



Whinstone Weekly

Academic Year 2025/2026 - Spring term

Friday 27th March 2026

Whinstone Wide - General school information

Parents' Evenings

The parents' evenings for Reception to Y6 will be held on Wednesday 22nd April to Friday 24th April. You should have received an email regarding this today. **All appointments went live to book on Arbor from 3pm today.** To book a slot, log into your Arbor account, go to 'Guardian Consultations' and select the day you require. Go to 'Meetings' and click on the time slot you would like, then confirm your booking.

The table below shows which teachers will be available on which days and times for these meetings.

	Wednesday 22 nd April	Thursday 23 rd April	Friday 24 th April
Reception - Miss Hole	Miss Hole 3:30-5:30pm	Miss Hole 3:30-6:00pm	
Reception - Mrs Goldsmith	Mrs Goldsmith 3:30-5:30pm	Mrs Goldsmith 3:30-6:00pm	
Class 1B	Miss Barron 3:30-5:30pm	Miss Barron 3:30-6:00pm	
Class 1L	Mrs Lofts 3:30-5:30pm	Mrs Lofts 3:30-6:00pm	
Class 2F	Mr Ford 3:30-6:00pm	Mr Ford 3:30-5:30pm	
Class 2T	Miss Towler 3:30-6:00pm	Miss Towler 3:30-5:30pm	
Class 3G	Mr Good 3:30-5:30pm	Mr Good 3:30-6:00pm	
Class 3W	Mrs Woodley 3:30-5:30pm	Mrs Woodley 3:30-6:00pm	
Class 4BC	Mrs Burey 3:30-5:30pm	Mr Carlton 3:30-6:00pm	
Class 4Y	Miss Young 3:30pm-6:00pm		Miss Young 3:30-5:30
Class 5R		Mr Robson 3:30 - 6:00pm	Mr Robson 3:30pm - 5:30pm
Class 5S	Mrs Squires 3:30-5:30pm	Mrs Squires 3:30-6:00pm	
Class 6A	Miss Ambrosini 4:00-5:30pm	Miss Ambrosini 3:30 - 6:00pm	
Class 6G	Mrs Gibson 4:00-5:30pm	Mrs Gibson 3:30 - 6:00pm	

For our Pre-school children, there will be appointments on Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd. However, these do not go live until Monday due to how their appointments are organised for their key workers.

Once you have booked a slot, you are unable to cancel or amend any confirmed appointment. If you do need to change or cancel your booked time, please contact Mrs Rees-Grant or Mrs Thomas on admin@whinstone.org.uk or call 01642 750318 and they will be happy to make any adjustments for you.

Some parents have recently been involved in SEN meetings and reviews for their child where their education was discussed in detail. If you feel that this meeting has been sufficient, you do not need to book another appointment.

Egg decorating competition

Next week marks our annual egg decorating competition which is one of our favourite events of the year! Each year, we are amazed by the creative designs



and wonderful creations, and the children's imagination never fails to impress.

If your child would like to take part, they simply need to decorate an egg (or more than one if it is part of a scene) and **bring it into school on Thursday 2nd April**. There will be a prize donated by Friends of Whinstone, for the winning entry from each class. There is no cost to enter - and this is totally optional. We can't wait to see what creations this year brings!

Science week competition winners

Last week was Science week, and what a fantastic week it was across the whole school. Children had opportunities to explore the world around them by asking "how" and "why" questions. This spirit of

enquiry has helped to develop their scientific thinking, and we hope it has sparked a lasting interest in science for many of our pupils.

This week, the winners of the competition were announced and our competition winners received a prize and certificate! We would like to say a huge thank you to all parents and carers for supporting the children with their brilliant competition entries.



Easter celebrations at Whinstone

As we approach the Easter holidays, we have a number of activities planned at Whinstone to mark this special time.

On Wednesday 1st April, our Key Stage 1 children will take part in a special assembly where they will hear the Easter story.

On Thursday 2nd April, our Key Stage 2 pupils will walk to St Francis of Assisi Church to lead a special Easter Liturgy, including readings and music.

If, for religious reasons, you would prefer your child not to attend either of these events, please inform the school office or your child's class teacher.



We would also like to share some Easter joy with members of our local community. We kindly ask for donations of plants or flowers to be brought into school by Wednesday 1st April.

These will be distributed by our pupils to elderly residents, or those who are recently bereaved, housebound, or living in care. If you know someone who would appreciate a visit and a floral gift, please let the school office or Mr Good know.

Charity and fundraising

Today, we proudly completed our walk alongside other Ingleby primary schools to help raise awareness of Motor Neurone Disease (MND). Throughout last week, our school community generously donated to the MND Association, and we are delighted to share that a fantastic total of **£605.15** has been raised to support this important cause.

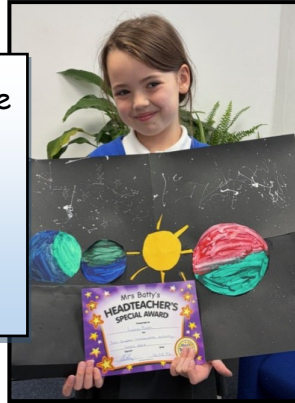
Alongside this, our sponsored Readathon has also been a tremendous success. The money raised will go towards purchasing new books, comics and novels for the children to enjoy. Through your incredible support, the Readathon raised an impressive **£689.86**.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity in supporting both of these fundraising events. It is truly appreciated.

Around Whinstone this week.



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



We had a visit from the Mayor who came to present the Mayor's Civic Award (Young Persons Category) to one of our pupils - Addie.



Some of our children attended a tennis event - with two receiving trophies!



Years 4 and 5 had a Physics of Transport show.



Year 1 enjoyed making toys from recycled materials.



