



PTA Update

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the PTA committee who have organised lots of events which have been thoroughly enjoyed by the children and they have raised an absolutely amazing £8200!! Wow!! Please see the PTA report below.

Have a Great Summer

Just a 'wee reminder that school finishes @ 12.00 (Y1 – Y4) & @ 12.05 (Y5 – Y7) on Friday for summer. I can't believe that another year is over and once again I would like to thank you for your continued support. I hope that you have a great summer and enjoy spending time with family & friends.

Key Dates in August

Thursday 24 August	First day of the new school year. Children should arrive at school between 8.45 & 9.00 am and proceed to their classrooms. The classroom assistants and I will be in the playground and at doors to direct the children. Teachers will be in their classrooms in order to receive the children. School will finish at 12.00 Y1 – Y4 & 12.05 Y5 – Y7. No dinners will be served.
Friday 25 August	Children should arrive at school between 8.45 & 9.00 am and proceed to their classrooms. The classroom assistants and I will be in the playground and at doors to direct the children. Teachers will be in their classrooms in order to receive the children. School will finish at 12.00 Y1 – Y4 & 12.05 Y5 – Y7. No dinners will be served.
Monday 28 August	Children should arrive at school between 8.45 & 9.00 am and will finish at the times outlined below. Unfortunately, breakfast club and canteen won't commence until Tuesday 29 August. ALL CHILDREN SHOULD BRING A PACKED LUNCH TO SCHOOL TODAY.

Start Times for 2023/24

Punctuality

All children should plan to arrive to school between 8.45 and 9.00am. It is absolutely vital that all children are in school, in the classroom by 9.00 am. An increasing number of children have been arriving after 9.00 am. Not only have they missed the initial activities which serve to settle the children and 'get their brains going' but they have missed the key instructions for the day and the beginning of the first lesson, leaving them at a huge disadvantage. **CHILDREN WHO ARRIVE AFTER 9.00AM WILL BE MARKED AS LATE.**

- The parents of those children who are regularly late in September will be contacted by their child's teacher.
- Should lateness persist teachers will discuss this with parents at Parent/Teacher Consultations in October.
- Should the issue not be resolved I will be in contact with parents.
- Continued, persistent lateness throughout the school year will be recorded on a child's report.

I fully understand that everyone can be late on occasions however persistent lateness really does impact on how your child performs and achieves on a daily basis, affecting their overall progress.

Finish Times 2023/24

The finish times are unchanged from this year.

Y1 & Y2	1.45 pm (Monday – Friday)
Y3	2.45 pm (Monday & Tuesday), 1.45 pm (Wednesday – Friday)
Y4	2.45 pm (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday), 1.45 pm (Wednesday)
Y5 – Y7	2.50 pm (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday), 1.50 pm (Wednesday)

Key Dates for September

Thursday 31 August	Child Protection Training & PTA AGM @ 7.00pm
Thursday 14 Sept	Y1 Induction Evening & Child Protection @ 7.00pm Nursery Induction Evening & Child Protection @ 7.30pm
Thursday 21 Sept	Y4 & Y5 Curriculum Evening & Child Protection @ 7.00pm Y2 & Y3 Curriculum Evening & Child Protection @ 7.30pm Y6 & Y7 Curriculum Evening & Child Protection @ 8.00pm

Friday 29 Sept **STAFF TRAINING – NO CHILDREN SHOULD ATTEND**

Induction & Curriculum Evenings

These evenings will provide you with an opportunity to meet your child's teacher, to receive an outline of the curriculum for the year and to gain an understanding of what homework will entail. I would really encourage you to attend.

After School Activities – Tuesday & Thursday

After school activities (taken by our teachers & CAs) will take place on a Tuesday & Thursday, on the dates outlined below:

Tuesday 12 & Thursday 14 September

Tuesday 19 & Thursday 21 September

Tuesday 26 & Thursday 28 September

Tuesday 3 & Thursday 5 October

Tuesday 10 & Thursday 12 October

Tuesday 17 & Thursday 19 October

Tuesday 7 & Thursday 9 November

Tuesday 14 & Thursday 16 November

There will be a small charge of 50p per session for our own after school activities which will allow us to purchase and replenish the equipment necessary for the activities. Each activity will run for 8 sessions this term costing £4 per activity. Parents will be able to sign up on School Money for our own afternoon school activities from Tuesday 29 August – Friday 8 September.

Child Protection Training & PTA AGM

A key aspect of life in WPSNU is our partnership with parents. We would be very keen for you to be involved in school, going on trips etc. In order for this to happen you are required to complete the Child Protection Training & also be Police Checked. The training will take place on Thursday 31 August. On this evening we will also have our PTA AGM. We would love you to become involved in PTA who organise events which the children really enjoy and which raise additional funds for the school. Funds which will become ever more important given the most recent cuts in education.

After School Activities – Private Companies

Private companies will offer after school activities on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday.

Monday – Burns Soccer (Y1-Y4) & Burns Hockey (Y1- Y4).

Wednesday – Jujitsu (Y2 – Y7) & Irish Dancing (Y1 – Y7)

Thursday – Junglenastix (Y3) with Y2 & Y1 in subsequent terms

Friday – Burns Basketball (Y1 – Y7) & Coding Club (Y1 – Y7)

Further details for signing up will be sent out in August when we return to school.



Whitehead
Primary School
& Nursery Unit

'LEARNING AND GROWING TOGETHER'

Whitehead Primary School & Nursery Unit PTA June 2023 Update

On behalf of the PTA committee, I would like to thank you for your incredible support of our activities during this school year.

The PTA is comprised wholly of new members, following a period of low activity during the Covid pandemic, and we are very proud of the activities that we were able to plan and deliver for the pupils of Whitehead Primary School during the 2022/23 terms.

PTA has two key purposes. Firstly we have a fund-raising role, raising funds for school to allocate for the benefit of all the children. In the past PTA have raised money towards such things as a reading book scheme, adding to the IT capacity of the school with iPads, purchasing new desks and chairs for all our classrooms and the outdoor classroom. Secondly and every bit as importantly, PTA is about the social life and entertainment value our events and activities can bring to the children and school as a whole. The enjoyment that the children in particular get from what we do is as valuable as the funds raised from it.

This year we organised a Halloween Disco, The Night Before Christmas event, a bake sale, a bear raffle, an Easter Disco, a tea/coffee stand at Sports Day, Coronation Tea Towels and the Sponsored Bounce/Fun Run. **The net total we have raised this year from all of these activities is over £8,200.** As a new committee, we are absolutely delighted with this figure, and will work closely with Jim Loughins to identify how these funds can best support the school.

Thank you once again for your support of all our activities this year. We have bi-monthly committee meetings in school to organise the events, details of times are included in the school monthly newsletter. We would love to welcome new members in the next school year, so please do not hesitate to come along. If you would like any more information, please contact Jim and he will put you in touch with the committee.

Best wishes,
Kathryn Anderson
PTA Chair
on behalf of the WPSNU PTA Committee