



Whinstone Weekly

Academic Year 2025/2026 - Summer term

Friday 3rd June 2026

Whinstone Wide - General school information

Careers Week

This week has been another successful Careers Week for our Year 6 children—and what a fantastic week it was. Throughout the week, pupils had the opportunity to learn about a wide range of careers, hearing directly from professionals who generously shared their time, experiences and expertise.

The aim of Careers Week is to broaden children's understanding of the many pathways available to



them beyond school, helping to spark ambition and encourage them to explore future opportunities with confidence. The sessions provided valuable insights into the world of work and inspired our pupils to think more deeply about their own aspirations.

As a school, we would like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who supported this event. We were delighted to welcome such a diverse range of professions this year, including an occupational therapist, a doctor and a financial team. We were also fortunate to host a police investigation team, who delivered an exciting and interactive session. Children experienced the stages of a real investigation, including a 999 call, creating an eFit, collecting evidence, tracking a suspect using a drone and making an arrest. Every session was informative, engaging and superbly delivered, leaving a lasting impression on our children.

We were especially pleased to see some familiar faces return, alongside a number of new volunteers, which added even more variety and depth to the week.

If you were unable to take part this year, we hope you will consider getting involved in the future.

Careers Week will return next year, and we are always keen to hear from anyone willing to share their career journey and help inspire the next generation.



School reports

School reports for children in Pre-School through to Year 5 will be sent out at the end of next week. We had originally planned for all reports to be issued at the same time, in line with the publication of the Year 6 SATs results, which were due to be released on Tuesday 7th July.

However, we have recently been informed of a national delay. Yesterday, we received communication from the Secretary of State advising that this year's Key Stage 2 (KS2) test results have been postponed for all schools. The delay is due to an issue affecting the national system used by Pearson Education Limited, the organisation responsible for administering, marking, and distributing the results. As a result, schools will not now receive the Year 6 SAT results until the 16th July 2026.

Due to this delay, the Year 6 reports will be sent out on 16th July alongside the SATs results but the reports for all other year groups will be issued as planned at the end of next week.

Hamper raffle winners

Our first ever Friday Summer Fayre was a wonderful success, and we would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who came along to support us. It was fantastic to see so many members of our school community enjoying the event and contributing to such a lively and positive atmosphere.

Both our hamper raffle and the Hickory's voucher raffle proved to be extremely popular and were very well supported. We are delighted to share that many of the prizes were claimed during the event itself; however, a small number remain uncollected.

Please find below the list of winners who had not, at the time of this information being shared with me, taken their prize. Any unclaimed prizes can be collected from the main school office during school hours. Alternatively, arrangements can be made by contacting the office team on 01642 750318.



	Reference/name on the ticket	Ticket colour/number
Hickory's voucher	Cora Dixon	24
Hamper 1	Pam	Pink 111-115
Hamper 2	Khadija (Class RH)	Green 186-190
Hamper 3	Luna Y3	Green 11-15
Hamper 4	Diane - kitchen	Pink 11-15
Hamper 5	Cody - reception	Yellow 131-135
Hamper 8	Louise (kitchen)	Pink 76-80
Hamper 10	Sarah Davies	Pink 96-100
Hamper 13	Louise (kitchen)	
Hamper 15	Erin R. Class 3W	Blue 66-70

Thank you once again for your continued support - it truly makes a difference.

School Games Gold Award

We are delighted to share the fantastic news that our school has been awarded yet another award. This time we have achieved the School Games Gold Award in recognition of our commitment to sport and physical activity.

The School Games Mark is a national award that celebrates schools for their dedication to developing competitive sport, encouraging participation and promoting healthy, active lifestyles. Achieving the Gold Award is a significant accomplishment and reflects the wide range of sporting opportunities we provide, both within the curriculum and through extracurricular activities. It also recognises our success in engaging pupils of all abilities, ensuring that everyone has the chance to take part, compete and enjoy being active.

We would like to extend a special thank you to Mr Robson, our PE Leader, whose hard work, dedication and passion for sport have been instrumental in achieving this award. His commitment to providing high-quality opportunities for all pupils has made a real difference and is greatly appreciated.



Enrichment Award

We would like to extend our warmest congratulations to Mrs Wilson-Dukes, who this week was awarded the Spark Education Trust Enrichment Champion Award.

This award recognises her outstanding dedication to enriching the experiences of all children at Whinstone. From residential visits and educational trips to a wide range of clubs and themed focus weeks, Mrs Wilson-Dukes consistently goes above and beyond to ensure pupils benefit from memorable, meaningful and inspiring opportunities throughout the year. Her commitment and enthusiasm make a real difference to school life, and this recognition is very well deserved.



Around Whinstone this week.



Some of our singers, who have lessons with Bethel, performed in a show for their families and friends.



Keep fit at our Breakfast Club.



Year 1 went on a trip to the Dorman Museum in Middlesbrough.



Pre-school enjoyed their PE session where they were learning to balance.

