

Primary News



William Hulme's Grammar School
The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning



www.whgs-academy.org

January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Happy New Year!

I hope you all enjoyed the long break with family and friends. The children have come back raring to go and are showing positive attitudes towards their learning.

Thank you to all those parents who have ensured children are wearing the correct uniform. Please be reminded that ties are compulsory for all children in Year 1 to Year 6, in line with our school uniform policy.

The children had a wonderful time at our Christmas Fair on Wednesday 13 December. Including the Christmas raffle, we raised £1847. A huge thank you to everyone for supporting the school by buying tickets and donating items. I know you would also want to thank all of the staff for their help running the event.

After a fantastic Autumn Term, I cannot wait to see how this term unfolds!

Miss L Dalton
Head of School (Primary Phase)

Attendance

Let's beat this next term! I know we can.

Reception	90.5%
Year 1	94.6%
Year 2	94.9%
Year 3	94.4%
Year 4	94.5%
Year 5	95.8%
Year 6	94.4%

Coming up...

Thursday 18 January	Learn with Me Y3/4
Thursday 25 January	Learn with Me Y1/2
Wednesday 31 January	1K Class Assembly
Wednesday 31 January	Y3 Trip to RHS Bridgewater
Thursday 1 February	Learn with Me EYFS
Monday 5 February	Careers Day
Tuesday 6 February	Young Voices Event
Tuesday 6 February	Pancake Day Lunch
Wednesday 7 February	Y5 Forest School (The Hive)
Wednesday 7 February	1R Class Assembly
Wednesday 7 February	Come and Chat (in Great Hall)
Thursday 8 February	Learn with Me Y5/6
Friday 9 February	Y4 Forest School (Delamere Forest)

Nursery

Welcome back. We hope you had a lovely Christmas break.

We welcome Miss Murdoch to our team, covering for Mrs Williams maternity leave.

We are looking forward to our busy term covering the theme 'On the Move'.

This half term, we will be looking at a variety of transport and reading a repetitive book called 'Car, Car , Truck Jeep'. We also read the book 'The Naughty Bus' and 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 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 remember to return them by the Tuesday so that they can be changed and resent out. We have enjoyed seeing how much the children love 'Book in the Box', thank you for sharing your pictures of this with us on evidence me.

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 to this will be given soon.

Mrs Fletcher and Miss Murdoch



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.

VIP and 'Evidence Me'

Please check 'Evidence Me' when your child has been a VIP and upload pictures for us to share with the class.

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.



Up and coming events:

Visit

'On the Move' visit from a vintage bus **(please keep it a surprise for your child)**

Parent Workshop Maths

Thursday 25th January

Little Lions Group

To begin 2nd week back. Mrs Fletcher will invite parents to this.

Design Technology Learn with me session

Thursday 1 February



Reception

Welcome back. We hope you have had a lovely break. This half term we will be reading stories around the theme of castles, knights and dragons. Our Talk for Writing book is George and the Dragon from which we will begin to describe dragons using simple sentences. In addition your child will continue to have a daily phonics lesson which focusses on speeding up word reading and spelling.

In Maths, we will deepen our understanding of number sense using numbers 6 to 8. We will also be learning about mass and capacity through exploration and experimentation. As we are learning about castles, we will introduce the children to royal families from around the world and famous figures from the past. In our creative area, children will be working with different media to construct, build, join, mould and paint.

A large part of our learning this half term will be about building relationships within our own peer groups, focussing on kindness towards others and what this looks like in our classroom. We will be encouraging children to build respectful relationships and consider the feelings of others.

Our focus in PE will be gymnastics so children will be developing balance, strength and co-ordination. This half term, Mrs Arnold's PE day will be on a Monday and Mrs Halsall's PE day will be on a Tuesday.

Thank you for all your continued support in helping your child at home with their learning.

Mrs Halsall and Mrs Arnold

Up and Coming Events

Design Technology Learn With Me
Thursday 1 February 2024

Parent Workshop Maths
Tuesday 23rd January 2024

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.



Reminders

PE

Reception has PE every Monday or Tuesday. Please ensure your child has their kit in school and everything is labelled with their name

Reading Books

Please bring in both your bug club reading book and library book on a Wednesday. Unfortunately, we may not be able to change books if they are brought in later in the week. Please spend time every day to listen to your child read and enjoy time reading to them. One child from each class is chosen every Friday as a star reader. They will receive a 'book in a basket' along with a cuddly toy and hot chocolate to enjoy before returning by Wednesday. Please praise your child for their efforts if they come home with this sought after treat.

Spare clothes

Please ensure your child has a bag of spare clothes on their peg. All our own spare clothes have been used and few have been returned. If you have any spare socks and pants that we could use to replenish our supplies, we would be very grateful.

