



www.whgs-academy.org

Coming up...

January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Happy New Year!

Welcome back! I hope you all enjoyed a relaxing break with loved ones. It's fantastic to see the children return full of energy and ready to learn—what a brilliant start to the new term! A big thank you to everyone for supporting our uniform policy. Just a quick reminder: black trainers are now allowed, but they must be completely black. Reflecting on last term, our School Fair on 10 December was a wonderful community event and raised an amazing £2,120! Thank you to all who contributed by donating items and buying tickets. Your support makes such a difference. Special thanks go to our staff team for their dedication in organising everything.

With such a strong finish to the Autumn Term, we're excited for all the opportunities this new term will bring for our students and school community.

Miss L. Dalton

Attendance

Reception	91.2%
Year 1	93.8%
Year 2	92.3%
Year 3	94.2%
Year 4	95.0%
Year 5	94.8%
Year 6	95.8%

6th January	Term Starts
9th January	Careers Day
16th January	Y6 Museum Trip
22nd January	Y5 Willow Weaving
23rd January	Y4 Willow Weaving
26th January	Y2 Elizabeth Gaskell House Trip
4th February	1R Class Assembly
4 th February	Culture Day
6th February	Chinese Dragon Dance Workshop
10th February	Y4 Forest School
11 th February	1M Class Assembly
16th – 20th February	Half Term
23rd February	School Opens
24th February	Fun Science Day
27th February	Careers Day
5th March	World Book Day
11th March	2K Class Assembly
16th – 25 th March	Y6 Bikability
18th March	2YR Class Assembly 2K Forest School
19th March	Y1 Walk to Alexandra Park
20th March	School Closed
23rd & 25th March	Parents Evening
30th & 31st March	Book Fair
2nd April	School Finish at 2pm

Nursery

Welcome back. We hope you had a lovely break.

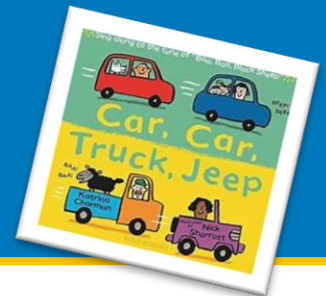
We are all looking forward to our busy term covering the theme, "On The Move". We will be looking at a variety of transport and reading a repetitive book called, "Car, Car, Truck, Jeep." We will also read the book, "The Naughty Bus," and we have planned a visit from a vintage bus. **(Please keep this a surprise for your child.)**

In Funky Fingers, we will continue to include name writing activities and we will also develop our drawing skills. We hope you can see the progress and are enjoying the pictures that they are bringing home with some name writing on them too. In maths, we will be exploring repeating patterns, 3D shapes counting to 5 and beyond and using the vocabulary related to weighing and comparing lengths. Books will continue to go out on a weekly basis. Please return them by the Tuesday so that they can be changed and re-sent out. We have enjoyed seeing how much the children love "Book in the Box". Don't forget to keep checking our Padlet to see what the children have been learning over the week and finding helpful hints on how you can support your children in their learning.

Mrs Fletcher will also be starting her Little Lions Parent's Club on a Friday. This is an opportunity to become more involved with your child's education and give you the opportunity for some uninterrupted quality time with your child. More information regarding invitations will be given soon.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Fletcher, Mrs Halsall and Mrs Williams



Reminders:

Reading Books

Please always return reading books and the 'Book in the Box' every Tuesday.

Uniform

Please put names on **all** clothes including any spare items.

Picking up

Remember to let us know if anyone different is picking up your child. Nursery children have to be picked up by someone 18 and above.

Padlet

Please check Padlet at least once a week, to find out how you can support your child in school. We will now update it on Tuesday

Early Years Fund

We would appreciate your contribution to our Early Year's. Please pay via Parent Pay on additional items. You can scan the QR code to access parent pay.

Upcoming Events:

- Learn with Me : 5th February
- Little Lions to start Friday 16th January

Home Learning

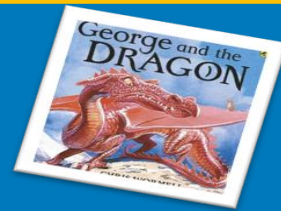
Please use the QR code to access the Primary Phase home learning section on our website.



