WHITEHALL PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2026

WORLD BOOK DAY!



On Thursday 5th March 2026 our school celebrated World Book Day. It was great to see so many of our children as well as staff dress up as their favourite book character. Small prizes were given out.

In celebration of World Book Day, we hosted a whole range of book-related activities as well as a book sale of donated books.
Thank you to everyone for supporting this event!

READING IS IMPORTANT

Reading is an important skill as it unlocks learning for children, exercises their brains, develops vocabulary and stretches their imaginations!
Our school is working hard to develop children's reading skills. Please help us by encouraging your child to read at home, even if it is for only a few minutes a day. Sharing a book with your child is an enjoyable and valuable experience.

BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK



British Science Week at our school is 9th – 13th March and is a celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths.
This year the theme is `Curiosity' and children within our school will be exploring this theme through activities in the classroom.
On Thursday 12th March we are holding a Science Dress-up day, where we will be asking children to dress in a way that represents what science means to them.

RED NOSE DAY

This year our school will be taking part in the National Comic Relief Red Nose Day on Tuesday 24th March. This is a fund-raising day that works for a wide range of charities across the UK and Africa.

We have a number of activities planned for the week such as:

Design a funny face competition

Collect competition sheet from your class teacher from Monday 23rd March. **20p to enter**. (Last day for entries Friday 27th March).

Biscuit Sale

Biscuit Sale at playtime on Monday 23rd March & Tuesday 24th March – 20p each.

Non- uniform Day – `Wear Something Funny for Money' on Tuesday 24th March

Come to school wearing bright clothes, cool hats, funky socks or crazy wigs. Anything that makes you happy and smile! **£1 voluntary contribution.** Prize for the best dressed in each group!

Disco Event

This will be held at lunchtime on Tuesday 24th March – 50p to enter.
KS1 at 12.05-12.25pm & KS2 at 12.30-12.55pm with spot prizes at the event.

Look out for the posters around the school.

Thank you to the School Council, Miss Aswat and Mrs Pankhania who are busy organising the various activities.

You can find out more information about Red Nose Day at **www.rednoseday.com**

Visit our school website: **www.whitehallprimary.co.uk**

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Please find an outline of some of the extra-curricular activities we have available within the school for our children during the Spring Term Two:

Activity	Day & Time	Year Group	Leader/ School Contact
Girls and Boys Football	Monday 3.15-4.15pm	Years 5 & 6	Mr Ruparelia & Mr Weston
Performing Arts Club	Monday 3.15-4.15pm	KS2	Miss Stevens & Mrs Berraoui
Axe Throwing	Tuesday 12.00-12.25pm	Years 5 & 6	Active Sports
Laser Tag	Tuesday 3.15-4.15pm	Years 1 & 2	Active Sports
Futsal	Thursday 12.00-12.25pm	Years 3 & 4	Active Sports
Nurf Wars	Thursday 3.15-4.15pm	Years 3& 4	Active Sports
Girls Cricket	Thursday 3.15-4.15pm	Year 5 **Year 4 to start from Thursday 19th March**	Leicestershire County Cricket Club
Netball Club	Thursday 3.15-4.15pm	Year 6	Mr Ruparelia
Bowling	Friday 12.00-12.30pm	Years 1 & 2	Active Sports
Team Building Club	Friday 12.30-12.50pm	Year 5	Mr Ruparelia
Nurf Club	Friday 3.15-4.15pm	KS2	Active Sports
Girls & Boys Dodgeball Club	Friday 3.15-4.15pm	Year 6	Mr Ruparelia

MOVE IT MARCH CHALLENGE



A reminder that we are taking part in the city wide Move It March Challenge which involves each child attempting to complete a minimum of **60** minutes of activity on at least **31** days.

Any kind of activity counts – running, walking, cycling, skipping, school PE lessons etc
Please check out the activity calendar for ideas.
The challenge is to do 60 minutes on 31 days. Please log all active minutes and days in the table.

Children will need to track how many minutes they complete using the tracking sheet and give this to their teacher by **Wednesday 15th April.**

There will be school individual prizes for the girl and boy who record the **most minutes** in each year group!

CONSIDERATE & SAFE PARENT PARKING

This is a reminder about considerate parking around the school in the mornings and at the end of the school day.



Please do not park on the pavements outside the school and driving behind the wooden knee rails as this is highly dangerous and most unacceptable!

Also, please ensure that you do not park across any driveways as we do not want to cause any unnecessary distress to the school neighbours or to any parents walking children to school, especially if they have pushchairs and are therefore forced onto the road. This also applies to the Harringworth Road area too!

Please ensure that your children are safe at all times! Thank you for your support with this.

SPORTS NEWS



Bikeability

The Bikeability sessions are going really well, with all students making excellent progress. Throughout the programme, children have been developing their confidence when riding their bikes and improving important skills that help them ride safely. One of the biggest improvements has been in their balancing and overall control. Many pupils who were initially unsure are now riding with much greater confidence.

Cricket and Netball

The Year 5 girls are having a fantastic time during our girls-only cricket and netball after school clubs. Through a variety of skill development lessons and small games, the girls are developing their skills in both sports. As well as improving their techniques, the sessions are helping to build confidence and teamwork.

