

# WHITEKNIGHTS ARROW



Date 20th October 2023

No.: Issue #7

## WHAT'S ON NEXT WEEK

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
30 OCTOBER	31 OCTOBER	01 NOVEMBER	02 NOVEMBER	03 NOVEMBER
INSET DAY School closed to all pupils	Pupils return to school	Guided School Tours 9.15am—new prospective parents	Tempest Photo Day Individual and sibling photographs	Year 5 and 6 SPLAT 2pm start in the school hall
				Year 1—Lower Earley Library Visit (within school hours)

\*Please note: Our Extra Curricular Club Timetable is available to view via the website—click on the link below

KEY:

WHOLE SCHOOL

YEAR GROUP SPECIFIC

OTHER

+CLICK TO VIEW ONLINE SCHOOL CALENDAR AND EXTRA CURRICULAR TIMETABLE

## SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

OVERALL TOTAL: 95.7%

REC—Crystal	98.3%	Y4—Amethyst	98.6%
REC—Pearl	95.3%	Y4—Jasper	96.0%
Y1—Amber	94.0%	Y5—Emerald	94.3%
Y1—Jade	98.0%	Y5—Onyx	XX%
Y2—Opal	97.0%	Y5—Sapphire	97.3%
Y2—Topaz	93.7%	Y6—Obsidian	93.0%
Y3—Diamond	93.8%	Y6—Ruby	98.0%
Y3—Garnet	97.3%	Y6—Tiger's Eye	92.0%



ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

Every Child | In School | On Time | Every Day

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

Monday, 23rd October to Friday, 27th October	Autumn half-term break
Monday, 30th October	INSET Day—school closed to all Pupils
Tuesday, 31st October	Pupils return to school
Wednesday, 1st November	Guided School Tours 9.15am—new prospective parents
Thursday, 2nd November	Tempest Photo Day—Individual and sibling photographs
Friday, 3rd November	Year 5 and 6 SPLAT—2pm start in the school hall
Friday, 3rd November	Year 1—Lower Earley Library Visit (within school hours)
Monday, 13th November	Year 5 Delegates to attend Chocolate Factory Workshop at Leighton Park School (within school hours)
Tuesday, 14th November	Year 2 Topaz Class - Lower Earley Library Visit (within school hours)
Wednesday, 15th November	Year 6 Measurement Programme (within school hours)
Friday, 17th November	Year 1—Lower Earley Library Visit (within school hours)
Tuesday, 21st November	Year 2 Opal Class - Lower Earley Library Visit (within school hours)
Thursday, 23rd November	Year 3 Diamond Class Library visit
Tuesday, 28th November	Year 4 Parent Information Evening—Burwell House 3:45pm—4:15pm
Wed, 29th November	Guided School Tours 9.15am—new prospective parents
Thursday, 7th December	Year 3 Garnet Class Library visit
Tuesday, 9th January 2024	Year 4 SPLAT—2pm start in the school hall
Wednesday, 13th March 2024	Year 3 SPLAT—2pm start in the school hall
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

## WHOLE-SCHOOL NOTICES

- **MYMATHS:** Just a reminder that we are no longer using the MyMaths programme.
- **WINTER UNIFORM:** When pupils return after the half term holiday, Year 3-6 will be expected to wear our winter uniform; a collared shirt and tie. No summer dresses please.  
  
As the weather is now becoming inclement, please ensure your child is provided with a waterproof/winter coat on a daily basis.
- **CONSIDERATE PARKING:** Please park considerately when dropping/picking your child up from school. We have had a number of complaints from local residents of driveways being blocked and pavements being mounted, therefore not allowing pushchairs or pedestrians past. Also, a reminder that the bollard is in operation the following times: 8:15am—9:00am and again from 3:00pm—3:45pm. The bollard will not be taken down under ANY circumstances!
- **WHOLE SCHOOL INDIVIDUAL AND SIBLING PHOTOS:** On Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, photographers will be in school to take individual child photos and photos of siblings together. All school siblings will be photographed together during the school day.  
  
