



Best News ...

Dear Parent / Guardian,



Welcome back to school for the new academic year, I hope you have all had an enjoyable and restful break. In particular, I would like to welcome our new pupils and parents to our school, and hope you will be very happy here. I am looking forward to meeting you all during the various events planned throughout the year.

It was good to see so many smiling faces this week and we hope we can keep those smiles as we move through the year. Our new pupils in year 3 are settling into school extremely well and the young people in years 4, 5 and 6 have returned to school with a very positive attitude and setting a really good example.

We like to make coming to school at White Woman Lane as enjoyable as possible offering a wide range of activities for the children. The end of last term was extremely busy and it already looks as if this term is going to be just as interesting and eventful. I hope the pupils will take full advantage of all the opportunities offered to them; we would encourage the children to try and involve themselves in some way in the wider aspects of the school.

From time to time, children do experience problems of one sort or another at school. We would encourage the children to tell their teacher if they are upset or concerned in any way. If you are concerned about anything, please discuss this initially with your child's teacher. Mr Johnson, Head of Lower School and Mr Richmond, Head of Upper School are always here to help with any concerns or issues. Mrs. Pellatt, our Executive Deputy Headteacher is also available should the issue not be able to be resolved. Teachers will always contact you if they have any concerns as we believe working together in this way is best for our children.

If you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me, and I should also be very pleased to pass on any praise or congratulations to members of staff and/or pupils.

Future **Best News** bulletins will be issued every Friday of every full week of term. **We will no longer be sending printed copies of the newsletter home with children. Best News will be available to view online and a text will be sent to every family with a link to the latest copy.** Printed copies will be available to collect from the School Office if required. It will contain general information such as forthcoming events, term dates, proposed trips and other items we feel will interest you.

CHILD PROTECTION

Because of our day-to-day contact with the children we are particularly well placed to observe outward signs of abuse, changes in behaviour or failure to develop. We have a duty to protect children from abuse; however, our role is in recognition & referral but not in investigation or intervention. It is the legal responsibility of the Executive Headteacher, and in her absence the Executive Deputy Headteacher, Head of Lower School or Head of Upper School, to report to the Child Protection Officer any concerns about a child, who could be considered to be at risk from physical, emotional or sexual abuse. Obviously, this is a very sensitive area, but the law is very clear.

WWLS CHILD PROTECTION STATEMENT

Our school is committed to promoting the health and welfare of all pupils. We are required by law to follow procedures laid down by the Norfolk Safeguarding Children Board if we see signs which suggest that one of our pupils may have been the victim of abuse. Use of the procedures in this way is an obligation placed on the school by legislation and in no way infers that any parent/carer is being accused of wrong-doing.

Your child will have been given an envelope to bring home containing two booklets and a data collection sheet. Please read and retain the 'Information booklet for parents/carers' and complete and return the 'General Forms Booklet'. It is important that we receive these forms for all pupils ASAP so that we can update our records, whether there are changes or not. I'm sure you appreciate that it will take time to work through the number of pupils we have and the earlier we receive the information the earlier we are able to check it.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter

RETURNING ITEMS TO SCHOOL

All forms and money etc. returned throughout the year should be returned to the class teacher who will in turn send items to the school office.

TIMETABLE ABBREVIATIONS

The children have settled back into school very well and are getting used to their new teachers and timetables. Please find below a list of the meanings of the abbreviations used on their timetables;

P.E. – Physical Education
ICT – Information and Communication Technology
GR – Guided Reading
PSHE – Personal, Social and Health Education
PATHS – Promoting Alternative Thinking Skills



CURRICULUM MATTERS

READING



At White Woman Lane we know that reading is important in developing your child's literacy skills and ability to access the whole curriculum and we continue to focus on developing children's reading skills throughout the school.

In class the children develop their reading skills through a variety of activities. Timetabled guided reading sessions enable children to read and reflect with their peers and teachers. The focus of guided reading in Key Stage 2 is to ensure the children develop their comprehension, understanding and appreciation of texts.

Parent helpers and teaching assistants provide support for some children with individual reading; any additional helpers would be greatly appreciated. Teachers do not have the time within the curriculum to hear each child read individually and therefore we have asked that you as parents support your child's learning at home and undertake this responsibility and aspect of developing your child's reading skills.

