



WHITEHEATH JUNIOR SCHOOL

Opportunity, Confidence & Growth

Whole School Newsletter

Newsletter No: 22

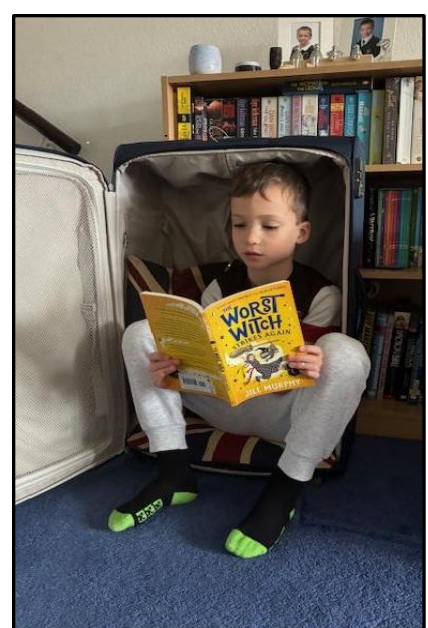
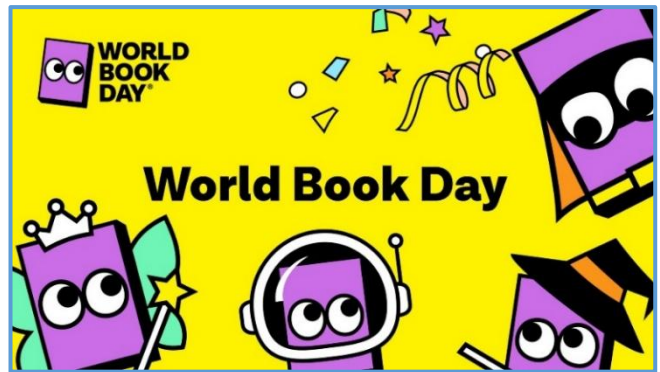
Friday 6th March, 2026.

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 school **website** along with our **'year group pages'** (under the **'News and Events'** section on the website). Please check your emails regularly as this is our main form of communication with you.

WORLD BOOK DAY 2026

As part of our World Book Day celebrations, our children have taken part in a range of events across this week.

Over the half term, the children were challenged by the 'Strangest Place you can Read' competition, which saw many of our children taking their reading books to all corners of the world and the local area. Some of our children chose to read upside down in their gymnastics classes whilst others chose to read in the local woods. Many of our children even took their books on holiday and sent us photos from the top of mountains or iconic buildings!



On Monday, we celebrated their entries and awarded prizes to our four winners: Year 3, Charlotte; Year 4, Frankie; Year 5, Frankie and Year 6, Anaya. It was wonderful to see our children embracing reading for pleasure and taking their books out with them on day trips. Some quotes from our children about this event:

'I was so excited as I thought my place, the washing machine, was very strange!'

'It doesn't matter where you read, so long as it's a good book!'

This week our children have also taken part in the 'Masked Reader' competition saw which saw many of our staff members disguise their usual reading voice. The task was to identify the ten 'masked' readers and to be the quickest class to get all of the answers right.

Well done to Juniper Class who were the only class to successfully identify all 10 voices. This competition created a real buzz around the school as the children fought to identify the readers with some clips as short as 10 seconds! One of our children said, 'The masked reader was so fun and funny and everyone in my class was laughing at the teacher's disguised voices!'

Yesterday, we enjoyed an assembly from Mr Matton, English Lead at Haydon School, who shared an exciting assembly book recommendations and showed our children different ways to enjoy reading.

Today we have visited the Infant School and hosted some Infant children at the Junior School for our whole school buddy reading morning. We shared both fiction and non-fiction books and enjoyed some bedtime stories together. It is lovely to see our children share their favourite books together and listen so patiently to the younger children reading.

One of our Year 6 children said, 'Reading with the Infants was really fun and I enjoyed helping them with their reading!'

Today, we have also begun work on our Whiteheath Juniors and Infant's joint project: a series of setting descriptions from famous children's books. The infant children will then draw the accompanying pictures, which will come together to form a book for each school to share in our libraries.