Our Curriculum

Please use the QR code to access more information about the curriculum and what your child is learning in class.





Reception

We hope you had a wonderful break and are ready for an exciting new half term.

Our theme will be castles, knights, and dragons, and we have lots of engaging activities planned.

Literacy

Our Talk for Writing text will be *George and the Dragon*. Through this story, children will begin to describe dragons using simple captions and sentences. Daily phonics lessons will continue, focusing on building speed and confidence in word reading and writing using special friends.

Mathematics

We will deepen our understanding of number sense with numbers 6 to 8. Children will also explore mass and capacity through hands-on activities and experiments.

Understanding the World

As part of our castles theme, we will learn about royal families from around the world and famous figures from the past. We will also celebrate Chinese New Year, learning about traditions and customs. Children will have the exciting opportunity to meet visitors who will teach us how to perform a traditional Chinese Dragon Dance.

Physical Development (PE)

Our PE focus will be **dance**, helping children develop balance, strength, and coordination.

Our Rights Journey

We are beginning our journey to learn about our rights through the **Rights Respecting Schools Award**. We will start with **Article 3**, which means that adults should always do what is best for children. We will explore this idea through the story *Owl Babies*, thinking about how the owlets are cared for and what it means to feel safe and looked after.

Reminders:



Reading Folders

Return every **Wednesday**. Please share the book with your child, write a comment, and sign their diary.



Labelled Wellies

To enjoy our mud pit and outdoor play—especially on rainy days—please send in a pair of wellies clearly labelled with your child's name.



PE

PE takes place every Friday. Please ensure your child brings their PE kit, and that all items are clearly labelled with their name.



Padlet

Please check Padlet at least once a week, to find out how you can support your child in school.



Early Years Fund

We are so grateful for your support of our Early Years Fund, which helps us buy extra resources and exciting materials for the children.

- You can contribute via Parent Pay
- Or pop some coins into our collection jar.

Upcoming Events:

Learn with me meeting: 5th February

6th February -Chinese Dragon Dance workshop

Home Learning

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SCAN ME

Our Curriculum

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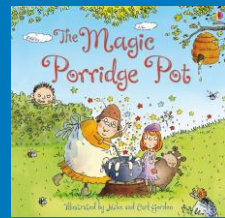


SCAN ME

Year 1

Welcome back, we hope you have had a lovely break. We cannot wait to see what the Spring term has in store for us!

Phonics will be a HUGE priority in the Spring term as Year 1 prepare for their phonics screening check at the beginning of June. Please continue to read daily at home and practise speed sounds with your child. In our writing lessons, Year 1 will be exploring Pie Corbett's 'The Magic Pot'. We will be writing a story about magic and disaster, and an explanation text on how to make a magic item!



In our maths lessons, we will be consolidating our understanding of numbers to 20. Please help support your child at home by touch counting items you have around your home. We are still learning to form all our numbers correctly so practice this at home! If you would like to challenge your child, please encourage them to write their number as a word. We will then move on to adding and subtracting numbers between 1-20.

In our science lessons, we will be exploring the four different seasons and how the weather changes across them. We are visiting Alexandra Park to explore wildlife changes over the season of Spring. This half term we will be studying geography. Our unit will be, 'Where we are.' In this unit, Year 1 will learn about their home, school and community on a local scale, and then how that fits into the UK on a national scale. We will be learning how the UK is made up of four countries and we will explore urban, rural and coastal areas.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us!

Miss Ridley and Miss Murdoch

Our learning this half term:

English	Magic Porridge Pot—Story writing and explanations.
Maths	Place value to 20 and Addition and subtraction.
Science	Seasonal Change
Geography	Where we are
RE	What makes some places sacred?
PE	Gymnastics Invasion games
Computing	Moving a robot
DT	Sliders and levers
Music	In the groove
PSHE	Families and friendships

Reminders:

PE—Timetable

Year 1 will now have PE every **Wednesday** and **Thursday**. It is vital all children have the correct PE kit for these days, and the children are independent when getting changed. Please practice this at home.

Coats

As the weather gets colder, please make sure your child comes to school with an appropriate waterproof coat.

