



WHITEHEATH JUNIOR SCHOOL

Opportunity, Confidence & Growth

Whole School Newsletter

Newsletter No: 13

Friday 5th December, 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.

HELP FOR THE CHURCH VISIT

Next Friday (12th December) we will be walking to the church for our annual Christmas Service at St Martin's Church in Ruislip. We would appreciate any support from parents or carers to walk to and from the church with us (and stay with us for the service if you are able to). We will be leaving school in class groups; the first group are leaving at 9:10am, so you would need to be available from this time. The service is due to start at 10:00am and lasts approximately 45 minutes. We will then arrive back at school between 11:30 and 12:00. If you are able to help, please email the year group leader for your child:

Year 3 - Mrs Gardland/ Mrs Robert - ash@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk

Year 4 - Mrs Mendez - maple@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk

Year 5 - Mrs Prioli - yew@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk

Year 6 - Miss Lawrence - poplar@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk

Many thanks in anticipation of your support.

STAFF CHANGES

It is with sadness that we say a goodbye to a long serving member of staff, Mrs Armit. For the past few years, she has taught for us in Year 5, then in Year 6 for one day a week and prior to that was a class teacher and maths set teacher. She first worked at Whiteheath Junior School, 18 years ago!

Thank you to you all for your dedication, support and hard work for the school - we will be sad to see you leave and you will be missed by all of the staff, parents, governors and children. We wish you all the best in your new, exciting ventures.

CHRISTMAS POSTBOX

On Monday, we will be putting out the Christmas post-box for the children to give out cards, if they wish. Our Year 6 children hand deliver them to classes.

Please help them by ensuring your child writes the **recipient's full name and class** clearly on the envelope. All cards be need to posted **by Thursday 18th December** as it will be very busy on the last day and we will not have time to empty the post boxes!



YEAR 6 VISIT TO THE SCIENCE MUSEUM

Year 6 had a fantastic visit to the Science Museum last week.

Before the visit, they had planned their own route on the tube as part of this term's Geography field work and they enjoyed the journey, spotting the stations and discussing where they needed to change.

When they reached the museum, the whole year group headed for the IMAX theatre to watch a film about the importance and beauty of the world's oceans. The children were impressed by the enormous 3D screens and enjoyed finding out more about how to protect the oceans which supported this term's geography work.



PTA CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Thank you everyone for your donations to the Christmas Fayre.

A special thank you to Miss Warner, our PTA member, for gathering everyone together to put on another successful event on for the school. Thank you to the parent helpers also who have ensured the Fayre went ahead again this year, it wouldn't have happened without you!

Our Year 6 children, as always, were amazing! They really enjoyed themselves, devising and running their own stalls. Thank you for donating your hard-earned money at a costly time of year – it is always very much appreciated. Once the money has been counted, we will let you know how much was raised. This will help us start the fund for the adventure playground for the children.





MUSIC MARK SCHOOL



READING WORKSHOP TODAY

Thank you to those who attended the reading workshop this morning. We touched upon the following:

- understanding the expectations of the National Curriculum
- how to support with understanding vocabulary and retrieval
- demonstrating strategies to support your child(ren) at home

I hope you found the session useful. The slides from today's session is available on the school website. Miss Jackman, Reading Lead.

REMINDER – WEDNESDAY 10TH DECEMBER - SEND AND PASTORAL MEETING

You are warmly invited to attend the parent meeting which will be held on Wednesday 10th December at 2.45pm.

Mrs Ventin and myself will be able to discuss any questions you may have regarding SEND and Pastoral support. Please confirm your attendance by emailing sendco@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk

We look forward to seeing you, Mrs Manfredi, SENDCo.

MESSAGE FROM OUR AFTER SCHOOL CARE PROVIDER – JAG

Dear School Partners,

We're delighted to share some exciting news with you!

Following the valuable feedback gathered from our recent parent surveys, we are **reducing the prices at Whiteheath by 8%** of our Stay and Play service.

Stay and Play – WAS £18.10 – NOW £16.80 per session

This change reflects our continued commitment to supporting school communities with **accessible, high-quality childcare**, and we're thrilled to be able to offer families even better value while maintaining the same great experiences children enjoy every day. The new pricing will take effect from **1st December**. Any families with existing bookings don't need to take any action — we'll automatically credit the difference to their accounts by **13th December**.

