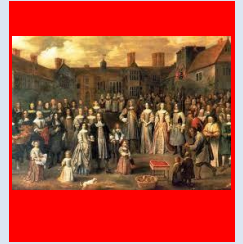




Welcome Back

Welcome back and a very happy new year. We hope you've had a good and restful break. We are looking forward to an exciting new year of learning and activities ahead. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns about your child.

Rule Britannia



Curriculum Areas

Through our termly cross-curricular themes, we aim to make links in all areas of learning to make sure there is cohesion across the whole curriculum. The aim is to make the children's learning vivid, real, engaging and memorable, and to provide challenges and adaptations to encourage their development in all areas. We strive to embed social, emotional and independent life skills holistically across all areas of curriculum.

English

Through adapted Read, Write Inc. Phonics Programme, we will revisit and develop our reading and writing skills. In our extended writing programme will be planning, writing and editing descriptions. There will be direct emphasis on developing spelling, grammar, punctuation, adventurous vocabulary and improving handwriting.

Maths

The principal focus of mathematics teaching and learning in Year 6/7 will be to ensure that pupils develop confidence and mental fluency with whole numbers, counting, and place value. In addition, the children will focus on developing multiplication and division strategies as well as recognising multiplication and division as related operations. We will solve real life problems.

PSHCE and Life Skills

The PSHCE Curriculum will develop knowledge and skills in health and wellbeing including our bodies and dealing with hurtful behaviours.

RE

In line with The Milton Keynes Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education, we will learn through enquiry led approach about Hinduism and Sikhism. We will consider key questions including believing, belonging, behaving and reflecting.

Humanities

In History, pupils will explore Britain's past. They will develop their chronological understanding of British history and the British monarchs. In Geography, the pupils will learn about human and physical geography of a region of the UK, a region in a European country and a region within North or South America.

Science

Through enquiry and investigation, the pupils will learn about materials and their properties.

Computing

The pupils will use Information Technology to learn about online safety, using technology responsibly and program Beebots.

ART

The pupils will develop their skills in sketching, drawing and painting. Using British landscape as inspiration, pupils will create their own pieces of art including sculptures.

Food

The children will develop their vital skills and knowledge in cooking and nutrition through preparing simple dishes and encouraging them to explore unfamiliar foods.

Performing Arts

In Performing Arts, using Oliver Twist as their inspiration, the pupils will create various pieces in drama and playing percussion instruments.

PE

The pupils will take part in a variety of individual and team sports activities including swimming.



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

Uniform

Please ensure your child wears correct school uniform and each item is labelled with your child's name.



Attendance

We believe regular school attendance is essential to achievement. Please help us by ensuring your child attends school every day.

Term Dates

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Spring half term | 16 th February 2024 |
| School reopens | 26 th February 2024 |
| School closes for Easter | 28 th March |
| Monday 15 th April | INSET Day |
| School reopens for Summer term | 16 th April 2024 |

Coffee Morning: TBC
 Parent's Evening: 29th February
 Parent Engagement Day: TBC
 World Book day: 7th March
Please check the planner daily for updates.

KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Break and Lunchtime clubs

- Library
- Sports
- Board games
- Arts and Crafts
- Music:
- Singing, guitars, keyboards



Breakfast Club is open daily from 8am to 8.30am. After School Club offers a variety of activities. **Advance booking is required, please contact the school office or your child's teacher.**

Equipment



Please note children will not need to bring in their own pencil cases or resources. Please help us by not sending in any toys or soothers.

Daily Home School Communication



Please ensure the school diary is sent into school every day and check it for regular updates.

Our School Website is updated regularly for key updates, term dates, events and other useful information. Follow the link below:

<https://whitespireschool.org.uk/school-calendar>