

# Growing Today, Ready for Tomorrow

Headteacher: Mrs R Mobbs



## Newsletter

June 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have had such an unbelievably busy June we thought we would share some of the wonderful work the school has been doing since our return at the beginning of June!



### Whitchurch News

#### Mara's Marathon

On the first week back after half term all the children took part in running 26 miles to support Mara! All the children worked hard to complete laps of the school running track to support Mara, who is sister of Albie in Year 5. We raised a fabulous **£498.92** which will go towards further treatment for Mara abroad. The family are running a Music Festival at the **White Swan Pub** on **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July**. Please, if you can, go and support Mara and the family!



#### School Events

There have been lots of exciting events for all classes and whole school events this half term too. Here are the highlights!

#### Fabulous Friday

Thank you to all those parents that came into school on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June for Fabulous Friday. We hope you enjoyed seeing your children in their classrooms with their books and showing you their learning!



#### Reading Picnic

We were blown away by how many parents, grandparents and carers came in to support the

**Reading picnic on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June.** Everybody loved coming in and sharing their favourite book and bringing in a snack or two to share with their child. We have never seen the field so busy, but it looked amazing! Benny, in Year 5, said, "It was very nice to sit outside and have a snack with my mum and dad with my favourite book, 'How to train your Dragon'. The weather was perfect with a gentle breeze!"



#### Reception Class

At the start of term, Reception enjoyed a trip to the **Museum of Natural History in Oxford**. They took part in the 'big bonanza' which created a real 'buzz' for the term ahead! Winnie and Finn said, "We loved looking at the dinosaur bones and we learnt that some flies look for nectar!"

We also had the first ever **Reception scooter day!** The children really enjoyed whizzing around the playground, sharing this experience with friends and playing lots of games. It was also a tick off the Whitchurch 50!

Reception had the pleasure of **planting potatoes** back in March. They have nurtured them and were super excited to dig them up this term. They had 92 potatoes! They were prepared, cooked and enjoyed by all the children. It has been great fun following the process.



#### Year 1

Year 1 had a fantastic time at **Whipsnade Zoo!** The children enjoyed seeing a wide range of animals, taking a ride on the steam train, and watching the incredible bird show — a highlight of the day. The colourful parrots were a particular favourite and left everyone smiling! Rosie and Hermione said, "They

loved seeing the baby lions because they were playing together!" Timmy also loved the bird show!



### **Fire engine team visit (Year 1 & Reception)**

As part of the *Whitchurch 50 Things to Do Before You Leave School*, Reception and Year 1 had an exciting surprise visit from the fire brigade! The firefighters taught the children the important "Stop, Drop, and Roll" technique and explained who to call in an emergency. The highlight for many was exploring the fire engine and having a go with the water hose — a truly memorable and fun learning experience for all! Finn and Winnie, Reception Class, both enjoyed trying the helmet on which was really heavy!



### **Bikeability**

During the week beginning 16<sup>th</sup> June, Years 5 and 6 were able to take part in Bikeability. The children brought their bikes into school and were taught about road safety. At the end of their training, the children then rode to Oving with the instructors. Olive and Albie said, "We learnt how to ride on the roads around Whitchurch and Oving, indicate safely and come in and out of junctions too" All of the children achieved their Level 2 Bikeability. Years 3 and 4 were able to practise their skills for Level 1 Bikeability after school on the playground. All of the children thoroughly enjoyed the chance to ride their bikes safely and to learn how to be more aware when riding.



### **Year 3**

Year three had an amazing time at Hudnall Park in June for three days and two nights. The weather was sunny but not too hot and the children threw themselves into a range of fun activities including building dens, low ropes, climbing walls, toasting marshmallows on a campfire and small mammal trapping. It was excellent to see children having so many new experiences, but the thing that most of the children were really proud of was sleeping away from home with their friends and discovering that it could be a lot of fun! Well done to Year 3! Cassidy said, "My favourite part of the trip was small mammal trapping. Two groups caught some tree mice but we set them free after having a look at them! That was fun!"



### **Year 5 - The Maypole and French Café!**

A 'traditional' activity that the school maintains is 'dancing the Maypole'. The Maypole itself is 48 years-old this year and is still used today in 2025! The children in Year 5 love dancing the plait, spider's web, twister and barber's pole! These dances have been passed down over the years and have become almost a rite-of-passage for the children in the school. We love it as lots of skills are needed to make it successful. Communication, co-ordination, musicality, speed, being able to keep time to music, stamina and teamwork are all vital to be able to do a successful maypole. Here are the current Year 5s dancing the maypole to the rest of the school and their parents – some of whom danced it themselves 20-30 years ago! This year the children combined their Maypole with a French Café where the children served their parents croissants, juice and practised their French they have been learning with Mrs Atkinson! Otilie said, "We loved learning the maypole dances and enjoyed showing them to our parents! My favourite was definitely the Twister because the pattern looked like a spiral!"



