



WHITEHEATH JUNIOR SCHOOL

Opportunity, Confidence & Growth

Whole School Newsletter

Newsletter No: 4

Friday 26th September, 2025.

Welcome to our whole school newsletter. Our aim is to keep you informed of achievements, successes and general information regarding Whiteheath Junior School. These newsletters will be sent to you at the end of the week. You can also find this newsletter on the home page of the school **website** along with our '**year group pages**' (under the 'children' section on the website). Please check your emails regularly as this is our main form of communication with you.

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last year, as part of our commitment to working together with parents and carers, we shared with you the key features of the annual School Development Plan. To continue strengthening our partnership, I am writing to let you know about our priorities for 2025-26.

By way of background, for those families who are new to the school, each school leadership team (Headteacher and Senior Leaders from within the school) and governors are required to put in place a plan that will inform their work during each school year. This plan is based on evidence from a wide range of sources that include: our own monitoring of children's learning (their books, their lessons, their views about their learning); achievement both academically and in other areas; Key Stage 2 results; the views of children, staff and parents on all aspects of the school and the findings of external review bodies such as Ofsted and the Local Authority.

Our main priorities for 2024/5 have been evaluated and the successful outcomes of the work of all the staff, the children and their families and our governors have been used (alongside a wide range of evidence sources as detailed above) to identify the priorities for the current academic year.

MAIN PRIORITIES FOR 2025-6

Priority 1: PASTORAL AND BEHAVIOUR – to introduce and implement the therapeutic thinking approach to behaviour

Priority 2: TEACHING & LEARNING – to ensure the key aspects of instructional modelling is used effectively to enhance teaching and learning

Priority 3: ORACY – to fully develop and embed an oracy curriculum

Priority 4: WRITING – to raise the attainment outcomes for children in Writing in year 4 and 5

Priority 5: GRAMMAR - to raise the attainment outcomes for children in SPaG across the school

Priority 6: MATHS – to raise the attainment outcomes for children in Mathematics in year 5 and 6



HELP NEEDED! – SCHOOL GARDEN/GARDENING CLUB

In school we have a small but very eager gardening club who are keen to grow flowers and food. However, our garden beds are in desperate need of a makeover.



We have six raised beds which are falling apart and require replacing. Some of these have also been taken over by brambles and although the gardening club have been making an effort to clear them, we could do with some more help with this. We are also in need of more topsoil and compost and need some replacement bark chips to fill in the paths between the beds.

Having a school garden is something that benefits everyone by providing a calming space and giving children an opportunity to work together developing skills for the future in a pleasant and safe environment. It can be used to enrich our science, geography and PSHE curriculum and provide and encourages patience and a sense of responsibility.



If any parents are involved in a business or company that could support us in any way to get our garden going again, please contact us. In return, we would be happy to advertise your business in our school newsletter for a term.

EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES

As part of our celebration of the European Day of Languages, on Monday 22nd September, children took part in an inspiring afternoon of themed activities under the motto "Languages Open Hearts and Minds."

The afternoon began with a whole-school assembly that highlighted the power of languages to connect people and build understanding. A special moment in the assembly was recognising the incredible diversity within our own school community—over 70 children speak a language other than English at home and 29 different languages are spoken across the school!



This celebration of multilingualism set the tone for the afternoon, where pupils took part in creative art activities inspired by European cultures. These included storytelling in German based on the



Grimms fairy tale 'The Brementown Musicians' and creating Portuguese azulejos (a form of Iberian painted tin-glazed ceramic tilework).

The children thoroughly enjoyed this special afternoon and gained so much by appreciating the rich cultural tapestry that makes our school so special.

Mrs Mendez, MFL Lead.



LANGUAGE COMPETITION

Languages Open Hearts and Minds: The Art of Communication

Competition Overview:

This drawing competition invites artists to explore the beauty and power of language through their artwork. Participants will create drawings based on themes that showcase how language connects people, cultures and ideas. The aim is to inspire creativity while celebrating the importance of languages in uniting hearts and minds across the globe.

Competition Categories:

Children can select from one of the following three drawing categories:



Language Bridge

Theme: Bridging Cultures through Language

Draw a bridge made of words in different languages, symbolising how language connects different communities.

