

# Whitehouse Newsletter

28<sup>th</sup> May 2021



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## Happy Half Term

Wishing all our Whitehouse families a very happy half term break. This term has been so orderly, calm and focussed. We have seen many children who are working so hard that their learning has accelerated and they are making super-fast progress in all areas of the curriculum. We have Teaching Assistants and other support staff leading catch-up programmes, phonics groups and interventions all around school so that everyone makes a strong educational recovery. We have assessed every child's attainment in Maths and Reading and are pushing learning forward for those who are on track and putting in intensive support for those who may have some gaps in their learning. We know our unique children so well and our staff are targeting the right amount of support to those who need it. We have increased our technological capacity (new webcams installed this week on all class Smartscreens) and have scheduled into the timetable, extra PSHE support for mental wellbeing. The impact of these measures is that the vast majority of children are happy to be here and are thriving. What more could we ask for after this year? Can I still urge caution to all our families as we begin our half term break, as many local schools have had to either isolate bubbles or indeed, close down completely, during this period of the faster spread on the Indian variant. Take up the opportunity to be vaccinated and have an PCR test for anyone, whether you have symptoms or not. Twice weekly testing, using Lateral Flow tests is strongly urged so that everyone plays their part in keeping our community safe. Thankyou.



## New Outdoor Shelter

Work is well underway to complete our new outdoor shelter, stretching along the back of the school. This will mean that access for outdoor learning and play can take place in all weathers. We are so excited to seeing its completion. Covid Guidance says that we must keep school well ventilated and take the learning outdoors where possible and this will support that aim. Followers of our school Twitter feed- @whitehouseps will have seen the amount of sports, history, forest school work that classes have been doing outdoors.



The Y5 firepit, with children cooking and tasting 'gruel' as part of their studies around the Victorians, certainly brought the hardships of being in the workhouse to life!

## Car Seats

Can I please remind all families that children who travel in cars must have a booster seat. Current guidelines are that under 12 year olds or under those under 135cm tall must have a car seat for their own protection. Please comply for the safety of your children. We have noticed several children coming to school without them.

## Whole School Assemblies.

We know how important our sense of community has been this year and we have found new ways of being together as a Whitehouse family. We have weekly celebration assemblies via Zoom and our children continue to make us all proud of their achievements and positive qualities. Its good to keep a bit of tradition going throughout!



May half term begins at 3:15pm 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