



# Whinstone Weekly

Academic Year 2024/2025 - Summer term

Friday 13th June 2025

## Whinstone Wide - General school information

### Mental Health Champion—Bronze School Award

At Whinstone, we have been working hard to ensure that the mental health and wellbeing of all children and staff is supported as much as possible. Mrs Burey and Mrs Gibson work extremely hard with a dedicated group of children who have been trained as Mental Health Champions. This week we received the fantastic news that the school has been awarded the Mental Health Champion Bronze School Award.



### Summer Fayre

Nursery	Pink
Reception	Green
Year 1	Red
Year 2	Blue
Year 3	Yellow/orange
Year 4	Brown
Year 5	Purple
Year 6	Black and white

This is yet another reminder that this year's Summer Fayre is on Saturday 21st June from 11am - 1pm. Friends of Whinstone are making up hampers ready for the hamper raffle. Each year group has been allocated a colour so any contributions, in the relevant colour, would be gratefully received. In addition to the hamper donations, Friends of Whinstone would also like any donations of bottled items for the bottle stall. These can be *anything* that comes in a bottle - from shampoo to vinegar, ketchup to wine .... there is a lot to choose from.

### Caterlink

Caterlink are the meal provider that we use in school. They value feedback from all stakeholders to help them improve their service.

Caterlink have asked us to share a link to a parent/guardian survey on the meal provision they provide at Whinstone. The survey closes on the 31st July. Please follow the link if you would like to take part.



Click [here](#) to access the survey .

### Chick Cam

This week and next week, we have the wonderful opportunity to experience chicken eggs hatching and watching chicks start to grow. Everybody is be able to watch the live web-cam on the school website to see the chicks' development and progress. The children will also be given the opportunity to handle and observe these chicks.

Although the chicks are not in school for the weekend (they have been taken home by Mr Ford to be cared for) they return to school on Monday. When they return to school, you can view the live web-cam via the link on our website.



### OPAL bingo

A big thank you for your support in the class OPAL Bingo challenge. It is essential that we run things like this to keep up supplies as we rely heavily on donations.

The scores were: 3W = 87 points , 2CM = 59 points , 4CB = 49 points, 4Y = 45 points, 5R = 13 points. But the winning class, by a VERY big margin, was 6G with 239 points. This class had a reward of some additional OPAL time today.

## Reading competition

Our Reading Ambassadors

launched a competition in assembly today, in partnership with the National Literacy Trust.

The children have been asked to 'talk' to their classes about a book they have really enjoyed reading. When they do this, it will be displayed as a leaf on a poster in class.

The winning class is the one which has the most leaves. The posters will be entered into the national competition where the winning school could win an amazing book case. Please encourage your child to take part!!



## SPARK Speaks

This week we launched *Spark Speaks* to Year 5 and 6. All the children will be working on writing a speech about any topic they want. The winner from each class will go to a semi-final in a few weeks so that we can select one overall winner from Whinstone. Our Whinstone winner will then attend a public speaking competition in July at Conyers for all schools within the Spark Trust.

Please help your child with ideas they may choose to write their speech on. It must be short and impactful, no more than three minutes long.



# Around Whinstone this week.

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



Well done to those who earned a certificate for following the school rules of Ready, Respectful and Safe.



Year 1 had some time observing the newly hatched chicks.





A photograph of two boys. On the left, a boy is dressed as Santa Claus, wearing a red suit with white trim, a white beard, and a red hat. On the right, a boy is dressed as the Easter Bunny, wearing a white shirt with a large red bow tie and a yellow and red striped scarf. He has a small bunny ear headband on his head.

A collage of six photographs showing students in various costumes. The photos are arranged in two rows of three. The top row shows two boys in the first photo (one in a gold sequined vest, one in a black shirt with white stars), a group of four students in the second photo (one in a colorful patterned shirt, one in a white shirt with a colorful pattern, one in a black shirt with white stars, and one in a black shirt with white stars), and two girls in the third photo (both in black shirts with white stars). The bottom row shows two boys in the first photo (one in a colorful patterned shirt, one in a black shirt with white stars), two girls in the second photo (both in black shirts with white stars), and two girls in the third photo (one in a pink shirt, one in a white chef's hat and black shirt).





Year 3 went on a trip to Whitby.



6G had their extra OPAL time for winning the OPAL Bingo.



There was biscuit decorating in Year 6.





# Whinstone Stars



Ella-Rose achieved her 10m and Stage 2 swimming awards.  
Well done, Ella-Rose.



Freya won the Students' Artist of the Year at her art exhibition for the art class she does weekly. Students from the art class chose Freya to achieve this award.  
Well done, Freya.



Sua and Libby both received awards from their football club. Sua was 'Coaches Most Exciting Player' and Libby was 'Managers Most Exciting Player'. Well done to you both.



## Whinstone next week

### Carlton residential

On Monday, our Y6 children head off to Carlton for the week. They will experience activities such as den building, archery, climbing, hiking and team building challenges.

### Year 2 visit to Wynyard Woodland Park

On Tuesday, our Year 2 children will be visiting Wynyard Woodland Park for a Stickman experience. Let's hope the good weather continues!

### Year 6 Forest School

On Monday, the Year 6 not attending Carlton have a full morning of Forest School.

### Year 4 swimming lessons

All week our Year 4 children will be having swimming lessons at IB Leisure. Don't forget the swimming kit and towel.

# Safeguarding and Family Support



## Stockton Borough Council Early Education

On an annual basis the council has a statutory duty to produce an assessment of supply and demand for early education and childcare in Stockton.

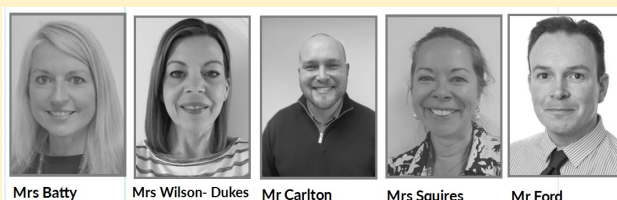
To gather views on demand a survey is undertaken with parents and carers of children up to age 14 (up to age 18 if a child has SEND). Please use the survey link below to contribute your views.

[Early Education & Childcare Survey - Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council - Citizen Space](#)

## Safeguarding :

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

Our other safeguarding leads in school are:



Mrs Batty

Mrs Wilson- Dukes

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)

## 94.9%

National average = 94.5%