Language Garden

Theme: Growing with Language

Draw a garden where the plants, flower, or trees are made up of words or phrases in different languages.

The Language of Music

Theme: Expressing Emotion Through Language and Sound

Draw a musical scene where instruments or sound waves are made from words or phrases in different languages.

The competition is open to all year groups. There will be separate age categories:

Year 3 and Year 4

Year 5 and Year 6

Drawings can be created with any medium (pencil, pen, watercolour)

Language Requirements:

The artwork must incorporate at least 5 different languages. Words can be greetings, cultural expressions or any relevant phrase.

The language should be legible and the words should contribute to the meaning or symbolism of the drawing.

All entries must be submitted to Mrs Mendez by Monday 20th October.

Please include your name and class on your entry.

Judging Criteria:

How unique and imaginative is the drawing?

Does it creatively explore the theme of language connecting hearts and minds?

Consideration will be given to use of colours, details and overall composition.

How closely does the drawing reflect the theme "Languages Open Hearts and Minds"?

Does the artwork effectively communicate how language bridges cultural gaps?

How well are the languages integrated into the drawing?

Is there a clear effort to incorporate multiple languages and do they enhance the visual story?

There will be prizes for the winner and runner up in each year group category.

BBC 500 WORDS WRITING COMPETITION

The UK's largest children's story writing competition is open for entries from Tuesday 23 September - Friday 7 November at 9pm.

We have many really creative children at Whiteheath with big imaginations and great ideas.

The BBC 500 words writing competition, is now open for entries and is a great opportunity for some of our children to show off their skills. All they need to do is write a story they would love to read in 500 Words or less. The closing date for entries is Friday 7 November at 9pm. Children of all abilities can enter; spelling, punctuation and grammar are not marked - it's all about creativity!



The finalists will be invited to go to a grand final in February next year, where the winners will have their stories read out by celebrities. They will also take home an illustration of their story by a top children's illustrator, a bundle of books for themselves and the gold winners' schools will receive 500 books for their school library.

For all other information regarding how to submit your stories, story ideas and live lessons please use this link: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words>



Happy Writing! Miss Lawrence, Writing Lead.

PHOTO DAY FOR WEBSITE

On Tuesday, we have a photographer with us for the day to take some new images for our school website. To support us in attaining some lovely photographs, please can you ensure that the children are looking extra smart on Tuesday. Many thanks!

GOLD TRAVEL ACCREDITATION AWARD



We have been awarded again, for another year, the Tfl Travel for Life Gold Accreditation, valid until 2028, for the work that the school carries out to promote safe travel. See below:

'Congratulations on achieving your Tfl Travel for Life accreditation! Thank you for being a part of the programme and working hard to reduce car use, improve safety and increase walking and cycling in the Capital.

You and your school community have contributed to making our city's air cleaner and our streets safer, and your work as School Champion is inspiring the green leaders of our future'.

WALKING TO SCHOOL AND WALK ZONE MAP

Why walk to school?

- It keeps us all fit and healthy.
- It's better for the environment and helps keep our air clean.
- It improves concentration and helps us feel calmer and happier.
- Allows time to walk and talk - a few minutes each way to hear about each other's day.
- It keeps roads around school free from traffic which is safer for our children.
- Best of all it's FREE - save on fuel costs and transport fares.

Our aim is...

For every child and young person in Hillingdon to be able to walk, cycle or use the bus safely for their everyday journeys, especially to and from school.

Walking to school is one of the easiest ways to improve our health and keep our air clean.

For more information email us at stars@hillingdon.gov.uk

Visit stars.tfl.gov.uk

Together we can improve the health of all our students.

Skip your ride, take a stride

WHITEHEATH JUNIOR SCHOOL WALK ZONE MAP

This map was created to encourage you to walk to school, and travel on foot more often around the local area.





PARENT/CARER CURRICULUM WORKSHOPS

We have several workshops planned for parents/carers this year. These are to provide you with more information about specific subjects/topics that we teach and how we teach them and to give you some ideas about the ways you could support your child at home.

The date/time of the workshops for this year are:

- Autumn 1 - Grammar - Tuesday 21st October 9:00 - 10:00am
- Autumn 2 - Reading - Friday 5th December 9:00 - 10:00am
- Spring 1 - Maths - Wednesday 14th January 9:00 - 10:00am
- Spring 2 - Oracy - TBC
- Summer 1 - Spelling - TBC
- Summer 2 - Computing - Wednesday 10th June 9:00 - 10:00am

All parents/carers are welcome to attend and information about each workshop and booking details will be sent out in due course.



