

Whitwell Primary School

Southfield Lane, Whitwell, nr Worksop. Notts S80 4NR

Tel: 01909 720251
Fax: 01909 720251
Email: info@whitwell.derbyshire.sch.uk



Head Teacher: Mrs S Tomlinson
Deputy Head Teacher: Mr T Stirling

5th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Spring Term.
I hope you all had a relaxing Christmas and wish you all the best for a happy and healthy 2026.



School Hours

A reminder that school doors open for a soft start at 8.40am. Registers are taken until 8.55am by which point all children should be in school. Home time is 3.15pm for Reception, Y1 and Y2 (KS1). It is 3.20pm for Y3 – Y6 (KS2). Children must be collected on time please. Staff have commitments to clubs and meetings after school.

Only Y5/6 children walk home alone. If they are walking, please add Hi-Vis to coats and bags, so they can easily be seen. Younger children may not go home without an adult. Please cross safely by the railings at the top of the path on Southfield Lane or by the crossing area on Station Road.

Weather

At this time of the year the weather is very unpredictable. Weather forecasts are monitored and the school will only close if it is unsafe to open. This is dependent on site-safety, staff being able to get to the school and ratios of staff to pupils. In the case of snow, decisions are made as early as possible to keep everyone safe. Sometimes school will need to remain closed and sometimes a later start is possible to allow for staff to travel in later. School will contact everyone using Teachers2parents. If children are in school and the weather deteriorates, school will contact everyone and staff will remain until all children are collected.

I understand that this is disruptive however, everyone needs to be able to travel as safely as possible.

Uniform

Please ensure that the children come to school each day with a warm waterproof coat. Many children wear gloves and a hat as well. Please label as much uniform as possible as many are very similar to others. Children are expected to come to school in their full uniform each day, as per the home school agreement, and have a pair of named wellies left in school for playtimes. Please ensure uniform is in line with our uniform policy which can be found under the 'Parents' tab on our website. We do have some second hand uniform available and if you need something please ask at the office or speak to Mrs Boldero-Gray who will be able to help.



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Breakfast Club

Our Breakfast Club provision continues each morning in the hall. It is run by our own school staff.

Please walk your children down the driveway to the hall doors and sign them in. It can be paid for using our online payment system for the week or the days that you use the provision. Prices are as follows: -



£3.00 from 8am or £2.50 from 8am if your child is entitled to free school meals.

£3.50 from 7.45am or £3.00 from 7.45am if your child is entitled to free school meals.

Children are provided with cereals, fruit, toast and a drink of juice, milk or water. They are then encouraged to play with friends, take part in crafts, take part in simple activities, games etc.

Class Pages

<https://www.whitwellprimary.co.uk/>

Staff will have updated their class pages on the school website to share the new learning content for this term. Please remember that this is where pictures are now shared securely of the learning from Y1-Y6. If you can't access this, please let the class teacher know. Nursery and Reception will continue to use Tapestry.

PE & Swimming

Swimming remains on a Tuesday for some Y5 children only and starts Tuesday 13th Jan for 5 weeks. For outdoor PE, children will need to come in black or blue joggers/leggings and a white/blue plain t-shirt and jumper/cardigan or plain black or blue track suit top with dark outdoor trainers. School sweatshirts are fine. For indoor PE, children will need black or blue shorts and a white/blue plain t-shirt with plimsolls or indoor trainers. Children may come with joggers over the top of shorts or bring their shorts to put on later. Please note that branded sportswear, football kits or clothes with logos or picture are not suitable - thank you! We do have some spare kit in school and children may be asked to wear spare kit if they repeatedly do not have correct PE kit. Reception children are bringing their PE kits to leave in school from this term.

Contacting the school

Office hours are 8am – 4.30pm. If you need to call outside of these times, please leave a message which will be picked up the next day. Also please ensure that any changes in address/email addresses and phone numbers are notified to the school by completing the form on the school website under the 'Parents' tab – Useful Links and Forms – Forms – Contact Update Form.

Medical Needs & Allergies

Please inform us immediately if your child has any new medical needs. Children who require inhalers for asthma must leave these in a bag in school and a medical form must be completed by parents/carers in the school office. All regular medications need to be signed in with the office prior to them being administered. Children must not have medicines in their bags under any circumstances.

Nut Free

We do have children in school with severe nut allergies. For this reason, no-one may bring any food to school which contain nuts. This means peanut butter, chocolate spread and certain cereal and chocolate bars. Staff will contact you if children have these items in their lunch boxes. Please help us to keep all the children safe!

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Nursery Parents

The application process for your child's primary school place remains open until 15th January 2026. Even if your child is already in our nursery, you still need to apply for a school place. You can apply through the Derbyshire website for your chosen school.

