



Whinstone Weekly

Academic Year 2026/2027 - Autumn term

Friday 25th September 2026

Whinstone Wide - General school information

Bikes and scooters

This is a reminder to all families that bikes and scooters should not be ridden within the school grounds, including balance bikes used by younger children. This week, we have had an accident involving a younger child and a parent during morning drop-off. The child, who was riding a bike, collided with the parent and the parent fell, resulting in an injury to their hand. Thankfully, both were not seriously harmed, but the incident highlights the potential risks when bikes and scooters are ridden on site.



In assembly today, we reminded the children that they should get off at the perimeter fence and walk their bikes or scooters through the school grounds. This applies at both the beginning and end of the school day. At home time, children should walk with their bikes and scooters until they are outside the school grounds, where they can then get back on. If we all work together to ensure this happens consistently, we can help prevent any further accidents or collisions involving bikes and scooters on the school site.

Year 6 Leavers' Hoodie

If your child is currently in Year 6, they will have the opportunity to purchase a 2027 Leavers' Hoodie in the coming months. Before the hoodies are ordered, we need to obtain parental/carers consent for your Year 6 child's name to be included on the hoodie. **If you do not give consent, your child's name will not be included.**

Please use [this link](#) to complete the consent form - it will take less than 30 seconds to do so! Note that this form is not for ordering a 2027 Whinstone leavers' hoodie, it is solely to give permission for your child's name to appear on it. A separate link to purchase the hoodie will be provided directly by Motif8 in the coming weeks.



Reminder: Flu Vaccinations on Friday 2nd October 2026

As shared with you previously, the School Aged Immunisation Team will be visiting Whinstone on Friday 2nd October 2026 to administer the annual flu vaccination.

The flu vaccination is available to all children from Reception through to Year 6. If you haven't yet consented and would like your child to receive the vaccination, please look for the text message you will have received directly from the NHS inviting you to complete the online consent form. If you have not received a text message, please contact the Immunisation Team on 0333 358 3397, option 3 and then option 3, so that they can provide you with a consent form. This contact number can also be used to change consent if required.

These vaccinations are not managed by school, so you will need to consent online via the link sent by the NHS - without the completed consent, your child cannot receive the vaccination.

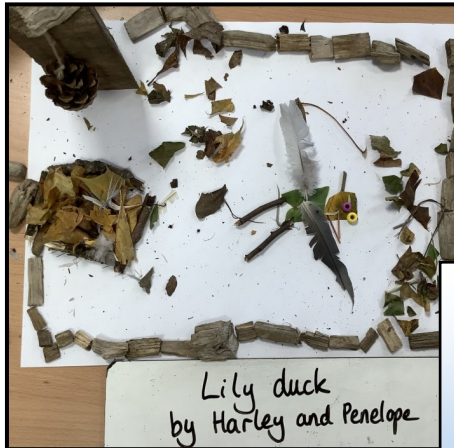
Around Whinstone this week.



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



Year 1 worked together to sort materials in science.

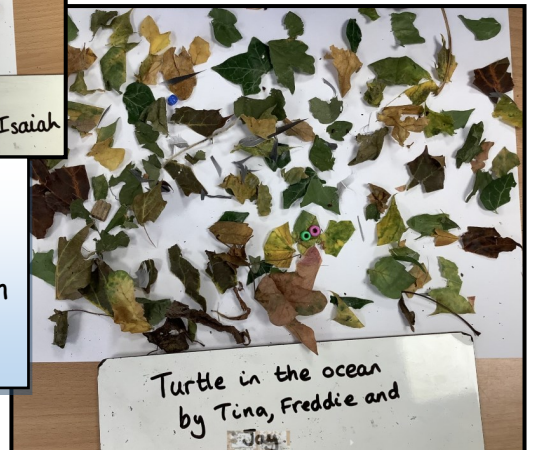


Lily duck
by Harley and Penelope

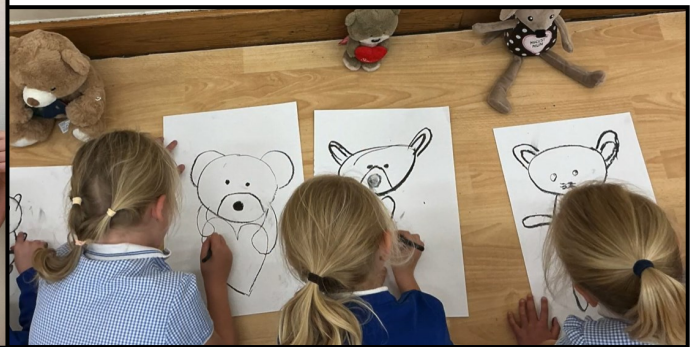
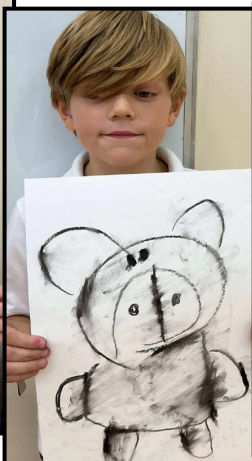


