



Whiston Junior and Infant school

Newsletter: December 2021

<https://www.whistonjunior-infant.co.uk/>



Dear parents and carers,

I can't believe that we are in the final week of the autumn term and what a busy one it has been.

Remembrance



Thank you for supporting the British Legion Poppy Appeal. This was the first role for our new School Council too. As soon as the charity lets us know how much we raised altogether, we shall update you.

Thank you for helping us create our 'Poppy Tree' too. It looked quite amazing!



Covid updates

We continue to follow advice from our Trust from the DfE, our Local Authority and PHE with regards to reducing the spread of COVID-19 .

In light of the new variant, we have updated our COVID risk assessment. See our website link below for document:
<https://www.whistonjunior-infant.co.uk/key-information/covid-19-updates>

We are now asking, where possible, for all meetings to be completed again remotely and only visit school if essential. **All** visitors and parents will be asked to wear a face covering in shared spaces Visitors will also be asked to undertake a lateral flow test before entering school.

PANTO



Last week the children had a fun treat, as the travelling Panto came to Whiston. However, due to tighter COVID safety measures, this meant that the actors had to perform in a separate room to the children and we then live streamed the production to them in the school hall. This didn't stop the squeals of delight and the sounds of laughter permeating the hall.

Thank You to Whiston PTA for funding the event.

FS2 & Y1 Nativity



The children in FS2 and Y1 have been busy this term learning their songs and actions for their Nativities. Even though COVID restrictions have meant that they haven't had an audience in school, they will have their performance filmed today.

Thank you to Lilia's daddy in FS2, for arranging for a professional company to film both events.

SANTA DASH



On Friday the children had lots of fun arranged by the new Sport Leaders and Ms Hall, as they took part in the Santa Dash. To help keep them fit and healthy in this festive season, the children had to complete lots of physical tasks alongside their friends, which they thoroughly enjoyed.

Thank you to our Sport Leaders and Ms Hall for organising.

Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumpers



Tuesday 14th December is our Christmas Dinner Day where we are asking children to dress up in their Christmas jumpers or a bit of tinsel trim to their normal clothes if they would like to.

I am sure that we will all enjoy eating lunch together, pulling crackers, wearing party hats and telling some, hopefully, funny jokes.

Christmas Parties



Friday 17th December is our final day in school but it is also the Class Party Day. Again the children may come to school dressed in their Christmas jumpers and party or santa hats if they choose to.

Children will have an opportunity to play party games in the hall and eat a few treats. We will of course ensure that any treats we supply are safe from your child's intolerances. Please see the class teacher or contact our admin team:

enquiries@ji.pat.org if you require any further information.

Whiston extended family

Congratulations to Miss Burgin on the birth of her baby son earlier in the term too.

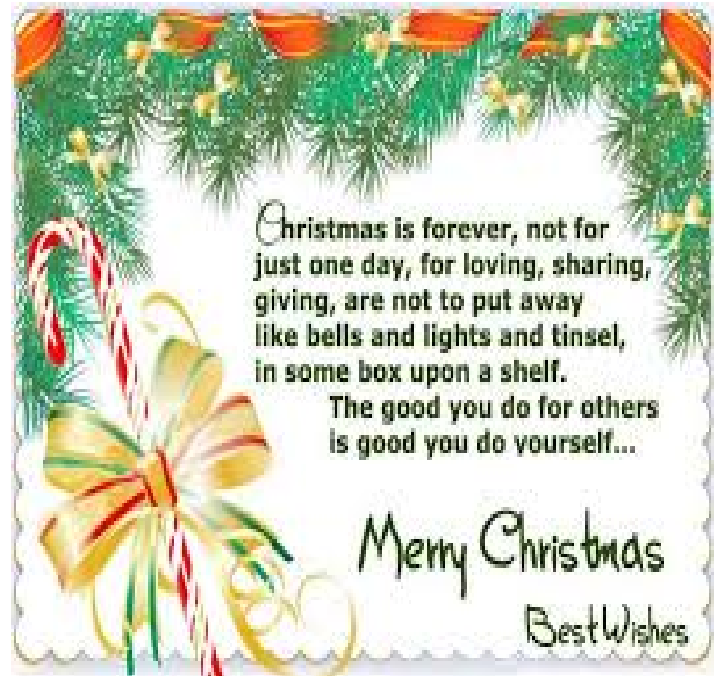
Ezra James was born weighing a healthy 8lb 15oz. Both Ezra's mummy and daddy are over the moon with their little bundle of joy.



Merry Christmas

We would like to wish all our children, families and staff a lovely festive holiday.

We also hope that you all manage some quality time with your nearest and dearest and manage to stay well too.



We say goodbye and thank you

Mrs Perry has decided to take an early retirement. We, all the staff and children at Whiston, would like to say a big thank you to Mrs Perry for all her hard work and commitment to the well being and academic progress of the children in her care over the last eight years.

We wish Mrs Perry a long and happy retirement.

Staffing updates

This term has seen many disruptions to staffing in some of our classes too. Although, where we have had to employ temporary staff, we have managed to plan for some level of consistency.

This however, is the highest level of staff absences that I have seen in the ten years that I have worked at Whiston.

December Diary Dates: (so far)

13.12.21 Filming of FS2 & Y1 Nativites

14.12.21 Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day

17.12.21 Christmas Party Day

17.12.21 Final Day - Break up for the Christmas Holidays

January Diary Dates: (so far)

3.1.22 Bank Holiday - school closed

4.1.22 INSET - school closed

5.1.22 First Day back at school - remember to order school meals

School meals

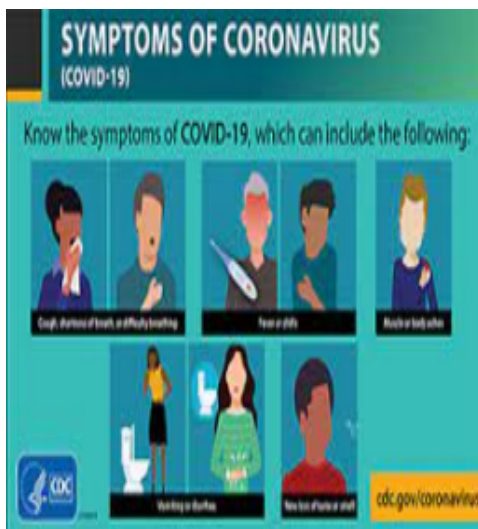


As you are aware, school meals have to provide children with a well-balanced meal. However, some of our KS2 children are informing kitchen staff that they do not want the vegetables as part of their meals.

Unless we receive an email from yourselves, we will put a portion of vegetables on their plates.

I hope tha you support this decision.

Covid



Watch out for Symptoms

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. Anyone can have mild to severe symptoms.

People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever - high temperature
- New continuous cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

This list does not include all possible symptoms. CDC will continue to update this list as we learn more about COVID-19.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-n-cov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