Our children have really enjoyed our celebrations and we hope that it inspires them to embark on a lifetime of reading for pleasure.

Some quotes from our week of celebrations:

'It was so fun to wear our pyjamas and share our favourite books with the younger children!'

'World Book Day taught me that there will always be a book for you!'



THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN BUNKER – YEAR 6



On Thursday, two of the Year 6 classes visited the Battle of Britain Bunker in Uxbridge. They had a workshop where they learnt about how the Dowding system worked to send and receive messages about hostile aircraft and scramble squadrons during World War 2. They practised some of the skills needed to be a plotter including reading co-ordinates and learning how to dial a number on a 1940's rotary phone.



Later, they ventured down the 76 steps to the secret underground bunker to see

how the decisions were made during the Battle of Britain under the watchful eye of Winston Churchill.

The children really enjoyed the experience of being in such a historic local location and finding out about the work that was done there.



WHOLE SCHOOL SPELLING BEE



We are holding a whole school Spelling Bee over the next few weeks to help promote high standards in spelling across the school. The Spelling Bee will encourage children to learn some of their key spelling words in order to compete in a friendly competition and celebrates their efforts in becoming excellent spellers.

How it works...

As part of their homework next week, your child will come home with a list of spellings that we would like them to learn as well as they can. During the following week, their teachers will select some of these words to test all of the children on. The two highest scorers from each house in each class will then go on to the second round of the competition where we will use the words they have learnt plus some extra 'challenge words' to select finalists to compete in our 'Spelling Bee' assembly during the final week of term.

Please encourage your child to get involved!



CHILDNET FILM COMPETITION – DIGITAL LEADERS PROJECT



We are delighted to announce that our Digital Leaders will once again be taking part in the Childnet Film Competition! After achieving a fantastic Top 50 shortlist position last year, the team are eager to start planning and filming their entry for this year's competition.

This year's film will be inspired by the Safer Internet Day theme: "Smart tech, safe choices – exploring the safe and responsible use of AI." Through this exciting project, our Digital Leaders will collaborate to produce a short film that highlights the importance of using technology thoughtfully and responsibly.

Through this project, our Digital Leaders will:

- Deepen their understanding of online safety and digital responsibility
- Develop skills in scripting, filming and editing
- Grow in confidence through collaborative teamwork
- Communicate positive and important messages to a wider audience

Thank you for your continued support as we nurture safe, responsible and creative digital citizens.
Miss Malone, Computing Lead.

PRESENTATION AWARDS

At Whiteheath, we regularly focus on presentation in the children's books - we have so many children who work so hard to improve their handwriting and their neatness in their books that we feel this should be rewarded. Children who have made a considerable effort in improving their handwriting and/or presentation are given a 'presentation' certificate in Merit assembly.

The presentation awards in this week's Merit Assembly were for:
Bhavya, Arya, Sarah F, Henry D, Grace, Emillie, Akira.

OPTIONAL ONLINE MATHS PARENTS MEETINGS

The optional maths online meetings are taking place during the week beginning Monday 23rd March.

Year 3 maths meetings will be on **Monday 23rd March**, 3:50 – 6:00pm

Year 6 maths meetings will be on **Tuesday 24th March**, 3:50 – 6:00pm

Year 5 maths meetings will be on **Wednesday 12th March**, 3:50 – 6:00pm

Year 4 maths meetings will be on **Thursday 26th March**, 3:50 – 6:00pm

Miss Wells' sets (Year 5 and Year 6) will be on **Wednesday 25th March**, 1:00 – 6:00pm

These five-minute meetings are a chance for you to speak with your child's maths teacher (if your child's maths teacher is different from their class teacher).

The online meetings are optional – if you do not feel you need to speak with your child's maths teacher then there is no need to book a meeting.

Today, we sent out the log in details/guide for your appointment (**with your child MATHS teacher only if they are not your child's class teacher**). Please read the guidance carefully in advance of the



evening and ensure you know who your child's maths teacher is as we have had in the past, several parents booking appointments with the incorrect teacher.

As always, if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the school office prior to booking an appointment. We hope you welcome this opportunity, as it is something we implemented following feedback from parents/carers. Many thanks for your continued support.