If you'd like to view the updated session times and prices, you can do so here:

<https://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/find-us/>

SPRING TERM - CLUB FLYERS

On Monday, parents/carers were sent out flyers from all of our external clubs to book your child (ren) places for the Spring Term. You were sent the details for our:

- Chess Club – Tuesday lunchtimes
- Gymnastics Club – Monday after school
- Street Dance Club – Tuesday after school
- Lets Go Tennis Club – Thursday before school
- Tech Club – Wednesday and Thursday 3:30 – 4:30pm
- PSD Breakfast Clubs – Monday to Thursday 7:50am – 8:50am
- PSD Lunchtime Clubs – every day
- PSD After School Clubs – every day 3:30-4:30pm

Please book places early as they get filled quickly! The full details of all of our Spring Term clubs are now on the school website, under the Parents tab.



Sports News

FOOTBALL FIXTURE

This week our Boys A & B teams took part in away fixtures at Harlyn. Both teams started very brightly playing some excellent football whilst creating great chances. Both teams were 1-0 up against Harlyn in the first 5 minutes, thanks to their fast starts.

The A team were relentless in the first half scoring another 2 goals to make it 3-0 at half time. Goals from Daniel and James put the A team in a comfortable position and enabled Whiteheath to control the game with their passing ability and that is something they have been working on in team practice. The A team won 6-0 in the end with more goals from Daniel, Arthur, Albie and Tamon. An excellent victory and one that will boost momentum going into the next fixture. The man of the match was Thomas who was incredible in defence.

The B team dominated the game throughout and after Nikhil took his goal really well - they were looking to add a second but that wasn't to be as Harlyn scored 2 goals to make it 2-1 to them. Unfortunately, the score did not reflect the amount of possession the boys had and it was a match they should all be proud of. Well done to all! Mr Newing.

Reminders

PARENT/CARER CURRICULUM WORKSHOPS

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

- Spring 1 - Maths - Wednesday 14th January 9:00 - 10:00am
- Spring 2 - Oracy - Friday 6th March 9:00 - 10:00am
- Summer 1 - Spelling - 21st April 9am - 10am
- Summer 2 - Computing - Wednesday 10th June 9:00 - 10:00am

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

Merit Assembly

Class of the Week - Poplar

Class Merit Awards

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Jacob, Jaiverr, Lexi	Alfie, David, Olivia	Alice, Sarrah	Sophie, Zavian, Christian

House Points

Hampton	Windsor	London	Westminster
40	10	30	30



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.

At The National College, our WakeUp/Wednesday 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 NINTENDO SWITCH 2

Nintendo launched its Switch 2 games console in early June 2025 – its first new console in eight years. While it builds on the original's success by remaining compatible with certain existing games, it also adds powerful hardware and new features like GameChat and a USB-C camera. As more children look to upgrade, it's important to understand how this new console might affect their play and safety.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EASIER TO ACCESS MATURE CONTENT **18 CENSORED**

Despite Nintendo's reputation for family-friendly titles, mature games like Cyberpunk 2077 and Hitman have been released onto the platform. With the Switch 2's improved performance, developers will be able to port even more mature-rated games. These may appeal to children due to their popularity, but they contain content that is highly unsuitable for young audiences.

IN-APP & GAME STORE PURCHASES

The Nintendo eShop enables purchases with just a few taps. If payment details are saved and PIN protection is disabled, children may unknowingly make costly purchases – including game add-ons, cosmetic items or entire new releases – without parental approval.

UNRESTRICTED ONLINE PLAY IN SOME GAMES

While GameChat is one feature, Switch 2 also connects to the broader Nintendo Switch Online service. Many free-to-play titles like Fortnite or Splatoon 3 allow voice or text chat with strangers unless chat settings are adjusted, meaning children could encounter inappropriate language or unwanted contact.

GAMECHAT & REAL-TIME VOICE COMMUNICATION

GameChat enables live chatting with up to 12 people, even across different games, with optional video and screen-sharing. Though children under 16 are restricted to chatting only with approved friends, the sheer interactivity could raise privacy concerns or create pressure to remain online longer.