Gary
by Hugo and Isaiah

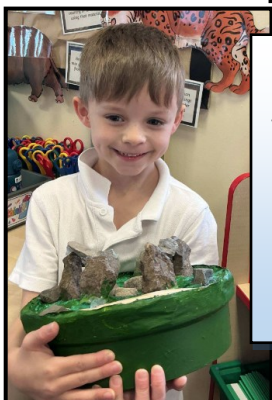
Year 2 collected natural items from the school site and used these things to create their own pictures.



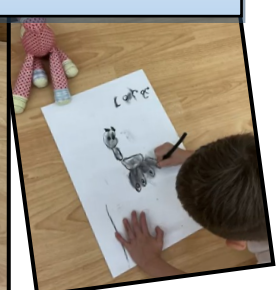
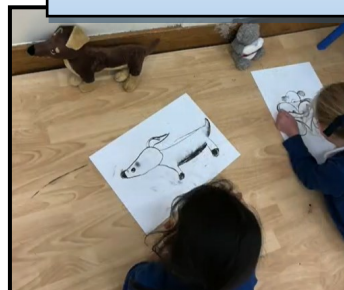
Turtle in the ocean
by Tina, Freddie and Jay



Year 3 made big gestural charcoal drawings. To see their short video, use [this link](#).



Year 3 produced some great homework, including a project to make Stonehenge.



One of our Read Write Inc. phonics groups were looking at the split digraph **i-e**. They were inspired to make suncatchers for when the sun **shines**.



Year 2 did some observational drawing.



Year 4 had another rehearsal for their Middlesbrough dance which is going to be performed at a Middlesbrough match.



Year 1 looked at aerial photos of the school and made their own 'messy maps'.



Whinstone Stars

Ella-Rose undertook and passed her Grade 3 dancing exam through the Royal Academy of Dance. Well done, Ella-Rose.



Skyla, not only took exams in musical theatre achieving her Grade 1 in solo and Grade 2 in group performance, but she attended a dancing competition too, where she was placed in numerous classes.

What fantastic achievements - well done, Skyla.



Leo and Alfie raced at Pickering grass track at the weekend. Alfie won both of the races he took part in. Leo got two seconds and a win, followed by a win in the final to come first overall in his class.

Well done, boys!



Whinstone next week

Sports Clubs

Active Future Teesside will be hosting their after school sports clubs in gymnastics and dodgeball.

Year 4 Dance

On Thursday afternoon, Year 4 are continuing their dance sessions with Tees Valley Middlesbrough Dance.

Youth Focus action group

On Thursday, a group of Year 5 and Year 6 pupils will be having a session as part of the Youth Focus Action Group scheme.

Flu vaccinations

On Friday, the Immunisation Team will be attending the school to administer the flu vaccinations for any children who has the correct consent.

Open evening for children due to start school in September 2027

On Thursday at 16:00, we will be hosting an open evening for children wanting to join the school in September 2027. Details below.



**WHINSTONE
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Reception 2027 Open Evening



Is your child due to start Reception in September 2027?

We would love you to visit our wonderful school where you and your child can come to explore our setting and chat about what our dedicated team can offer you.

● Ofsted graded **STRONG STANDARD** in Early Years ●



Open evening—Thursday 1st October

4:00pm–5:00pm

Lowfields Avenue

Ingleby Barwick

TS17 0RJ

01642 750318

Admin@whinstone.org.uk

Talk about it



Oracy - talk matters!

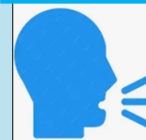
This week's topic to discuss with your child.

Odd One Out:

apple • banana • carrot • pear

There isn't just one correct answer—can you think of two different reasons? How many different reasons can you think of?

Talk About It



Safeguarding and Family Support

0-19 Growing Healthy app.