Sports News

BASKETBALL COMPETITION

Last Friday the basketball team competed in the annual 3v3 tournament at Uxbridge College.

It was a spectacular event and one that started really well for Whiteheath. The team played some excellent Basketball. As the competition progressed, the team picked up points against Hermitage and Lady Banks and progressed through the group stage into the semi-finals.



The team started superbly and the score was 6-2 to go with only a few minutes to go...

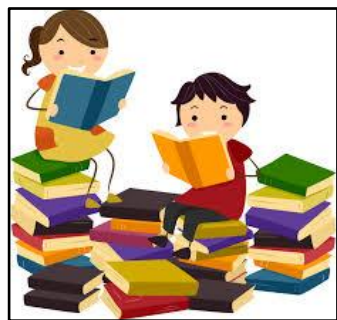
However, St Swithun Wells managed to claw themselves back into the game and forced it into overtime! This meant 'sudden death' - the first team to score would go through to the final.

Ilyas had a shot which looked like it was heading for the hoop, it felt like the whole world had stopped in front of our eyes - and whilst everyone waited to see if it would score a basket, the ball managed to bounce off the rim and land into the hands of the opposition and they scored! So, so close.

An excellent game - the team were brilliant throughout the whole day. Well Done to all! Mr Newing.

Reminders

CALLING OUT FOR READING HELP



We are in need of adult support to hear our children read and are putting out a further call for help.

If you can only spare an hour once a week, this would help! If you can spare an hour after drop off or an hour before school drop off, we would be interested in your support. Please email the office if you think you can offer us some of your time.

Many, many thanks.



BIG WALK AND WHEEL WEEK

We're excited to be taking part in the **Big Walk and Wheel** from **16th-27th March**! This national event encourages pupils to travel to school in active ways such as walking, wheeling, scooting or cycling. It's a fun opportunity to build healthy habits, reduce traffic around the school and help the environment. Each day, classes will record how many pupils travel actively, with opportunities for friendly competition and celebration. We'd love your support in helping your child take part wherever possible — every active journey counts!



PARENT/CARER CURRICULUM WORKSHOPS

We have several workshops this year. The date/time of the remaining workshops are:

- **Spring 2 - Oracy - TUESDAY 10th MARCH (DATE CHANGED) 9:00 - 10:00am**
- **Summer 1 - Behaviour Policy and Behaviour Curriculum- 16th April - 2pm**
- **Summer 1 - Spelling - 21st April 9am 10am**
- **Summer 2 - Computing/Online Safety - Wednesday 10th June 9:00 - 10:00am**

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

SEND & PASTORAL SESSIONS FOR PARENTS/CARERS

- **Wednesday 25th March at 2.45pm**
 - An opportunity to raise your questions related to SEND and Pastoral needs/processes.

Please email your attendance and send through questions you would like to raise ahead of the meetings - sendco@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk



Merit Assembly

Class of the Week – Oak

Class Merit Awards

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Sujaan, Oscar, Betsy	Matthew F, Sydney, Lottie	Maya, Victoriana	Kurt, Ali-Haadi, Eve

House Points

Hampton	Windsor	London	Westminster
40	10	20	40



Payment/deadline Dates

OUTSTANDING PAYMENTS DUE

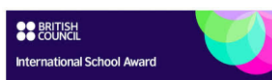
Payment
Year 6 alternative week
Year 5 alternative week
D & T resources for the year
Yr 6 SATs books
Yr 5 Mosque trip
Year 6 Journey Outreach
Year 6 Art Canvas
Yr 6 Battle of Britain Bunker trip
Yr 4 Ark Synagogue trip

