

# Whitehouse Newsletter

14<sup>th</sup> May 2021



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## National Walk to School Week

It's National Walk to School week next week. There will be stickers awarded every day, as well as a diary to complete. Let's try to reduce the traffic around our streets. Special badges will be awarded too at the end of the week. Y1-Y6 children are all included.

Could we remind children/parents who cycle/scoot to school, to dismount and walk inside the school grounds.

## Relaxation of Lockdown. Rules for School

From May 17<sup>th</sup> pupils are no longer required to wear face masks in school under Phase 3 of the national Roadmap to Recovery. This applies to pupils in secondary school classes, not primary pupils who have never worn them. However, staff and adults/visitors in schools are still expected to wear them in communal places and corridors in school.

We will be relaxing the school requirement to wear face coverings in the school grounds from Monday, but it remains your choice.

Parents are strongly encouraged to use the LFT test kits to test your families (pick up from The Parks/ many pharmacies) Staff and trainees in school continue to self-test twice a week.

A 'needs-based' version of the YMCA after school club will reopen on Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> May, for working parents with no alternative childcare arrangements. This is for maximum of 15 children as we have to mix the bubbles, as per guidance.

Children will still continue to work in class bubbles in school and every class will continue to enjoy at least one opportunity each week to enjoy a wider opportunity after school activity.

May half term begins on Fri 28<sup>th</sup> May and school reopens on Mon 7<sup>th</sup> June.

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June is a designated Teacher Training Day

School closes for summer on Fri 16<sup>th</sup> July.

## Young Carers Week

We have a very exciting opportunity for you to be part of a big celebration of young carers in North Tyneside. Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June – Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2021 marks Carers' Week which is a nationally recognised week devoted to the celebration and awareness raising of unpaid carers and the incredible work they do looking after their loved ones. This year the theme is "Making Caring Visible and Valued". We will be sharing assemblies around this theme with all our children in school.

## Community Clothing Bank

Thankyou to those families who have already donated clothing in the Community Clothing Bank on our school site. Please continue to donate unwanted items.

## PC Offer

We could obtain some used computers, that have been wiped clean, from Northern PowerGrid. They are not new and comprise of a monitor, hard drive, keyboard and mouse. They would require set up and Windows installing. If any families are interested, please contact the school asap (by the close of the day on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May) as we will need to collect them.

## Reception, Year 1 and 2 Author Sessions in school

The authors of 'My Dad is a Grizzly Bear, Swapna Haddow and Dapo Adeola, will be paying a virtual visit to our children next Tuesday. Thankyou to all the parents who have ordered a book, in advance. This is another lovely initiative to encourage our children to enjoy reading.

Thankyou to Ross and Hannah from **The Live Theatre** who led some fantastic playwriting virtual sessions in school with Y5 this week. The children were inspired and excited!

Look out for new pages that will be coming soon to our website- [whitehouseprimary.org.uk](http://whitehouseprimary.org.uk). We will be setting up a special section for our **Early Years** where you will find everything you need to know about our amazing 2 Year Old provision and Nursery. Advisers highly commend the teacher-led activities that take place in our school so we want to share it more widely with you!

## Y 5 & Y6 Girls Mentoring Programme.

We are very proactive in our outreach work and are delighted to be the trial school in a new project, run through the YMCA, supporting mental health in girls aged 9 years +. We will make referrals, with parental consent, for this programme, which will involve girls doing activities, after school, with a trained 1 to 1 mentor. The aim is that they will gain confidence and thrive. Further details will follow, but we hope that this will be up and running in June/July.

Please remember that, if you **change your phone number**, you must inform the school office of it. We have had a few instances where we have been unable to contact families in an emergency. Thankyou.