



White Spire School

Autumn Term

Welcome back, we hope you have all had a lovely summer and managed to enjoy some good weather. We look forward to a busy term with lots of fun activities. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or queries!

**Classes 11,
12 and 13
Newsletter
Autumn Term
2023**

Curriculum

During the Autumn Term we will be covering the following areas -

English

- Our theme is '**Courage**' some of the texts we might be reading include Private Peaceful, Flo of the Somme and Red Badge of Courage. We will be focusing on reading skills including being able to follow a short text, identify the main points in chronological order. Later we will be focusing on speaking and listening skills while discussing a range of topics. We will also continue working on developing handwriting skills and spelling patterns.

Maths

- Our focus will be on knowledge of number and calculation. We will be working with whole numbers then moving onto fractions and decimals. Later in the term our focus will be the four operations. We will continue to work on mental maths skills including rapid recall of number facts and times tables.

Science

- We will be looking at the human body including being able to name key parts, what the body needs to survive and how the body moves.

Options

- As part of our options we will be working on a range of different activities depending on the option chosen. In D of E we will be exploring what is required on an expedition. In Art we will continue to develop our key skills.

Computing

- We will be looking at how to be safe online using a variety of resources including emails, address books, web browsers etc. We will also develop skills to create simple posters/invitations or leaflets

RE

- We will start off the term looking at Judaism and the key themes of birth, death and marriage. Later in the term we will look at Christianity and cover the same areas.

PSHCE and Life Skills

- We will learn about different aspects of relationships, taking responsibility for our own health and awareness of future career choices.

Food Technology

- We will continue to work on our cooking skills as well as cleaning up afterwards! Our focus this term will be preparing healthy breakfasts.

Diaries

Please continue to check diaries daily for notes/points/ letters etc.



Interventions and Clubs

Our lunchtime/breaktime clubs will continue this term and will focus on a variety of social skills and activities.



PE

PE will continue to be twice weekly. Please make sure children come in wearing appropriate clothing to take part in activities.

Forthcoming Events/Dates:

- Parents Evening
- 20th October – break up for half-term
- 30th October – back to school after half-term
- 22nd December – break up for Christmas holidays



Please check your child's diary for the latest updates and information on the dates.

Trips

We will let you know about any trips that are going ahead via diaries.



Careers

Years 10 and 11 are important years for considering next steps. Children will take part in a careers week this term. Our theme this term will be '**Next Steps**'. During the week we take part in a range of activities to promote awareness of careers as well as the choices they have to make and when they will make them.

It is **vital** you continue to support children in this area.

Year 10 Ways to Support

- * Continue to support with the development of independence skills e.g. tying laces, money awareness and transport awareness.
- * Look at MK College Website, Christian Foundation or MK Snap.
- * Talk to your child about what they like doing and suitable jobs for the future.

Year 11 Ways to Support

- * Be aware your child has the option to leave at the end of Year 11. This decision needs to be made by the end of **December**.
- * Consider attending MK College open day, if your child is thinking of leaving.
- * Talk to your child about interests and choices.
- * Make sure you attend the EHCP meeting, when asked.
- * Make sure your child has a working/monitored email address for applications etc.
- * Continue to work on developing independence skills at home e.g. awareness of money.



Attendance

We regularly monitor progress, targets and acquisition of new skills. The continual barrier to progress is attendance and that is why it is important you try to ensure regular attendance and punctuality in school. We continue to monitor individual attendance and class attendance.

Poor attendance –

- * Any absence affects the pattern of a child's schooling and regular absence will seriously affect their learning.
- * Any pupil's absence disrupts teaching routines. It also impacts social groupings and activities.
- * Ensuring your child's regular attendance at school is your legal responsibility.

Good attendance -

- * Promotes good working habits.
- * Helps prepare students for future work roles and responsibilities.
- * Helps to develop good social skills.
- * Supports academic progress.



Free School Meals Online Application

If you think your child may be entitled for free school meals, you can register and find out if your child is eligible by visiting a quick and easy system:

<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims/>

Our school menu and order form can be downloaded from the website:

https://www.whitespireschool.org.uk/sites/default/files/pdf/Lunch_Order_Form.pdf

