



Weekly Newsletter



White Woods
Primary Academy Trust

Monday 18th December

Flash Back

It's been a busy week here at Wickersley Northfield and we are definitely feeling in the Christmas spirit!

- Last week our EYFS and KS1 performed their Christmas nativities. All of the children were brilliant and I'm sure you'll agree the shows were a real joy to watch. A massive thank you to all of the children for their efforts, the staff for their tireless rehearsals these past few weeks and parents for supporting with helping learn lines/song at home as well as providing costumes!
- Our choir performed their final Christmas set on Thursday evening on the yard. Over 50 KS2 children sang beautifully together. A special thanks to Miss Evans for organising and to all of the staff and PTA who helped to serve hot chocolate.



- Corban (3GS) has had a very exciting few weeks. He is currently a goalkeeper for Wickersley Reds U8s, but in the summer was spotted by a Manchester City Scout who then got in touch with Corban's manager and invited him and his team to the Manchester City Academy at DSC Elite. Last week Corban was invited back to play for the Manchester City Academy under 9s team against Bolsover Town where they won 14-1. Very exciting!
- The U11 Netball team had their last game last week away at Catcliffe Primary school. It was a great team effort and was a very close game, but Catcliffe stole the victory with 16-10. Mrs Smedley is incredibly proud of the whole team – they're a real credit to Northfield!

Flash Back

- On Thursday we had a very special visit from the reindeers! Our younger children got the chance to go and meet them as well as learn all about how to care for them.



Attendance

Well done to our winning class, 6ER, with 99.3% last week.



Looking Ahead

This week is our final week in school before Christmas and there is lots more to look forward to! Y3-6 will all have their Christmas performances as well as parties and buffet lunches for all!

You'll now find key dates for next half term on the back of this newsletter. We're busy working in school this week on finalising dates for family learning opportunities in each class and will share these with you before the holidays to give you as much notice as possible, to enable you to attend.



Parent feedback update



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You said.

We did.

As you know, over the last few weeks we have been gathering feedback from parents across school around the ways in which we communicate with you, as well as your thoughts around our reward mechanisms.

First of all, a massive thank you to everyone who took the time to complete the parent questionnaire – the insight it gave us into your perspective was invaluable. Secondly, the parent forum provided us with even more detailed feedback and gave us lots to be thinking about in terms of essential improvements that we can make, so thank you to the parents who were able to give up their time to attend.

You Said...

Parents on the whole spoke really highly at both the parent forum and on the questionnaire about how approachable they find our teachers. Parents valued the opportunity to see school leaders out on gates in the mornings and at the drop in on Monday evenings. Some parents noted that that they were unsure of who our school leadership team actually were and what their respective roles were.

...We Did

We'll continue making sure our leaders are around school in the mornings for you to talk to, as well as at the Monday night Senior Leadership Team (SLT) drop in. We'll make sure we communicate clearly in the coming weeks more information about who our school leadership team are so that parents are confident about this and understand the right person to direct queries to.

You Said...

Some Parents felt that rewards weren't always given fairly and consistently meaning that some children were not always recognised for their achievements. It was also raised that although EYFS and KS1 have weekly special mentions, classes in KS2 only have the opportunity to attend once every fortnight. Some parents also told us they didn't fully understand the criteria that established which children won a head teacher's award each half term.

...We Did

We have already started work addressing these concerns, with some staff development time being used this term discussing current rewards arrangements and making plans for how we can improve them. Next term you can expect to see more frequent special mentions assemblies for KS2 and new celebration postcards being introduced to share success with parents. We are also implementing a new system for individual pupil merit rewards which will be consistent across the whole school.

You Said...

Parents were really positive about the shared learning opportunities which we have created this term. On the whole, everyone has really enjoyed coming into the classroom more this term to see their children's learning. Several parents shared that they really appreciated the efforts that had gone into making more time for parents to join, but reminded us that they need more advance warning of these to be able to attend due to work and other commitments.

...We Did

We are currently busy planning ahead for next half term and will be sharing a calendar of shared learning opportunities for the whole of next half term before Christmas to give you as much notice as possible. We'll continue with this arrangement each half term to make it as easy as we can for you to attend.



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Dates for your diary

Monday 18th December – F2L and F1 Bling a Bauble Parent Craft Workshop – 2.30pm
Tuesday 19th December – F2M and F1 Bling a Bauble Parent Craft Workshop – 8.45am
Tuesday 19th December – Y5 Christmas Performance 9.30am
Tuesday 19th December – Y4 Christmas Performance 2.30pm
Wednesday 20th December – Y3 Christmas Performance 9.30am
Wednesday 20th December – EYFS Christmas Party (in class) and Buffet Lunch
Wednesday 20th December – Y6 Performance 2pm @ Methodist Church
Thursday 21st December – KS1 Party (in class) and Buffet Lunch
Friday 22nd December – KS2 Party (in class) and Buffet Lunch
Friday 22nd December – Last day at school for children

Christmas Holidays

Monday 8th January – Children back in school
Monday 8th January – Y4 resume swimming weekly for whole term

Monday 15th January – U7 Boccia at Coleridge
Tuesday 16th January – Y4 visiting the Yorkshire Sculpture Park
Thursday 18th January – U9 Tag Rugby at WNP
Friday 19th January – Mr Egypt visiting Y5

Monday 22nd January – U11 Boys Football at WNP
Thursday 25th January – Y3 visiting Hepworth Gallery
Thursday 25th January – U9 Tag Rugby at St Anns

Monday 29th January – U11 Girls Football at WNP
Tuesday 30th January – Y6 Chocolate workshop
Thursday 1st February – U9 tag Rugby at Catcliffe

Monday 5th February – U9 Boys football at WNP (rearranged from 27th Nov)
Thursday 8th February – Y1 Synagogue visit
Thursday 8th February – U9 Tag Rugby at Coleridge
Friday 9th February – Last day for children

February Half Term

Monday 19th February – Back to school
Tuesday 20th February – Parents' Evening
Wednesday 21st February – Planetarium visiting Y1
Thursday 22nd February – U11 Tag Rugby at WNP
Thursday 22nd February – Parent's Evening
Friday 23rd February – School choir performing at Sir Thomas Walton School (6.30pm-7.30pm)

Monday 26th February – U11 Handball at Coleridge
Thursday 29th February – U11 Tag Rugby at WNP
Friday 1st March – Book fair arrives in school for a week

Monday 4th March – U9 Orienteering at Herringthorpe
Thursday 7th March – U11 Tag Rugby at WNP
Thursday 7th March – World Book Day (Costumes required!)

Monday 11th March – U11 Orienteering at Herringthorpe
Thursday 14th March – U11 Tag Rugby at Coleridge
Friday 15th March – Comic Relief

Monday 18th March – U9 Gymnastics at St Anns
Thursday 21st March – U11 Tag Rugby at WNP

Monday 25th March – U7 Football at WNP
Thursday 28th March – U11 Tag Rugby at WNP
Thursday 28th March – Last day for children

Full annual calendar, with key dates until July 24 will be landing in your inbox by the end of the week.

This will contain the dates for family learning opportunities and important meetings/events which we know you will need further in advance in case you need to arrange time off work.