



# WHITLEIGH PRIMARY NEWS

*'Children at the heart of the school  
School at the heart of the community.'*

**Spring Term  
2021  
Issue 7**

**12<sup>th</sup> February  
2021**

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## *Letter from the Chair of Governors, John Bale*

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Dear Parent/Carer,

May I firstly take this opportunity to thank you for the immense efforts to maintain the high standards of home learning and supporting your children to engage.

Governors have been exploring the benefits and opportunities of working within the structure of a multi academy trust (MAT). I am now writing to give you an update on our findings following extensive research.

The working group conclusion and feedback to the governing body recommended that:

- SJH would benefit greatly from joining a MAT where sharing school improvement practices will accelerate improvements in standards of teaching, learning and student outcomes.
- WCPS is best placed remaining as a Local Authority maintained school and develop networking both across the local group of maintained primary schools and beyond to build on the external links developed by the Head Teacher.

The recommendation has been endorsed by the governing body; this decision means there will be a need for our schools to de-federate and operate separately in the future. Please be assured the schools will continue to work closely together on joint strategies and shared facilities, although it will be outside of the formal federated arrangement currently in place.

The outcome of our discussions has been shared with the Local Authority and the Regional Schools Commissioner, who both support the recommendation. We are now preparing the plan for consulting on the proposal. Please be assured that we will keep you fully informed of these plans and the impact they may have on you, your children and the wider community.

I will write to you again, after the half term break, with further developments.

Yours sincerely,

**John Bale**

**Chair of Governors**

Sir John Hunt Community College and Whitleigh Community Primary School

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## *Message from Mr Summerfield*

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**Dear Parents and Carers,**

We would like to thank all families for the support that you have given to the school. Thank you. We are aware of the enormous pressure that this lockdown has brought to many of our families. No one should underestimate the effects of juggling work demands, home schooling and all the further complications of living in a pandemic.

We would like to thank parents and carers for the fantastic job that you are doing in supporting and teaching your children.

### **Half term Track and Trace**

To support Track and Trace at the start of the half term holiday, please could parents let the school know if their child has attended school and has since tested positive. This is in order to help trace contacts within school.

If your child tests positive for Covid-19 during the half term please contact the school via the following email:

[office@whitleighprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@whitleighprimary.co.uk) or by calling 07547 330558

The children across the school and at home took part in Safer Internet Day on 9th February. The children look at various aspects of online safety and we will be sending out information for parents on how to keep your children safe when they are on devices and accessing things online

### **Lateral Flow Testing**

As you are aware, all staff are taking twice weekly lateral flow tests. I am delighted to inform you that all tests taken to date have returned a negative result.

### **DfE Top Tips for Mental Health – Dr. Alex George**

<https://cutt.ly/PkKOjzh>

Youth Mental Health Ambassador, Dr Alex George has shared his 'top five tips' for young people's good mental health and wellbeing. This is live on the Department for Education's [YouTube channel](#). Ahead of the February half-term and as national restrictions remain in place, he has given advice to young people on how to improve their mood and look after themselves by eating well, getting plenty of sleep and natural light during the daytime.

### **Get Help with Technology**

To date, we have loaned several laptops, data SIM cards to families that require additional support with technology. **If you need additional support please contact the school so that we can help your child access online learning.**

Remote learning and critical worker/vulnerable pupil school will resume on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021. Thank you for your continued support. Have a lovely half term and stay safe.

**Mr G Summerfield**

**Head Teacher**



# Whitleigh word of the week

Each week in school we focus on one word to enrich the children's vocabulary. We encourage the children to use this word in their writing and when working across other subjects in class.

This week's  
idion  
was:

'Down to the  
wire.'

Next  
week's word is:

## Fit as a fiddle

This phrase originates from the fiddle, which is a musical instrument like a violin. It can be dated back to around the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

All musical instruments need to be kept in good condition so that they are fit to play their very best – just like us!

A fiddle needs to be cleaned regularly and have its strings replaced if they break. This care helps to keep the fiddle 'fit'

Well done to **Charlie H** in Year 3 for becoming the 3<sup>rd</sup> pupil in the whole school to join the Times Tables Rockstars Millionaire Club!!

Charlie has achieved 1,000,399 coins so far!

**You Rock!!**



## Week 4 League Tables for Timestables Rockstars



### Coins earned in the last 7 days

#### Year 4,5 & 6

Name	Class	Coins
Taylor M	6PR	139,020
Max J	5SG	18,530
Daniel B	6PS	14,340
Lottie H	4PB	12,000
Miley W	5SG	10,500
Chloe R	6PS	9,846

#### Year 3

Name	Class	Coins
Charlie H	3RH	68,260
James P	3RH	6,347
Phoebe I	3BR	4,870
Lily G	3BR	4,850
Jake T	3BR	3,910

#### Year 2

Name	Class	Coins
Paris R	2KE	8,810
Kendra D	2KE	6,740
Sandra C	2KE	2,020
James C	2SW	1,730
Cohen M	2KE	1,540



### All Time Total Coins

#### Year 2

Name	Class	Coins
Paris R	2KE	232,552
Kendra D	2KE	135,098
Ellie Mae P	2SW	46,400
James C	2SW	41,850
Callum SR	2KE	30,198

#### Year 3

Name	Class	Coins
Charlie H	3RH	1,000,399
Layla S	3RH	367,004
Charlotte B	3RH	219,362
Jack R	3BR	130,246
Archie B	3BR	125,466

#### Year 4

Name	Class	Coins
Blake G	4PB	395,335
Lottie H	4PB	353,322
Emmie T	4PB	235,248
Honey M	4PB	181,267
Savannah KS	4PB	164,039