Some children were the chorus choir for the Teesside High production of the musical, Sister Act.



Year 1 went on a visit to the local church.



Year 6 have been investigating light and reflections. They worked collaboratively to make light boxes.



Our Mental Health Champions held a lunchtime darts club.



Steve from the Tees Valley Wildlife Trust came in to do an assembly and then give some workshops to Year 2.



Chat and Chill club took place. One of the Mental Health Ambassadors played an oracy rich game whilst others coloured and chatted.



The Lego STEM club children went on a trip to Gateshead Stadium to compete at The Lego League Challenge. They were awarded the Judges Award for how well they articulated their designs and their ideas.



Our Mental Health Ambassadors surprised the staff in school with their 'Out of the blue, we want to celebrate you,' gifts and treats

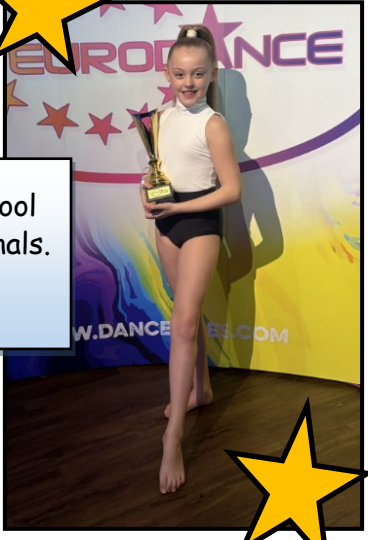
Our Year 5 and Year 6 children went on a walk with other Ingleby schools to raise awareness of MND. They hid some knitted hearts along the way. Will you find one?



Whinstone Stars



Indie attended the European Dance Championships at Blackpool Tower. She danced so well that she made not one, but two finals.
Well done, Indie - you are a true star!



Harry scored a hat-trick at football and then also received the Man of the Match.
Wow, well done, Harry!



Would you rather...?




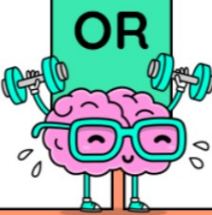
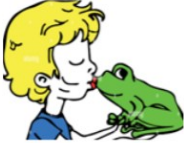
Oracy - talk matters!

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

WOULD YOU RATHER WEEK BEGINNING 30/03/26

KISS A FROG? **LICK A SLUG?**

OR



ANNUAL GOOD FRIDAY CHARITY DAY
In Memory of Mally Graves
FRIDAY 3RD APRIL 2026 AT THE GRIFFIN

CHARITY FOOTBALL MATCH

HUGE RAFFLE

KIDS TOMBOLA

KIDS MINI EGG HUNT

POOL COMPETITION

DARTS COMPETITION

JOE FRATER LIVE!
DJ MARK

All Proceeds to
CANCER RESEARCH UK

Out and About

The Griffin are hosting the annual Good Friday charity football match in support of Cancer Research UK.

If any child would like to support this event and possibly be a ball person, please speak to Mr Good who is helping to organise this. Kick off for the football matches is at 10:00am.



Job opportunity

Caterlink Kitchen Assistant Required for Whinstone Primary. The position is 10 hours per week, Mon-Fri 11:30am till 1:30pm. If you are interested in applying for this position, please contact the Caterlink manager, Stephen Cass, on 07469350953 for more details.

caterlink
feeding the imagination

JOIN OUR TEAM

Visit our careers page on our website:
<https://caterlinkltd.co.uk>

Whinstone next week

Year 4 residential to Robinwood

Our Y4 children are off on a three day adventure to Robinwood.

Bikeability

Throughout the week upper KS2 will be having Bikeability sessions. Bikes can be left at school if needed but please put in the bike store by KS1, which is locked overnight, and be aware that we cannot accept responsibility for any bikes left on site.

DHL van safety visit

On Tuesday, DHL are delivering road safety sessions around keeping safe around vans.

Year 6 SATs meeting

On Wednesday at 3:30, there is a meeting for parents to inform you about the Y6 SATs in May. The meeting will take place in a Y6 classroom (Miss Ambrosini's room)

Early Years Forest School session

Some of our EYFS children will be attending a Forest School session.

KS1 Easter assembly

On Wednesday, our KS1 children will have an Easter assembly.

KS2 Easter Liturgy at the church

On Thursday, our KS2 children will visit the church for an Easter Liturgy service.

Egg decorating competition

Bring those decorated eggs in on Thursday to take part in the egg decorating competition.

We break up for the Easter holidays

On Thursday, we break up for two weeks.

School starts again on Monday 20th April

Safeguarding and Family Support

HOLIDAYS ARE FUN

Free, fun activities for eligible school age children from Reception to Year 11 during the Easter school holidays.

To be eligible, families must be in receipt of benefits-related free school meals.

Check if you are eligible for free school meals and apply at www.stockton.gov.uk/free-school-meals.

Scan to register:

- www.stockton.gov.uk/haf
- 01642 527752
- HAF@stockton.gov.uk



Holidays are Fun (HAF) programme

The booking system is now live for the Easter Holiday (HAF) programme.

The main eligibility criteria for the HAF programme is that families are in receipt of benefit related free school meals (FSM), however they can also offer some discretionary places to families who meet other criteria.

For further information and to book, go to the HAF webpage: [Holidays Are Fun \(HAF\) programme - Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council](#)

Safeguarding :

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

Our other safeguarding leads in school are:



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

Still no movement with our attendance figure. With one week to go before the Easter holidays, it would be lovely to see an increase next week.

Whole school attendance
(year to date)

➔ **94.9%**

National average = 94.6%



Miss Owens is available to support and help with any issues you have regarding attendance or to support around other concerns you have affecting your family. Contact the school if you would like to speak with her.