### **KS2 Sports Morning**

Well done to Mentmore house who won the KS2 (Years 3 – 6) Sports Morning earlier in this month. The children compete in their houses: Ascott, Claydon, Hartwell and Mentmore. They competed in lots of different races including 80 metre sprint, 400 & 800 metre long distances and 400 metre relays. The children also take part in some more modern, fun activities like tunnel ball, under-and-over and drain pipe races. Here children have to work in a team to get a tennis ball along five different pieces of drainpipe over 20 metres. A bit like maypole, lots of communication and teamwork is required!



### **Reception & KS1 Sports Morning**

Our youngest children at school take part in a round robin event whereby they complete 9 different stations in seven minutes. The stations include lots of fun summer fun activities like egg & spoon races, bean bag races, sprints and even some parachute games. The games are all designed to improve their speed, agility and co-ordination whilst slowly introducing the competitive element into the event.



## Year 6

All the children in Year 6 have been on a **Work Experience Placement** this term! As a part of our commitment of working with the community the Year 6's have loved learning about 'work life'. We are very grateful to the local businesses who have supported this initiative and given our children the fantastic opportunity to taste life outside the classroom. **Vass Tech, Abbey Tree Nursery, The White Swan, Bucks Ear Wax Removal, Hampden Equine Vets, Mr Lear at Creslow Farm and Mr Gregory and his Farm** – you have all given our children such brilliant experiences!



But it hasn't all been hard work in Year 6 – as their time at Whitchurch School draws to a close, the children are enjoying their **Summer of Fun**. A trip to West Wittering Beach is always a winner!

Still more fun to come for our leavers including lunch at the White Swan and the amazing **School of Pop** play!



## Guitar Assembly with Mr Allen

The children showcased their brilliant guitar playing skills in an assembly on the 19<sup>th</sup> June with Mr Allen. The children have weekly lessons both individually and in small groups and it is safe to say we have some budding Ed Sheeran's! The children also have drum lessons with Mr Ottoway and Violins and Keyboards with Mr Hart. If you are interested in your child(ren) having Music lessons in school, please do speak to Mrs Berridge and she will give you the appropriate details.



## Sporting Events

Mrs Hunt and Mrs Spring have also been busy with different children playing more football this month!

**KS1** went to **Bierton School** for a mini tournament they played so well scoring goals and playing together for the first time, having great fun.



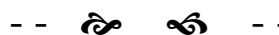
The **KS2 girls** played brilliantly during a friendly tournament at **Bierton school**, a great new school team in the making! The girls won one, drew three and

lost one game. They finished 2<sup>nd</sup> overall and Mrs Spring was super proud of them all!



## Year 2 and Year 4 Multi-skills Festival at Cottesloe

On 11<sup>th</sup> And 25<sup>th</sup> June **Year 2 and Year 4** enjoyed a multi-skills morning at Cottesloe school. The Year 9 Sports leaders at Cottesloe, including Mr Soar's son, Henry, organised a round robin of activities for our children to enjoy! As ever, Whitchurch children displayed exceptional teamwork and behaviour and had a fantastic time! Amber and Alice said, "We completed an obstacle course and lots of fun games. We really enjoyed ourselves and the best part was the Rats and Rabbits game!"



## Meet The Teacher

Thank you for attending your 'Meet the Teacher' sessions earlier this week. As a reminder, here are the names of the class teachers for September:

Reception: Mrs Lawson (Mon/Tues) and Mrs Fowler (Wed/Thurs/Fri)

Year 1: Mrs Compton

Year 2: Ms Brown

Year 3: Mrs Carson

Year 4: Mrs Burgess (Miss Sisk)

Year 5: Mr Soar (Mon/Tue/Wed) & Mrs Atkinson (Thurs/Fri)

Year 6: Mrs Hutton (Mon-Thur) Mrs Bareham (Fri)

PPA cover: Mrs Williams, Mrs Bareham and Mrs Hunt

## PTA

Thank you to the PTA who organised and ran the Movie Nights earlier this month. KS2 enjoyed **The Minecraft Movie** and KS1 enjoyed **Dog Man**. The **PTA Summer Fayre** is later on today! We hoped you enjoyed the afternoon!

Have a great rest of the term!

Kind regards,

Mrs R Mobbs and Mr M Soar

