



Whittlefield Primary and Nursery School

Spring Newsletter 7

Friday 31st March 2023

Goodbye to Mrs Whittam

Today we held a very special assembly to say "thank you" and our fond farewells to Mrs Whittam as she retires after 27 years of service here at Whittlefield Primary and Nursery.

The children and staff shared their memories of Mrs Whittam over the years as well as just how much she means to us all! Suffice it to say that tissues were very much order of the day...

Mrs Lucarz, our Chair of Governors, formerly thanked Mrs Whittam on behalf of the school. Mrs Whittam was then showered with gifts, flowers, special handmade cards and a beautiful book filled with our personal tributes.



We will miss you sorely and hope your retirement is long and filled with all the things you love and make you happy ☺

Goodbye to Mrs Bibi

We also said a temporary "goodbye" to Mrs Bibi as she leaves us to start her maternity leave. We wish her well as she and her family look forward to their new arrival very soon.

A warm, Whittlefield welcome

Ms Nazma Shajat will be covering Mrs Bibi this term and we welcome her to our team.

In addition, we are absolutely delighted to welcome our new Site Manager, Mr Vent. Mr Vent starts this next term and we are so pleased to have him on board; I am sure you will all start to see his handiwork around school very quickly.

We also welcome Zoe Western to our Early Years Team and Amy Lloyd in Years 3 and 4 on a temporary basis this term. Welcome back too, to Mrs Hume, our Deputy Headteacher, who returns from maternity leave.

Learners of the Spring Term

On the last day of the spring term, we also held a special assembly to congratulate our Learners of the Term who are:

Nursery

Wynter

Reception

Annie

Year 1

Freddie

Year 2

Sahar

Year 3

Ethan

Year 4

Teddy

Year 5

Millie

Year 6

Cordelia



With such a big focus on reading for pleasure this term, Mrs Boughen, Mrs Sumner and Mrs Vent took the children to a local bookshop to purchase a book of their choice as a way of saying "well done" and recognising what an achievement this is. They were also treated to a hot chocolate at the café next door...

We are so proud of you all!





March's Learners of the Week

And our Whittlefield WONDERS



Learners of
the Week

Whittlefield
WONDERS

Learners of
the Week

Whittlefield
WONDERS

Learners of
the Week

Whittlefield
WONDERS

3rd March

17th March

24th March

Nursery	Isla	Leo	Alina	Kalissa	Mollie	Molly
Reception	Arthur	Olivia	Timothy	McCauley	Penelope	Quinn
Year 1	Jacob	Oscar	Harry	Olivia	Arabella	Troy
Year 2	Daleia	Harry T	Harry T	Henry	Megan	Abi
Year 3	Ava-Mae	Leila	Aronas	Jacob	Penny	Lilly
Year 4	Evie	Corben	Louix	Laila	Conner	Evie
Year 5	Corey	Sophie B	Fraser	Cade	Archie	Kye
Year 6	All of Y 6	Amelia H	Deacon	Jake	Louise	Princess

Well done to ALL of our Learners of the Week and Whittlefield Wonders in March. Learners of the Week are children who have been recognised for their hard work and going above and beyond AND Whittlefield Wonders are those children who have stood out for being kind. We also enjoyed sharing celebration afternoon teas together, especially the hot chocolate and jammy dodgers.



PLEASE REMEMBER our families are very welcome to come into our main entrance to see your child's certificate and photograph proudly displayed there!

Sporting News

Sport and being physically active continue to play a huge role in keeping children well not just healthy here at Whittlefield. We want ALL our children to have an opportunity to represent our school and take part in some kind of sport or physical activity. In March, our Dance Club represented our school when they participated in a Burnley Schools Sports Partnership dance event; they made us so proud! Well done to Alessa, Rubie, Ayla, Lillie, Evie, Hattie and Matilda.



SWAT Spelling Bee

This month we took part in the semi-finals of our Spelling Bee competition organised by the SWAT Cluster of schools that we are part of (SWAT stands for Schools Working and Achieving Together). Each of our year groups were represented and took part in heats against other local schools, Padiham Green CE Primary and Wellfield CE Primary.

Well done to Thea, Teddy, Ethan, Archie, Sonni-Jae and Dalton for representing our school. They were all extremely impressive; I likened them to spelling machines! I certainly couldn't keep up with them. A special mention has to go to Archie who has successfully made it through to the finals which will be held in the summer term. Thank you too, to Mr Wood for his organisation of the event and to all our parents for their time well spent in practising spellings with your children.

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday this month to:

- Archie & Isla in Reception
- Alfie & Millie in Year 1
- Jensen-James in Year 2
- Charlie in Year 3
- Joey in Year 4
- Brookelyne & Marley in Year 5
- Ruby & Scarlett in Year 6
- And also to Mrs Murphy, Mrs Mount & Mrs Whittam



We hope you had a lovely day celebrating and that it was filled with special moments

Holidays in term time: another reminder

In our inspection report that the inspector found that "the majority of children and pupils attend school regularly. Leaders work closely with parents and carers to remove any barriers that may affect pupils' rates of attendance. However, despite leaders' efforts, a minority of children and pupils do not attend school as regularly as they should. This affects how well these children and pupils learn."