Year 1

Welcome back, we hope you have had a lovely break. We cannot wait to see what Spring term has install 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 the more opportunities the children get to practise, the better! If you would like to challenge your child, please encourage them to write their number as a word. The children 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. 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. In RE, we are hoping to visit the Mosque to help further our understanding on sacred places in our Religious studies. We really appreciate all parental support in helping to make our trips happen!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your class teacher at the end of the day, we are always on hand to help.

Miss Ridley and Miss Khan



Timetable

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

Reminders...

PE—Timetable change

Year 1 will now have PE every **Monday and Wednesday**. 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.

Home Learning

Reading

We send home 2 books on a weekly basis (a BugClub book and a phonics book). It is vital books are being read daily. This could be one of the books school have provided or a book from home.

When possible, please put a short comment in your child's reading record to share what has been read.

Please return these on a Tuesday so that they can be changed.



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, a letter based on The Day The Crayons Quit and a poem based on If I Had Wings. 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. We will introduce Times Table Rockstars to the children in school and they will then be given a login so that they can practise at home.

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 this term's learning on Islam. We are also hoping to have a religious leader visit our school to teach us more about Judaism. 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 Yardley-Rees and Mr Witkin

Timetable

English	Narrative, Letter writing & poetry
Maths	Multiplication and division
Science	Everyday materials
Geography	Hot and cold deserts
RE	Judaism
PE	Gymnastics & Fundamental Movement Skills
Computing	Pictograms
D.T.	Mechanisms—Toy Fire Engines
Music	I Wanna Play In A Band
PSHE	Families and friendship

Reminders...

PE

We now have PE every Monday and Friday. 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.

Coats

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

Home Learning...

Reading

Reading together at home is the most important way for you to support your child. Please read with your child for 10 minutes every day. In some sessions, this should be their school reading or phonics book, but please also allow your child to choose books that they would like you to read together.

Spelling

You should also spend time practising the spelling list each week.

Year 3

Welcome back, we hope that you are well rested and the children are ready for another exciting term of learning!

This half term we have some really interesting topics that we hope the children will thoroughly enjoy. In English, we will be writing warning tales and looking at how to build suspense, just like it the story 'The Creakers'. We will then be learning all about Sir David Attenborough and how to write fantastic biographies. Perhaps at home you could watch some of his amazing documentaries and learn some facts to share with the class?

In maths, we will be continuing with Multiplication and Division. Logging into Times Table Rockstars at home to practice will really help your children to make progress with their knowledge and speed. We will then be moving on to shape and measure, measuring lengths and calculating the perimeter of a range of shapes.

Every morning, we will be continuing with free reading sessions, giving you the opportunity for the children to share their opinions on all the books they have been reading at home. We have loved hearing their views and learning more about what they like and dislike.

Excitingly, Year 3 also have a trip to RHS Bridgewater to look forward to where we will learn all about how plants grow and get the opportunity to experience their wonderful outdoor facilities.

Please see the table below for information about the other subjects that we will cover this term.

Mr Rabey and Mr Cragg



Timetable

English	Suspense stories, Biography writing
Maths	Multiplication and division, Length and perimeter
Science	Animals, including humans
Geography	Volcanoes
RE	What does it mean to be a Christian in Britain today?
PE	Basketball, Gymnastics
MFL	Family and Pets
Computing	Sequencing sounds
DT	Levers and linkages
Music	Recorders
PSHE	Relationships

Reminders:

PE

PE days have now changed to Tuesdays and Wednesdays, please ensure you are wearing the correct PE kit on these days.

Coats

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

Home Learning:

Reading

Reading at home is an absolute priority. This can be a school reading book or one from home. Please aim to read with your child every day. Children can then share what they have read in their reading journals. Books and journals should be returned to school by Wednesday.

Writing

In preparation for our writing unit, can you research facts about a family memory or a famous person that you find interesting ?

Year 4

Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely break and are ready and raring to go for the next term of learning.

This half term we have lots of exciting topics in our different subjects. In English, we will be writing a narrative with a moral, based on the story *The Great Kapok Tree* by Lynne Cherry. We will then be writing a persuasive letter about helping to save our environment by stopping deforestation. This is linked to our learning about the rainforest in geography. At home, your child could try writing a letter to persuade about another topic, using the writing techniques we will learn in school. Alongside our writing topics, we will be reading a wide range of texts and learning how to answer questions about these. We also enjoy 'free

reading' where we can choose a book from the classroom or library to read. Have a discussion about your favourite books at home—which authors or genres do you like best?

In maths, we will be looking at formal methods of multiplication and division, starting with 2 digit by 1 digit questions. It is really important to have a good knowledge of times tables in order to solve these more challenging questions, so keep up with the Times Table Rockstars practise! We have seen some great improvements in the recall of time tables up to 12 x12 and can't wait to see the progress continuing this half term.