YEAR 3 GEOBUS WORKSHOPS

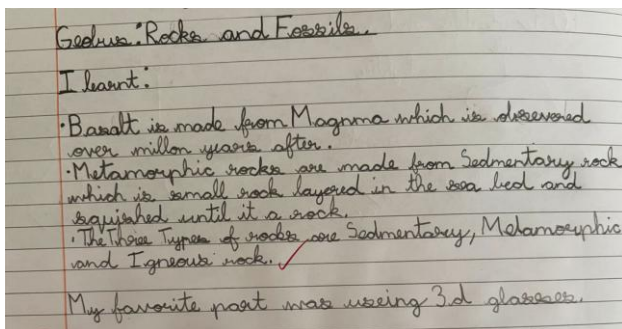


Recently, our Year 3 children enjoyed a virtual GeoBus workshop, bringing geography and science to life in a fun and interactive way. Using 3D glasses, they explored fossils, rocks and minerals, seeing ancient creatures and geological formations in amazing detail.

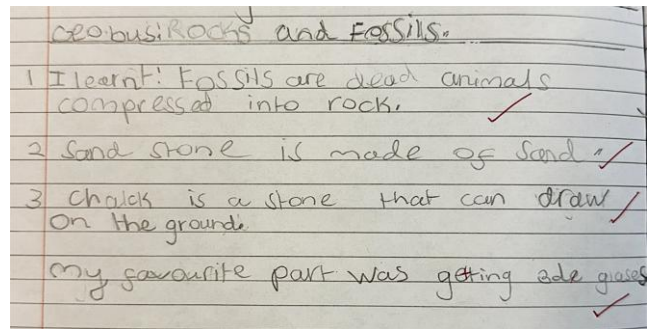
The children learned how different rocks and minerals are formed, their uses in everyday life and became young geologists, examining samples to identify their unique properties. It was a fantastic way for them to discover how these natural materials shape the world around us. It was wonderful to see the children so engaged and excited to learn—what a memorable experience for them all!



Learning and feedback:

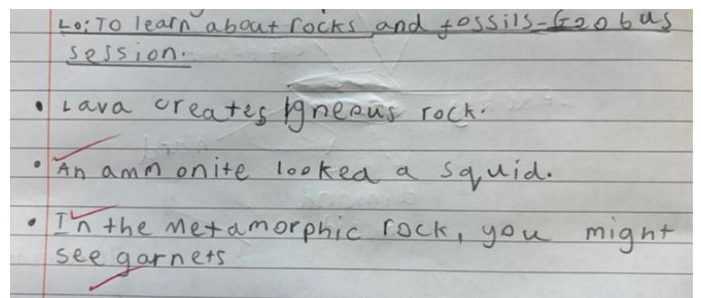


(Year 3, Willow Class)



(Year 3, Oak Class)

The children really enjoyed finding out about the fossils and seeing them under the microscope. Miss Atkinson



(Year 3, Ash Class)



Continuing the Learning at Home

To keep the excitement going, why not ask your children about their favourite part of the GeoBus workshop? Encourage them to share what they discovered about fossils, rocks and minerals, and perhaps spend some time exploring these topics together.

There are lots of online resources, documentaries and books that can help spark their curiosity even further!

Mrs Kan, Geography lead.

Sports News

BADMINTON FESTIVAL AND COMPETITION



This week some Year 4 children travelled to Hounslow to compete in a Badminton Festival and Competition.

Having finished the festival, where they enjoyed fun activities, practising their serves and their movement around the court, it was time for mini matches against other schools.

The teams were split into teams of 5 players competing in 8-minute matches. Having played some excellent badminton, Whiteheath won every match to win the competition! A huge congratulations to those that took part! Mr Newing.

FOOTBALL MATCH

This week also saw our girls football team travel to Harlyn to take part in the first football cluster of the season.

The girls played 3 games in total and drew all 3 games 0-0, but the score didn't really reflect how well they played. The girls were incredible on and off the ball, consistently putting all their effort in trying to create moments to score on the pitch. They played well against really good teams.

