

# WHITEKNIGHTS ARROW



Date 15th December 2023 No.: Issue #14

## WHAT'S ON FIRST WEEK BACK AFTER HOLIDAYS

MONDAY 01 JANUARY	TUESDAY 02 JANUARY	WEDNESDAY 03 JANUARY	THURSDAY 04 JANUARY	FRIDAY 05 JANUARY
Christmas Holidays	Inset Day <b>School Closed for Pupils</b>	Children return to school	Amethyst Class Swimming Lessons begin Within school hours	
		Sapphire Class Parent Meetings	Sapphire Class Parent Meetings	

**KEY:**      **WHOLE SCHOOL**      **YEAR GROUP SPECIFIC**      **OTHER**

+CLICK TO VIEW ONLINE SCHOOL CALENDAR AND  
EXTRA CURRICULAR TIMETABLE

## SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

OVERALL TOTAL: 92.6%



REC—Crystal	89.0%	Y4—Amethyst	92.3%
REC—Pearl	91.0%	Y4—Jasper	88.0%
Y1—Amber	88.3%	Y5—Emerald	90.3%
Y1—Jade	94.3%	Y5—Onyx	XX%
Y2—Opal	91.7%	Y5—Sapphire	98.7%
Y2—Topaz	95.3%	Y6—Obsidian	100%
Y3—Diamond	94.5%	Y6—Ruby	92.6%
Y3—Garnet	99.3%	Y6—Tiger's Eye	99.0%

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

Every Child | In School | On Time | Every Day

# FAREWELL WISHES

Dear Mr Walker,

As you embark on a new chapter, we bid farewell with immense gratitude for your remarkable 12 years of leadership. Under your guidance, our school has soared to greater academic heights, fostering an environment of excellence and growth. Your dedication has left an indelible mark and we wish you continued success in all your future endeavors.

With sincere appreciation,

The Governors, staff, parents and pupils of Whiteknights



# THANK YOU!



# MR WALKER IN THE SPOTLIGHT

**R**eflecting on your time here, what's the one achievement or project you're most proud of and why?

"There have been numerous wonderful moments; however, I am most proud that we have become the top school in Berkshire. This accomplishment reflects our commitment to nurturing the academic growth of our pupils, a crucial aspect for any school."

**I**f you could give one piece of advice to our Whiteknights community, what would it be?

"I'd offer two pieces of advice:

1. To encourage students to excel in various areas—whether it's learning a new language, mastering an instrument, or excelling in a sport. This will complement the outstanding education they receive at Whiteknights.
2. I'd advise them not to fret over minor issues like friendship squabbles or seating arrangements. Children rebound swiftly, often moving on while adults may linger in anger or worry over an event."

**W**hat's the most unexpected thing you learned or experienced during your time at Whiteknights?

"I never anticipated the school gaining nationwide recognition. It still astounds me when we're approached to shape policies at a national level or create training videos on teaching excellence for educators across England."

**S**hare one of your favourite memories or moments at Whiteknights.

"My favourite memory is of a pupil who is still at Whiteknights. In their Reception year, they walked through the school gate, hugged my legs and spontaneously expressed their love for being at school. Those unexpected, unprompted moments with pupils are truly the best."

**I**f you could describe your time at Whiteknights using a movie title, what would it be?

"'Close Encounters of the Third Kind' - We've shared some hilarious conversations over time. Laughter in the moment is forbidden, but we all share a chuckle afterward."

**W**hat got you into teaching / education in the first place?

"I feel a calling to teach; it's my life's purpose. Coming to work is always a joy because teaching is something I excel at and there has never been another career option for me."

**A**s one of your favourite hobbies is gardening, what aspect of gardening do you enjoy the most?

"Mowing the lawn and clipping hedges tidy up a garden swiftly. The sight of stripes on the lawn never fails to make me smile."

**W**hat is one of your guilty pleasures?

"I watch a YouTube channel called 'Garden Answer' every day when I get home. My sons always tease me about it."

**W**hat advice would you give to your younger self?

"I would tell myself that experiencing failure more than success is inevitable, but it's okay. Those moments build character and propel you to do better. Embrace them."