From 8.15-8.45am the photographers will be set up in Onyx Classroom to take family sibling group photographs. This is for children only, and an opportunity for you to have your Whiteknights children photographed with younger (and older) siblings. This is not the time for school siblings only to get a photo – as advised, this will take place during the school day. If you wish to take advantage of this opportunity you should access the school through the reception area, and leave by the same route.  
  
Please try and make sure your children are neat and tidy on the day and dressed in their winter uniforms. If you have a nursery child who is not usually in on a Thursday please bring them in at 9am to participate in the photo session. Nursery will be our first class, so you will be able to take them home straight after the photo is taken.
- **VOLUNTEERS—WE NEED YOU:** We would love to have more volunteers helping in school on a regular basis. Should you be interested in helping, please complete and return the volunteer form (link below) to the school office:

[Volunteer Application Form—Whiteknights School](#)

## BELLEVUE PLACE EDUCATION TRUST AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

Click on the link to read the trust's autumn newsletter, offering a glimpse into the impactful work of BPET

# WHOLE-SCHOOL NOTICES (Cont.)

- **MIDDAY ASSISTANT VACANCY:** We are still looking for a Midday Assistant to join our wonderful lunchtime team.

Please click on the link below to view information and how to apply;

[Work With Us - Whiteknights Primary School](#)

- **EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUB INFORMATION:**

Please click on the below links to view new half-term booking information for:

**YEAR 3—6 BASKETBALL:**

[Basketball Flyer and 10% early booking discount coupon](#)

**YEAR 3—6 MINECRAFT:**

[Whiteknights Primary School Minecraft Letter - Monday](#)

**YEAR 2 LEGO CLUB:**

[Whiteknights Primary School Lego Letter - Tuesday](#)

**YEARS 1 AND 2 ARTIKIDS CLUB:**

[Whiteknights Primary School Artikids Letter - Thursday](#)

**YEAR 3 AND 4 ARTIKIDS CLUB:**

[Whiteknights Primary School Artikids Letter - Wednesday](#)

**YEAR 3—6 CHESS CLUB:**

[Chess-Club-Letter.docx \(live.com\)](#)

**RECEPTION, YEAR 1 AND 2 MULTISKILLS:**

[Sports4Kids—Multiskills](#)

**YEAR 3—6 TAG RUGBY:**

[Sports4Kids—Tag Rugby](#)

**YEAR 3—6 FOOTBALL:**

[Sports4Kids—Football](#)

**LEAVING CLASSROOM/WALKING HOMER PERMISSIONS:** Pupils in Year 3 and upwards can be given permission to leave the classroom/walk home on their own. Are they ready for this? Please read this very useful guide to determine if they are:

## KS2 WALKING HOME UNACCOMPANIED

In order to ensure children's safety, only children in Key Stage 2 are allowed to walk home on their own. Children in Key Stage 1 need to be collected by an adult (it is not appropriate for an older sibling in KS2 to walk them home).

This does not mean that all children in KS2 are ready to walk home on their own. Parents need to consider their child's age, maturity and independence, as well as their distance from the school and the safety of the route before making a decision about whether or not it is safe for each child to walk home unaccompanied by an adult.

### HELPFUL TIPS FOR ASSESSING YOUR CHILD'S READINESS

How do you know if your child is ready to walk or ride his/her bike to and from school? By discussing possible scenarios with him/her. Ideally, your child should know the following twelve points before she/he is ever alone in public. Talk about each one of the twelve points listed below from Gavin de Becker's book, *Protecting the Gift* to help establish their readiness or areas to support them with:

- 1 Does your child know how to honour his feelings? If someone makes him uncomfortable, that's an important signal.
- 2 Are you as the parent strong enough to hear about any experience your child has had, no matter how unpleasant?
- 3 Does your child know it's okay to rebuff and defy adults?
- 4 Does your child know it's okay to be assertive?
- 5 Does your child know how to ask for assistance or help?
- 6 Does your child know how to choose who to ask?
- 7 Does your child know how to describe his peril?
- 8 Does your child know it's okay to strike, even to injure, someone if he believes he is in danger, and that you'll support any action he takes as a result of feeling uncomfortable or afraid?
- 9 Does your child know it's okay to make noise, to scream, to yell, to run?
- 10 Does your child know that if someone ever tries to force him to go somewhere, what he screams should include, "This is not my father"?
- 11 Does your child know that if someone says, "Don't yell", the thing to do is yell? The corollary is if someone says, "Don't tell", the thing to do is tell.
- 12 Does your child know to fully resist ever going anywhere out of public view with someone he doesn't know, and particularly to resist going anywhere with someone who tries to persuade him?