Well done to all of them. Mr Newing.



Reminders

POLITE REMINDER

Please can we remind all parents/carers that our car park is for staff use only. Thank you.



PTA – we need your support!

The PTA are looking for volunteers to come on board to help with our fundraising events.

We have 4 main events a year-

- Christmas Fayre
- Disco
- Sports Day refreshments
- Summer Fayre

If you are interested in becoming a valuable member of our team, please email us at whiteheath-juniors-PTA@outlook.com. Many thanks, Your PTA

READING HELP - PARENT VOLUNTEERS

We are looking out for parents/carers who can spare some time to support our children. At present, we need volunteers to hear children read. If you think you may be able to help, please contact the school via the office email.



We need as many parent/carer volunteers as possible. Thank you.

HALF TERM SEND AND PASTORAL SUPPORT MEETINGS

We are pleased to inform you that we will be holding half termly SEND and Pastoral Support meetings. These are an informal opportunity to let you know about some of the processes and support which is available in school.

The meetings this term will be held on:

- 1st October 9 – 9:30am
- 10th December 2:45pm

You are warmly invited to attend and in order to anticipate numbers, please email sendco@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk if we will be seeing you at the meetings.

Regards, Mrs Manfredi (SENDCo) & Mrs Ventin (Pastoral Leader)

OCTOBER HALF TERM HOLIDAY CAMP



✦ **Bigger Adventures, Smaller Prices**
– This Half Term at Holiday HQ: Kids Fest 🎃

This October, we're making holiday fun even easier for families — with lower prices and flexible booking to suit you. We know children can't get enough of Holiday HQ fun — but with the rising cost of living, parents told us it's not always easy to book as many days as they'd like.



That's why we've reduced our daily price for Holiday HQ: Kids Fest this October Half-Term at **Whiteheath Junior School** saving £10 a day, and at least 20% less than the summer holiday rate. Daily prices have dropped from **£42.60** to just **£32.60**.


And with no codes needed, it's easier than ever for families to say "yes" to more adventures this October.

Better Value for Families



- ☑ **£10 Off Every Day** – Automatic savings on every booking. That's up to £50 off across the week, making more days of fun possible.
- ☑ **Better Values for families** - No early bird or discount codes needed – just lower pricing.
- ☑ **That's over 20% off each session**, with no expiry date!

NEW: 48-Hour Booking Flexibility for JAG Families

Cancel or amend bookings up to 48 hours before – across all our services: breakfast clubs, after school clubs, and holiday clubs, giving families the flexibility they need.

 **Pay in Instalments** – Spread the cost with ease, so holidays feel less of a stretch.

What Children Can Look Forward To At Holiday HQ: Kids Fest

-  A brand-new **festival theme every day**
-  **Hero Activities** that bring the theme to life
-  **Make & Take crafts** to proudly bring home
-  **Skill Zone challenges** that build confidence & curiosity
-  A special **Monsters & Mischief Halloween finale**
-  Ofsted-registered clubs: safe, high-quality, and reliable childcare

 [Discover What's On at Holiday HQ Kids Fest](#)

 [Book Now](#)



Merit Assembly

Class of the Week – Birch class

Class Merit Awards

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Evangeline, Shaan, Sulaman	Harper, Charlie, Dominic	Elena, Kian	Harry, Anaiya, Isla

House Points

Hampton	Windsor	London	Westminster
20	60	10	20



Online Safety

Each week we are going to include a guide in this newsletter, covering different aspects, to help ensure children and young people are supported and protected online. We aim to reach and engage our entire school community, fostering a collaborative approach to promoting online safety and digital citizenship.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about VPNs

VPN use among UK teens is on the rise – with a noticeable uptick following the introduction of the Online Safety Act's age-verification rules. A VPN – or virtual private network – can boost online privacy by hiding internet activity and masking the user's location. But while this technology has legitimate uses, it can also allow children to bypass safety filters and access inappropriate content. This guide covers what parents and educators need to know about VPNs and how to keep young people safe.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

BYPASSING RESTRICTIONS

VPNs are commonly used by young people to get around blocks on school networks or parental controls. This could include accessing social media, gaming sites or adult content that would otherwise be filtered out.