**W**hat three things would you take with you to a deserted island?

**1.** My wife – she is wonderful, kind and encouraging. If I only ever had her to speak to and be with, life would be perfect. **2.** Factor 50 sunblock – my skin is very sensitive to the sun. **3.** My gardening tools – I'd create a tropical garden in no time. Where do I sign up?





**Whiteknights**  
*Growing Greatness*

## WHITEKNIGHTS PRIMARY SCHOOL TERM DATES 2024-2025

### Autumn Term

<b>Inset day:</b>	02/09/2024 school closed to pupils
<b>Return:</b>	03/09/2024
<b>Last day of half term:</b>	25/10/2024
<b>Half Term:</b>	28/10/2024 to 01/11/2024
<b>Inset day:</b>	04/11/2024 school closed to pupils
<b>Return:</b>	05/11/2024
<b>Last day of term:</b>	20/12/2024 Close @ 1pm

### Spring Term

<b>Return:</b>	06/01/2025
<b>Last day of half term:</b>	14/02/2025
<b>Half Term:</b>	17/02/2025 to 21/02/2025
<b>Return:</b>	24/02/2025
<b>Last day of term:</b>	04/04/2025 Close @ 1pm

### Summer Term

<b>Return:</b>	22/04/2025
<b>Early May bank holiday:</b>	05/05/2025 school closed to pupils
<b>Last day of half term:</b>	23/05/2025
<b>Half Term:</b>	26/05/2025 to 30/05/2025
<b>Return:</b>	02/06/2025
<b>Inset day:</b>	04/07/2025 school closed to pupils
<b>Last day of term:</b>	18/07/2025 Close @ 1pm
<b>Inset day:</b>	21/07/2025 school closed to pupils
<b>Inset day:</b>	22/07/2025 school closed to pupils



Please note to order from Week 3 for the first week back at school in January 2024!

