



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 14,
15 and 16
Newsletter
Autumn Term
2023**

Curriculum

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

English

- Our main text is '**White Fang**'. We will continue to work on developing our reading skills, discussing characters, themes and events. We will identify the purpose of a range of texts and some basic features. We will continue to work on learning basic spellings, presentation and speaking and listening skills.

Maths

- Our focus will be on '**Shape, Space and Measures**'. We will be exploring a range of measuring equipment and scales to measure weight, length and capacity. We will also look at area and perimeter. We will continue to work on mental maths skills including rapid recall of number facts and times tables.

Options

- This term we have chosen an option for one hour a week. This term the focus is art or around the world.

RE

- The first half-term our focus will be Judaism and the second half-term we will be focusing on Christianity. We will look at key beliefs and how they impact daily life.

PSHCE

- We will be focusing on relationships including what makes a healthy relationship, issues about consent and support services. Later in the term we will be looking at healthy living and self-checks we can perform on the body.

Vocational Skills

- We will be focusing on personal safety in the home, out and about and at work.

Cooking

- We will continue working one day a week on preparing and cooking a range of meals. This will include reading recipes, measuring ingredients, cooking and clearing up.

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. 6th formers also have access to the common room.



PE

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

PE days are -
Monday and Tuesday

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 continue to check the student planner 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

During Year 12, 13 and 14 careers information becomes a key factor in securing next steps for the future. 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 awareness of the choices they have to make and when they will make them. It is **vital** you continue to support children in this area.

Year 12 and 13 Ways to Support

- * Discuss the option to leave at the end of Year 13 or stay to Year 14. This decision needs to be made by **December**.
- * Look at MK College Website, Christian Foundation or MK Snap.
- * Attend relevant open days, interviews or meetings.
- * Talk to your child about what they like doing and suitable jobs for the future.
- * Consider looking at part time jobs.



Year 14 Ways to Support

- * Be aware your child will leave school on **28th June**.
- * Make sure you attend local open days/recruitment events.
- * Talk to your child about interests and choices. Practise interview questions.
- * Make sure you or your child have working email addresses that are monitored for applications etc.
- * Attend relevant meetings.
- * Continue to work on independence skills including using a bus, getting money out of bank account etc.

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 groups and friendships.
- * Ensuring your child's regular attendance at school is your legal responsibility.
- * We have to let the next provider know attendance percentages.



Good attendance -

- * Promotes good working habits helping 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