Learn with me: 29th January

Home Learning

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SCAN ME

Our Curriculum

Please click on or scan the QR code to access more information about the curriculum and what your child is learning



SCAN ME

Year 2



Happy New Year! Welcome back to a new term at WHGS. We hope you had a lovely holiday and are raring to go for another busy term ahead. We were so proud of how your children performed in the Nativity at the end of last term, and we know that they will continue to impress us with their fantastic learning this half term.

Reading remains a huge priority for us in Year 2. We are working hard towards all children completing the Phonics programme and there will be a greater focus on reading comprehension skills. Please ensure your children are reading at home every day as this is a vital skill that only develops with regular practice.

In English, we will be writing a narrative based on the Magic Paintbrush and a letter based on The Day The Crayons Quit. Could you write a letter to someone you know to tell them what you have been doing at school? These lessons will be supplemented with lots of extra reading materials linked to the theme.

In Maths, we will be starting with multiplication and division so please continue practising counting in multiples of 2s, 5s and 10s.

In Science, we will be learning about the properties of everyday materials, which links to our work in D.T. where we will be creating a model fire engine. In R.E. the focus is on Judaism and children will be encouraged to make links and comparisons with other religion and worldviews. In Geography, we are going to be learning about hot and cold deserts and in computing we are going to be making pictograms online.

Miss Khan and Miss Yardley-Rees

Our learning this half term:

English	Narrative and letter writing
Maths	Multiplication and division
Science	Everyday materials
Geography	Hot and Cold Deserts
RE	Judaism
PE	Gymnastics and fundamental movement skills.
Computing	Pictograms
DT	Mechanisms: Wheels and Axles
Music	Exploring rhythm and raps.
PSHE	Families and Friendship

Reminders:

PE is every Tuesday and Wednesday. Please ensure that your child brings their P.E. kit into school on these days. If your child cannot yet get changed independently, please support us by practising this at home.

Upcoming events:

Learn with Me – 29th January
Trip to Elizabeth Gaskell House – Monday 26th January

Home Learning

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SCAN ME

Year 3

Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely break and that the children are ready for a new term of learning.

In English, children will be writing suspense stories and learning how to make the reader feel excited. Later in the term, they will be writing instructions. At home, you can help by talking about exciting stories or films, encouraging your child to tell you a story using words like *suddenly* or *carefully*, or helping them write instructions for something they do at home, such as making a sandwich, getting ready for school, playing a game, or creating something.

In maths, we will continue with multiplication and division before moving on to shape and measuring. Practising times tables on Times Table Rockstars, counting objects at home, and measuring items like books or tables will really support your child's learning.

We will continue with reading a range of stories in class, including visits to the library. We are also encouraging children to share their thoughts about books and recommend books to each other. Reading together at home, even for a short time, and talking about what happened in the story or what they liked will help build confidence and enjoyment.

Please see the table below for information about the other subjects we will be learning this term and please come and visit our classrooms for the learn with me session on Thursday 22nd January!

Miss Ashworth and Mr Cragg



Our learning this half term:

English	Warning Tale Instructions
Maths	Multiplication and Division
Science	Animals, including humans
Geography	Volcanoes
RE	What does it mean to be a Christian in Britain today?
PE	Gymnastics and Basketball
Computing	Sequencing sounds
DT	How we make things
Music	Recorders
PSHE	Relationships

Reminders:

PE days remain on Thursday and Friday. Please ensure children are wearing the correct PE kit on these days.

Home Reading Books are changed every Thursday. We ask that you continue to read these books at home with your child and fill out their Reading Record.

Learn with me: 22nd January

Home Learning

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Year 4

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you all enjoyed a wonderful break and are feeling refreshed and ready for an amazing year ahead! We are thrilled to welcome everyone back and can't wait to dive into all the exciting learning opportunities 2026 has in store.

This term, we'll begin with the inspiring story ***The Great Kapok Tree***, which will spark ideas for writing our own stories with a moral. Children will focus on key Year 4 writing skills, such as using inverted commas accurately for speech and adding detail with prepositional phrases. Why not try writing a short story with a moral at home? It's a great way to reinforce these skills! We'll also continue to develop handwriting and practise Year 3 and 4 spelling words.

