

NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2022

Whimble Primary School

Issue 15

16.12.22



It has been the most bizarre, but lovely last week of the term. The younger children performed magnificently in their nativity on Wednesday, and the older children had a great Elf Run in the sun yesterday, despite the cold temperatures.

It has been lovely to see the support of many family members at these events and through your kind donations we have been able to split £240 between the church, the school and ELF.

As the week has progressed the number of children being absent through illness has unfortunately increased. In order to reassure you, the majority of these are due to throat infections (but not Strep A) and a sickness bug. If we had any concerns regarding cases of Covid or other notifiable infections, we would have notified you so as to keep you informed.



Many thanks for all kind words, cards and gifts we have received over the past week. The chocolates have definitely kept us going! Have a lovely Christmas and we will see you all in 2023!

Ofsted

After a phone call on Monday, we were joined by two Ofsted inspectors for the day on Tuesday. It was an interesting start to the day, as we were dealing with a massive water leak from one of our exterior pipes as they arrived. Having water squirting out all over one of your playgrounds on an icy morning is not a great start to any day. We had also received a fake email threatening to hijack our system. Luckily it was just Spam, but added to the increased heart rates that day!

Many of the children were spoken with about their school experience, including their learning - they all did a fabulous job and we are extremely proud of them.

Staff have worked very hard on many key areas of the inspection framework over the past 18 months as well as managing the daily challenges of school life.

I would like to say a huge thank you to all the parents who responded to the parent survey, and also spoke to the inspectors on the playground. This is a really important part of the inspection process. The staff and children were also, as always, absolute stars. The draft report will be received in January and then published a few weeks' later and we look forward to sharing this with you.

Dates for your diary

January 2023

Wednesday 4th	First day of term
Friday 6th	Forest School - Willow Class
Monday 9th	Rock Steady Music lessons
Monday 9th	Swimming Beech Class and Year 4 Oak Class
Friday 13th	Forest School - Willow Class

February

Monday 13th to Friday 17th	Half term
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Assessment arrangements for summer 2023

Month of May	Key Stage 1 SATs (Year 2)
Tuesday 9th to Friday 12th May	Key Stage 2 SATs
Week commencing 5th June	Multiplication tables check (Year 4)
Week commencing 12th June	Phonics Screening Check (Year 1/Year 2)

Term dates for pupils - 2022/23:

SPRING TERM 2023

4th January to 31st March 2023
Half term - 13th to 17th February 2023

SUMMER TERM 2024

17th April to 21st July 2023
May Day holiday - 1st May 2023
Extra May Bank Holiday 8th May 2023
Half term - 29th May to 2nd June 2023
Non-pupil days (i.e. staff only): 3rd January, 30th June 2023

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