ACCESSING INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

When a VPN is active, content filters can no longer see which sites a child is visiting. This means they could access inappropriate content without detection. This also makes it harder to intervene when a child is engaging in risky behaviour, as it may be difficult to detect if it's happening.

REDUCED TRANSPARENCY

VPNs may make parental monitoring software ineffective, stopping parents from monitoring their child's activities, including their ability to identify potentially harmful or inappropriate content or online contact. This in turn may prevent parents from protecting their children from attempted sextortion or other online threats.

FALSE SENSE OF ANONYMITY

Children believing that VPNs make them invisible online may seek to explore unadulte internet content, including content which might otherwise be blocked. This may result in them seeking and accessing increasingly inappropriate or even harmful content.

INCREASED EXPOSURE TO MALWARE

Many free VPN apps are poorly regulated and may carry hidden malware, leaving people installing them on their devices (and home networks) to spying, data theft, computer viruses, or even remote access by criminals.

RISK OF MALICIOUS VPN PROVIDERS

Although VPNs may increase privacy from network or service provider filtering and monitoring, this results in providing user and usage data to VPN providers. Some VPN providers may track user activity and sell that data to advertisers – or worse, malicious third parties. Not all VPNs are trustworthy.

Advice for Parents & Educators

EXPLAIN THE POSSIBLE BENEFITS OF VPNs

Explain how VPNs can help protect user data and therefore may be appropriate when using public or other unsecured Wi-Fi, or while dealing with sensitive enquiries or personal data.

EXPLAIN THE RISKS OF VPNs

Discuss online risks, including harmful, disturbing, and criminal content, inform children about criminal contact, such as sextortion, and how VPNs may restrict adults from monitoring children's internet use and helping them avoid these risks.

FREE ISN'T FREE

Discuss the risk of free VPNs and how they may sell or use people's data, which adds privacy risks. Additionally, discuss the potential for added malware in VPN downloads, and how these compromise devices and apps, leading to potential fraud or theft.

CHECK DEVICES FOR VPNs

VPNs can be installed on both apps and browser extensions, so regularly check these on the devices used by the young people in your care, if they have been using VPNs, discuss it, listen to their reasoning, and inform them of the associated risks. In some cases, it may be appropriate to block VPN use via parental controls and other settings.

DISCUSS ONLINE BOUNDARIES

Reinforce the importance of keeping safe online and how filtering and monitoring helps keep young people safe – explain this to them rather than just 'telling them'. Encourage an open conversation around what they're accessing and why.

Meet Our Expert

This guide has been created in collaboration with Gary Messenger, director of IT at a large independent school in the UK, an ambassador for the Association of Network Schools Managers in Education and the Vice Chair of the Independent Schools Council Digital Advisory Group.



#WakeUpWednesday



Payment/deadline Dates

OUTSTANDING PAYMENTS DUE

Payment
Donation for Jeans for Genes Day
Year 3 Stone Age workshop
Year 4 Verulamium

UPCOMING PAYMENTS

Payment	Date due
Year 6 Science Museum	Today
Year 5 Brazil Day	29 th September
Year 6 Isle of Wight deposit	6 th October

DEADLINES FOR OTHER THINGS

Deadline	Date due
None at present	

Weekly Attendance

Class	% Attendance W/C 22nd Sep 2025	% Attendance 03.09.25 – 26.09.25	Year Group Attendance % 03.09.25 – 26.09.25
Ash	97.8	98.6	
Oak	98.0	98.0	
Willow	97.4	97.0	
Year 3	-	-	97.9
Beech	98.2	97.0	
Elm	92.2	94.8	
Maple	100	98.5	
Year 4	-	-	96.9
Birch	95.0	96.7	
Yew	97.4	98.5	
Year 5	-	-	97.6
Juniper	93.7	95.2	
Pine	97.9	97.0	
Poplar	94.4	92.0	
Year 6	-	-	94.7
Totals	96.5	96.7	96.7