There is a new app offered by the 0-19 service. The Stockton-on-Tees 0-19 Growing Healthy App is a quick and easy way for parents and carers to get in touch with the right health professionals for their child. The app connects families directly to local health visitors, school nurses, SEND health support, infant feeding specialists, and emotional wellbeing teams.

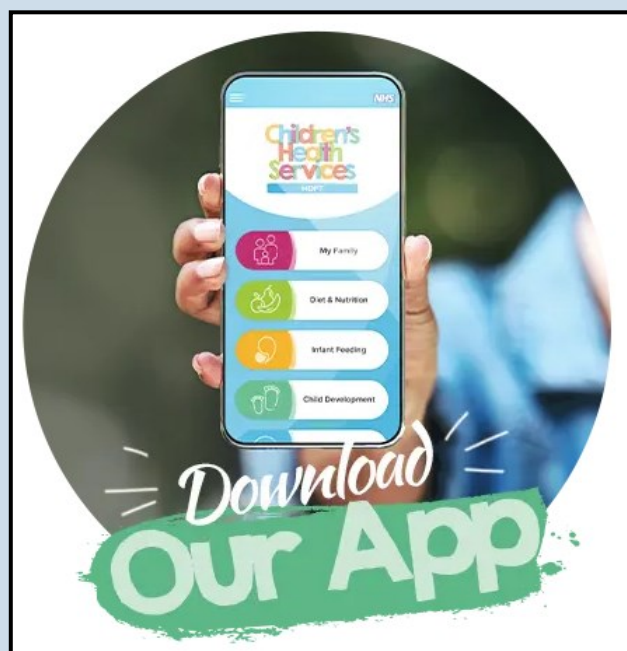
Parents can use the chat function to send a message straight to the 0-19 team, and a reply will be made within 2 hours during service hours. It's a simple, accessible way to ask questions, seek advice, or request support without needing to make phone calls or wait for appointments.

Through the app, families can access help with:

- Child development (0-5)
- Health and wellbeing (5-19)
- SEND health support
- Child feeding and portion control
- Emotional resilience
- Healthy lifestyle programmes
- Speech and Language Therapists
- Occupational Therapists

It's free to download and helps families get the right support, at the right time.

Information about the free app can be found on [this link](#). The app itself can be downloaded from Google Play or the App Store.



Safeguarding and Family Support

SEND Parents and Carers



Introduction to Makaton

Wednesday 14 October
9:30am to 11:30am
Stockton Family Hub, Yarm Road, TS18 3PJ

What will you learn?

- Learn the basics of Makaton, including hand signals, finger spelling and key signs
- Gain practical communication skills to support individuals with communication difficulties
- Create a more inclusive and supportive environment for everyday interactions

Book online at
<https://digital.stockton.gov.uk/article/22448/Introduction-to-Makaton-Workshop>

Education, Inclusion & Achievement
SEND and vulnerable



Stockton-on-Tees
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Makaton workshop for SEND parents and carers

On Wednesday 14th of October at 9:30-11:30 there is a free Makaton session available for parents and carers to book onto. This will be held at the Stockton Family Hub.

Spaces are extremely limited and will be allocated on a first come first serve basis. If this session proves to be popular, they will look at adding future dates.

You can book for the training by following the link below-

[Introduction to Makaton Workshop - Stockton-on-](#)

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 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

We are up on last week, and closing the gap with the national average, but yet we are still below! Try to ensure your child attends school regularly and on time every day if they can.

Whole school attendance
(year to date)



95.4%

National average = 95.6%



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.

Is Your Child Too Ill for School?

Not every illness means your child needs to miss school.

Many minor illnesses don't stop children from learning, playing and taking part in school life. If your child is well enough to attend, they usually can!

Minor illnesses – they can usually come!



Coughs & colds

If your child is well enough to take part in their normal school day, they can usually attend.



Sore throat

If they are eating, drinking and feeling well, they can usually come to school.



Headache

If it's mild and they are happy and active, they can usually attend.



Runny nose

A runny nose on its own is usually not a reason to stay at home.

When to keep them at home



High temperature

Your child should stay at home until their temperature has returned to normal and they feel well enough to attend.



Vomiting or diarrhoea

Please keep your child at home until 48 hours after their last episode.



Feeling unwell?

If your child is generally well but has a minor illness, please consider whether they are well enough to attend school.

Every School Day Counts!

Regular attendance helps children keep up with their learning, friendships and routines.

If you're unsure whether your child should attend, please contact the school for advice.

