

Dear Parents/Carers

WHIXALL SCHOOL NEWS

We demonstrate our Values of **respect, caring, supportiveness, tolerance, perseverance, forgiveness, and trust**, at Whixall C.E. Primary School in all that we strive to do each day.

Thank you to everyone for your amazing donations to the Christmas Fair.

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Thank you for your support with the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

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Thank you also for supporting The Book Bus. The children enjoyed a wonderful experience viewing and buying the amazing range of books in the big red bus!

PE and outdoor learning

Please find below the days that each class will have their PE lessons. Children will need to come into school in their PE kits.

Wednesday—Swimming for Skylark Class (Year 1), Mayfly Class (Year 2), Peregrine Class (Years 5 and 6)

PE for Dragonfly Class (Reception) and Bumblebee Class (Nursery) and Robin Class (Years 3 and 4)

Thursday - PE for Dragonfly Class (Reception)

Friday — PE for Bumblebee Class (Nursery) and Robin Class (Years 3 and 4)

If children could bring their outdoor learning clothes into school please and leave them in school, that would be appreciated. It would also be appreciated if all children could bring a pair of wellies into school please .

Diary Dates

Monday 11th November	Classes to visit the memorial
Tuesday 12th November	Wear odd socks in support of Anti-bullying week
Wednesday 13th November	Flu Vaccinations Parent consultations
Thursday 14th November	Parent consultations
Friday 15th November	Wear something spotty for 'Children in Need' for a donation of your choice.
Friday 22nd November	Christmas Fair at school—please see attached flyer
Sunday 24th November	Christingle Service at St Mary's at 4 p.m. more details to follow
Wednesday 27th November	Individual and family photographs

If you are concerned about someone's safety In an emergency dial 999, but for other calls to the police please ring 101. To report a safeguarding concern by phone ring our **First Point of Contact team** on 0345 678 9044 Monday to Thursday, 9am to 5pm, and Friday 9am to 4pm. If you have urgent adult safeguarding concerns outside of these hours, please phone the **Emergency Social Work Duty Team** on 0345 678 9040.

***** School Admissions Dates *****

Applications for Reception School Places

Children born between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021 can start primary school from September 2025

Applications can be made online from Monday 4th November to 15th January 2025.

To apply please visit: <http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions>

click on: Apply to start or transfer school

then click on: Starting infant or primary school

If you have any queries or would like support with your application please do not hesitate to contact

Christmas Lunch

Christmas Lunch is on Tuesday 17th December—please see attached flyer. There is no charge for Christmas Lunch and lunch will be provided for everyone in school. If you do not wish your child to have Christmas Lunch, then please inform the school office by Friday 15th November at the latest. Many thanks.

Child Absence

Please telephone school (01948 880330) by 9.00am if your child is unwell and will not be attending that day. If leaving a message, can you please provide the exact reason why your child is absent. If we have not heard from you by 9.30am we will text you and then follow-up with a telephone call if we have still not heard from you by lunchtime.

We shall also be contacting parents of Nursery children who do not attend, for whatever reason, on days that we are expecting them. This is a health and wellbeing safeguarding check.

Surprise Jars

We would like to run a Surprise Jar stall at the Christmas Fair and would be extremely grateful if anyone is able to make a surprise jar at home. Surprise jars are decorated on the outside so that the contents can not be seen. Decorations could include making the jar into a Christmas Tree, Santa Claus or any of the amazing ideas that the children have. A small gift is then put into the jar. Your support is appreciated.

Thank you message from the Whitchurch Food Bank

Now that the Harvest season is coming to an end, I've the task of contacting all those Schools, Churches, and Chapels, who have supported our Food Bank, so generously this year - the support we have received has been wonderful!

Our Manager at Food Bank, Alan Scutt, tells me that we received an amazing amount of Harvest donations following your Harvest, from Whixall CE Primary School for our Food Bank. THANK YOU, SO MUCH, we are truly so grateful. Please, do pass on our sincere thanks to both pupils and parents for their super response - Bless you all!!

Unfortunately, donations to our Food Bank have dropped off a little in the last few months, in spite of our Food Bank being busier than ever, caring for those young families, and others, who are, very often at their wits end, trying to cope with life - BUT, at least, we are here for them, and so we are all the more grateful for all those Schools, Churches and Chapels this year for their support this Harvest time - including, of course, your wonderful pupils at Whixall CE Primary School!