CAMERA COMPATIBILITY & PRIVACY CONCERNS

The optional USB-C camera supports video calling and facial overlays in games; however, this also raises the risk of cyberbullying or the unwanted sharing of personal images. The camera can be disabled, removed or covered, and parental controls are essential to manage how and when it is used.

POWERFUL PULL OF FAMILIAR CHARACTERS

Nintendo's mascot, Mario – along with Pikachu, Donkey Kong and others – remains hugely appealing to younger audiences, especially after the success of the recent film, 'The Super Mario Bros. Movie' (2023). These beloved icons are central to Nintendo's branding and often feature in merchandising, adverts and in-game promotions, creating strong emotional attachments in children and a sense of urgency to keep up with their peers.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CHECK RATINGS & USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Every Switch and Switch 2 game comes with a PEGI age rating. Before buying one, ensure the content matches your child's age. Use the Nintendo Parental Controls app to monitor gameplay, set screen-time limits and manage friend requests.

REVIEW FRIEND LISTS AND CHAT PERMISSIONS

Child profiles are restricted to chatting with approved friends only, but it's good practice to regularly check their friend list and communication settings. Use the Parental Controls app to switch off voice or video chat if necessary.

REMOVE OR RESTRICT PAYMENT METHODS

Avoid accidental spending by unlinking credit cards from the device. Instead, consider adding funds via prepaid eShop cards or requiring a PIN for purchases. Some banking apps can also be set to approve transactions manually.

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Teach children how to block, report and capture any behaviour or content that makes them uncomfortable. The console's built-in tools allow them to create screenshots and video clips, which can aid in reporting any issues. Keeping an open dialogue helps children feel supported and safe.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Games Editor of Daily Star and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published on sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.

#WakeUpWednesday
The National College

[@wake_up_weds](https://twitter.com/wake_up_weds) [/www.thenationalcollege](https://www.thenationalcollege.com) [@wake.up.wednesday](https://www.instagram.com/wake.up.wednesday) [@wake.up.weds](https://www.facebook.com/wake.up.weds)

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Payment/deadline Dates

OUTSTANDING PAYMENTS DUE

Payment
Year 3 Stone Age workshop
Year 5 Brazil Day
Year 6 Isle of Wight next instalment
Year 6 alternative week
Year 5 PGL next instalment
Year 5 alternative week

UPCOMING PAYMENTS

Payment	Date due
D & T resources for the year	1 st January

DEADLINES FOR OTHER THINGS

Deadline	Date due
Keyboard and guitar lessons	6 th January
Email Miss Lawrence if you can help with setting up the new school garden - poplar@whiteheath-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk	asap

Weekly Attendance

Class	% Attendance W/C - 1 st Dec 2025	% Attendance 03.09.25 – 05.12.25	Year Group Attendance % 03.09.25 – 05.12.25
Ash	98.8	95.9	
Oak	96.8	97.0	
Willow	88.3	96.0	
Year 3	-	-	96.4
Beech	92.7	97.1	
Elm	96.7	95.8	
Maple	99.5	97.4	
Year 4	-	-	96.9
Birch	96.1	95.7	
Yew	95.6	96.0	
Year 5	-	-	95.8
Juniper	95.1	95.8	
Pine	97.4	96.1	
Poplar	91.6	95.0	
Year 6	-	-	95.6
Totals	94.9	96.1	96.1



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		
<p>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.</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

Wednesday 10 th December 2:45pm	SEND & Pastoral meeting for parents/carers
Wednesday 10 th December	Choir to sing at the Poplars Care Home
Thursday 11 th December	Year 6 Height and Weight Check
Thursday 11 th December	Year 3 Christmas performances dress rehearsal to the school
Thursday 11 th December	Swimming Gala
Friday 12 th December	Christmas lunch, Christmas Service and Christmas Jumper Day
Saturday 13 th December	Choir Sing at Michael Sobell Winter Market
Tuesday 16 th December	Autumn term report cards out to parents/carers



Monday 15th December

Year 3 Christmas Performance to parents/carers
at 9:30am

Wednesday 17th December

Year 3 Christmas Performance to parents/carers
at 5pm

Thursday 18th December

Christmas Parties

Friday 19th December

School term ends at 12:30pm

Have a lovely weekend,

**M Kenny,
Headteacher**

