

4th September 2025

Start of the year information

Autumn 1 2025 – What will my child be learning?

Dear Parents and carers,

I hope you have all had a restful and enjoyable summer holiday. It has been a real pleasure this week to welcome our pupils back into school, full of energy and enthusiasm for the year ahead. A very special welcome also goes to our new pupils and families who are joining the Whittington Primary and Nursery School community for the first time – we are delighted to have you with us.

The start of a new school year is always an exciting time, full of fresh opportunities. Our staff have been working hard over the summer to prepare their classrooms and engaging lessons, activities, and events that will help every child to thrive. We are committed to providing the very best for your children and supporting them to reach their full potential.

This year we will continue to build on our core values of Success, Teamwork, Attitude and Responsibility (STAR) ensuring that these are at the heart of everything we do. We also have a number of exciting projects and events planned, and we look forward to sharing more details with you in the weeks to come.

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 you tell me a story?](#)

Reception: [Can you tell me a story?](#)

Y1/2: [Who changed the world?](#)

Y3/4: [How did life change in Britain during pre-historic times?](#)

Y5/6: [What are where are rainforests?](#)

On Wednesday 15th October and Thursday 16th October, you will have the opportunity to find out more about how your 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 planned a range of events in school this year, and I am sure that there will be many more to come. As we plan the events at least a year in advance, they may be subject to change and we will inform you as soon as possible if this is the case. Our office staff are currently working to add all of the dates onto our online calendar on the school website [Whittington Primary School - Calendar](#)

AUTUMN TERM	
Thurs 4 September	Y3/4 Stone Age Day
Mon 8 September	After-school clubs start
Thurs 11 September	Y4 swimming starts
Thurs 23 September	PTA AGM
Thurs 2 October	Individual school photographs
Mon 6 October	2pm Parent Council
Mon 6 October	Phonics information evening for parents 5.30pm for Reception parents 6.15pm for Y1 parents
Tues 7 October	2.15pm Y3/4 to perform Harvest Assembly for parents
Wed 8 October	Carnival workshop and Brazilian Samba drumming for Y5/6
Mon 13 October	1.30pm Model Phonics lesson for Reception parents 2.15pm Model Phonics lesson for Y1 parents
Tues 14 October	10am Open morning for Nursery and Reception parents for September 2026
Wed 15 October	3.40pm-6.30pm Parents evening
Thurs 16 October	3.40pm-6.30pm Parents evening
Fri 24 October	Break up for half term
Sat 1 November	Primary School Applications are open
Mon 3 November	Children return to school 10am Open morning for Nursery and Reception parents for September 2026
Tues 11 November	10am Open morning for Nursery and Reception parents for September 2026
Wed 19 November	Flu vaccination programme
Mon 1 December	2pm Parent Council
Tues 9 December	3.30-4.30pm Work sharing evening
Thurs 11 December	Nursery parent lunches 1.30pm Pantomime trip for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 (Lichfield Garrick)
Tues 16 December	9.15am Y1/2 Nativity performance to parents 2.15pm Y1/2 Nativity performance to parents
Wed 17 December	Reception parent lunches 1.30pm Pantomime trip for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6
Thurs 18 December	Christmas dinner Last swimming session for Y4
Fri 19 December	Christmas jumper day Break up for Christmas

SPRING TERM	
Mon 5 January	INSET training day
Thurs 15 January	Deadline for primary school application
Mon 26 January	Young Voices rehearsal and performance (Resorts World Arena)
Mon 2 February	2pm Parent Council
Tues 3 February	3.40 – 6.30pm Parents evening
Wed 4 February	3.40 – 6.30pm Parents evening
Wed 11 February	6pm Y6 France trip – parents information evening
Fri 13 February	Break up for half term
Mon 23 February	Children return to school
Mon 2 March	Y6 Paris trip National offers day for secondary schools
Tues 3 March	Y1 parent lunches
Thurs 5 March	World Book Day Y2 parent lunches
Fri 6 March	Y6 return from France
Mon 16 March	2pm Parent Council
Tues 17 March	6.30pm Spring musical evening
Wed 25 March	2.15pm Nursery and Reception - Easter performance to parents
Thurs 26 March	Easter lunch 3.30-4.30pm Work sharing evening
Fri 27 March	Break up for Easter