CLICK TO ENLARGE



# YOU ARE INVITED

WHITEKNIGHTS PRIMARY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  
READING GATEWAY CHURCH PRESENTS:

**FREE PARENT AND GUARDIAN COFFEE MORNINGS**

WEDNESDAY  
**MORNINGS** / 8.30<sup>am</sup> to 10<sup>am</sup>

27/09, 18/10, 1/11, 22/11, 6/12 and 20/12

Reading Gateway Church @ St Barnabas Hall, Elm Road,  
Reading RG6 5TS

*Tea, coffee, squash, toast and jam will be provided as well as baby and toddler toys*

# GROUP-SPECIFIC NOTICES

## NURSERY : Notices and Reminders

- Please click on the link to view the Nursery Knowledge Organiser. [Little Gems Knowledge Organiser](#)
- COLD WEATHER: Now the weather is getting colder and wetter could you please ensure your child comes to school with a coat to wear outside. We ask that all coats, gloves , hats and scarves are clearly named.  
The amount of space we have available for coat pegs is very small and now that children are bringing winter coats there is no space for backpacks of any kind. Please can you provide spare clothes in a named carrier bag or draw string bag (like the school PE bags). Other than that, your child only needs a water bottle and their lunch box if they stay for packed lunch.  
Thank you for your co operation in this matter.

## RECEPTION : Notices and Reminders

- Please click on the link to view Receptions's Knowledge Organiser. [Reception Knowledge Organiser](#)

## YEAR 1 and YEAR 2 : Notices and Reminders

- No notices this week.

## YEAR 3 and YEAR 4 : Notices and Reminders

- **YEAR 3:** Diamond class are visiting the Library on Thursday, 23rd November and Garnet class on Thursday, 7th December.  
We will be walking to and from the library, leaving the school at 1:25pm and returning at 3:00pm.  
We do require parent volunteers for both of these dates. If you are able to offer help, please let your child's class teacher know.  
Thanking you in advance.
- **YEARS 3—6 EXTRA CURRICULAR CHESS CLUB:** [Chess-Club-Letter.docx \(live.com\)](#)

## YEAR 5 and YEAR 6 : Notices and Reminders

- **YEARS 3—6 EXTRA CURRICULAR CHESS CLUB:** [Chess-Club-Letter.docx \(live.com\)](#)

# CELEBRATING WHITENIGHTS

Shining a spotlight on school life and pupil achievement

## JIGSAW—PSHE

This week we are celebrating people who:

Choose to follow the Learning Charter.

## LEARNER SHOWCASE : SCHOOL LIFE AND LEARNING ACHIEVEMENTS

- **HARVEST FESTIVAL:** This year our Harvest celebration happened to coincide with the global observance of the United Nations' *World Food Day* (16.10.2023) an occasion dedicated to promoting healthy eating habits and uniting in our efforts to eradicate hunger by the ambitious target of 2030. The issue of food security is of paramount concern in today's world and we are deeply touched by the tremendous generosity demonstrated by our Whiteknights community.

Your contributions to the **Harvest Celebration** will be channelled towards supporting the **Reading Food Bank, Readifood**. **Readifood** is an independent Food Bank providing food parcels in the greater Reading area - a critical initiative that plays a pivotal role in ensuring that vulnerable individuals and families have access to nourishing meals and essential goods.

If you would like to find out more about how to get involved with Readifood and their initiatives, you can visit their website through this [LINK](#).