Please help us to help your child be the best they can be by bringing your child to school every day when they are well, on time and taking holidays during school holidays not in term time. Well done to our Year 4s who take the lead with this week's attendance:

Reception	93.8%	Year 3	94.3%
Year 1	93.8%	Year 4	95.6%
Year 2	92.2%	Year 5	93%
		Year 6	91.8%



Spotlight on Our Governors

This month our School Councillors interviewed our new governors, Mr Steel and Mr Martin.

How long have you been a governor?

I have been a governor here for 6 months, I started in October 2022.

What type of governor are you? Do you play a particular role on the Governing Board?

I am a co-opted governor and I have two roles: I support Year 6 and I am the governor for Pupil Premium.



Mr Steel

What made you volunteer to be a governor?

I was asked by Mrs. Lucarz if I was interested and I came to see Mrs. Boughen to find out what was involved. I enjoy making a difference and wanted to make sure everyone is happy!

What skills do you bring to the role? And have you ever been a teacher?

I like to help and I am a Burnley Councillor I am not a qualified teacher but I do teach rugby.

What are your hobbies?

I like rugby, football and I support Arsenal. I also like going to the gym.

Do you ever see yourself being chair of governors?

I need to learn a little bit more so, not at the moment.

What do you think about Whittlefield primary school?

I am impressed by all the children and how respectful they are.

How long have you been a governor?

I have been a governor here 6 weeks but I have been a governor for 24 years, since 1999.

What type of governor are you? Do you play a particular role on the Governing Board?

I am a co-opted governor and I have responsibility for maths and English and curriculum.



Mr Martin

What made you volunteer to be a governor?

I was asked if I would consider helping your school and as I have just retired I now have the time.

What skills do you bring to the role? And have you ever been a teacher?

Yes, I am a teacher and I started teaching in 1993 [31 years ago] and I love helping and taking care of children. I have also been a Headteacher.

What are your hobbies?

I love to read, especially comics and I enjoy football: I support Man U. I also enjoy going to the gym.

Do you ever see yourself being chair of governors?

No, not at the moment.

What do you think about Whittlefield Primary school?

I was on my visit and I was impressed how polite the children were, the huge amount of sport and activity I saw, the lovely teachers... your school is wonderful!

Thank you again to Corey Leyland for this report.

We hope you all had a happy Easter holiday and welcome you back for what will be a very busy summer term. Please find below some key dates for this half term **subject to unforeseen changes.**

Diary Dates

Week beginning 17th April

Monday **School reopens to children**
GULP sessions start for Y4 today

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday Swimming sessions for Y6 start today

Friday

Week beginning 24th April

Monday GULP sessions for Y4
15:15-16:15 KS1 Dodgeball Club with Mr P starts
15:15-16:00 Dance Club with Miss Johnson starts
15:15-16:00 Board games Club with Miss Clark starts

Tuesday Before school: Couch to 5K Club starts
Afterschool: Netball Skills Festival
15:15-16:00 KS1 Art Club starts
KS2 Art Club starts

Wednesday 15:30-16:15 Y6 SATS drop in starts
15:30-16:15 KS2 Dodgeball Club with Mr P starts

Thursday Before school: Couch to 5K Club
Full Governors' meeting
Y6 swimming

Friday ***Planned industrial action day and partial closure likely**
All day Y3 History Workshop

Week beginning 1st May

Monday **School closed: Bank holiday**

Tuesday ***Planned industrial action day and partial closure likely**
AM Striking & fielding Festival *subject to confirmation*
Afterschool: Y5 & 6 Cross Country Event *subject to confirmation*

Wednesday Afterschool: KS2 All Stars Cricket Event *subject to confirmation*

Thursday Afterschool: Y6 SATS revision 'drop in'

Friday King Charles III Coronation Celebration Day & BIG lunch

Saturday King Charles III Coronation

Sunday King Charles III Coronation Celebrations

Diary Dates

Week beginning 8th May

Monday	School closed: Additional Bank holiday for King Charles III Coronation Celebrations
Tuesday	Before school Y6 Breakfast AM Day 1 Y6 SATS Afterschool: Y3/4 Cross Country Event <i>subject to confirmation</i>
Wednesday	Beat the Street starts today Before school Y6 Breakfast AM Day 2 Y6 SATS
Thursday	Before school Y6 Breakfast AM Day 3 Y6 SATS After school: Bee Stinger Netball Practice <i>subject to confirmation</i>
Friday	Before school Y6 Breakfast AM Day 4 Y6 SATS

Week beginning 15th May

Monday	GULP sessions for Y4
Tuesday	Afternoon: Y3/4 Sports' Event <i>subject to confirmation</i>
Wednesday	Class and staff group photos and Y6 individual photos
Thursday	Afternoon: Active 60 Festival <i>subject to confirmation</i>
Friday	

Week beginning 22nd May

Monday	
Tuesday	Afterschool: Bee Stinger Netball competition <i>subject to confirmation</i>
Wednesday	All day: Girls' Dynamos Cricket <i>subject to confirmation</i>
Thursday	School closes for half term
Friday	INSET day

School reopens Monday 5th June



A special "thank you" to the Easter Bunny for coming to Whittlefield to surprise the children...

I think you'll agree the picture paints a thousand words!