



Whinstone Weekly

Academic Year 2025/2026 - Summer term

Friday 26th June 2026

Whinstone Wide - General school information

Summer Fayre

On Friday, we will be holding our Whinstone Summer Fayre. This wonderful event is organised by the Friends of Whinstone to raise money for the children and the school.

Thanks to the proceeds from recent events, we have been able to transform our wildlife area into a Forest School facility, install an OPAL shed for wellies, and even fully fund last year's pantomime trip—fantastic achievements that benefit all of our children.

We are making a final plea for any tombola items you may be able to donate, as well as bottles of any kind. Your support and generosity truly make a difference and help ensure the continued success of these events.

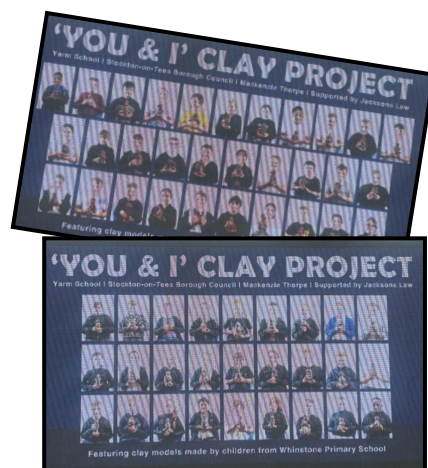
We hope to see you all on Friday for an afternoon of fun, including a variety of stalls, a bouncy castle, "Soak the Teacher," refreshments, and much more!

'You and I' clay project

We hope that some of you were able to see the installation of the clay project created by our current Year 5 children at the opening of Stockton Waterfront Park. The park was also featured on *Look North* on Thursday evening, which you can view [here](#).

Following the exhibition, something very exciting happened. Local artist McKenzie Thorpe has requested to exhibit the models in his gallery. The pieces have now been carefully packed away from Stockton Waterfront Park and safely stored, ready to be displayed once again.

What a fantastic achievement for all the children involved - having their work exhibited not just once, but twice!



Ball games

We love seeing children and their parents making use of the allocated equipment and playing together in the mornings before school - what a lovely way to start the day.

However, we do have one small request. Please could ball games (we know tennis is a firm favourite) be played away from the entrance doors where people are waiting.

Unfortunately, this week one of our children was accidentally hit on the head by a ball, which is certainly not the best start to the day.

Please see the attached image for the designated 'No Ball Games' zone. Children are very welcome to continue playing, just a little further away from where others are gathered.



New classes for September 2026

On Wednesday, the children will find out who their new class teacher will be for next year. They will have the opportunity to spend some time with them and learn about their new classroom and environment.



This is always an exciting time; however, we understand that for some children, change can feel a little daunting. We are mindful that some of our children may need additional support with this transition, and we have already begun to introduce this gently during the week. Teachers have been informed of their new classes and, in some cases, have already started to make themselves known to the children.

Following Wednesday, we will arrange further transition support where needed. This may take a variety of forms, depending on individual needs.

We will also share information with you on Wednesday about who your child's class teacher will be for the next academic year.

Have Your Say: The Big Future Survey

I have received an email asking that I bring this back to your attention as they have only received one response from a child at the school.

The Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, is inviting children across the country to take part in an important new survey called *The Big Future*.



For the first time, hundreds of thousands of young people will be eligible to vote in a general election at age 16 - the biggest change in voting rights in over 50 years. However, currently only one in five children feel that politicians listen to them. This survey aims to change that.

The Big Future survey is a chance for children to share their views and experiences. It asks about:

- What it is like to be a child today
- Changes they would like to see in their communities
- Their biggest concerns
- Their hopes and dreams for the future
- What they think a "good childhood" should look like now and in the future

We encourage our pupils and families to take part and ensure that children's voices are heard.

You can complete the [survey here](#) or by scanning this QR code.



Around Whinstone this week.

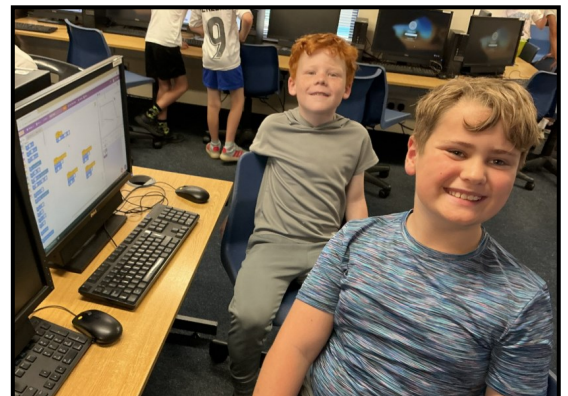
Well done to those who earned a Headteacher's certificate from Mrs Battly this week.



