# Newsletter



# 17 February 2023







### Dates to Remember

Monday 20 February—Back to School! Every Monday—Hot Hub 8.45-9.30 Every Monday PM—Reception—Y2 INC/Attendance Assembly Every Tuesday PM Y3-Y6 INC/Attendance Assembly Tuesday 21 February— Year 2 trip—Wildlife Park Monday 27 Feb—Parents Bacon Butty Morning Monday 27 February - Safer Internet Day Thursday 02 March—World Book Day



#### PE Kit

All children need to be in the correct uniform for PE. The kit needs to be black shorts/joggers/ leggings, white t-shirt and black top—all of which needs to be unbranded. Children can use spare kit if they come in incorrect PE uniform.

#### Packed Lunch

Please send children to school with a healthy packed lunch, we have a policy on our website but some ideas of what you can include are include sandwiches, wraps, salads, vegetables, pasta, snack-a-jacks, fresh fruit, yoghurts, cake bars. Please do not send crisps, chocolate, sweets, fizzy drinks or nuts.



Please do not send....

Mrs Stead's Attendance Wheel!

Congratulations to this half terms 100% attendance draw winners! We have Kayden and Muhammed in Reception/KS1 with Laila and Skylar winning in key stage two. Well done to all who have improved their attendance, we look forward to celebrating more winners next half term!







# Studybugs 👽

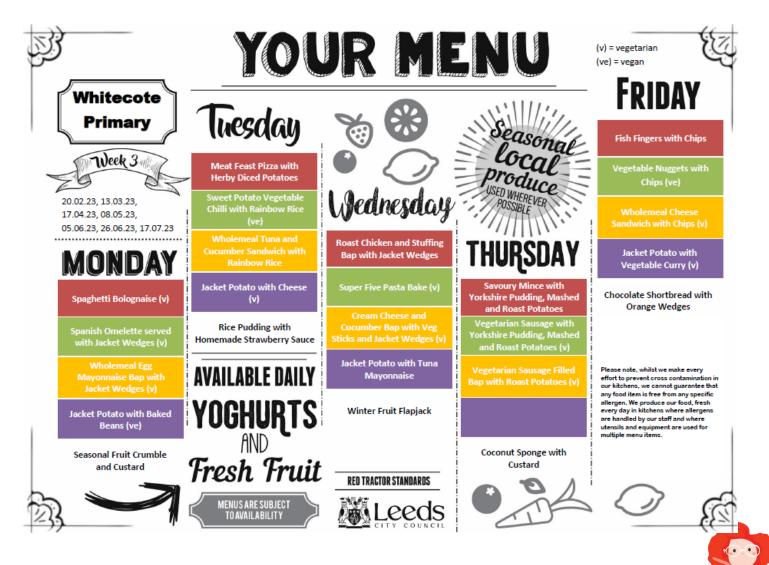
Please sign up to the Studybugs App! You can send notifications regarding your child's attendance and also receive messages from school!

We will be sending out our newsletters using Studybugs, it will save us nearly 500 text messages a week to do this!

### School Lunch Menu and Late Arrivals

Our cook and catering staff work incredibly hard to provide hundreds of meals each day from reception to year six, and often for staff too! With that amount of lunches, timely preparation is key! Up until now, children who are late for school would be allocated a green lunch choice so that the lunch staff can increase on one option rather than four options and it is manageable in the short time they have to make all our lunches!

We have improved our system which means that lead time is now less than it was, children can now choose from the full menu up to 9.30am. After 9.30am a school lunch choice would be a green choice. Our menu is below for next week, our full menu is on the website.



#### ATTENDANCE MATTERS

We are continually supporting children and families to improve attendance for our children, if you are struggling with attendance or punctuality please contact our pastoral and attendance team who will be able to provide guidance and support. If you need to report your child absent, there are three ways you can do this to avoid reminders or unnecessary phone calls from attendance.

- Use the Studybugs App
- Call the attendance team on 01132164800 (option one)
- Email attendance@whitecote.co.uk

Please do not pass messages through classroom staff as they will not be able to share that until lunchtime due to being in class teaching.

Study Bugs is a fantastic app and we encourage you to sign up for it!



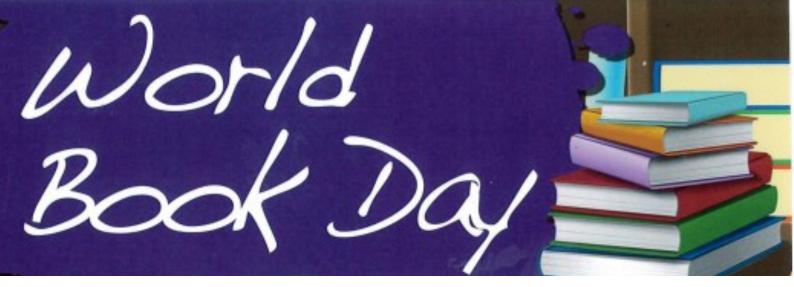


#### EARLY PICK UP

Picking children up early is disruptive to them, and their class and/or assembly group.

