

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 so much to everyone for your patience and support with the weather and state of the roads last week. We reported the sites of the flooding every day to Shropshire Council and will continue to do so if the problem persists. Thanks go to staff for their determination.

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), Skylark Class (Year 1)

Fridays — Bumblebee Class (Nursery), Mayfly Class (Year 2) 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.

Playgroup

Thank you so much to everyone who attended playgroup on Friday. We are delighted that so many came to join us.

Playgroup will now run every Friday from 1.15 until 2.45 p.m.

Thank you for your continued support.



Child absence

Please telephone school (01948 880330) by 9.30am 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.

We also contact parents of Nursery children who do not attend if we do not know the reason for your child's absence, on days that we are expecting them.

If you are concerned about someone's safety

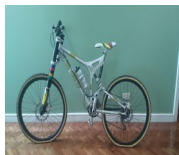
In an emergency dial 999, but for other calls to the police please ring 101.

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.

Bikeability

Well done to the children in Year 6 for all of their hard work with their bikeability course last week. Despite the weather conditions, they demonstrated remarkable resilience and determination and all did extremely well. We are extremely proud of all of you.



Dates for this term

Monday 26th February	Parent Consultations—please remember if you have a later appointment to bring a torch.
Tuesday 27th February	Parent Consultations
Wednesday 28th February	Parent Consultations (for Skylark Class only)
Thursday 7th March	Peregrine Visit to Liverpool
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. 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 4th March please book by Friday 1st March.

NSPCC

The NSPCC have produced some fabulous resources for parents with babies and young children. Find them at: <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/research-resources/leaflets/look-say-sing-play-early-years-resources-parents/>



BBC—Tiny, Happy People

Tiny Happy People can help develop your child's language and communication skills, so they get the best start in life.

Ideas from the site show you why and how you can bond with your child, before they're born and throughout their early lives.

The ideas and activities are easy to build into everyday routines. They are quick and inspiring, but they're also based on expert advice and evidence, and are proven to help children's development.

Please visit the link below for more information or search for Tiny, Happy people.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people>

Snapchat—New Controls

What is Snapchat?

Snapchat is a social media app used for messaging and sharing photos and videos. **You must be 13+ to sign up.** Users can send messages (snaps) to others that are only seen for a set time e.g., 10 seconds and users can also upload snaps to stories, which disappear after 24 hours.

You can find out more about Snapchat here: <https://parents.snapchat.com/en-GB>

Family Center: new features

Snapchat are expanding the features available to you in their Family Center, allowing parents to view:

- story settings: you will be able to see who your child is sharing their story with e.g. all their friends or a smaller group.
- contact settings: see who your child can be contacted by (by people they have added as a friend or their phone contacts).
- if your child is sharing their location with friends on the Snap Map.

In addition, you will be able to restrict the use of Snapchat's 'My AI.' You can find out more here:

<https://values.snap.com/en-GB/news/expanding-our-in-app-parental-tools-2024>

More information

The NSPCC provide further information about Snapchat, **the risks involved** with using Snapchat and **tips to help keep your child safe** if they are using Snapchat.

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

At what age can my child start using social networks?

Internet Matters have produced this fantastic resource highlighting the minimum age limits for a variety of social media platforms as well as outlining the risks of being underage on social media.

You can find out more here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/what-age-can-my-child-start-social-networking>

Online Safety advice for Early Years

Internet Matters have teamed up with EE to create 'Online Safety Starts Early.' This is a 4-episode series, for those with children in Early Years. Episode one highlights how to create positive habits from the beginning and then provides links to additional resources.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/0-5/online-safety-video-guides-early-years/>

EE Learn

EE Learn includes an array of information and guidance on how to keep your child safe online, for example tips on how to help your child when they are online. Find out more here:

<https://ee.co.uk/do-more-with-ee/learn>

Reality Check from Parent Zone

Most VR Headsets have a minimum age recommendation of 13+ and VR games are rated by PEGI too so check their age rating/suitability.

Parent Zone, VoiceBox and Meta have created a series of videos explaining the safety and parental control tools available when using VR and how to

have a conversation with your child about VR. Find out more here:

<https://parentzone.org.uk/realitycheck>