Whittington Primary & Nursery School

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Headteacher - Mrs Leeson

7th September 2026

Start of the year information

Autumn 1 2026 – What will my child be learning?

Dear Parents and carers,

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all our pupils and families as we begin another exciting school year at Whittington Primary and Nursery School. We hope you enjoyed a happy and restful summer break and are returning refreshed and ready for the term ahead. It has been a pleasure to see the children back in school, catching up with friends and settling quickly into their new classes.

We would also like to offer a special welcome to those families who are joining our school community for the first time. We are delighted to have you with us and look forward to working in partnership with you as your children begin their journey at Whittington.

As we embark on a new academic year, there is much to look forward to. Our dedicated staff have been busy preparing engaging learning experiences and opportunities that will inspire, challenge and support every child to achieve their very best.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support. Together we can make this a happy and successful year for all our children and, as part of this, we like to keep you informed of what the children will be learning in school each half term. This can be found on our school website using the following links:

Nursery: Can I make a rainbow?

Reception: What makes me special?

Y1/2: Who wears the crown?

Y3/4: Where is Italy and what is their culture like?

Y5/6: What was the impact of WW2 on the lives of the people of Britain?

On Tuesday 13th October and Wednesday 14th October, you will have the opportunity to find out more about how you child is settling into their new class and how they are getting on with their learning during our parents evening appointments. Further information will be sent out about this nearer the time.

We have an exciting programme of events planned for this academic year, with many more opportunities likely to be added as the year progresses. As events are often organised well in advance, some details may be subject to change. If any amendments are necessary, we will let you know as soon as possible. Our office staff are currently updating the school website calendar to ensure all dates are available online. Whittington Primary School - Calendar

AUTUMN TERM	
Mon 7 September	After-school clubs start
Thurs 10 September	Y4 swimming starts
Fri 25 September	PTA School fayre (following the postponed event in the summer term)
Mon 28 September	Flu vaccination programme
Fri 2 October	Individual school photographs
Mon 5 October	Phonics information evening for parents 5.30pm for Reception parents 6.15pm for Y1 parents
Tues 6 October	9.15am Y3/4 Harvest Assembly for parents
Tues 13 October	3.40pm-6.30pm Parents evening
Wed 14 October	10am Open morning for Nursery and Reception pupils in September 2027 3.40pm-6.30pm Parents evening
Wed 21 October	10am Open morning for Nursery and Reception pupils in September 2027
Thurs 22 October	Children break up for half term
Fri 23 October	INSET training day
Mon 2 November	Children return to school
Fri 4 December	PTA Christmas fayre
Mon 7 December	3.30-4.30pm Work sharing evening
Wed 9 December	Morning – Pantomime trip for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 (Lichfield Garrick) 6pm Y5 Carol Service at St Giles Church
Tues 15 December	1.30pm Pantomime trip for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 (Lichfield Garrick) JTMAT Christmas Concert (with a group of children representing our school)
Wed 16 December	9.15am Y1/2 Nativity performance to parents
Thurs 17 December	9.15am Y1/2 Nativity performance to parents Christmas dinner
Fri 18 December	Christmas jumper day Break up for Christmas

SPRING TERM	
Mon 4 January	INSET training day
Fri 15 January	Deadline for primary school application
Fri 22 January	School Nurse visiting Y5 girls (Menstruation talk) and Y6 pupils (Puberty)
Wed 3 February	3.40 – 6.30pm Parents evening
Thurs 4 February	3.40 – 6.30pm Parents evening
Wed 10 February	6pm Y6 France trip – parents information evening

Thurs 11 February	Last swimming session for Y4
Fri 12 February	Break up for half term
Mon 22 February	Children return to school
Mon 1 March	Y6 Paris trip National offers day for secondary schools
Thurs 4 March	World Book Day
Fri 5 March	Y6 return from France
Wed 17 March	6.30pm Spring musical evening
Tues 23 March	9.15am Nursery and Reception - Easter performance to parents 3.30-4.30pm Work sharing evening
Wed 24 March	9.15am Nursery and Reception - Easter performance to parents
Thurs 25 March	Easter lunch Whole school Easter egg hunt Break up for Easter