SUMMER TERM	
Mon 13 April	Children return to school
Thurs 16 April	National primary school offers day
Mon 20 April	2pm Parent Council
Thurs 23 April	St George's Day lunch
Wed 29 April	Y4 Residential to Whitemoor Lakes Y3 parent lunches
Thurs 30 April	Y5 parent lunches
Fri 1 May	Y4 returning from Whitemoor Lakes
Mon 4 May	Bank holiday
Mon 11 May	KS2 SATs week Grammar & Punctuation test Spelling Test
Tues 12 May	KS2 SATs-English Reading Test
Wed 13 May	KS2 SATs- Mathematics Arithmetic (Paper 1) Mathematics Reasoning (Paper 2)
Thurs 14 May	KS2 SATs - Mathematics Reasoning (Paper 3)
Mon 18 May	3.30 – 4.30pm Work-sharing drop-in
Thurs 21 May	Break up for half term
Fri 22 May	INSET training day
Mon 1 June	Back to school Y4 Multiplication table checks starts
Mon 8 June	Y1 Phonics screening starts
Wed 10 June	Y5 Residential to Kibblestone Y4 parent lunches
Thurs 11 June	Y6 parent lunches
Fri 12 June	Y5 return from Kibblestone

Tues 16 June	6.30pm New Reception parent's information evening
Wed 17 June	Class photographs
Mon 22 June	2pm Parent Council
Tues 23 June	6.30pm New Nursery parent's information evening
Mon 29 June	Meet your new teacher morning
Tues 30 June	Meet your new teacher morning
Fri 3 July	JTMAT INSET training day
Mon 6 July	Sports and Well-Being Week
Wed 8 July	Sports Day 9-10am Early Years 10-11am KS1 11-12.30pm KS2
Tues 14 July	Reports sent out to parents 6.30pm Y6 Leavers assembly and awards ceremony for parents
Wed 15 July	Parents evening drop-in session if required
Thurs 16 July	Y6 formal leavers lunch
Fri 17 July	Break up for the summer holiday

Star of the Week Assembly

Each week, on a Friday, we hold a STAR of the Week assembly. STAR shows our school values:

S – Success (To be successful I must strive, persevere, aim high and achieve my best to accomplish)

T – Teamwork (To be a team player I must share, be respectful, understanding, open-minded and fair)

A – Attitude (To demonstrate a good attitude I must be kind, polite, thoughtful, brave and motivated)

R- Responsibility (To be responsible I must be honest, reliable, independent, organised and committed)

Every Friday, 2 children in each class are chosen to be Stars of the Weeks as they will have displayed some of our values. They will receive a Star of the Week badge (which should be returned to school the following Friday morning) and a STAR postcard.

During our Friday assemblies, we also celebrate the children's achievements outside of school so they are more than welcome to bring in certificates, medals and trophies that they have been awarded in their clubs.

Our Reception children will be joining our Friday assemblies after half term in October.

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.

Parent Council

Our Whittington Primary School Parent Council was established in 2018 as a voluntary group comprising of the Headteacher and interested parties from the parent cohort – one representative from class or year group where practicable. We meet regularly to discuss key issues and ideas for whole school development.

- **What is it?** - The Parent Council is a discussion forum and advisory body. It aims to discuss/debate general issues that affect the welfare of children in school, including extra curricular activities.
- **What's involved?** – Parents who are interested and are able to volunteer their time are invited to Parent Council meetings to discuss relevant issues with myself, Mrs Jakeman or another member of the Senior Leadership Team in our absence.
- **How often?** – Meetings will be held on a half termly basis, usually starting at 2pm. Council meetings will be kept to approximately an hour where possible, and will run in a semi-formal way to encourage open discussion on subjects. The dates for this year are in the calendar above.

If you are able to volunteer your time and would like to represent your child's class, please let the school office know via email: admin2@whittington.staffs.sch.uk

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.

Parking

As with many schools, parking in the surrounding area can be challenging. We kindly ask that you are considerate to other road users and to our neighbours living close to the school. Please ensure that driveways are kept clear and avoid 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!

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