Contacting us

Contacting class teachers	Willow	Miss Atkinson	willow@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk
	Ash	Mrs Garland/ Mrs Robert	ash@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk
	Oak	Miss Malone	oak@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk
	Maple	Mrs Mendez	maple@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk
	Beech	Miss Cook	beech@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk
	Elm	Mr Lewington	elm@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk
	Yew	Ms Prioli	yew@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk
	Birch	Miss Bryant	birch@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk
	Poplar	Miss Lawrence	poplar@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk
	Pine	Miss Jackman	pine@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk
Juniper	Mr Goodchild	juniper@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk	
Years 5 & 6 maths sets	Miss Wells	maths56@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk	
General enquiries	office@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk		
Welfare/reporting your child's absence	welfare@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk		
Safeguarding concerns	dsl@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk		
<p>Whiteheath Junior School is a safe space for any child or adult to come to talk about issues affecting them. Ask the office to speak to a Designated Safeguarding Lead, (Mrs Ventin or Ms Kenny), or the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (Miss Wells). Alternatively, you can email the address above dsl@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk - this is a confidential email address only read by the safeguarding leads.</p>			
<p>If you are concerned a child may be at risk, you can also contact the Stronger Families Hub on 01895 556006 (available all year round).</p>			

Extra-curricular Clubs

We are very fortunate in being able to offer the children a wide variety of before, lunchtime and after school clubs. To see the full schedule, and for details of how to sign up for clubs, please visit:

<https://www.whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk/extra-curricular-clubs/>

Autumn Term Dates

Tuesday 30 th September	Photography and video day
Wednesday 1 st October	GenEarth workshop Year 5
Wednesday 1 st October	SEND & Pastoral meeting for parents/carers 9-9:30am
Friday 3 rd October	Year 5 Brazil Day
Monday 6 th October	Year 4 trip to Verulamium
Week Beginning 6 th October	Year 6 Bikeability Week 1
Week Beginning 13 th October	Year 6 Bikeability Week 2
Week Beginning 13 th October	Pennies for the PTA House Competition
Monday 13 th October	Year 3 Stone Age Workshop (date changed)
Tuesday 14th October	Parents' Consultation Evening
Wednesday 15th October	Parents' Consultation Evening
Thursday 16 th October	Year 3 and 4 Tag rugby Festival – TBC



Friday 17 th October	Nasal Flu Vaccinations
Wednesday 22 nd October	Year 4 -6 Virtual author visit
Thursday 23 rd October	Yr 5 Harvest Festival assembly to school am
Thursday 23 rd October	Yr 5 Harvest Festival assembly to parents/carers 2:30pm
Friday 24th October	Training Day (no children)
<i>(Half term - Monday 27th October to Friday 31st October)</i>	
Monday 3 rd November	Children return to school
Friday 7 th November	Individual photographs
Friday 7 th November	Kwik Sticks Hockey competition - TBC
Wednesday 12 th November	Geobus workshop Year 4
Friday 14 th November	Children In Need Day
Saturday 15th November	Coir singing at Ruislip Manor Xmas Funday
Wednesday 19 th November	Geobus workshop Year 6
Thursday 20 th November	SportsHall Athletics - TBC
Wednesday 26 th November	Borough Girls' Football competition – TBC
Friday 28 th November	Year 6 visit to Science Museum
Wednesday 3 rd December	Borough Best Team football competition - TBC
Thursday 4 th December	PTA Christmas
Fayre{"IsDistinguishedFolder":false,"FolderId":{"Id":"AAMkADMxNDQ2ZTU1LWVhNWMtNDU5My04MTJhLWlyMTU4MDMxMjM5OAAuAAAAABtUBvKpN2jSarkbWXdrZA/AQCT5+mmRlaxS4uLzS0+P4B1AAM+LbGNAAA=","ChangeKey":"AQAAABYAACT5+mmRlaxS4uLzS0+P4B1AAVeW5y6"},"DragItemType":2}	
Wednesday 10 th December	SEND & Pastoral meeting for parents/carers 2:45pm
Thursday 11 th December	Year 6 Height and Weight Check
Friday 12 th December	Christmas lunch, Christmas Service and Christmas Jumper Day TBC
Monday 15 th December	Year 3 Christmas performances dress rehearsal to the school
Tuesday 16 th December	Autumn term report cards out to parents/carers
Tuesday 16 th December	Year 3 Christmas Performance to parents/carers at 9:30am
Wednesday 17 th December	Year 3 Christmas Performance to parents/carers at 5pm
Thursday 18 th December	Christmas Parties
Friday 19 th December	School term ends at 12:30pm

Have a relaxing weekend everyone,

M Kenny,
Headteacher