Tennis Sessions

Some children have also been selected by their teachers to take part in tennis sessions. During these sessions, pupils take part in a range of fun games and activities that discreetly teach important tennis skills such as coordination, movement and control. As part of the programme, each participating student will receive an invitation to a local park tennis session for the whole family, information about a Tennis Festival at a local club, and a free tennis starter set.

Active sports

This term we have started our new after school clubs with Sports Active, which have already been a big hit with the children. Pupils in Years 1 and 2 are taking part in exciting Laser Tag sessions, while students in Years 3 to 6 are enjoying Nerf Wars. The clubs provide a fun and active environment where children can work as part of a team, develop coordination and enjoy being physically active after the school day.

Football Notice

On Wednesday the 25th February, the Year 5 and 6 Boys Football Team took to the field for their last set of matches this year. They showed determination and resilience securing a well-earned draw after losing to some tough opposition. We are very proud of their hard work this year.

A week later, the Year 5 and 6 Girls Football Team competed at Judgemeadow. The girls remain undefeated picking up 3 draws and 1 win; adding six points to the table. We are yet to know whether the girls have made it to the semi-finals or finals but we are incredibly proud of their achievements.

ECO NEWS – February

The ECO-Warriors have been learning about how electricity impacts Global Warming.

Electricity is very useful — it lights up our homes, powers our computers, and keeps our food cold in the fridge. But making electricity can sometimes hurt the Earth. In many places, electricity is made by burning fuels like coal, oil, or gas. When these fuels burn, they send dirty smoke into the air. This smoke has gases that trap heat around our planet, making it warmer than it should be. This is called climate change, and it can cause stronger storms, melting ice, and problems for animals and people.

Electricity can also harm nature in other ways. Big power plants and drilling for fuels can disturb forests, rivers, and animal homes. Sometimes power lines and dams change the places where animals live. Even though electricity itself isn't bad when we use it, the way we make it can cause pollution and waste. That's why it's important to save electricity and use cleaner energy like wind and sunlight, which are much kinder to our planet.

The ECO-Warriors would like to make a difference! As such, they are promoting 'Earth Hour' on the 25th March. All classes will be carrying on with their normal lessons for an hour without using any electricity. Computers and lights will be turned off!

Let's have a great big switch off!



PARENTS' EVENING

Just a reminder about the two Parents' Evenings this half term on **Tuesday 24th March** (3.30 – 7.00pm) and **Thursday 26th March** (3.30 – 6.00pm).

This is an opportunity for you to make an appointment to meet with your child's class teacher to discuss their progress. Notice of this has already been sent out to you.

The **Year 6** teachers Mr Weston, Miss Gill, Mr Hill. Miss Stevens (Tuesday) and Mrs Gohil (Thursday), will be based in the hall, so that parents can talk to all the teachers if needed. There will be no need to make an appointment, simply come to the hall and wait.

If you require any special arrangements such as disabled access or an interpreter, please indicate to the Class teacher via Weduc.

In addition, you will receive a monitoring report which will be sent out on **Wednesday 18th March**.

ATTENDANCE CLASS WINNERS

Congratulations to the following classes who have won the weekly attendance award certificates during January / February 2026:

w/c 26th January: Class 16 Hedgehogs (95.6%) Class 1 Jaguars (98.6%)
w/c 2nd February: Class 17 Foxes (97.3%) Class 4 Ospreys (99.3%)
w/c 9th February: Class 17 Foxes (95.5%) Class 3 Leopards (98.8%)
Class 5 Eagles (98.8%)
w/c 23rd February: Class 15 Starfish (98.1%) Class 8 Iguanas (100%)

Our overall school attendance for February was **95.6%.**

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Regular attendance at school is vital if your child is to learn and make progress. Time off school can mean that they fall behind and will not be able to reach their potential. Please help us by ensuring that your child attends school every day and arrives for the 8.45am start.

Attendance during one school year	Equal days absent	Which is approximately weeks absent	Which means this number of lessons missed
95%	9 Days	2 Weeks	40 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	80 Lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	120 Lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	160 Lessons
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	200 Lessons
70%	57 Days	11.5 Weeks	230 Lessons
65%	67 Days	13.5 Weeks	270 Lessons

Please support us with your child's education!

NUT ALLERGIES



A big reminder to everyone that we are a **Nut-Free** school due to some children having allergies. Please help us to protect our children.

Do not send food with nuts in as part of children's lunch boxes or to class parties.

Also, if you are sending in birthday treats in the form of, for example cupcakes, the ingredients must be added so we can check for nuts. This needs to be shop bought.

SPECIAL DIARY DATES

Thursday 12th March: Science Dress-up Day
Friday 13th March: Penguins Class Assembly (9.05am)
Monday 23rd March: Easter Egg Hunt (3.30-4.30pm)
Tuesday 24th March: Red Nose Day (non-uniform day)
Tuesday 24th & Thursday 26th March: Parents' Evening
Friday 27th March: Eid Parties (children can wear smart party clothes)
Friday 27th March: Finish for Easter break

EID GREETINGS

On behalf of all the staff and governors of our school I would like to send happy and peaceful greetings to all the families who will be celebrating Eid.

EASTER HOLIDAY



Our school will be closing on **Friday 27th March** for the two-week Easter holiday. On behalf of our school I would like to wish all the families who will be celebrating a happy Easter.

School will re-open on **Monday 13th April.**