The children may be finishing a piece of work that then remains incomplete, may miss instructions and information regarding the following day and may feel unsettled. Medical appointments that are unavoidable are understandable but we do ask for proof of that appointment.





#### WORLD BOOK DAY - 02 MARCH 2023

Children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite BOOK character, or they can come in none uniform. There is no obligation for children to participate!





#### The Little Free Library at Whitecote

It all started with an idea from student council member, Michael who wanted children to be able to access books not only during school time but on weekends and holidays.

At Whitecote, we have a love of reading and are so pleased that this idea has come to fruition and will enable children and adults to have access to books all year round!

The little free library has been created and installed this week and has already been a huge success! The Friends of Whitecote applied for funding of £1300 from the Inner West Housing Advisory Panel which was approved at the end of last year and now we have a great addition to our community.

Children and families are welcome to use the library, they can take a book and/or leave a book.

#### Welcome to Whitecote Winter!

Our guinea pigs are a fantastic part of our Whitecote family, and we are pleased to share some lovely news, we have a new baby!

We arrived at school on Tuesday to find that mum Cassie had given birth to Winter. Both mum and baby are doing well and will be looked after by Mr and Mrs Tweed over the holidays.

We will be further expanding our guinea pig family in the coming weeks, watch this space for more new babies and adoptions!

Winter will be going home with Miss Illingworth once ready to leave mum, she is very much looking forward to caring for her new pet!









### WELL DONE TO ALL OUR WHITECOTE WONDERS WINNERS!

- Reception Pear—Maddison S
- Reception Apple—Isaac H
- Lavender—Tommy W
- Rose—Gracie O
- Willow—Lochlan W
- Hazel—Rayan K
- Spruce—Elijah B
- Yew—Laila Faye C
- Ash—Hannah L
- Beech-Emma M
- Elm—Ellie-Mae M
- Chestnut-Myles B
- Oak—Lacey Mai H
- Cedar—Tia F



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## Burley Banksy at Whitecote







#### **Burley Banksy**

We have again welcomed Burley Banksy to Whitecote, the children have had lots of fun creating outdoor art. Their finished work is so expressive and colourful!

We can't wait to display it!

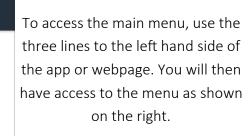
Well done Year Four!





# ParentMail Payments Help Guide

We use ParentMail for payments, consents, forms and booking appointments for parents evening, so it's really important to get connected if you aren't already. Email office@whitecote.co.uk and we'll arrange for an activation link to be sent. We've added a quick guide to payments below, if you have ParentMail but struggle to use it.



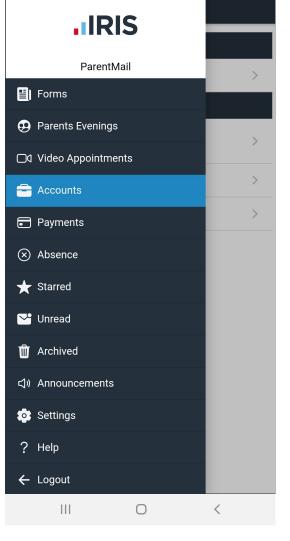
Sophie		
✓ Dinners	£0.00	>
Luke		
<ul> <li>✓ After School Club (Childcare)</li> </ul>	£0.00	>
✓ Breakfast Club	£0.00	>
✓ Dinners	£0.00	>

Forms

No items found

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In the Accounts section you will be able to make payment towards school meals, Breakfast Club and After School Club (childcare) simply click on the relevant child account, and select the top up button, enter the amount you wish to top up, add to basket then check out as you would with any online shopping.





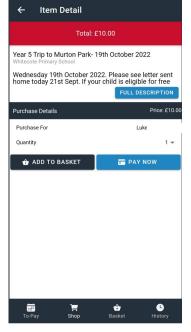
Bonfire Night Menu- Friday 4th November 2022 (3-6 Paid) ▲ Loke : Trip Year 5 Trip to Murton Park- 19th October 2022 £10.00 ▲ Loke : 2000 € 10000 € 1000 € 1000 € 1000 € 10000 € 10000 € 100000 € 100

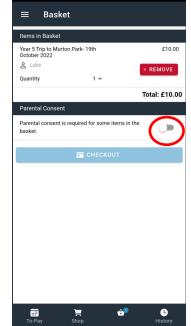
Shop

Q Search

School Meals

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To pay for one off special school meals, school trips and milk, use the Payments section from the main menu. You will then need to select the Shop tab at the bottom of the screen.

Once in the shop tab you will see all items available for purchase. Click on the item to see more info and pay. Choose to add to basket (if you have multiple items/ multiple children to add items for) or pay now to be taken straight to checkout.

Some items, such as trips require you to give consent before you can checkout. To do this click the parental consent slide button.

From the basket/ pay now option you can then check out as you would online shopping.