As part of their DT lessons, Year 1 have been practising their cutting skills. They cut up some food carefully and safely with a knife.



Mrs Edon's Read Write Inc. group made 'lava' bottles based on their book, 'The oily bottle'



Year 3 enjoyed making their own maze games using Scratch.

In their Forest School session, Year 1 made friendship bracelets.

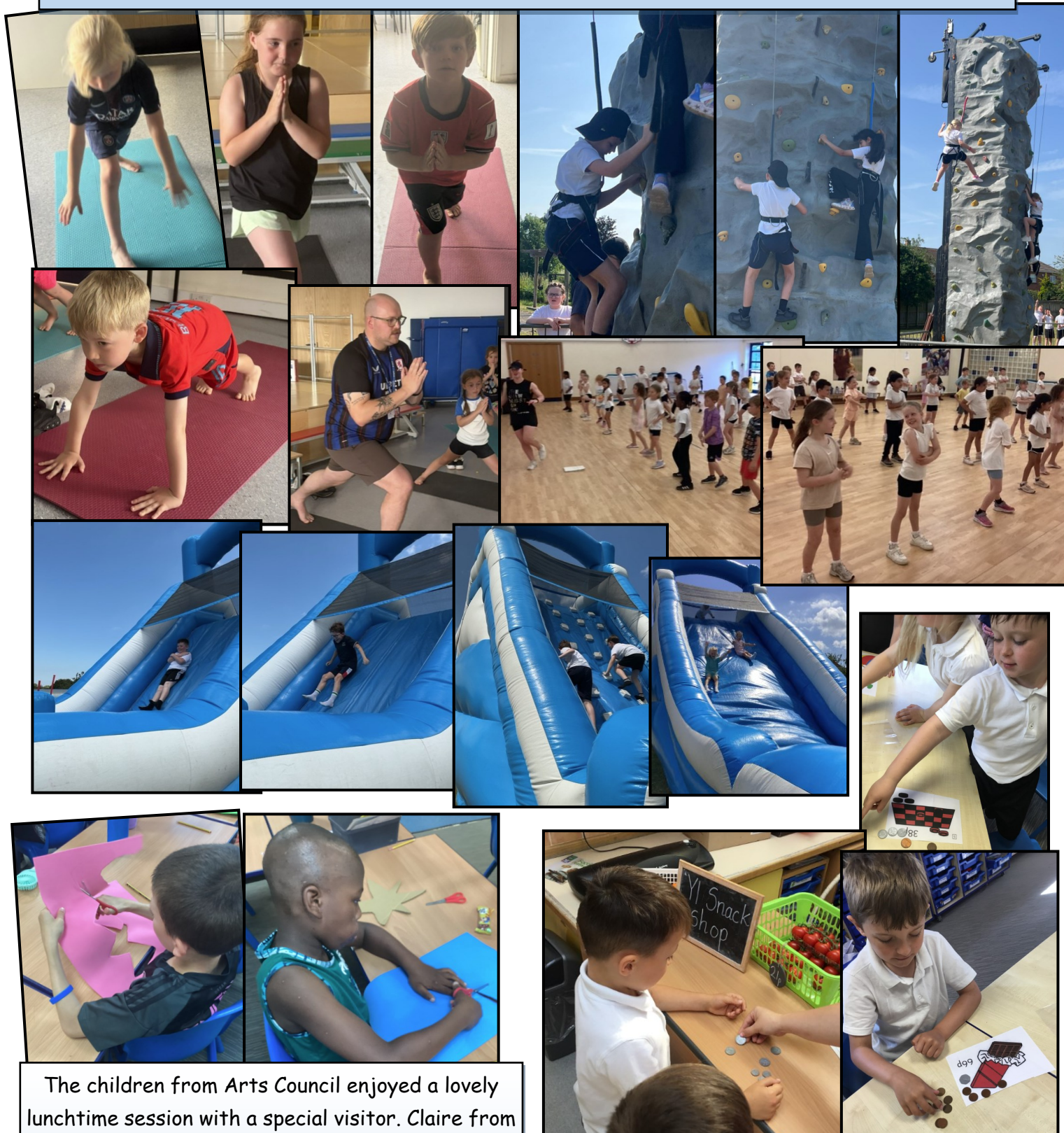


Our pre-school children tried different ways of keeping cool in the extreme heat. Eating ice-pops was their favourite method!



It was our 'Sports Week' and we had different activities going on to encourage movement, health and trying out new things.

Children took part in yoga, dance sessions, climbing and spent time on a giant inflatable obstacle course.



The children from Arts Council enjoyed a lovely lunchtime session with a special visitor. Claire from Preston Park museum worked with the children on a new display for their latest exhibition. Children cut shapes from felt to create an installation that will hang in the windows. Their creations will be on display from 15th July to 15th October 2026.

