

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.

*** School Admissions Dates ***

Applications for Reception School Places

Children born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020 can start primary school from 2nd November 2023 to 15th January 2024 online.

To apply please visit: <http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions>
click on: Apply to start or transfer school.

September 2024

Christmas Performance

Well done to our amazing children for their incredible contributions to the Christmas Performance, we are so proud of them.

Thank you to everyone for your help and support by providing props and costumes and for all of your lovely comments. A wonderful way to start our Christmas celebrations.

Donations

Thank you so much to everyone who sent donations in on Friday for our 'hamper' raffle. Your support is very much appreciated.

Wrap Around Care

We are offering wrap around care after our normal school clubs from 4.30 p.m. until 6.00 p.m. These must be booked and paid for in advance by 3.00 p.m. of the Friday of the previous week (booking will close at 3 p.m.)—our apologies but unfortunately until the club becomes established, we cannot accept bookings in any other way.

Clubs will therefore be organised as follows:

3.00 p.m. —4.30 p.m.—Usual clubs—please see above at £1.50 per session these are booked and paid for in the usual way.

4.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. - £4 per session payable under the booking section of sQuid

4.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.—£6 per session payable under the booking section of sQuid

If anyone wishes their child to access club during the week beginning 18th December please book by Friday 15th December.



Holiday Club

The next holiday clubs will take place on Thursday 21st December, Friday 22nd December and Wednesday 3rd January. Bookings are now available on sQuid. **Please book holiday club for Thursday and Friday by Monday 18th December so that we can finalise numbers and organise staffing.**

Attendance

Well done to all of our children who had 100% attendance this week. Well done to Mayfly and Robin Classes who had 100% attendance for the whole week.

PE

Please find below the days that each class will be swimming or will have their PE lessons. Children will need to come into school in their PE kits on PE and swimming days (please see the letter which was sent home about swimming last week for specific arrangements.)

Mondays —PE for Skylark (Year 1)

Fridays — PE for all classes in school.

Dates for your Diary

13.12.23	Disco at school all children welcome Children attending the disco may wear their disco clothes to school Nursery sing-a-long (a separate letter has been sent home regarding this event) Dragonfly Visit to the New Vic Theatre
14.12.23	Christmas Lunch – children welcome to wear a Christmas Jumper
18.12.23	Dentist talk for children in Dragonfly Class. Height, weight and hearing tests for children in reception and Year 6
19.12.23	Carol Service in Church at 1.30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend, there is no need to inform us of your intention to attend.
20.12.23	Last day of the Autumn Term – children break up
21.12.23 – 22.12.23	Holiday Club (Thurs and Fri)
03.01.24	PD Day – children not in school (however Holiday Club will be available)
04.01.24	Spring Term Begins – children back to school



spa dental
Whitchurch

NHS children's appointments

- ◆ General dentistry
- ◆ Oral health education
- ◆ Saturday opening
- ◆ After-school appointments

Scan & Book your Appointment Here

Corser House, 17 Green End,
Whitchurch, Shropshire, SY13 1AD

www.spadental.co.uk/contact



Shropshire family
Information Service

**Info, advice and support,
for families in Shropshire**

Find us on:

The SEND Local Offer

Lots of information and support for children and young people with SEND and their families, including:

- Education
- Health and wellbeing
- Family support
- Social care
- Preparing for adulthood
- Early help
- Things to do
- Education, health and care plan (EHCP)
- Travel and transport
- Financial support

local.offer@shropshire.gov.uk 0345 678 9063
www.shropshire.gov.uk/the-send-local-offer/

If you need help accessing the Local Offer please speak to your school or local library.



Children can start school in reception at the beginning of the academic year following their fourth birthday.

Therefore, children born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020 can start primary school from September 2024.

Applications should be made online. See the attached guidance to help you make your application. If you have any queries or encounter any difficulties completing your application, please contact the School Admissions Team by email - school-admissions@shropshire.gov.uk.

Please note that the online facility is open from **2 November 2023**. You must apply by 15 January 2024. If there is a reason why your application is late i.e. due to a house move, please email school-admissions@shropshire.gov.uk to advise

Applications received after 15 January, without exceptional reasons, are considered late. Late applications won't be processed until all the applications received on time have been allocated. This may result in your child not being offered a school place at your preferred school.