## What's on the menu?

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK ONE w/c 4 <sup>th</sup> Sept, 25 <sup>th</sup> Sept, 18 <sup>th</sup> Oct, 8 <sup>th</sup> Nov, 27 <sup>th</sup> Nov & 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec, 8 <sup>th</sup> Jan, 29 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<p>Margherita Pizza with Baked Potato Wedges</p> <p>Indian Style Vegetable Biryani with Chickpea Dhal</p> <p>Peas / Roasted Courgettes</p> <p>Berry Swirl Sponge Cake with Custard</p>	<p>Cottage Pie with Caramelised Onion &amp; Thyme Gravy</p> <p>Tomato &amp; Basil Pasta with Cheese Topping</p> <p>Savoy Cabbage / Carrots</p> <p>Chocolate Shortbread with Orange Wedges</p>	<p>Piri Piri Chicken with Sweetcorn Rice &amp; Lemon &amp; Herb Dressing</p> <p>Red Pepper &amp; Sweet Potato Pattie with Rice &amp; Lemon &amp; Herb Dressing</p> <p>Green Beans / Crunchy Coleslaw</p> <p>Oaty Apple Crumble with Custard</p>	<p>Beef Penne Pasta with Cheese</p> <p>Caribbean Style Vegetable &amp; Plantain Curry with Rice</p> <p>Broccoli / Herb Roasted Butternut Squash</p> <p>Strawberry Vegetarian Jelly with Fruit Wedges</p>	<p>Battered Fish &amp; Chips with Tomato Sauce</p> <p>Cornish Style Vegetable Pasty with Winter Salad, Chips &amp; Tomato Sauce</p> <p>Peas / Baked Beans</p> <p>Pineapple &amp; Lime Cake</p>
WEEK TWO w/c 11 <sup>th</sup> Sept, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Oct, 23 <sup>rd</sup> Oct, 13 <sup>th</sup> Nov & 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec, 26 <sup>th</sup> Dec, 15 <sup>th</sup> Jan, 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<p>Macaroni Cheese</p> <p>Sweet Potato Curry with Vegetable Rice</p> <p>Glazed Carrots / Green Beans</p> <p>Marbled Sponge Cake with Chocolate Sauce</p>	<p>Mild Beef Wrap with Cheese, Salsa &amp; Mexican Style Rice</p> <p>Salmon Burrito with Cheese, Salsa &amp; Mexican Style Rice</p> <p>Broccoli / Roasted Butternut Squash</p> <p>Wholemeal Lemon Shortbread with Fruit Wedges</p>	<p>Chicken Tikka Masala with Pilau Rice</p> <p>Baked Onion Bhajis with Red Bean Dhal &amp; Pilau Rice</p> <p>Spiced Cauliflower / Peas</p> <p>Carrot &amp; Orange Cake with Custard</p>	<p>Beef Bolognese with Fusilli Pasta</p> <p>Wholemeal Cheddar Cheese &amp; Spinach Quiche with Herby New Potatoes</p> <p>Vegetable Medley</p> <p>Ice Cream with Fruit Wedges</p>	<p>Battered Fish &amp; Chips with Tomato Sauce</p> <p>Carrot &amp; Chickpea Falafel in Pitta with Tomato Relish &amp; Chips</p> <p>Cajun Courgettes / Baked Beans</p> <p>Apple &amp; Berry Oat Bar with Custard</p>
WEEK THREE w/c 18 <sup>th</sup> Sept, 9 <sup>th</sup> Oct, 30 <sup>th</sup> Oct, 20 <sup>th</sup> Nov & 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec, 14 <sup>th</sup> Jan, 22 <sup>nd</sup> Jan	<p>Italian Style Tomato &amp; Herb Pasta with Cheese Topping</p> <p>Oriental Style Stir Fried Vegetables with Rice</p> <p>Herb Roasted Butternut Squash / Peas</p> <p>Parsnip &amp; Apple Sponge Cake with Custard</p>	<p>BBQ Style Chicken with Jacket Wedges &amp; Fruity Coleslaw</p> <p>Red Pepper Jambalaya with Fruity Coleslaw</p> <p>Broccoli / Carrots</p> <p>Oatmeal Cookie with Orange Wedges</p>	<p>Roast Turkey with Roast Potatoes &amp; Gravy</p> <p>Vegetarian Sausages with Roast Potatoes &amp; Gravy</p> <p>Green Beans / Sweetcorn</p> <p>Chocolate Sponge with Chocolate Sauce</p>	<p>Chicken Sausages with Mashed Potato</p> <p>Pesto Style Pasta with Mediterranean Style Salad &amp; Croutons</p> <p>Thyme Roasted Carrots / Savoy Cabbage</p> <p>Fruit &amp; Yoghurt Bar</p>	<p>Battered Fish &amp; Chips with Tomato Sauce</p> <p>Sweet Potato, Spinach &amp; Bean Pasty with Chef's Salad &amp; Chips</p> <p>Peas / Baked Beans</p> <p>Pear &amp; Chocolate Crumble with Custard</p>

Available daily: Jacket Potato with Choice of Fillings • Freshly made Bread • Salad Selection • Fresh Fruit Platter • Yoghurt

## Harrison Catering Services

### Whiteknights Primary School

#### About Your Catering Service

The catering service at Whiteknights Primary School is provided by Harrison Catering Services, an independent, family-owned company founded in 1994.

The Harrison proposition is centred around the on-site preparation and cooking of top quality meals made with fresh ingredients. Over 100 clients across the UK enjoy a Harrison food service, with more than 100,000 meals being served each day by approximately 2,000 staff across more than 270 locations.

#### Working in Partnership with Whiteknights Primary School

Our catering team works with the school council to tailor menus to the tastes and preferences of the pupils. We introduce further interest and excitement to our menus through themed lunches ranging from holidays like Easter and Christmas to cuisines from around the world, tying these into the school curriculum whenever possible. Whenever possible, we link our menus to the school's curriculum and activities to further reinforce the importance of eating a balanced diet of nutritious food.

#### Providing Healthy School Meals

Harrison understands that what children eat affects their health and their ability to learn and perform in the classroom. At Whiteknights Primary School, our catering team provides nutritious, balanced meals, and we work to educate the pupils on how to make healthier food choices. Our goal is to instil a love and understanding of fresh, healthy food at a young age that will positively influence them throughout life.

All Harrison staff receive training in how to prepare and serve healthier food through the company's bespoke Eat Well Live Well® training programme.