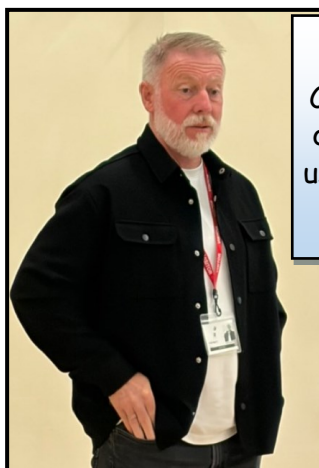




We held our Summer Fayre, where Mr Good and Mr Carlton had a huge queue of children waiting to soak them in the stocks.



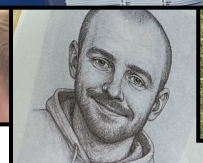
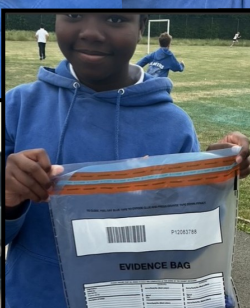
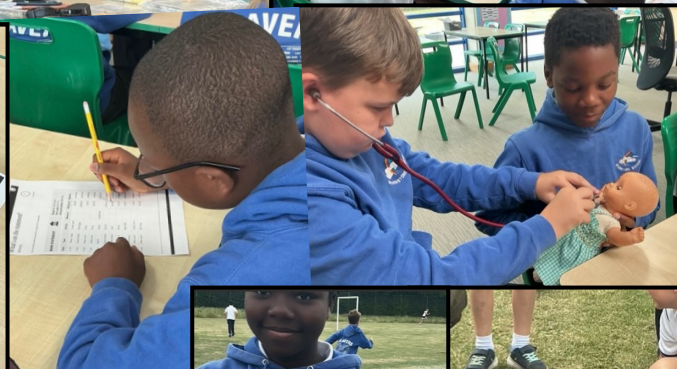
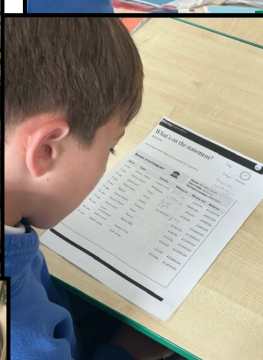
Our Year 1 children learnt to make a fire and used this to make S'mores during a Forest School session.



Middlesbrough legend, Craig Hignett, came in to our KS2 assembly to tell us about how he became a professional footballer.



It was our Year 6 careers week.



Year 5 went on an overnight residential to Beamish.



Whinstone Stars



Ella-Rose belongs to a dance school which she attends weekly. Ella-Rose has recently taken her dance exam and she achieved 'silver' in Modern with a 'highly commended' recognition too!
Well done, Ella-Rose.



Hollie enjoys playing football and attends a football club. Hollie was awarded 'Player of the Week'.
Wow, well done, Hollie.



Olivia attends a weekly art group. Last week she received a medal for her fantastic achievements in art.
Superb, Olivia - well done.



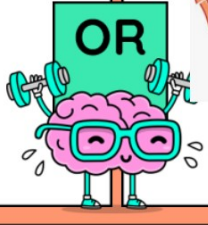
Orla plays for TIBs Blues as a goal keeper. At the recent club award night, Orla received a trophy for her super participation.
Well done, Orla.

Would you rather...?



Oracy - talk matters!

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

WOULD YOU RATHER		WEEK BEGINNING 06/07/26
BE POOR AND HAPPY? 	OR 	RICH AND ALWAYS ITCHY? 

Whinstone next week

Year 5 Ambassador event

On Monday, our Year 5 Ambassadors will be going to Kirklevington Primary to an Ambassador event to share what they have learnt through taking part in the initiative this year.

Year 3 trip to Whitby

On Wednesday, our Year 3 children will be on a trip to Whitby.

Pre-school graduation

On Wednesday afternoon, our pre-school will be holding their graduation ceremony.

Year 6 Forest School

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

Reports will be going out

If your child is in pre-school up to Year 5, you will be receiving your child's school report.

Non-uniform day (bright colours or a Disney theme)

On Friday, we are having a non-uniform day for the charity 'The Lily Foundation'. This is a charity very close to our hearts as last year one of our children lost their life to mitochondrial disease. Daisy loved Minnie Mouse and so we are asking that children come in non-uniform, preferably bright colours or a Disney theme, and bring in a donation. All proceeds will go to 'The Lily Foundation'

Safeguarding and Family Support

HOLIDAYS ARE FUN



Free, fun holiday activities for eligible school age children from Reception to Year 11.

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

Scan to check eligibility and book online:

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



Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council

BEST START IN LIFE

Funded by UK Government

HAF bookings

The booking system for the summer Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme will go live at 12 noon on Wednesday 8th July.

A wide range of activities will be available across Stockton for children and young people to enjoy during the summer holidays.

The main eligibility criterion for the HAF programme is that families are in receipt of benefit-related Free School Meals (FSM). In addition, a limited number of discretionary places may be available for families working with support services.

For further information, please visit the Holidays Are Fun (HAF) programme page [here](https://www.stockton.gov.uk/haf).

If you have any questions, please contact haf@stockton.gov.uk.

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 contact school or the Stockton Family Help Point using [this link](https://www.stockton.gov.uk/familyhelppoint).

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

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

Attendance

We seem to be stuck at this figure - yet again our whole school attendance is at 94.9%. Let's have a big push to get it up to 95%

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.