

# NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2022

## Whimble Primary School

Issue 2

09.09.22

The children have all returned brilliantly and they have begun to settle back into school routines — albeit many being tired by the end of the week (staff included!) We welcome our new members of staff, teachers Mrs Handley and Miss Sharratt, and teaching support staff Mrs Crease, Miss Davies and Mrs Burdan to the Whimble team.

### **New Intercom System on Gates**

From Monday our new intercom system will be working. In order to get on to site you will need to press the round button (on right hand gate), which will call the office. Please say who you are and reason for visit and then they can allow you access. The intercom will be operational from 9am—3.25pm.

### **Reporting Absence Procedures**

No child may be released during school hours unless a request has been made to the Headteacher. If your child is absent due to illness please inform the school as soon as possible by telephone. Registers are checked and if we have not heard why a child is absent by 9.30a.m. we will ring to check for confirmation. If required, we will ring other contact numbers to ensure a child is safe. If your child is absent through illness for more than five days the school may ask for proof of absence e.g. an appointment card, prescription or Doctor's note. It is a legal requirement that the school records the reason for your child's absence. The school attendance policy is available on the school's website and in the school office.

### **Queen Elizabeth II**

Yesterday, we heard of the sad passing of Queen Elizabeth II, the longest-reigning monarch in British History. Our thoughts and prayers go to King Charles and the Royal family at this very sad time. Today in our whole school assembly we reflected on her amazing life and we were lucky enough to listen to the church bells all through our lunchtime.



We recognise that this occasion may bring up feelings of sadness and grief for anyone who has lost a loved one and we will be there to support the children.

The Queen was an inspirational figure who never wavered in her service to the country and I am sure her memory will have a lasting legacy in our history.

## Reception Children

Our 10 new Reception children have started really well and we welcome them and their families. They stayed for their first school dinner yesterday and will stay for their first full day on Thursday 15th September.



## Parent Information Sessions

Over the next two weeks each class will be holding a Parent Information Session. These sessions will provide key information regarding children's learning over the next school year, including how to support your child with their reading, writing and maths, and expectations around home learning. This will be a great opportunity to answer any queries you may have.

Sessions for Key Stage 2 (Willow, Beech and Oak) will be held in their class. Ash and Elm sessions will be held in the hall - please wait outside the main entrance to the hall.

Tuesday 13th Beech Parent Information Session 3.45p.m

Thursday 15th Willow Parent Information Session 3.45pm

Tuesday 20th Ash Parent Information Session 3pm

Tuesday 20th Oak Parent Information Session 3.45pm

Thursday 22nd Elm Parent Information Session 3pm

Ideally, we would prefer children not to be present if possible due to space limitations, but if there is no option, we will find a space for them whilst the meeting is in progress (KS2).

## Reading Books in Ash and Elm Class

Linked to Government guidance, schools have had to select and purchase a synthetic systematic phonics reading scheme to use in Reception and Year 1.

We have selected Little Wandle Letters and Sounds and we have been lucky enough to be able to fund purchasing a new selection of reading books to support early reading. How we use and send home our reading books will change to follow the scheme.

Teachers in Ash and Elm will start implementing this new scheme next week.

Please bear with us whilst we also adapt to the changes.

The children in Year 1 and 2 will have brought home a reading book this week which will be collected in on Monday and new ones given out on Wednesday.

Children in Year 2 also have an individual reading book. There will also be a selection of other books to share with your child. More detail will be provided at the information evenings.



# Dates for your diary

## September

Tuesday 13th	Beech Parent Information Session 3.45p.m
Thursday 15th	Willow Parent Information Session 3.45pm
Tuesday 20th	Ash Parent Information Session 3pm
Tuesday 20th	Oak Parent Information Session 3.45pm
Wednesday 21st	PTA AGM School Library
Thursday 22nd	Elm Parent Information Session 3pm

## October

Thursday 6th	Flu Immunisations
Monday 24th to Friday 29th Half Term	
Monday 31st	Staff training day (no pupils)

## Term dates for pupils - 2022/23:

### AUTUMN TERM 2022

**5<sup>th</sup> September to 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

*Half term - 24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> October 2022*

### SPRING TERM 2023

**4<sup>th</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023**

*Half term - 13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023*

### SUMMER TERM 2024

**17<sup>th</sup> April to 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023**

*May Day holiday - 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023*

*Half term - 29<sup>th</sup> May to 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023*

*Non-pupil days (i.e. staff only): 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022, 3<sup>rd</sup> January, 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023*

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