All children in the school have reading as a regular feature of their homework; no matter their level of attainment. Children in Years 3, 4 and 5 are expected to complete 15 minutes of reading at least five times a week as part of their homework and this expectation increases to six times a week in Year 6. We see this time as an opportunity for you as parents and children can share a book and enjoy reading together, and we are very grateful for your support with this homework.

We encourage children to borrow a reading scheme and a library book, which can be fiction or non-fiction, to widen their experience of different texts. If your child has any difficulty choosing a book, they can approach their class teacher or Miss Delidjani.

SCHOOL DRESS

At our school we expect high standards of behaviour and presentation and work hard to maintain this. We have a school uniform and dress code, which is designed to promote a sense of identity and belonging to the school community and the work ethos required to achieve high standards. This enables children to work appropriately without the additional pressures of the media and the current fashion.

May I remind you that as part of our school dress, hairstyles should also be appropriate for school, and do not, for example, include slogans, logos or lines shaved into the hair or feature hair dyed with bright colours. In addition, excessive use of gel and other hair products are not permitted. If a child arrives at school with excessive gel or make up, they will be required to remove it before attending class.



P.E. AND GAMES KIT

Physical Education is a statutory national curriculum subject and unless a child is ill, all children must participate. In order to do this safely and hygienically every child must have their P.E. kit in school. The lessons are timetabled and these remain the same days and time every week.

YEAR 3 P.E.

3ST	Monday
3S	Thursday
3C	Tuesday

GAMES

Friday

YEAR 4 P.E.

4G	Friday
4P	Thursday
4C	Tuesday

GAMES

Monday



YEAR 5 P.E.

5Q	Monday
5R	Friday
5D	Thursday

GAMES

Tuesday

YEAR 6 P.E.

6Q	Tuesday
6H	Friday
6S	Wednesday

GAMES

Thursday

Our suggestion would be that the kits are brought to school on Monday and remain in school all week thus ensuring the kit is available when required.

Following is a list of the items all children require for P.E.;

- **Pale blue polo shirt/or House T-shirt**
- **Plain navy shorts**
- **Short white socks**
- **Long, dark blue socks (football type)**
- **Shin pads**
- **Training shoes**
- **Navy sweater or tracksuit**

P.E. kit is part of our school uniform and we ask for your support to ensure your child has all the items they need. A plain light blue polo shirt enables the teacher to see at a glance that the child has changed for P.E. and this saves a lot of time. The children need to wear shin pads for hockey and football and therefore long football type dark blue socks are necessary.

TRAINERS ARE REQUIRED IN SCHOOL EVERY DAY IF YOUR CHILD WOULD LIKE TO PLAY ON THE FIELD AT LUNCH TIMES, WEATHER PERMITTING!

No jewellery except for plain, small gold or silver stud earrings are permitted. Only one pair of earrings at a time please! In addition, nail varnish and make up is not appropriate for school. All children require black, polishable shoes for indoor wear. If for any reason they do have such shoes to wear in school, then black plimsolls may be worn instead. Trainers are not allowed to be worn in school. Thank you in anticipation of your full support.

HOMWORK POLICY

We place high priority on children's progress in reading and the development and diversification of their reading habits. For this reason we would ask that children read for at least 15 minutes each night. We are very aware that 50% of the English National test mark is awarded for different types of reading skills and those children who have more mature reading skills score highly. We are therefore keen that the children build on practice they receive in school.



Many parents ask for a tangible way of monitoring their child's reading. The 'Reading Record Book', if kept up to date, can be just that and will help the children themselves to be aware of how much and what type of reading they are doing. To develop pupils' reading potential we recommend they read a variety of fiction, as well as factual books, magazines and newspapers.

- Year 3** 30 minutes per day. This includes 15 minutes reading per day and includes learning tables, spelling and grammar activities, PATHS activities and Talk Homework.
- Year 4** 30 minutes per day. This includes 15 minutes reading per day and includes learning tables, spelling and grammar activities, PATHS activities and Talk Homework.
- Year 5** 40 minutes per day based on a regular weekly schedule with continued emphasis on literacy and numeracy. This includes 15 minutes reading each day, regular spelling and grammar activities and learning times tables, PATHS activities and Talk Homework.
- Year 6** 45 minutes per day including a minimum of 15 minutes reading. PATHS activities and Talk Homework. A continued emphasis on literacy and numeracy including regular spelling and grammar activities.