Year 1 have been recognising coins and their values. They even had to 'pay' for their fruit at snack time this week.

Year 6 went on a STEM day at Yarm School. You can watch their video of the day [here](#).



Class 3G went on a walk as part of their geography work. They have been looking at how land is used in the local community. They visited some of the different facilities Ingleby has to offer,



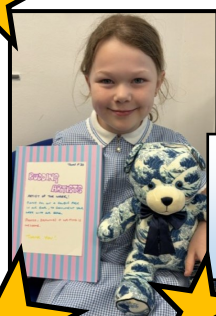
We had a special visitor in our assemblies today. Roary, from Middlesbrough Football Club came to visit.



Teesside Mind Colour Run 2026!



Whinstone Stars



Cole enjoys his football and he has worked really hard this season to become captain of his team.
Well done, Cole!



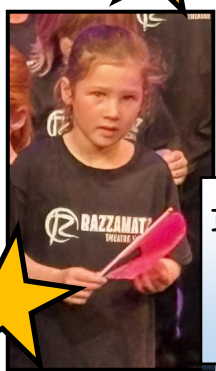
Lexi attends 'Budding Artists'. Last week, she was given Artist of the Week
Well done, Lexi.



Blake plays football for TIBs Yellows Under 11 team. He was awarded the trophy for Players' Player of the Year.
Superb - well done, Blake.



Noah plays for TIBs Yellows. Not only did he receive the 'Golden Boot' for most goals scored, he was also awarded Player of the Year and Players' Player of the Year.
Wow - that is amazing, Noah. Well done!



Austin plays for TIBs Yellows. He was awarded the trophy for 'Mid Field Maestro' for the 25/26 season.
What an accomplishment - well done, Austin.

Isla took part in the Razzamatazz show at The Arc. She confidently performed on the stage which is such an amazing thing to do.
Wow, well done, Isla.



Gio's former football club, FC Teesside, had their end of season presentation. Gio was awarded Supporters' Player of the Season.
Fantastic, Gio - well done!

Would you rather...?

Oracy

Oracy - talk matters!

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

WOULD YOU RATHER WEEK BEGINNING 29/06/26

HAVE A TONGUE LIKE A FROG?	HAVE EYES LIKE A CHAMELEON?
OR	

Whinstone next week

Year 6 Transition week

Throughout the week, our Year 6 children will be visiting their new Secondary school. These days are organised by the individual schools and not us! For any information, please see what has been shared from the new school directly with you.

Monday = All Saints

Tuesday = Egglescliffe

Wednesday = All Saints and Egglescliffe

Thursday = Ingleby Manor

Friday = All Saints and Conyers

Year 6 'Careers week'

Throughout the week, we are welcoming a range of professionals from different fields to speak with our Year 6 children. They will be sharing their experiences, offering insights into their careers, and helping to inspire the children about the wide range of opportunities available to them in the future.

Year 1 trip to Dorman Museum

On Tuesday, our Year 1 children are going on a visit to the Dorman Museum.

New classes

On Wednesday, the children will be made aware of their new class teacher.

Year 5 residential to Beamish

On Thursday, some of our Year 5 children are off to Beamish for an overnight visit. This is the first time we have had children do this residential, and we hope it is going to be another addition to our annual calendar.

Year 6 Forest School

On Thursday, our Year 6 children will be having another Forest School session with ScoutEd.

Summer Fayre

On Friday, the Friends of Whinstone will be hosting the Summer Fayre. This will start straight after school.

Safeguarding and Family Support

SEND Peer Support Group



Struggling to navigate the health and education system? You're not alone. Join us in a safe, welcoming space for parents of children with SEND needs.

- Enjoy a warm drink and have a friendly chat
- Get helpful advice to support you and your child
- Talk to people who know how the system works
- Meet other parents who get it, share ideas and support

Every Thursday
9:30-11am

The Community Hub, 34 Havelock Street,
TS17 6HN



SEND Peer Support group

Sometimes, navigating the health and education system can be daunting. This group offers support and advice in a friendly, safe, welcoming space.

Talk to professionals who know how the systems work and meet up with other parents to share ideas and get support.

The group runs every Thursday at:

The Community Hub,
34 Havelock Street,
TS17 6HN

Time: 09:30-11:00am.

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 contact this school or the Stockton Family Help Point using [this link](#).

During working hours call: 01642 130080 or Email: familyhelppoint@stockton.gov.uk

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

Attendance

No change for the fourth week in a row, but the National has dropped slightly.
Can we see an increase next week?

Whole school attendance
(year to date)



94.9%

National average = 94.5%



Miss Owens, our PSA, 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.