Have a look at the grid below to see all of the other topics we will be exploring this half term. Alongside all of our curriculum learning, we will be going to Forest School this half term! Please ensure that your child is ready to be outside, whatever the weather!

Miss Ashworth, Miss Fisher and Miss Thomas

Timetable

English	Narrative and persuasive letter
Maths	Multiplication and division
Science	States of matter
Geography	Tropical rainforests
RE	Why is Jesus inspiring to some people?
PE	Gymnastics, basketball
MFL	My house and my room
Computing	Repetition in shapes
DT	Torches
Music	Ukulele
PSHE	Families and friendship

Reminders...

Forest School

We will be taking part in forest school from February. Please ensure that your child has the correct clothing and footwear for Forest school and that it is labelled.

Reading Books

Please ensure reading books are brought in every day.

Home Learning...

Reading

Year 4 reading books are changed on a Thursday every week. You should have written a comment in the reading record each time you read at home.

Maths

We are continuing to practise our times tables on TT Rockstars. Keep a look out for any battles coming up this half term.

Writing

Can you write a narrative or a persuasive letter about something you are passionate about?

Year 5

We would like to welcome all of Year 5 back after an extremely successful Autumn term and a well-deserved break!

This half-term, Year 5 will be creating their own adventure stories inspired by the Hero Twins. They will then write a discussion text based on the Mayans.

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.

In science, we will be learning about the similarities and differences between the life-cycles of mammals, amphibians, reptiles, birds and fish.

Thank you for your continued support,

Miss Alleyne and Mr Bagshaw



Timetable

English	Adventure Narrative and discussion text
Maths	Fractions
Science	Life Cycles
History	Water and North America
RE	"If God is everywhere, why go
PE	Gymnastics
MFL	School subjects and opinions
Computing	Selection in physical computing
Art	Frame Structures
Music	Make You Feel My Love
PSHE	Families & Friendship

Reminders...

PE

Both Year 5 classes have P.E. on Friday. Please ensure that they are wearing the WHGS P.E. kit/

Swimming

Swimming kit should be worn underneath their uniforms every Monday. Please ensure students are not wearing any jewellery on Mondays.

Chromebooks

Home Learning

Reading

Please ensure that students are reading daily and bringing in their reading journals every Wednesday to share what they have been reading at home. .

Maths

We are continuing to practise our times tables on TT Rockstars. Keep a look out for any battles coming up this half term.



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.

Miss Fishwick and Mr Hancock

Timetable

English	Complaint Letter
Maths	Fractions, Decimals, Percentages
Science	Light
Geography	On the Move
RE	Ahimsa, Ullah and Grace
PE	Gymnastics
MFL	Weather and Seasons
Computing	Variables in games
DT	Electrical Systems - Nightlight
Music	A New Year Carol
PSHE	Families and Friendship

Reminders...

PE

Pupils are to wear their P.E. kits on a Wednesday and on a Thursday. This is a change to the previous term. As Year 6 are no longer participating in Forest School, we will once again have two P.E. lessons for the rest of the year.

Chromebooks

It is a requirement that children bring in a fully-charged Chromebook into school on a daily basis. It is imperative that if there are any faults with your child's device that you notify the school immediately.

Home Learning...

Reading

It is vital that children read frequently at home, both independently and with an adult. To support this, please encourage your children to complete the Reading Journal which they have been given. These pieces of work are celebrated in class each week.

Come and have a coffee and a chat...

COME AND CHAT

Wednesday 7 February 2024
(9.15am-10.15am)

Come and have a coffee and a chat with the Principal, Heads of School and the Senior Leadership Team to discuss any queries/questions you may have, find out more information about the school and catch up with fellow families and friends.



Great Hall
Doors Open: 9.00am

We appreciate all feedback you give and endeavour to act on areas we can improve.
Last time:

You said...

- Staff are welcoming to parents.
- Your children enjoy attending our school.
- More Information about homework would be appreciated.

We did...

- Clearer guidance about homework expectation is now on the website under 'Home Learning'.

Rights Respecting

We are a Silver Rights Respecting school. This means that children learn about their Rights as set out in the UNCRC.

We will be sharing an article every half term with you to talk about with your children.

This half term's article is:



Children have the right to food, clothing and a safe place to live so they can develop in the best possible way. The government should help families and children who cannot afford this.

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Social Action

As part of being Rights Respecting citizens, we will be continuing to raise money and carry out social action projects within our local communities and for communities around the world.

Keep an eye out for future communication about what your child's class will be doing this Spring.

All of these projects link to the Global Goals which you can see here:



Contact Us

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