BOOK AMNESTY

A big thank you to everyone that brought back books at the end of term. Our shelves look full and are ready for the year ahead. If you did find any further books over the school holidays, please return them as soon as possible, no questions asked!



LIBRARY PARENT HELPERS

We are always in need of extra pairs of hands to help us with the library. If you'd like to help to cover our new books or put them on our computerised system, or just help children with their reading, please get in touch.

Many thanks, Miss Delidjani.



PRESENTATION POLICY

All pupils have been introduced to our Presentation Policy which is designed to encourage the children to take pride in their work and to achieve the highest standards of presentation.

All pupils are reminded that;

- The covers of exercise books are clean and free from doodling and writing
- The margins are free from doodling
- Ink pens to be used – no biros
- Blue ink only to be used, pupils will earn the opportunity to write in pen during Years 4 and 5
- The teaching objective is underlined with a ruler
- All work will be dated
- Cross through mistakes with a line made with a ruler – no Tipp-Ex to be in school.



THE PATHS PROGRAMME

The PATHS Programme is curriculum that we have introduced over the last couple of years and we will continue to implement and consolidate the programme during this academic year. It was written to help primary school children develop better thinking skills, more mature and responsible ways of behaving, emotional literacy and improve academic performance.

What are some of the goals of the PATHS Programme?

- Increasing children's abilities to think and solve problems for themselves
- Improving children's understanding of themselves and others
- Helping children with emotional literacy and awareness of feelings
- Improving children's feelings about themselves (that is, improving self-esteem)
- Increasing children's abilities to learn more effectively in the classroom environment

Problem solving, emotional understanding and knowing how to interact well with others are increasingly important for success in today's world. To best prepare children for the future, social-emotional learning is an important part of the primary school curriculum.

The goals of the programme detailed above will also develop children's ability to learn effectively. When children can think independently, feel good about themselves and act responsibly, then they are more motivated to work to their potential.



TALK HOMEWORK

When children learn their own language, they begin by listening, then talking and then trying out what they have learned in reading and writing. This is the same process by which they learn a foreign language – listening and talking always precede reading and writing.

Research shows that children need to gain confidence in using vocabulary orally before they will use it accurately in writing. In other words, if they can use it confidently in speech, then they will use it confidently in writing. We need to encourage the development of listening and talking skills in order to develop children's writing ability.

To this end, we have decided to continue to provide a weekly "Talk Homework" task, which will be given in the weekly newsletter. You will be informed of a topic and we would ask that you discuss the topic with your child in order to help them with the content and to prepare them to give feedback in class. We recognise that talking together is one of the most important factors in developing children's educational abilities. This homework involves discussion only, but is just as valuable as any written homework and should have the same amount of time spent on it. Thank you in anticipation of your support with the Talk Homework.



FILMS WITH A PG CERTIFICATE (PARENTAL GUIDANCE CLASSIFICATION)

At various times throughout the year, children may be given the opportunity to view selected films with a PG certificate. An increasing number of films are classified PG, following changes in guidelines. PG films sometimes contain 'mild peril' or 'comic fight' scenes – Tom and Jerry cartoons are classified PG for example.

Children may choose 'watching a film' as their Class Award to reward good behaviour and effort, and several videos are used to enrich several areas of the curriculum. All the films used, have previously been viewed by staff.

If you would prefer your child not to view PG certificate films please inform his/her class teacher in writing. Thank you.

PARKING

You will be aware of the parking restrictions along White Woman Lane, including the speed humps. Please encourage your children to cross with the Lollipop Lady outside of school as the children can tend to use the speed humps as a crossing and this is very dangerous particularly with the number of cars parked along the road at the beginning and end of the school day. I would be grateful if you would be very considerate about where you park at the beginning and end of the school day, ensuring that you do not block our neighbours' driveways etc. in order to help us retain good relationships with the school neighbours. Could I also remind parents that for reasons of safety, only taxis are permitted to collect children from the school car park at the end of the school day? Please also see the letter from Norfolk Constabulary attached.



Many thanks for your support in these matters.

Collecting your Year 3 child from the Impala Close side gate

If your child is in Year 3 and you collect your child from the Impala Close side gate at the end of the school day, could you please come in through the gate and wait along the path leading to the Lower School playground. This means that the Year 3 teachers, who are positioned in the Lower School playground, can then make sure that the Year 3 pupils are handed over to their parents/carers.

Thank you for your co-operation.