#### Year 5 and 6

Name	Class	Coins
Pauline I	5RT	1,273,476
Aoife M	6PS	1,108,536
Conner B	6PR	647,278
Peter I	5SG	552,304
Elijah B	6PS	534,280

## Times Tables Rock Stars School League Tables

Rank	Name	Mean Studio Speed (seconds / question)
1	Thornbury Primary School, Plymouth	3.02
2	Woodfield Primary School, Whitleigh	3.63
3	Pennycross Primary School	3.63
4	Mary Deans Primary School	4.02
5	High View School, Plymouth	4.29
6	Lipson Co-operative Academy	4.46
7	Drake Primary School	4.66
8	Widewell Primary School	4.70
9	Marine Academy Primary	4.82
10	Whitleigh Community Primary School, Plymouth	4.85

### Renaissance Reading Results

Week ending: **Friday 12th February**

Whole School Figures	
Word count for the whole school	Total quizzes passed this week
<b>363,892</b>	<b>73/78</b>

Class Success		
Top class Quizzers of the week	Top class word count of the week KS1	Top class word count of the week KS2
<b>1<sup>st</sup> 5DT 14/16</b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> 2SW 15/15</b> <b>3<sup>rd</sup> 5SG 11/12</b>	<b>2SW</b> <b>20,969</b>	<b>5DT</b> <b>143,463</b>
Individual Success		
Top pupil for word count lower years	Top pupil for word count middle years	Top pupil for quizzes passed
<b>James C</b> <b>20,969</b>	<b>Pauline I</b> <b>69,557</b>	<b>Abbie J and Pauline I</b> <b>5/5</b>

STAR LEARNERS Week 6

Class	Child	
FM	Mason S	For being an absolute home learning superstar! Mason you have put a huge smile on my face every single day with your dedication to your home learning. You have not only excelled in your Literacy and Phonics sessions where you have been reading tricky red words and sounding out and writing simple words independently you have also been a marvellous mathematician. I could not ask for anymore from you Mason, keep being amazing, you should be so proud of yourself and all that you have achieved this week! 😊
FK	Edith B	You have been working really hard this week with your writing. You are such a persevering parrot! We think you are ace! Well done
1YH	Archie P	Archie your perseverance in reading has amazed me! I know you haven't always found reading an easy task, but you have not let this stop you. You ask to read to me every day and wow what a difference. You are now reading your books fluently and you answer every question with confidence. It is amazing to see this change in your Archie and I cannot wait to see how you tackle your next challenge.
1AD	Sophia	Sophia is my star of the week this week because she uses her learning powers every day to overcome challenges that she is faced with. Sophia has really taken well to online learning. She has accessed all Google Classroom work and it has been a pleasure to see her smiling face on zoom each day. Sophia is always polite, caring and respectful towards others and is a role model in Year 1. Sophia your efforts have been recognised daily. Keep up the great work! Well done 😊
2SW	Poppy L	Well done for being an absolute superstar. All week you have continued to go above and beyond in everything you do. You are a superstar!!
2KE	Rowan H	For being a superstar learner! Rowan, I have been really impressed with the way you have seamlessly adapted to online learning so quickly over the last couple of weeks. You have picked straight up from where we left off and continued to produce some fantastic learning from home. I have mostly been impressed with your English. Your poetry writing has been super, not to mention the pirate performance side of things! Your performances have been very engaging and entertaining to watch! Keep up your fantastic attitude towards learning Rowan, I am very proud of you! Well Done! 😊
3RH	Lacey B	Lacey has displayed incredible amounts of resilience over the last 5 weeks. She has shown a 'Never Give Up' attitude. This has allowed her to be successful in her learning, even when she has found things challenging at the first instance.
3BR	Sophie H	Well done for being so resilient this week – you have persevered with everything that you have done and you have thoroughly earned you star learner certificate! Great job!
4PB	Emmie T	You are my star learner because you have worked so very hard this term. You have attended every Zoom lesson and turned in every piece of work. When you have made mistakes you have looked at your learning again made the corrections and re submitted. This shows how keen you are to succeed. Well done Emmie. Time for a break – you've earned it!
4PC	Jessica V	you have been chosen for your enthusiasm for all of your learning whether you are at school or at home you complete every task to the very best of your ability. You are also helpful and supportive of others again whether that is online or in the classroom. Well done Jessica – enjoy a well earned



		break and rest. We look forward to seeing you next term both on the screen and in the classroom.
5SG	Bella U	For working extremely hard in school and showing perseverance when comparing and ordering fractions this week. She has also written fantastic paragraphs towards her non-chronological report. Well done Bella. Keep up the hard work.
5DT	Brooke-Leigh L	This award is for your excellent efforts with home learning. All work is turned in on time and lots of effort has been put in. This week's non-chronological report on Antarctica was not only well researched and full of great technical language but was also really well presented. Well done!
6PR	Sisanda Mabuza	Sisanda has been an absolute star through her engagement with home learning. This week she produced the most amazing presentation about the Amazon Rainforest and the amount of effort that she put into this was astounding! Not only this, she went above and beyond to produce a video of herself being interviewed about the Rainforest. We are so proud of all of your effort and your motivation to learn. We miss seeing this in school so much!
6PS	Harvey D	My star learner this week is Harvey. Harvey, you have continued to work you socks off this week. I am so impressed with your learning attitude and how you always complete everything to a high standard. This just demonstrates how focused and committed you are. Well done Harvey!

## INTRODUCING ARTICLE 31



Maia and Priya introduce Article 31



[Watch Maia and Priya on YouTube](#)



### Article 31 – Rest, Play, Culture, Arts

Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.

This applies to all children regardless of background or abilities.