- **INVICTUS GAMES:** Well done to those who were selected to participate in the Invictus Games against Braywick, The Heights, Evendons and Rivermead. The children took part in a range of activities including: bocia, rocketball, archery, new age kurling and dangerball. You all did the school proud and we hope you have enjoyed learning a new skill!
- **YEAR 5 AND 6 PERFORMANCE AND POWER TEST:** Year 5 and Year 6 recently participated in a Performance and Power Test held at school that tested their athletic abilities in a range of activities. [+Read more](#)
- **YEAR 3 VISIT BUTSER ANCIENT FARM:** Year 3 visited Butser Ancient Farm this week for a day filled with fun learning activities. [+Read More](#) and view images from their trip.
- **ROCK AND POP FOUNDATION ASSEMBLY:** KS2 pupils were visited by the Rock and Pop Foundation for an exhilarating musical showcase. [+Read more](#)

## USEFUL LINKS

[SCHOOL FORMS](#)

[SCHOOL MEALS](#)

[TERM DATES](#)



## THINKING ABOUT A GOOD CLEAR OUT?



Build a more sustainable future whilst raising funds for the school!

### What can you give?

- ♻️ Clothing textiles
- ♻️ Shoes, hats, bags, handbags, scarves ties and belts
- ♻️ Soft toys
- ♻️ Household linen, curtains and towels



The Challenge: As well as raising vitally needed funds for **Whiteknights**, it also helps the environment by helping to divert unwanted textiles away from landfill. A recent DEFRA report has shown that textile collection schemes are helping to reduce the volume of textiles discarded as municipal solid waste. However it is a fact that as a nation we still send 350,000 tonnes of textiles to landfill every year.

By getting involved in our **Bag2School** collection, you have an opportunity to sort through your cupboards and wardrobes and donate unwanted textiles. **In addition to raising much needed funds it will also raise awareness amongst the children of the benefits of recycling and reuse.**

**Bag2School** will be collecting from **Whiteknights** on **6th November**. Please bring your bag (or bags!) to the school office and help us have a really good collection.

### BAG 2 SCHOOL

FREE FUNDRAISING FOR SCHOOLS

In partnership with your school or organisation



#### Whiteknights Primary School



Bag 2 School is a company that specialises in the reuse and recycling of good quality second-hand clothing and we have arranged to make a collection from your school. All the bags will be weighed and you will be paid for the total weight collected. Remember, the more you collect the greater the benefit to your school.



By using this paper leaflet we are helping to reduce unnecessary extra plastic. Please use your own bag or bags (there is no limit). The leaflet is FSC accredited, please recycle it.

When the clothes have been removed from the bag the plastic will be packed and sent for recycling.

We are collecting good quality items for RE-USE:

Men's, ladies' & children's clothing, paired shoes, handbags, belts & accessories.

(No uniforms, workwear, pillows, duvets or pieces of fabric please)

**The more we weigh the more we pay!**

Extra bags are welcome - there's no limit

Please return your Bag2School on:

Tuesday 7 November 2023 by 9am



01609 780 222

www.bag2school.com

helpdesk@bag2school.com

DID YOU KNOW,  
16 to 22 OCTOBER  
IS **RECYCLE WEEK?**  
TAKE UP THE BAG2SCHOOL  
RECYCLING CHALLENGE WHILST RAISING  
VALUABLE FUNDS FOR THE SCHOOL!

Please be on the look out for **MyChildsArt** artwork forms that will be sent home this week. This is one of our very popular fundraising initiatives for Christmas. Turn your child's artwork into unique and special gifts to give to your loved ones this Christmas. Parents can choose from a full range of over 20 products.

Artwork designs must be returned by the **3rd of November**.



Create your artwork on the artwork sheet provided following the guidelines below.



## Artwork Guidelines

For best printed results we recommend full coverage designs that use **bright / bold felt-tip pens**.

### Do Use...

- Felt-Tip Pens
- Bright Colours
- Poster Paint

### Don't Use...

- Light Colours
- Collage
- Pencils
- Metallic Pens
- Crayons
- Glitter

All of our products (including cards) are set up to work with portrait designs only on the original artwork sheets provided. Please **DO NOT** photocopy the sheets - we are happy to send you extra if needed.



The sheets are processed using a high speed roller-fed scanner, so please **DO NOT** stick anything onto the artwork sheet as this will not feed through the scanner properly.

If you are using paint, please ensure this is not applied too thickly and that the sheets are completely dry before packing. If not, quite often they get stuck (either to each other or whilst going through the scanner) which tears the artwork sheet - spoiling the child's picture and all their hard work!