MOBILE PHONES



We cannot take responsibility for these valuable items and ensure they remain safe and their use is appropriate. May I remind you that mobile telephones are not permitted in school? Only in exceptional circumstances will an exception be granted if the Head teacher receives a written request detailing the precise reasons a mobile telephone is required. The mobile will then need to be kept in the school office for the duration of the school day.

If a mobile telephone arrives in school without express permission from the Headteacher, it will be confiscated and locked away until a parent of the pupil retrieves it. Thank you for your support in ensuring all mobile telephones, and any other valuable items remain at home.

NO NUTS!



We have a number of children in school with very severe nut allergies and we have therefore taken the decision to ban nuts in school.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

The Week Ahead

Mon.	10 th	-		
Tues.	11 th	-		
Wed.	12 th	-	Keyboard lessons (pm) *see below	3.20 Music Room
Thur.	13 th	-	Samba Club	School Hall 3.20 - 4.20pm
Fri.	14 th	-		

Keyboards and woodwind - lessons on 12th and 13th will continue on the same basis for those children receiving lessons before the summer break. Letters have been sent out this week inviting additional children for lessons. New children will start their relevant lessons week commencing 17th September.

NB - Guitars start 18th September

There will be a range of other after school and lunchtime clubs starting in the coming weeks. Watch out for further information!

Housepoint Totals

Buckingham	(Green)	Total	-	0
Balmoral	(Blue)	Total	-	0
Sandringham	(Yellow)	Total	-	0
Windsor	(Red)	Total	-	0

The collection of housepoints and recording totals will begin next week

THE ATTENDANCE CUP



Will be awarded each Friday morning during assembly - on Friday 15th we will award the cup to the class with the best attendance for the week 6th to 8th September 2017

SCHOLASTIC

This is a fantastic way to contribute to reading resources in school.

Your child has been given the latest Scholastic leaflet. It is packed full of books which would be great as reads.

If you would like to place an order please make cheques payable to 'SCHOLASTIC' only. Place orders in an envelope marked Scholastic Books and your child's name and class. Alternatively orders can be placed online and delivered free to school by visiting:
<http://clubs-school.scholastic.co.uk/white-woman-lane>

Orders will close on **Monday 1st October** when the complete order will be placed. Books should be with you before Half Term.

Remember 20p in every £1 spent by you comes back to us in free books.

Thank you for all your support.

NAMED PURSE

Please ensure your child has a named purse/wallet in which to keep their tuck and/or lunch money. Thank you!

TWITTER

If you have a twitter account you can follow the school on @whitewomanlane to receive tweets giving information about what is happening in school, little reminders, celebrating successes, future events and other news. Please follow us!



TALK HOMEWORK

Each week we send a **Talk Homework** activity and '**Wow**' **Words** home and we are very grateful for your support.



We are trying to help all our children develop excellent speaking and listening skills, which in turn will help them with their writing.

"If a child can't say a sentence then they can't write it either!"

Please spend at least 10 minutes talking with your child about the questions below:

Summer Holidays

What are your best three memories of the summer holidays and why?



In Big Talk, we use 'WOW' Words to improve our vocabulary and 'big up' our sentences to make them more interesting!

Thank you for your support in helping your child.



Nebula
where stars are born

Parent Group

Would you like a chance to share your experiences and hear about those of other parents? If so then the 'Strength to Strength Parent Group' is for you.

Parenting is the hardest job in the world and children don't come with a manual. However, you are the best person for the job and it is our experiences as parents which help us to learn.

We often talk about children learning something new every day - this is a chance for you to think about something new as well.

The Strength to Strength Parent Group brings parents together to share ideas and experiences whilst working through common issues. The group meets for a block of 6 weeks and will include issues such as; the importance of attention, praise and encouragement, tangible rewards and challenge charts, rules and boundaries and time out and consequences.

The Strength to Strength Parent Group is a safe, relaxed and welcoming environment and refreshments are provided throughout.

If you are interested in attending a group at some point over the next couple of terms or would like to find out more, please could you complete the slip below and return it to school by Friday 28th September.

Natalie Brown
Pastoral Manager and Parent Support Adviser



Parent Group Slip

Name _____

Telephone number _____

School _____

Which of the following times would be best for you to attend the group? Please circle which days you would be available at the selected time.

- | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 9:30am – 11:30 am | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1pm – 3pm | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6pm – 8pm | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri |