



Dates for the Diary

November

Mon 7	School resumes at the usual time
Wed 9	CASE – Miss Dunlop & Mrs Graham
Fri 11	Remembrance @ Cenotaph (Pupil Voice)
Wed 16	CASE – Mrs Murphy & Mrs Hill/Miss Bloomfield
Thurs 17	7.00pm PTA
Tues 29	Sleeping Beauty @ Courtyard Theatre – Y3 & Y6

December

Tues 6	CASE – Mr Baird
Wed 7	CASE – Mrs Knipe
Fri 9	Christmas Dinner Day – school will finish @ 1.00/1.05pm.
Tues 13	Nursery, Y1, Y2 & Y3 – Christmas Concert
Wed 14	Nursery, Y1, Y2 & Y3 – Christmas Concert
Thurs 15	7.00pm Board of Governors
Fri 16	PTA – 'Twas the Night Before Christmas'
Mon 19	Carol Service 7.00pm
Wed 21	School finishes @ 12.00 (Y1 – Y4) & 12.05 (Y5 – Y7)

Parent/Teacher Consultations

Parent/Teacher consultations will take place Monday 24 – Thursday 27 October. **In order, to facilitate the consultations school will finish each day at:**

1.45 – Y1 – Y4

1.50 – Y5 – Y7

Half Term Holiday

On **Friday 28 October** school will finish for the half term holiday at:

1.45 – Y1 – Y4

1.50 – Y5 – Y7

School will be closed from **Monday 31 October to Friday 4 November** and will reopen at the normal time on **Monday 7 November**

Healthy Happy Minds

DE have provided further funding in order, to maintain the counselling service in school until the end of December 2022. If you feel that your child would benefit from this service, please speak to your child's teacher at the Parent/Teacher Consultations and they will give you a referral form.

PTA Halloween Disco

On Friday 28 October all children should come to school in fancy dress (or just in non-uniform if dressing up 'isn't their thing'). I would really value your support for the PTA who organise events which the children really enjoy, while raising essential funds for WPSNU. **DON'T FORGET TO PAY £2 THROUGH SCHOOL MONEY!**



Tanzania Day

Tanzania Day is on Tuesday 25 October. The children will focus on Africa, Tanzania and the work of Kidz4School (who will take assembly). **If all children pay £2 on school money every class will be able to sponsor a child in Tanzania, ensuring that the children can go to school, have a school uniform and get a meal in the middle of the day!!** What a difference we could make, please support us as we endeavour to support 16 children through kidz4school.



Healthy Kidz

The final session of Block 1 will take place on Monday 7 November. Block 2 will last for 5 weeks, beginning on Monday 14 November, please see the leaflet below for booking information.



Friday 11 November

On Friday 11 November Mr Loughins, Mrs Murphy and the Pupil Voice will go the Cenotaph in Whitehead as part of the act of remembrance. As we prepare for this special day, poppies etc will be on sale in school (from Monday 24 October). In order, to support this very worthy cause please send some money into school with your child so that they can purchase a poppy.

Christmas Concert

I am absolutely delighted to inform you that our Christmas Concerts will take place on Tuesday 13 & Wednesday 14 December. The children will be practising hard when we return to school and will be very excited that you will be able to come along to watch them perform. You can come along on either day and the tickets will be £2 each. More details will follow, after half term. So that you can begin to make plans the timings of the performances will be as follows:

9.30 - Y1

10.00 - Nursery

10.30 - Y2

11.00 - Y3



Christmas Dinner Day

If your child would like a Christmas Dinner on Friday 9 December please book through school money. Booking will be available from **Monday 7 – Friday 18 November.**

Attendance & Punctuality

Regular attendance is very important so that your child reaches their full potential and a 'wee' day here and there can make a big difference. 90% attendance sounds good but in actual fact, it means that **your child has missed:**

- **A half day of lessons every week**
- **Four whole weeks in a single year**
- **Half a school year (one and a half terms) over 5 years**

Based on DE policy:

- Regular attendance is deemed to be > 95% (which means that a child is missing 1 day per month)
- At risk attendance is deemed to be 90.1% - 95% (which means that a child is missing 1-2 days per month)
- Chronic attendance is deemed to be 80.1% - 90% (which means that a child is missing 2-3 days per month)
- Severe chronic attendance is deemed to be < 80% (which means that a child is missing 4+ days per month)

In line with DE policy, I am required to monitor attendance throughout the school year and as I do so:

- Your child's teacher will update you regarding your child's attendance during Parent/Teacher Consultations (October & February) and attendance will be recorded on your child's annual report.
- I will forward you a letter should your child's attendance dip to 90% or lower
- I will forward you a second letter should your child's attendance dip to 85% or lower. At this point I will consider making a referral to the Education Welfare Officer (EWO)
- Should your child's attendance dip to 80% or lower I will be in contact with you to discuss your child's attendance and complete the referral to the EWO

Punctuality is also very important and is closely monitored. It is very interesting to note that if your child is late for 5 minutes each day, they will have missed 15 hours of school, equating to 2.5 days.

Adverse Weather

As we get closer to winter, I will always endeavour to keep school open, however if school is required to close due to very inclement weather we will inform you through Seesaw, Facebook, the school website and by text message.

Dogs

Can I remind everyone that no dogs (even if they are on a lead or are being carried) are allowed in the school grounds.



WHITEHEAD PS

*£17 FOR 5 WEEKS COMMENCING
14TH NOVEMBER 2022*

Monday

(1 session owed from Block 1 happening on 7th
November)

P1-P2 Sports Club 1:50PM - 2:50PM

P3-P7 Sports Club 2:50PM - 3:50PM

Book via www.healthy-kidz.com/afterschools

Booking closes 13th November @ 6pm