



Whinstone Weekly

Academic Year 2024/2025 - Summer term

Friday 2nd May 2025

Whinstone Wide - General school information

Whinstonbury has changed to a Summer Fayre

Due to unforeseen circumstances, we have had to cancel Whinstonbury for this year. However, we will be holding a summer fayre on the same date instead. So our Whinstone Summer Fayre will be on Saturday 21st June from 11:00am -1:00pm.

Shorts

We have noticed an increase in girls wearing very short shorts, especially for PE. Our uniform guidance states that we need 'uniform' shorts. For PE, shorts should be of an appropriate length - no hot pants please. Hot pants are fine for the beach or holiday, but not suitable to wear in school.

Grapes

Please can we remind everybody that grapes should be cut up for our younger children. This was put into place following an incident a few years ago where a child choked on a grape in a restaurant. Please make sure grapes are cut in half to reduce the risk of choking. Thank you.

Parent Governor

We have a vacancy for a parent Governor. Governor volunteers work alongside the school's senior leadership team to set targets, formulate school policy and plan for future development. Governors do not manage the day to day running of a school, but they do set the framework which should ensure the school is running effectively.

To be eligible for this role you must:

- 1) be a parent* of a registered pupil at the school; (*parent includes any person who is not the parent of the child but who has parental responsibility for him/her or who has care of the child);
- 2) obtain the support of two parents each from different families with a child who is attending the same school;
- 3) be aged 18 years or over at the time of his/her election or appointment;
- 4) not be disqualified for any of the reasons stated below.

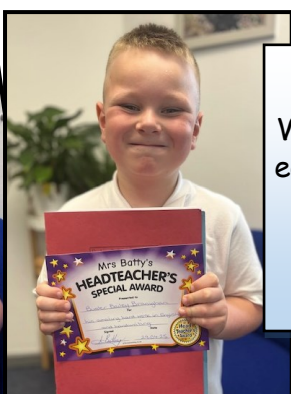
Disqualifications A person is disqualified from election or appointment as a parent governor of a school if they: a) are an elected member of the Local Authority b) work at the school for more than 500 hours in any consecutive 12-month period (at the time of election or appointment).

You must be able to attend Governor meetings which are held seven times a year on a Monday night from 17:00-19:00. It would be beneficial if you are also available to visit and support in school for some days during the year. To apply for this position, please complete the Parent Nomination form which has been sent out with this newsletter.

Bank Holiday

School is closed on Monday for the Bank Holiday. Have a lovely long weekend and let's hope the sun keeps on shining.

Around Whinstone this week.



Well done to those who earned a Headteacher's certificate from Mrs Batty this week.



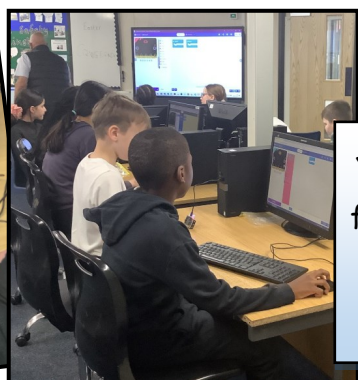
We had a tennis coach in school who ran sessions with Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6.



Our KS1 and KS2 children all had a session and/or assembly with Dogs Trust to tell them about how to be safe around dogs.



Year 3 had a Forest School session.



Year 5 had Mr Foggitt from Yarm School to help support their work on Microbits.



Year 1 planted wildflower seeds in the nature area.

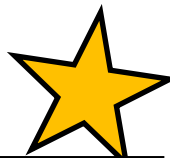


Years 3, 4 and 5 went to St Francis of Assisi church for an Easter Liturgy. They also distributed the donated flowers and plants to some elderly residents from the local community at the church friendship and wellbeing session. The flowers brought much joy - thank you for your generosity.



We had our animal time sessions around when the animals are outside enjoying the good weather!

Whinstone Stars



Skyla had a dance competition at the weekend and was awarded 1st place in three different categories - the ballet solo and two group dances. Well done, Skyla.

Poppy attends dance lessons locally. She was in a competition over the holidays and won the solo dance and duet dance events. Well done, Poppy.



Skai was in the Scottish Judo Open competition. She won the gold medal in the age 9-10 category. Well done, Skai.

Whinstone next week

Reward afternoon

On Wednesday, it is our reward afternoon for the class Dojo winners for this term.

Year 2 - Forest school

On Tuesday afternoon, the Year 2 children will be having their Forest School session.

Can you help our children to learn more about the world of work?



Could you talk to our Y6 children about your knowledge and experience?

WHINSTONE
Careers Week
2nd June 2025

From dentists to dog handlers, nail technicians to nurses, the world of work is vast and expansive. We want to introduce our Year 6 children to opportunities for the future.

What better way than to hear from you as parents and friends of school about your knowledge, skills and experience and what your role at work involves.

Our careers week is the week beginning 2nd June. If you are available at any time that week we would love to hear from you! Please contact admin@whinstone.org.uk for the attention of Mrs Wilson-Dukes.

Safeguarding and Family Support



Coffee Mornings

Come along and enjoy a warm cuppa and slice of cake!

A perfect opportunity to get together, have a chat with our friendly team, and make new friends. See you there!

Billingham Wednesdays 9:30am to 11am, 9 April, 14 May, 11 June
Redhill Tuesdays 1pm to 2:30pm, 15 April, 13 May, 17 June
Stockton Tuesdays 9:30am to 11am, 8 April, 13 May, 17 June
Thornaby Tuesday 29 April 9am to 10:30am, Tuesday 20 May 10am to 11:30am, Thursday 19 June 11am to 12:30pm

Call or chat to the team for more information.

Family Hub coffee mornings

Join the Family Hub team at one of their regular coffee mornings.

This is an opportunity to hear about support the Hubs can offer and to get advice from people who have a wealth of knowledge.

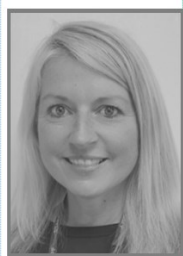
There are various dates and sessions available across the next few months and at different locations.

Safeguarding :

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) for the school is **Mrs Hardy**.



Our other safeguarding leads in school are:



Mrs Batty



Mrs Wilson- Dukés



Mr Carlton



Mrs Squires



Mr Ford

If you are worried about a child, please call the Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees Children's Hub on **01429 284284 / 01642 130080** or out of office hours call **01642 524552**

In an emergency, please contact the Police on **101** or **999**.

Attendance



Whole school attendance (year to date)

95.0%

National average = 94.5%