and engage in books.

Christmas Dinner

It was great to see the whole school gather on Wednesday for Christmas lunch. The music played and the children smiled. My thanks go to the catering team for such a great lunch and to our staff team who gave up their time at lunchtime to spend it with the children.

MUFTI Day

A message has gone out today to say that on our final day on Tuesday, children can come to school in their own clothes. Each year group is doing something fun and this will have been communicated to you by teachers.

Carol Singing

On Monday, I joined Ms Byng, Miss Russell and our choir at Home Park for the Carol Service which was excellent. Our children joined children from other schools within the city and sang a range of songs which got people into the festive spirit. Yesterday

afternoon, our choir went to another carol service at St. Andrew’s church in town and although this one was a little more daunting, our children did a great job.

Attendance Focus

Examples of authorised and unauthorised absences from school:

Authorised	Unauthorised
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Illness• Medical appointments (routine medical/dental check-ups should be made out of school hours whenever possible)• Transport that wasn't provided by us when it should have been• Unavoidable cause (this means an unusual/extraordinary event that couldn't be avoided)• A specified, limited period for an immediate family member's bereavement, crisis or serious illness• A funeral of an immediate family member	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Caring for other family members• Birthdays• To interpret for family members• Having no school uniform/shoes• Bullying• Friendship problems• Head lice• Learning difficulties• Family holiday• Weddings abroad (even if it's immediate family)• Family anniversaries• Death of a pet• Travel problems• Attending immigration interviews with parents or guardian• Moving house• School refusal• Lateness after the school's registration period• This list provides examples and isn't exhaustive.
Authorised but requires an absence form to be filled out	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Religious observance• A specified, limited period for children of service personnel about to go on deployment (evidence required)• One day for a wedding of an immediate family member (evidence required)• One day for an immediate family members graduation ceremony/passing out parade (evidence required)• A one off sporting events/performing arts competitions if your child is participating and is at county standard or above (evidence required)	



It is great to see children working incredibly hard in school, upholding our values and following our school rules. These children have been spotted this week for special recognition and are our **stars of the week!** Well done to...

1/2EC - Maddie 1/2WH - Macey-May 1/2KE - Ebonie

3RH - Ruby P 3NB - Alex 4JR - Molly

5OB - Ava 5BR - Lacey 6ST - Beyza 6MP - Sadie



Date	Event
Tuesday 19th December	LAST DAY - MUFTI
Thursday 4th January	Children back to school
Tuesday 9th January	Y5/6 Indoor Rowing
Friday 9th February	Last Day of Spring Term I

HIGH-FLYING BASKETBALL ACTION
LIVE FROM THE PLYMOUTH PAVILIONS

