

Dear Parents/Carers

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

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. Please note that swimming is not taking place during the Spring Term.

Mondays –PE for Skylark (Year 1), Robin Class (Years 3 and 4) and Peregrine Class (Years 5 and 6)

Tuesdays - Dragonfly Class

Wednesdays—Bumblebee Class (Nursery), Mayfly Class (Year 2) and Peregrine Class (Years 5 and 6)

Thursday - Dragonfly Class (Reception), Robin Class (Years 3 and 4) Skylark Class (Year 1)

Fridays – Bumblebee Class (Nursery) and Mayfly Class (Year 2)

If children could bring their outdoor learning clothes into school please and leave them in school, that would be appreciated.

Theatre Visit

A reminder that the children in Years 1–6 are visiting the New Vic Theatre on Tuesday 16th January 2024 to see a performance of 'The Nutcracker'

We will be leaving school promptly at 9.00 a.m. so we ask that all children are in school by 8.40 a.m. please so that we can leave on time.

The children will need to wear their school uniform and bring a packed lunch including non fizzy drinks in a suitable non breakable container (unless one has been ordered from the kitchen—please note that orders for packed lunches have now closed and due to 'Natasha's Law' we are unable to make sandwiches for children who have forgotten their packed lunch on the day.

We will return to school for home time in the usual way. Clubs will run as usual on Tuesday,

WHIXALL SCHOOL NEWS

Dates for this term

Tuesday 16th January	Year 1—6 to New Vic Theatre to see 'The Nutcracker'
Wednesday 17th January	SATS club begins for Year 6
Tuesday 6th February	Young Voices
Friday 9th February	Chinese New Year activities Break up for Half Term
Monday 26th February	Parent Consultations
Tuesday 27th February	Parent Consultations
Thursday 7th March	World Book Day
Wednesday 20th March	Easter Service at the Church at 9.30 a.m.
Friday 22nd March	Break up for Easter Holidays

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. on 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 22nd January please book by Friday 19th January.



Photography Competition

Shrewsbury Museum are looking for images from photographers of all ages and levels.

Send your entry to shropshiremuseums@shropshire.gov.uk

by Sunday 21 January including your name, age and school with a short explanation about why you took the photograph.

A banner for the Shropshire Family Information Service. It features the logo with the text 'Shropshire family Information Service' and 'Info, advice and support, for families in Shropshire'. Below this, it says 'Find us on:' followed by icons for Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. On the right, there is an illustration of a child in a yellow and blue striped shirt running and flying a kite. The Shropshire Council logo is at the bottom right.

A banner for 'The SEND Local Offer'. It has a blue background with a purple header. The text reads: 'The SEND Local Offer', 'Lots of information and support for children and young people with SEND and their families, including:', and a list of services: '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', and 'Financial support'. Contact information includes 'local.offer@shropshire.gov.uk 0345 678 9063' and 'www.shropshire.gov.uk/the-send-local-offer/'. There are icons for Facebook and Twitter. At the bottom, it says 'If you need help accessing the Local Offer please speak to your school or local library.' and the Shropshire Council logo.

WhatsApp

You must be at least 16 years old to register for and use WhatsApp. WhatsApp is a free messaging app that allows you to send messages, voice notes, photos and videos.

What should I be aware of?

Group chats: One of the key features is the group chat function. Everybody in the group, even if they are not one of your child's phone 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. In settings, you can change who can add your child to groups. You can leave a group chat at any point so talk to your child and encourage them to leave any chat that makes them feel uncomfortable.

Location sharing: you can share your location on WhatsApp. Talk to your child about when this would be appropriate to use but also the potential danger of sharing their location, for example with strangers.

Blocking/Reporting: Show your child how to block and report other users or inappropriate content. You can find out how to do it based on your child's device here:

<https://faq.whatsapp.com/1142481766359885/>

Further information

NSPCC provide further advice and tips to help keep your child safe:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/2023-01-12-is-whatsapp-safe-for-my-child/>

New devices

If your child has a new device, have you set up parental controls?

Consoles

All consoles offer parental controls such as limiting the time spent on the device or restricting who your child can communicate with. Find out the specific settings below:

PlayStation: <https://www.playstation.com/en-gb/support/account/psn-safety-parents-guide/>

Xbox: <https://www.xbox.com/en-GB/family-hub>

Nintendo Switch: <https://www.nintendo.co.uk/Hardware/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls-1183145.html>

Mobiles/Tablets

You can set up parental controls and restrictions on most mobile devices, which can limit what your child can access. Additionally, make sure appropriate settings are applied to the apps your child is using.

Apple devices: <https://www.apple.com/uk/families/>

Android devices: <https://families.google/familylink/>

Further information

Internet Matters provide a checklist here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/e-safety-checklist-getting-your-devices-set-up-safe>



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