In addition, our focus on fresh food means that only minimal amounts of fried foods appear on our menus—generally in the form of much-loved British favourites like fish and chips. We also aim to maximise access to fruit and vegetables by offering a choice of cooked vegetables, salads, healthier snacks and fresh fruit daily. Every egg we use is British-sourced and free range and the majority of our meat is British-sourced as well.

#### We Welcome Your Feedback

Hearing your thoughts on our catering service is an essential part of getting things right and developing the food service at your school. Please feel free to speak to our catering manager if you have any comments.

#### Join the Harrison Family

The great food and service that Harrison provides is only possible because of our talented staff. We aim to create an environment where every team member's efforts and skills are recognised, developed and rewarded, so that we can attract and retain the best people.

If you are interested in joining the Harrison family, please visit our website for the latest job opportunities at [www.harrisoncatering.co.uk/job-opportunities.html](http://www.harrisoncatering.co.uk/job-opportunities.html) or contact the human resources department at our Thame office on 01844 218777.



Our very own company nutritionist, Dr Juliet Gray, advises on all our menus!



We use locally sourced ingredients when available and in season!



# DATES FOR THE DIARY

Monday, 8th January 2024	School Tour Prospective New Parents—1:30pm
Tuesday, 9th January 2024	Year 4 SPLAT—2pm start in the school hall
Friday, 26th January 2024	Year 1 SPLAT
Tuesday, 30th January 2024	Choir to sing with 'Young Voices' at the O <sub>2</sub> , London
Wednesday, 31st January 2024	Year 2 Trip to Marwell Zoo (within school hours)
Wednesday, 28th February 2024	Year 3 ECO Drama Workshop (within school hours) Details to follow next week.
Wednesday, 13th March 2024	Year 3 SPLAT—2pm start in the school hall
Tuesday, 19th March 2024	Year 2 SPLAT.
Wednesday, 22nd May 2024	Year 3 SPLAT—2pm start in the school hall
Tuesday, 2nd July 2024	Year 4 SPLAT—2pm start in the school hall



Come to our

## FABULOUS AFTER SCHOOL ARTS & CRAFTS CLUB

And take part in our exciting national inter-school art competition each week. Contact school for details.

for more information please visit our website  
[www.artikids.co.uk](http://www.artikids.co.uk)



# WHOLE-SCHOOL NOTICES

- NON PRESCRIBED MEDICATION IN SCHOOL:**  
 For emergencies only, the school office may now administer non-prescription medication provided that written consent (this includes Arbor consents) has been obtained in advance.



The medications we hold in school are:

Calpol Infant 2+ month  
 Calpol SixPlus 6+ years  
 Nurofen for Children 3 months—12 years  
 Piriton 1+ years  
 Nivea Kids Sensitive 50+ Sun Cream.

- KS1 SPIDER WEB:** The tarmac has deteriorated under the KS1 Spider Web and will be out of action until repaired. We have cordoned the area off, but please ensure your child/children do not attempt to enter.
- AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS STARTING JANUARY 2024:** Please see complete list of After School Clubs and Activities starting in January 2024. Click on the picture to view more details and booking links. Spaces will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Activity	Day	Year group	Start & End date	Booking type
Funky Fingers & Feet	Monday	Reception	08/01/2024 - 25/03/2024	<a href="#">Login (scooby.com)</a>
Board Games & Jigsaws	Monday	3, 4, 5, 6	08/01/2024 - 25/03/2024	<a href="#">Login (scooby.com)</a>
Brick Building Club	Monday	4, 5, 6	08/01/2024 - 25/03/2024	<a href="#">Login (scooby.com)</a>
11+	Monday	4 & 5	08/01/2024 - 25/03/2024	<a href="#">Login (scooby.com)</a>
Needlecraft	Monday	4, 5 & 6	08/01/2024 - 25/03/2024	<a href="#">Login (scooby.com)</a>
Forest School	Monday	R, 1 & 2	08/01/2024 - 25/03/2024	<a href="#">Forest School</a>
French Club	Monday	1, 2, 3 & 4	08/01/2024 - 18/03/2024	<a href="#">French Club</a>
Minecraft	Monday	3, 4, 5 & 6	08/01/2024 - 05/02/2024	<a href="#">Minecraft Club</a>
Drama Club	Monday	R	08/01/2024 - 18/03/2024	<a href="mailto:arschool@drama@outlook.com">arschool@drama@outlook.com</a>