UPCOMING PAYMENTS

Payment	Date due
World Book Day	6 th March
Comic Relief Day	20 th March

Spring Term Dates

Monday 23 rd February	Children return
Friday 27 th February	Year 6 Journey Outreach workshop
Friday 27 th February	Yr 5/6 Basketball Competition (rescheduled)
Thursday 5 th March	Year 5 Mosque visit
Thursday 5 th March	Year 6 Battle of Britain Bunker trip (2 classes)
Friday 6 th March	World Book Day
Monday 9 th March	Year 5 visit to Haydon School
Monday 9 th March	Year 6 Battle of Britain Bunker trip (1 class)
Tuesday 10 th March	Oracy workshop for parents/carers
Thursday 12 th March	Yr 3/4 Netball Festival
Tuesday 17 th March	Yr 3 Church visit
Thursday 19 th March	Yr 5/6 Development Netball Festival
Friday 20 th March	Comic Relief Day
Monday 23 rd March	Online Maths Parents Meetings – Yr 3
Monday 23rd March	Life Base workshops – Year 4 and 5
Tuesday 24th March	Life Base workshops – Year 3 and 5
Tuesday 24 th March	Online Maths Parents Meetings – Yr 6
Tuesday 24 th March	Year 4 Synagogue visit
Tuesday 24 th March	Year 5/6 District netball competition
Wednesday 25 th March	Year 5/6 b team netball competition
Wednesday 25 th March	Online Maths Parents Meetings – Yr 5
Wednesday 25 th March	SEND/Pastoral session for parents/carers
Thursday 26 th March	Online Maths Parents Meetings – Yr 4



Thursday 26th March
 Thursday 26th March
 Friday 27th March

Year 6 Maths Challenge
 End of term report cards out to parents/carers
 School breaks up for Easter at 12:30pm

Weekly Attendance

Class	% Attendance W/C – 2 nd March 2026	% Attendance 03.09.25 – 06.03.26	Year Group Attendance % 03.09.25 – 06.03.26
Ash	95.4	95.2	
Oak	98.3	96.9	
Willow	97.9	94.8	
Year 3	-	-	95.6
Beech	95	96.3	
Elm	90.5	94.4	
Maple	99	96.2	
Year 4	-	-	95.7
Birch	94.2	95.2	
Yew	94	94.8	
Year 5	-	-	95
Juniper	98.5	96.6	
Pine	95.2	96.3	
Poplar	97.3	96.2	
Year 6	-	-	96.4
Totals	96	95.7	95.7

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

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**.

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).

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/>

JAG EASTER HOLIDAY CAMP



Easter holiday camp at our school

When school closes for two weeks and work doesn't, life can quickly become a juggling act — balancing meetings, routines and restless energy at home.




This Easter, Holiday HQ returns to our school, delivered by Junior Adventures Group (JAG) — the same team that delivers wraparound care here.

 **Monday 30 March – Friday 10 April**






Holiday HQ: The Great Outdoors

Across two themed weeks — **Wildlife & Discovery** and **Survival & Adventure** — children aged 4–11 will enjoy screen-free days filled with outdoor adventure, teamwork and hands-on challenges.

During the holidays, children will:

-  Take on **outdoor obstacle-style challenges** and **team missions**
-  **Cross the Crocodile River** and tackle **raft-building competitions**
-  Play fast-paced games such as **Kangaroo Cricket** and **Capture the Flag**



-  Follow compass clues in **treasure hunts** and **outdoor navigation quests**
-  **Create camouflage** and test whether they can hide in plain sight
-  **Build wildlife feeders** and explore ways to support local birds
-  **Make wildflower seed pops** to plant at home
-  **Construct LED campfires** for imaginative storytelling

The blend of movement, problem-solving and creativity keeps children active and socially connected. Activities are tailored so younger children feel supported, while older children develop greater independence, resilience and leadership.

Children head home happily tired — proud of what they've achieved and ready for calmer evenings at home.

What this means for families

- ✓ Safe, structured days delivered by familiar staff
- ✓ A convenient, local setting that fits easily into family routines
- ✓ Book only the days you need
- ✓ Flexible cancellation policies providing reassurance if plans change
- ✓ Tax-Free Childcare accepted

For parents, that means dependable holiday cover and calmer, more predictable weeks during the Easter break — without disrupting usual commitments.

Save on Easter bookings

Early bird discount – Save 10%

Book by Monday 9 March 2026 using code **OUTDOOR10** at checkout.

Sibling discount – Save 10%

Automatically applied when booking more than one child.

Multi-day booking discount – Save 4%

Book four days or more within the same week.


All eligible discounts are combined automatically at checkout.

Parents can view session details, times, prices and booking options online.