<https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/school-places/primary-admissions/primary-infant-and-junior-school-admissions.aspx>

World Book Day – Thursday 5th March

This year we would like to give your child the chance to dress up as a character from a book. Please be as creative as you wish! There is absolutely no need to buy an outfit for this day. Talk to your children about books they enjoy at school and/or at home with a character they can copy. If your child doesn't want to dress up, they can of course wear their school uniform as usual. [World Book Day doesn't include football kits. There is a day designated as a football day in June for the start of the World Cup.]

Working at School

Just a reminder that a Midday Supervisor Job is advertised on Derbyshire County Council website with a closing date of 11th January. Please apply if you are interested in working with us.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us. We will always want to know! I will continue to be outside on the playgrounds in the mornings when possible and teaching staff can be contacted directly at classroom doors or you can make an appointment to come into school to see any of the teaching staff team or myself.

We are all looking forward to another settled term of learning. Children tend to make good progress in Spring Term, building on prior knowledge and eagerly absorbing new learning. This is wonderful to see!

Kind regards

Mrs Sarah Tomlinson

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "S Tomlinson".

Headteacher

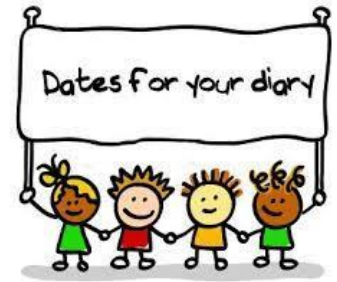


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ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-2026

Mon 5 th January 2026	Back to School
Mon 12 th January	Y6 After school booster starts – each week until 4.10pm.
Mon 9 th February	Young Voices Concert
Tues 10 th February	Safer Internet Day
Thurs 12 th February	Winter Olympic Lunch FWPS Valentine Disco
Fri 13 th February	Wear a Scarf Day – PSHE End of Term
Mon 23 rd February 2026	Back to School
Weds 25 th – Fri 27 th Feb	Bikeability (details to follow)
Mon 2 nd March	National Offer Day for Y6 – Y7 places for September 2026.
Thurs 5 th March	World Book Day
Fri 6 th March	Choir to sing with the local schools at Shirebrook
Mon 16 th March	Y5 Parent Consultations with Mrs Plaister Y6 Parent Consultations with Mr Moore (all day)
Tues 17 th March	Y1/2 Parent Consultations with Mrs Gregson Y3 Parent Consultations with Miss Binge
Weds 18 th March	FS1 Parent Consultation with Mrs Draycott Y1/2 Parent Consultations with Miss Brown Y1/2 Parent Consultations with Miss White
Thurs 19 th March	Y4 Parent Consultations with Mrs Anderson Y5 Parent Consultations with Mr Stirling FS2 Parent Consultations with Miss Sleight Y6 Parent Consultations with Mr Moore (afternoon only)
Fri 20 th March	FS1 Parent Consultation with Mrs Williams
Fri 27 th March	End of Term
Mon 13 th April	Back to School
Thurs 16 th April	National Offer Day for new Reception places for September 26.
Mon 20 th – Weds 22 nd April	Y4/5 Residential to Lea Green
Mon 4 th May	School closed – Bank Holiday
Mon 11 th -Thurs 14 th May	Y6 SATS Week



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Mon 18 th May	Fire Safety Y2 and Y6 FWPS KS2 Magic Monday Event
Fri 22 nd May	End of Term
Mon 1 st June 2026	INSET Day
Tues 2 nd June	Back to School Y4 Multiplication Check Week
Weds 3 rd June	Provisional Y6 trip to Institute of Sport
Mon 8 th June	Y1 Phonics Screening Check Week Y6 Parent Meeting for IOW trip
Tues 9 th June	Class photos
Thurs 11 th June	World Cup Day – everyone can wear football kit or sportswear
Fri 12 th June	Summer Fair
Weds 17 th June	Sports Day
Thurs 18 th June	Reserve Sports Day
Mon 22 nd - Fri 26 th June	Y6 residential to Isle of Wight
Weds 1 st July	Nursery Sports Day
Thurs 2 nd July	Reserve Nursery Sports Day
Weds 8 th July	Y6 Production to parents 1.45pm and 6pm
Mon 13 th – Fri 17 th July	Y6 to Heritage High School
Mon 20 th July	Y6 return to Whitwell Primary School
Tues 21 st July	Y6 Leavers Assembly 4.30pm
Wed 21 st July	End of Term for all children
Thurs 23 rd July	INSET Day

Please note there will be other dates added for class trips and events that are booked, linked to the curriculum or visits. These will be communicated when available. Y6 children who are not transferring to Heritage High School will be offered different transition arrangements by the respective schools. These will be confirmed after National Offer Day.

Thank you!



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