Activity	Day	Year Group	Start & End date	Booking type
Drawing & Sketching	Tuesday	5&6	09/01/2024 - 26/03/2023	<a href="#">Login (scooby.com)</a>
Chair Club	Tuesday	3,4,5 & 6	09/01/2024 - 26/03/2023	FULLY BOOKED
Hockey	Tuesday	3, 4, 5 & 6	09/01/2024 - 26/03/2023	<a href="#">Hockey Club</a>
Maths Games Club	Tuesday	3 & 4	09/01/2024 - 26/03/2023	<a href="#">Login (scooby.com)</a>
Kids With Bricks	Tuesday	2	09/01/2024 - 06/02/2024	<a href="#">Kids With Bricks</a>

Activity	Day	Year Group	Start & End date	Booking type
Drama Club	Wednesday	1 & 2	10/01/2024 - 20/03/2024	<a href="mailto:arschool@drama@outlook.com">arschool@drama@outlook.com</a>
Tag Rugby	Wednesday	3,4,5 & 6	03/01/2024 - 27/03/2024	<a href="#">Tag Rugby</a>
Artikids	Wednesday	3 & 4	03/01/2024 - 07/02/2024	<a href="#">Artikids Y3&amp;4</a>
Orchestra Club	Wednesday	4,5 & 6	10/01/2024 - 27/03/2024	<a href="#">Login (scooby.com)</a>
Chess	Wednesday	3,4,5 & 6	03/01/2024 - 27/03/2024	<a href="#">Login (scooby.com)</a>

Activity	Day	Year Group	Start & End date	Booking type
All things Disney Themed	Thursday	1 & 2	04/01/2024 - 21/03/2024	<a href="#">Login (scooby.com)</a>
Football	Thursday	3,4,5 & 6	04/01/2024 - 21/03/2024	<a href="#">Football Club</a>
Spanish Bilingualing	Thursday	R, 1 & 2	11/01/2024 - 21/03/2024	<a href="#">Spanish Lessons</a>
Tennis	Thursday	1 & 2	04/01/2024 - 21/03/2024	<a href="#">Tennis Club</a>
Artikids	Thursday	1 & 2	04/01/2024 - 08/02/2024	<a href="#">Artikids Y1&amp;2</a>

Activity	Day	Year Group	Start & End date	Booking type
Multi Skills	Friday	1 & 2	05/01/2024 - 22/03/2024	<a href="#">Multiskills Club</a>
French Knitting	Friday	R, 1 & 2	05/01/2024 - 22/03/2024	<a href="#">Login (scooby.com)</a>
Drama Club	Friday	3, 4, 5 & 6	12/01/2024 - 22/03/2024	<a href="mailto:arschool@drama@outlook.com">arschool@drama@outlook.com</a>



# GROUP-SPECIFIC NOTICES

## NURSERY : Notices and Reminders

- No notices this week.

## RECEPTION : Notices and Reminders

- No notices this week.

## YEAR 1 and YEAR 2 : Notices and Reminders

- No notices this week.

## YEAR 3 and YEAR 4 : Notices and Reminders

- **AMETHYST CLASS SWIMMING:** Just a reminder that this term Amethysts Class will be going swimming every Thursday. Please ensure swimming kits are in school.

## YEAR 5 and YEAR 6 : Notices and Reminders

- **SAPPHIRE CLASS PARENT CONSULTATIONS:** Dates are now live for you to book your consultation with Miss Couch – Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January.

# CELEBRATING WHITEKNIGHTS

## LEARNER SHOWCASE : SCHOOL LIFE AND LEARNING ACHIEVEMENTS

- **CHRISTMAS DECORATION WINNERS:** Congratulations to the following children for their amazing tree decorations!

### Little gems

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Reign
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Joseph

### Reception

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Maya
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Sophie

### Year 1

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Sarah
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Joel

### Year 2

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Dylan
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Georgiana

### Year 3

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Adam
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Khaulah-Manha

### Year 4

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Carson
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Sienna

### Year 5

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Gia
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Atom

### Year 6

- 1<sup>st</sup> place- Charlie
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Natasha

