



Whinstone Weekly

Academic Year 2025/2026 - Autumn term

Friday 21st November 2025

Whinstone Wide - General school information

Christmas dates reminder.

As we get closer to Christmas, we're heading into one of the busiest — and most exciting — times of the year! We've already shared the dates for our Christmas performances, but you'll find them again below as a helpful reminder. We've also highlighted some of our upcoming festive events, including the pantomime trips for all children.

A quick note about Christmas Dinner Day: if your child usually brings a packed lunch but would like to enjoy the Christmas dinner instead, they are very welcome to do so. For any child who does **not** normally have school dinners but would like a Christmas meal, please complete [this form](#) by **9am on Monday 1st December**. This helps our catering team make sure there's plenty of festive food for everyone.

Christmas event/performances to parents	
Pre-school	Christmas craft event on Wednesday 3 rd December
Reception	Friday 5 th December at 2:15pm
Year 1	Tuesday 9 th December at 2:15pm
Year 2	Friday 12 th December at 2:15pm
Year 3	Christingle service Friday 5 th December 10:30am at St Francis church
Year 4	Thursday 11 th December at 2:30pm
Year 5	Wednesday 10 th December at 2:30pm
Year 6	Monday 8 th December at 2:30pm
Other events	
Whinstone Primary Christmas Fayre	Friday 28 th November 3:15pm – 5:30 pm
Friends of Whinstone Christmas discos	Thursday 4 th December
Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day	Wednesday 10 th December
Christmas panto trip for Year 3 and Year 4 Beauty and the Beast at Stockton Riverside College No cost to parents as funded by Friends of Whinstone A slightly late return to school at approximately 3:30pm	Monday 15 th December
Christmas panto trip for Year 5 and Year 6 Beauty and the Beast at Stockton Riverside College No cost to parents as funded by Friends of Whinstone A slightly late return to school at approximately 3:30pm	Tuesday 16 th December
Christmas panto trip for Reception and KS1 Santa's Jungle Jamboree at Middlesbrough Cathedral No cost to parents as funded by Friends of Whinstone	Wednesday 17 th December
Last day of term	Friday 19 th December

Flu Vaccine catch-up sessions:

We recently had a day where children in school were given the flu vaccination. However, we know some parents did not consent in time and others had children who were absent on the day. We have been sent the following for any family whose child did not receive the vaccine but they would now like them to:

As Flu rates increase, it's important that your child is protected. The best protection is the Flu vaccine. Most children can have the nasal Flu vaccine- so no needles or pain!

If your child hasn't had their Flu vaccine this year, book an appointment for a catch-up clinic (details below) using the phone number 03333583397 and selecting option 3. Please note that appointments must be pre-booked.

26/11/25	Guisborough Family Hub	1.00 - 4.00pm
02/12/25	Rossmere Family Hub	3.30 - 5.30pm
03/12/25	The Dolphin Centre	3.30 - 5.30pm

Christmas Fayre

We're excited to invite all our families to this year's Christmas Fayre on Friday 28th November, from 3:15pm to 5:30pm. Entry is £1 for adults and free for children.

There will be plenty to enjoy, including refreshments in the dining hall, our popular tombola, hamper raffle and bottle stall. Plus, an option to visit Santa in his Grotto! **Please remember to bring cash for these stalls.**

In the Community Hall, you'll find over 16 fantastic local craft businesses offering wonderful Christmas gift ideas. Our school choir will also be performing festive songs to help get everyone into the Christmas spirit.

We are putting out a last-minute, heartfelt request for in-date, unopened bottles, hamper items, tombola gifts, and bottle/gift bags. Any donations you can offer are greatly appreciated - your generosity truly helps make events like this possible. Thank you!

Because the Fayre begins at the end of the school day, three entrances will be open to everyone until 3:30pm:

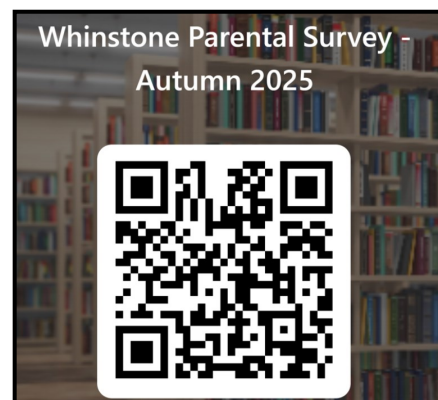
- Entrance 1: Year 5/6 playground door
- Entrance 2: Year 3 playground door
- Entrance 3: Front main entrance

After 3:30pm, only the front main entrance will remain open.

