

# Whitehouse Newsletter

17<sup>th</sup> June 2021



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## Keeping Safe- Covid

There have been increased numbers of bubbles and indeed, whole schools, having to close this week due to the spread of the Delta variant of Covid. The traditional symptoms still apply: high temperature, persistent cough and loss or change to smell or taste. The three new symptoms of this variant are:

- Headache
- Runny Nose
- Sore throat.

Please book a PCR test if your child is symptomatic asap. You must stay at home until you get your result. We have been fortunate enough to keep our school with minimum closures and I would like to thank all parents for observing social distancing so sensibly to keep our school community as safe as can be.

## Activ5 Week- 21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> June



We are unable to hold our traditional Sports Day or take part in the annual John Spence Fun Run in school again this year, due to Covid restrictions. Instead, we are devoting next week to Activ5 Week. This will be a week with different daily sporting challenges:

Mon will be Cricket

Tues will be Football

Wed will be Orienteering

Thurs will be Athletics

Fri will be non stop dodgeball- a school 'dodgeball-a-thon!'

We will focus on a different value each day- from self belief to determination. Children must wear their PE kit all week to school and bring a named water bottle. Sports specialists will be joining us throughout the week and we will end with an exciting presentation ceremony!

Remember that school is closed to pupils tomorrow as Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June is a designated Teacher Training Day. School closes for summer on Fri 16<sup>th</sup> July.

## Reports to Parents

Annual reports will be sent to you on Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> July. In line with government guidance, they are in a reduced format, and will cover achievements in all subjects and comments on general progress. This year they will not include attendance information or attainment information, due to the cancellation of national testing in year 2 and Year 6.

## Year 6 Leavers

Due to the extension of the Covid restrictions this month, we have had to alter our plans to have a live, outdoor Leavers Assembly, as advised. We will be making a film with them that they can treasure, as well as the usual gifts. We know that this isn't what we had planned, but, yet again, we have to follow the guidance.

## Slow Cookers

We were really lucky to secure 34 extra slow cookers for our families. This is to encourage parents and children to cook together and we hope you all enjoy using them. All we ask is that you take a photograph of you and your child/ren cooking together and post it on Twitter, tagging @whitehouseps, so that we can share the results with the North Tyneside Participation Team, who so kindly donated them.

## Down to Earth- Theatre visit

All children enjoyed the virtual visit of Janet, the astronaut this week from Alibi Theatre Company. We watched an introductory animation, enjoyed the virtual live visit and used 'padlets' to ask Janet, about her experiences in space, facts about space, as well as sharing her emotions and feelings about her re entry into society. There, of course, is a huge focus on childrens' mental health and wellbeing following this year of disruption. The Director of the company and has commented on the empathetic and articulate responses and interactions with the children.



## Outdoor Shelter



We love our new KS1 outdoor shelter! Not only have we enjoyed our outdoor classroom, we have also loved having lunch out here during the warmer weather.

We will be holding lots of transition events during the last week of term, to minimise the risk of crossing bubbles in school. The 'Meet Your New Teacher' sessions will take place on Mon 12<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July in school.