Shropshire Local Authority residents should use the Shropshire online portal to make their application for any English state infant or primary school. If the school you wish to apply to isn't there, please email school-admissions@shropshire.gov.uk with the name of the school, and we will get it added

- If you wish to apply for a neighbouring Welsh authority primary school, you should apply directly to either Powys or Wrexham authorities

If you want to apply for a Shropshire school but do not reside in the Shropshire Council authority area, please refer to our [who to apply to](#) page. Telford local authority residents must apply via Telford and Wrekin Council not Shropshire Council

- Applicants from either overseas, Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland can use the Shropshire Council website to make an application for a Shropshire school

IF AN APPLICATION IS MADE THROUGH THIS PORTAL FROM A RESIDENT IN ANOTHER ENGLISH AUTHORITY OTHER THAN SHROPSHIRE IT WILL BE DISCARDED

BEFORE MAKING AN APPLICATION

Ensure you read the [Parent's Guide to Education in Shropshire](#). This guide provides all the correct information to help you make your application

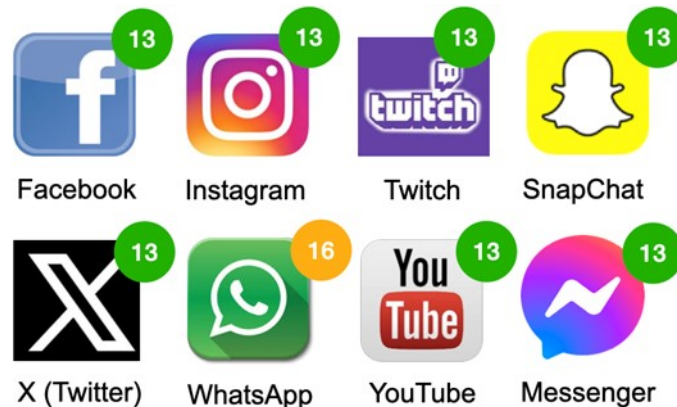
- Note the importance of naming more than one school on your application, particularly when not applying for your catchment area school

Ensure that you're happy with the application before you submit it. The online portal doesn't allow you to change your application once it's been submitted and downloaded by the Admissions Team. If you do need to amend your application after you have submitted it, you must email

school-admissions@shropshire.gov.uk

Get to know Age Ratings

Age ratings are in place to help protect your child, so we thought we'd provide you with a little reminder of how important it is to check the age ratings of what your child is accessing online. Here are the age ratings of some of the more popular apps that young people are accessing. **Did you know that WhatsApp has an age rating of 16?**



Whether your child is viewing films, accessing apps, playing games online, using social media or downloading other apps – check the age rating first to see if your child is old enough. In addition, the likes of PEGI include further content descriptors, which will give you an indication of the type of content that your child might view e.g. violence, if accessing the app/game etc.

It is important to note that whilst age ratings do allow you to see if something may be appropriate for your child, it is also important to review the content yourself. This will allow you to make an informed decision as to whether it is suitable for your child to access and if it would be beneficial to apply further parental controls.

Minecraft

Minecraft remains ever popular and with Christmas ahead of us, maybe your child will be receiving this game as one of their presents. Minecraft Legends is rated as PEGI 7 meaning it is suitable for those over 7 years of age. The App store rate Minecraft as 9+. You should be aware that there is a multiplayer option so players can chat to each other, and in-app purchases are available. Parental controls are available, either within Minecraft or on the console itself e.g. Nintendo Switch or PlayStation. Find out more here: <https://www.minecraft.net/en-us/article/parental-controls>

Toxicity in game play

Safe In Our World and Ubisoft (creators of games such as Assassins Creed) have co-developed the 'Good Game Playbook'. The playbook will be sent to players reporting disruptive behaviour as well as the individual reported. This is to support the person affected as well as to try and educate the person reported about the harm their behaviour might have on others.

You can read the handbook here: <https://safeinourworld.org/news/ubisoft-safe-in-our-world-partner-to-combat-in-game-toxicity/>