In maths, our learning journey continues with multiplication and division, moving on to multiplying and dividing by two-digit and even three-digit numbers. A big focus this year is times tables mastery—by the end of Year 4, children should know all tables up to 12×12 . We'll practise weekly in school, and we encourage you to keep practising at home using Times Tables Rockstars or quick verbal recall. Your progress so far has been fantastic—keep it up!

Across the wider curriculum, we have some truly fascinating adventures ahead! In science, we'll become particle detectives as we explore the states of matter and discover how solids, liquids, and gases behave. In geography, we'll journey deep into the tropical rainforests, learning about their incredible biodiversity and why they are so vital to our planet. In DT, we'll put our creativity to the test by designing and building a video set, which we'll use to record an important message about protecting the Amazon rainforest. In PSHE, we'll focus on building strong, positive relationships and staying safe online—skills that are essential for life in our digital world. Throughout all these lessons, we'll be linking back to the **UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)**, helping every child understand their rights and responsibilities as global citizens.

You can bring this learning to life at home by encouraging your child to research amazing rainforest animals or create a mini poster about why rainforests matter. They might even enjoy making a short video or presentation to share their ideas with the class!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We're looking forward to an exciting and successful year together!

Miss Caldwell & Ms Rathore

Our learning this half term:

English	The Great Kapok Tree
Maths	Multiplication and Division
Science	States of Matter
Geography	Tropical rainforests
RE	Why Jesus is important
PE	Indoor cricket and netball
Computing	Repetition in shapes
DT	Pulleys, linkages and cam
Music	Ukelele
PSHE	Positive friendships including online

Reminders:

PE

P.E. is on **Thursday** and **Friday** each week.

Home Reading Books

Books are changed every Monday. Please continue to read at home with your child and fill out their Reading Record with a comment and signature.

Key Dates

Thursday 22nd January – Learn with me

Friday 23rd January – Willow Weaving (in school)

Tuesday 10th February - Trip to Delamere Forest

Home Learning

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SCAN ME

Our Curriculum

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SCAN ME

Year 5

We would like to welcome all of Year 5 back after an extremely successful Autumn term and a well-deserved break! In the first three weeks we will be swimming every day. Like us, I am sure you are very excited about this so please make sure you remember your swimming kits every day.

First in writing, we will be diving into the world of Japanese poems called Tankas. We are looking forward to seeing all your creativity shine during this unit. We will then write a spooky and gripping story based on Crater Lake. At home you could try writing your own spooky story. How will you create suspense and create a picture in the reader's mind?

In maths, we will be ensuring that children in Year 5 are able to use and evaluate different methods of multiplication and division. We will then build on our knowledge of fractions from last term to explore them in greater depth. As geographers, children in Year 5 will be investigating the water cycle and then conducting an in-depth study of the North American continent. In our weekly RE lessons, we will be considering the question: "If God is everywhere, why go to a place of worship?" We will be examining this thought-provoking question from a wide-range of different religious traditions including Christianity, Islam, Judaism and Hinduism. We will be learning about life-cycles in Science and comparing the similarities and differences between mammals, amphibians, reptiles, birds and fish.

Thank you for your continued support,
Mrs. Barnes and Mr Rabey



Our learning this half term:

English	Tankas, Spooky stories
Maths	Multiplication and Division, Fractions
Science	Biology – Life cycles
Geography	North America and Water
RE	Places of Worship
PE	Swimming and Football
Computing	Programming
DT	Interactive Displays
Music	Make You Feel My Love
PSHE	Relationships (family and friends)

Reminders:

- Check Teams each week for your fluent in Five questions. This will be a great head start to the Year Six SATs.
- Reading records and books should be brought back each Monday to be changed.
- Swimming kits are needed every day for the first three weeks.
- Learn with me: 15th January

Home Learning

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Our Curriculum

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Year 6

What a successful term we had last year! I am sure that you are just as proud of your children as we are - Year 6 have been working incredibly hard.

Based upon our Autumn term whole class read of Holes, Year 6 will be writing a complaint letter which incorporates not only their knowledge of the book but also their knowledge of the UNICEF Rights Charter.

In Maths, pupils will learn about decimal numbers before continuing onto understanding percentages. Using their knowledge of fractions, decimals and percentages they will make comparisons between all three.

During our weekly R.E. lessons, children will explore various world religions to answer our one big question: "What difference does it make to believe in Ahimsa (harmlessness), Grace (the generosity of God), and Ummah (community)?"

