

CONTACT

The Newsletter for Whimble Primary School

Issue 11-20

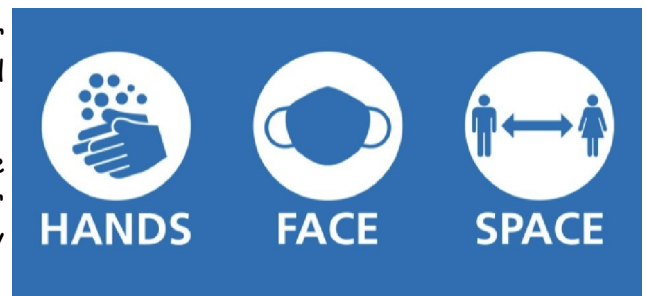
27.11.20

Please think where you park your vehicle

Many of our families and their children walk to school and now that everyone has to enter school via our one way system via the village hall car park it is more important than ever to be mindful of where you are parking. **The owners of the Thirsty Farmer have kindly offered the use of their car park** to help with bringing and collecting children from school.

Please **use this safe space** first instead of the hall car park or parking on the road opposite the Build Consultants.

Although we are a big part of the community, we are not the only part of it and we need to respect other road users at these times whilst ensuring the safety of all of our children.



Christmas Events

Christmas Cards

All Christmas cards **must** come into school via the school Christmas mail box which will be outside at morning drop off. The Christmas post box will be available from Tuesday 1st December, they will be collected daily and quarantined for three days before being distributed to children.

Christmas Jumpers and Hats

The children have decided via their school council reps that they would like to wear their Christmas jumpers as part of their choice of party clothes for their class parties. There will also be a hat competition on their party day—these will be judged by their class as part of their party and the top 5 will be kept in school to be paraded as part of a whole school assembly on Thursday 17th December. Participation is optional but for those who feel creative please have go—every year we are amazed at the range of hats produced.

Christmas Parties

Each class will have a party for one afternoon in the hall with a range of activities, including some of the stalls which would usually be at the Christmas fair. (more details to follow)

The dates for each class are:

Thursday 10th December Willow Class

Friday 11th December Beech Class

Monday 14th December

Tuesday 15th December

Wednesday 16th December

Oak Class

Ash Class

Elm Class

Consultation on our Admissions policy for 2022-23

Below you will see a link to our proposed admissions policy for 2022-23. We are consulting on this between 1 November and 8 January and invite any parent or other person with an interest in our admission arrangements to read the policy and make any comments you wish. You will see where there are changes, the text is in red - either something we propose to add or, if it has a line through it, something we propose to remove.

One of the proposals is to add children who have been adopted from state care outside of England to our oversubscription criterion 1. This is in anticipation that the Department for Education will require this change for all schools as it has just consulted on changes to the School Admissions Code. It is possible that the Department's timescales may mean that the Code is not amended before the end of February, when we have to formally set our policy. If that is the case, we may have to determine our policy without that change and then alter it later in spring or summer. We are bringing it to your attention though as a change in policy that we expect to have to introduce.

Other than changes in red and dates moving forward a year, the way our policy will work is the same as in the previous year, 2021-22 which you can also see below.

If you have any comments, you can make them to Devon County Council which is co-ordinating the consultation. Further information is at www.devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangements. You will be able to view the proposed policies for all state-funded schools in Devon and the Local Authorities policies there too.

The policy is also available on our website at:

The consultation ends on 8 January and all policies must be determined by 28 February and published in the same places by 15 March.



The Whimble Primary P.T.A. have been very busy producing a plan for the school orchard/M.U.G.A along with the school garden. It is an ambitious project to try and improve these areas, including maintaining our lovely apple trees to ensure they are not only safe but continue to bear great fruit. A crowd funder has been set up to support these plans. More details are available at:

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/whimble-primary-school-orchard-garden>

Please help us by sharing this link as much as possible.

We're now registered with easyfundraising, which means you can help us for FREE. Over 4,000 shops and sites will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them - at no extra cost to yourself!

All you need to do is sign up and remember to use easyfundraising whenever you shop online.

It's easy and completely FREE! These donations really mount up, so please sign up to support us at https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/whimbleprimarypta/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=en-n1

Support with Domestic Violence

Please find attached with this newsletter a guide to contacting the police if you are in a situation where speaking to someone could put yourself or children in danger. This guide is also available on the website - Safeguarding tab - Keeping Children Safe at Home

Something Different to Try

With Covid-19 restrictions preventing us from delivering print workshops in local schools, Double Elephant Print Workshop have created an exciting series of FREE festive print tutorials.

24 Days of Print - From Tuesday 1 December, join Double Elephant Print Workshop for an Advent of PRINTspiration!

Each day, on their website and social media, they'll release a daily creative clip for all ages and abilities, using mostly found and recycled materials. No expensive tools or printing press needed!

You can print your own wrapping paper with your fridge contents, make a printy GIF, stamp with plasticine, DIY screenprint, try a festive flickbook, create nature prints with tape, fabric print with fish... and much more!

<https://www.doubleelephant.org.uk/24daysofprint>

for any further information please contact emma@doubleelephant.org.uk

Dates for your diary

December

Tuesday 1st December	Christmas post box opens
Friday 4th December	Flu immunisations
Wednesday 9th December	Christmas dinner
Thursday 10th December	Willow Class Christmas party
Friday 10th December	'Top Talk ' English Speaking Board Assessments
Friday 11th December	Beech Class Christmas party
Monday 14th December	Oak Class Christmas party
Tuesday 15th December	Ash Class Christmas party
Wednesday 16th December	Elm Class Christmas party
Friday 18th December	Last day of term - school ends at 1.30pm

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