SUMMER TERM	
Mon 12 April	Children return to school
Fri 16 April	National primary school offers day
Wed 28 April	Y4 Residential to Whitemoor Lakes
Fri 30 April	Military Kids Day (Wear purple) Y4 returning from Whitemoor Lakes
Mon 3 May	Bank holiday
Mon 10 May	KS2 SATs week Grammar & Punctuation test Spelling Test
Tues 11 May	KS2 SATs-English Reading Test
Wed 12 May	KS2 SATs- Mathematics Arithmetic (Paper 1) Mathematics Reasoning (Paper 2)
Thurs 13 May	KS2 SATs - Mathematics Reasoning (Paper 3)
Fri 21 May	Y6 Harry Potter trip
Thurs 28 May	Break up for half term
Mon 7 June	Back to school Y4 Multiplication table checks starts
Tues 15 June	6.30pm New Reception parent's information evening
Tues 22 June	6.30pm New Nursery parent's information evening
Wed 23 June	Y5 Residential to Oaker Wood
Fri 25 June	Y5 returning from Oaker Wood
Tues 29 June	Meet your new teacher morning
Wed 30 June	Meet your new teacher morning
Fri 2 July	JTMAT INSET training day
Mon 5 July	Sports and Well-Being Week
Wed 7 July	Sports Day
Tues 13 July	Reports sent out to parents 6.30pm Y6 Leavers assembly and awards ceremony for parents
Wed 14 June	3.30 – 4.30pm Work-sharing and parents evening drop-in
Mon 19 July	Y6 formal leavers lunch
Tues 20 July	Break up for the summer holiday

Star of the Week Assembly

Every Friday, we hold our Star of the Week Assembly to celebrate children who have demonstrated our school values. STAR represents the qualities we encourage all pupils to develop:

S – Success

To be successful, I strive to achieve my best by persevering, aiming high and embracing challenges.

T – Teamwork

To be a good team player, I share, show respect, listen to others, and act with fairness and understanding.

A – Attitude

A positive attitude means being kind, polite, thoughtful, brave and motivated in all that I do.

R – Responsibility

To be responsible, I am honest, reliable, independent, organised and committed.

Each week, two children from every class are selected as Stars of the Week in recognition of the values they have demonstrated. They receive a special Star of the Week postcard to share and celebrate their achievement at home.

During our Friday assemblies, we also enjoy recognising achievements outside of school. Children are welcome to bring in certificates, medals, trophies or other awards they have earned through clubs and activities, so that we can celebrate their successes together.

Our Reception children will begin joining our Friday assemblies after the October half-term break.

Performances

In school, we hold various performances throughout the school year which parents are very welcome to come and watch. As you can imagine, it takes a while to learn songs, words and put a performance together so we try to minimize the disruption to curriculum learning by splitting the performances across the year groups.

Nursery and Reception perform an Easter assembly. This gives them time to settle into the school before performing.

Year 1 and Year 2 perform the Christmas nativity

Year 3 and 4 lead a Harvest production

Year 5 perform a Christmas carol service at St Giles Church

Year 6 perform an end of year Leavers production.

We look forward to welcoming you into school for the relevant performances.

Lost Property

Please ensure that your child's name is clearly marked on all of their belongings, including coats, waterproofs, PE kits and water bottles. This helps us to return items quickly to their rightful owners.

Any unnamed items will be placed in the lost property boxes, which are located outside the main door of the school office.

Thank you for your support in helping us reduce the amount of lost property.

School Cook

Our school cook, Mrs Yvonne Seed, is currently recovering from surgery undertaken on 3 September and is expected to be absent for approximately six months. During this time, Mrs Emma Brittle has kindly stepped into Yvonne's role. Emma has worked alongside Yvonne for a number of years and is fully familiar with all food allergies and dietary requirements.

To support the kitchen team while Yvonne is away, we have decided not to organise any parent lunches during this period.

We would like to wish Yvonne a very speedy recovery and look forward to welcoming her back once she has fully recovered.

Parking

As with many schools, parking in the surrounding area can be difficult at busy times. We kindly ask all visitors to be considerate of other road users and our neighbours who live near the school. Please ensure that driveways remain clear and refrain from parking on the white lines.

The Whittington Warbler

The Whittington Warbler is our half-termly newsletter designed to keep you informed about the events and learning taking place in school. It is published at the end of each half term so you can enjoy a round-up of what we have been up to! The first of these will be published at the end of this half term.

If you have any questions or queries about what your children will be learning or about any of the school events and activities, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,



Nichola Leeson

Headteacher