Year 6 will be geographers this half-term as they learn about migration around the world. We will be learning about the different types of migration and why it occurs across the world.

Over the next few weeks, Year 6 will be investigating Light during their Science learning. They will be delving into new knowledge on shadows, reflections and colour vision. This will be supported by a school trip to the Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester.

The whole Year 6 team appreciate your continued support.
Miss Fishwick and Mr Bagshaw

Our learning this half term:

English	Complaint letter & recount
Maths	Fractions, Decimals, Percentages
Science	Light
Geography	On the Move
RE	Ahimsa, Ullah and Grace
PE	Gymnastics
Computing	Variables in games
DT	Upcycled Products
Music	A New Years Carol
PSHE	Types of relationships (Family and Friends)

Reminders:

Learn with me: 15th January

Use the Year 6 Padlet for work and resources to complete at home!



Home Learning

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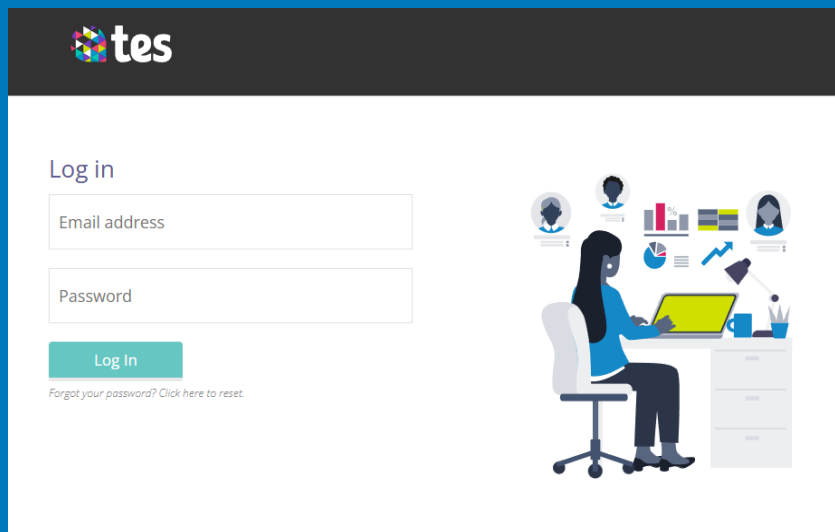
Our Curriculum

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Special Educational Needs Information

Hopefully all parents have received their log in details to access their child's One Page Profile and their current Learning Plan on Edukey.

The image shows a screenshot of the Edukey login interface. At the top, there is a dark header with the 'edute' logo. Below the header, the page is white. On the left, there is a 'Log in' section with two input fields: 'Email address' and 'Password'. Below these fields is a green 'Log In' button. Under the button, there is a link that says 'Forgot your password? Click here to reset.' On the right side of the login form, there is an illustration of a person sitting at a desk, working on a laptop. Above the person, there are several circular icons representing different educational concepts like a graduation cap, a person, a bar chart, a pie chart, and a document.

Any problems accessing this, please get in touch with the Primary SEND Team
becky.britton@whgs-academy.org daniella.richardson@whgs-academy.org
amanda.meredith@whgs-academy.org

Dates for your diaries...

Learn with Me!

We are excited to invite you to our **Learn With Me** session this term! This is a wonderful opportunity for you to come into school and see your child in action as they learn.

Focus: Writing

During this session, you will:

- **Support** your child with a task in class
- **Observe** how your child approach their writing tasks in class.
- **Learn** some of the strategies we use to develop vocabulary, sentence structure, and creativity.
- **Gain** ideas for how you can help at home.

Please save the relevant dates in your diary:

Year Group	Date
Year 6	Thursday 15th January 2026
Year 5	Thursday 15th January 2026
Year 4	Thursday 22nd January 2026
Year 3	Thursday 22nd January 2026
Year 2	Thursday 29th January 2026
Year 1	Thursday 29th January 2026
Reception	Thursday 5th February 2026
Nursery	Thursday 5th February 2026

A recent study has shown that active parental engagement can increase your child's progress by up to 40%. Please make every effort to attend these sessions where possible so you can stay up to date on the key information for your child and stay connected with their learning.

We really appreciate your continued support.