[Find our school club](#)

Structured days for them. Peace of mind for you.

 Have any questions?

 0333 577 1533

 hello@junioradventuresgroup.co.uk



Online Safety

Each week we are going to include a guide in this newsletter, covering different aspects of online safety, 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.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about APPLE IPADS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Tablets remain a staple of children's digital lives – and Apple's iPad is by far the most popular model. According to Ofcom, over half of younger children regularly use a tablet to play games, watch online content or access apps. With their broad functionality, iPads can be helpful tools, but without supervision, they may expose children to risks ranging from inappropriate content to screen overuse.

COSTLY TO REPAIR

Unlike some child-friendly tablets, the iPad is not built for rough handling. Its slim design and high cost mean that a drop or spill can result in a costly repair. If a child is using the device regularly, a sturdy case and screen protector are strongly recommended to help prevent accidental damage.

DATA PRIVACY

While Apple is known for strong privacy protections, a recent study found that many iOS apps aimed at children still share personal data. Over 40% of the tested apps sent at least one piece of user information to third parties, raising concerns about advertising and analytics being targeted at underage users.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

The App Store and Safari browser provide almost unrestricted access to online material. Children may stumble upon age-inappropriate content, whether through apps, advertisements or online searches. Even recommended content algorithms can surface unsuitable material.

BYPASSING RESTRICTIONS

Siri – Apple's voice assistant – can potentially override restrictions, especially with the newer text-based commands introduced through Apple Intelligence. Without safeguards in place, children may inadvertently access inappropriate topics simply by asking a question, bypassing certain filters previously set by adults.

SCREEN ADDICTION

iPads can be highly immersive, and excessive screen time may affect a child's emotional and behavioural development. Signs of overuse might include mood swings, irritability, and difficulty focusing on non-digital activities.

REDUCED ATTENTION & COGNITIVE IMPACT

Prolonged use of tablets has been linked with reduced memory, slower processing speeds and difficulties in concentrating. Research shows that children who spend excessive time gaming or consuming media on tablets may struggle with language development and executive functioning over time.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Family Sharing allows you to create a dedicated Apple ID for your child and manage their activity. You can approve purchases, control what content they can access, and set time limits – all done remotely from your own device. It's a simple but powerful way to maintain oversight.

FILTER APPS, WEBSITES & IN-APP PURCHASES

Parental controls in iOS let you block explicit content in Safari, restrict app downloads, and manage in-app purchase permissions. You can also filter websites automatically to prevent access to adult material and disable the installation of certain app types completely.

USE SCREEN TIME FEATURES EFFECTIVELY

Tools like Downtime and App Limits can reduce device overuse. Downtime allows you to block access during key times – such as before bed or during homework – while App Limits sets daily time caps on specific games or apps. Alerts help children anticipate when their time is almost up.

PREVENT UNAPPROVED SPENDING

Children can accidentally (or intentionally) make purchases within apps. Activating Ask to Buy under Family Sharing ensures you receive a notification to approve any app or in-app purchase. This stops surprise charges and allows you to discuss purchases together before they're made.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is a seasoned technology journalist with over a decade of experience. Formerly a senior cybersecurity reporter at TechCrunch, Carly now writes for publications including WIRED, Forbes, TechRadar, and Tes. With a deep understanding of online safety, she brings a valuable perspective to parenting in the digital age.



The National College

[@wake_up_weds](https://twitter.com/wake_up_weds)

www.thenationalcollege.com

[@wake.up.wednesday](https://www.instagram.com/wake.up.wednesday)

[@wake.up.weds](https://www.youtube.com/wake.up.weds)

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Community News/Information



CATERING ASSISTANT WHITEHEATH JUNIOR

We're actively hiring for this role. Could this be the next step in your career?

The Key Details

- 10 hours per week
- £12.71 per hour (from April)
- £5,372 per annum
- Term-time only
- Career Development Opportunities

Our catering staff are at the **heart of what we do**, by joining the team today you're helping make a **BIG difference!**



Start Strong.
Build Your
Future.
**JOIN HCL
TODAY.**

Click [Here](#) to
Apply Today

M Kenny,
Headteacher.