Once again, MANY THANKS, for your wonderful support!

With All Good Wishes

PAULINE STOKES - Secretary to Whitchurch Food Bank

CHILDREN IN NEED MENU



Next Friday the menu will be:

Spotty pizza (pepperoni)/Plain
pizza/fish cake

Chips, Spotty carrot and cucumber (disks)

Children in need cookies

INTERNET SAFETY

If you or your child experience any form of content on the internet that may be harmful, this can be reported using the following link:

[Report Harmful Content - We Help You Remove Content](#)

SHREWSBURY RUGBY CLUB

If your child is interested in taking up rugby,

Shrewsbury Rugby Club have teams ranging from Under 7s. Their core values “of teamwork, respect, enjoyment, discipline, and sportsmanship are at the core of everything we do”.

Sundorne Castle, Uffington,
Shrewsbury, SY4 4RR

Phone: 01743 353380



ENJOY HOCKEY! AT SHREWSBURY HOCKEY CLUB

Learn from fully qualified England Hockey accredited coaches.

Children age 4-10 - Sundays at 10.30am-12pm.

Children age 10+ - Tuesdays at 6-7pm & Wednesdays at 7-8.15pm.

Sessions at Roman Road Sports Centre,
Meole Brace School.

Beginners Welcome Equipment Provided Free Taster Session

Contact: James - 07837 708 773
shrewsburyhc_juniors@outlook.com
www.shrewsburyhockeyclub.co.uk



Be bright, be seen

With evenings and mornings getting darker, whether you are a driver, pedestrian, biker, horse rider or cyclist, it's more important than ever to be seen. **Help us keep our roads safe.**

For the latest crime prevention advice visit:
www.westmercia.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/

Follow West Mercia Road Safety on social media:  

For crimes in progress call 999.

For non emergencies report online: www.westmercia.police.uk/report

If you are unable to report online, you can contact the police via the 101 non-emergency number.

WhatsApp

Users should be at least 13 years old to use WhatsApp. We frequently receive reports of children not using WhatsApp appropriately, such as sharing images to embarrass others, sending hurtful messages, spreading rumours, or excluding people from group chats to make them feel left out.

Since WhatsApp lacks parental controls, it is important to think about whether it is really the right platform for your child. For example, you should consider if your child has the critical thinking skills to recognise bullying. Furthermore, do they understand how to manage peer pressure and refrain from joining in on harmful behaviour?

If your child is using WhatsApp, it is crucial to have regular conversations with them. Talk about who they are chatting with, encourage them to think carefully about the messages they send and how they might be perceived by others. Finally, make sure to model good digital behaviour yourself, as children often learn by observing the adults around them.

What should I be aware of if my child is using WhatsApp?

Group chats: Everyone within a group, even if they are not one of your child's contacts, will be able to see all messages within that group. If your child is added to a group with someone that they have previously blocked, that person can still see their messages and send them messages within the group chat. If your child is using WhatsApp, check their group privacy settings to see who can add them to groups. Ensure your child understands that they can leave a chat at any time, and they know how to report users. Find out more here: <https://faq.whatsapp.com/424124173736394>

Inappropriate content: users can be exposed to content that is not suitable for their age.

Location sharing: talk to your child about when this would be appropriate to use and the potential danger of sharing their location.

Chat lock/secret code: users can lock chats as well as apply a secret code setting so a chat does not appear in the main chat.

Blocking/Reporting: Show your child how to block and report other users. Find out how here: <https://faq.whatsapp.com/1142481766359885/>

Further information

Internet Matters have produced a how to guide available here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/whatsapp-safety-a-how-to-guide-for-parents/>

How can I find age-appropriate games?

Do you need suggestions on age-appropriate games? You could use either of the following websites to search suitable games.

Remember, PEGI rates the gameplay so whilst it is important to review age ratings, you must also check if it has a communication feature as this might mean you decide a game is not suitable for your child.

<https://www.askaboutgames.com/find-the-right-game>

<https://www.familygamingdatabase.com/home>

How to Remove Social Access After Granting It

Have you given your child access to social media but are now regretting that decision? Bark have published this article to help you take back control by removing social media:

<https://www.bark.us/blog/removing-social-media/>