Parent questionnaire

Earlier this week, we put out an email with a link to our Parent Survey. This questionnaire will let us know your views on the school and guide us to understand how we can improve things for you and your child. We are pleased to say that in just a few days, we have already had more responses than any other survey sent out. If you would like to complete this, please follow [this link](#) or scan in this QR code.

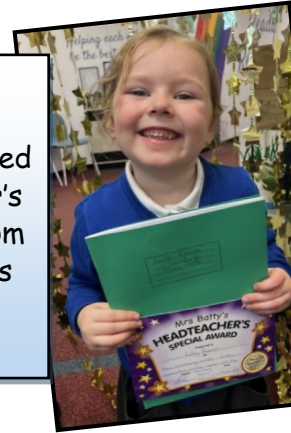
The deadline to respond is Friday 28th November.



Around Whinstone this week.



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



Well done to the Reading Stars of the first half of autumn term for their fantastic reading that has been recorded and seen!



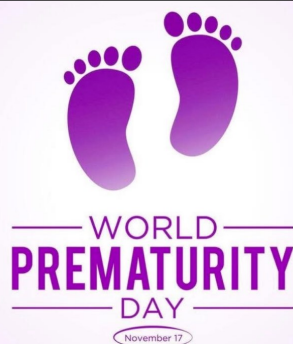
Well done to our Maths Stars!



Class 1L was our KS1 winner for best attendance in the first half term. They enjoyed a reward, which the class decided upon themselves, of a movie and hot chocolate.



Our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors gave a presentation to senior leaders in our Trust. They did a fantastic job.



We showed our support for World Prematurity Day by wearing purple.





The children had a demonstration of brass instruments by Mr Tedd from TVMS.



We held a meeting for parents about phonics and early reading.



Our new OPAL shed, provided by Friends of Whinstone, was finally completed.



Children at our Crafty Explorers Club were busy making Christmas stars.



Year 2 attended a Sports Festival at Durham University, Stockton campus.



Cleveland Fire Service delivered road safety workshops to our children.



We had fun in the snow!



Whinstone Stars



Isaiah has been doing some fantastic charity work. He has spent time buying Christmas presents for underprivileged children and delivering them to the Teesside Charity.

Well done, Isaiah—such a wonderful, worthwhile thing to do.

Would you rather...?



Oracy-talk matters!

This week's random question to discuss with your child.

WOULD YOU RATHER		WEEK BEGINNING 24/11/25
HAVE A PET DRAGON?	OR	HAVE A PET UNICORN?
		

Whinstone next week

Forest School for Year 6

Year 6 continue with their weekly Forest School sessions on Monday.

Dressing of the Christmas tree at St. Francis of Assisi Church

As a school, we are supporting the Christmas Tree Festival at St Francis of Assisi church. Children in school have been making tree decorations. On Friday, some of our children will be attending to decorate the tree on behalf of the school. If you would like to see the final result, please see the information opposite.

Friday 28th is our school Christmas Fayre

Open from 15:30—17:30.

Admission £1 per adult and free for children.

Churches Together



Christmas **TREE FESTIVAL**

St Francis of Assisi Church, Ingleby Barwick

Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th November 2025 - 12 Noon- 4pm

An extravaganza of uniquely decorated Christmas Trees sponsored by local schools, clubs, businesses and community groups!

Brought to you by St Francis of Assisi Church, St Therese of Lisieux Church and Living Hope Church

FREE ADMISSION **REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE**

For further information: saintfrancischib@gmail.com

Safeguarding and Family Support

Stockton Drop in

harbour
working for safer communities

DO YOU WORRY ABOUT DOMESTIC ABUSE?

Do you have a friend or family member who may be experiencing Domestic Abuse?

Need to talk to someone?

Come along and speak to a Harbour worker & see how they can help



Venue: Billingham Family Hub
Day: Tuesday
Time: 10 - 12

Harbour drop in support

Worried about domestic abuse or just need a safe space to chat? You're not alone. The Harbour Support Services team is available to listen, support, and help you explore your options in a confidential, non-judgmental space.

This service is provided at Billingham Family Hub every Tuesday from 10am - 12pm

No appointment needed - you can just drop in.

Safeguarding :

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

Our other safeguarding leads in school are:



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

Today has been our worst day for attendance this year, with a daily figure of 88.2%. This is due to the bug that seems to be circulating school at the moment. Let's hope this bug passes soon and we can quickly get back to the great attendance we have had so far this term.

Whole school attendance
(year to date)

95.4%

National average = 95.1%



Miss Owens, our PSA, is available to support and help. Contact the school if you would like to speak with her.