



Spring Term

Welcome back and a very happy new year. We hope you've had a good break. We are looking forward to an exciting new year of learning and activities ahead. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns about your child.



Curriculum Areas

Through our termly cross-curricular themes, we aim to make links in all areas of learning to make sure there is cohesion across the whole curriculum. The aim is to make the children's learning vivid, real, engaging and memorable, and to provide challenges and adaptations to encourage their development in all areas. We strive to embed social, emotional and independent life skills holistically across all areas of curriculum.

English

Through adapted Read, Write Inc Phonics Programme, we will revisit and develop our reading and writing skills. In our extended writing programme will be writing information and persuasive texts. There will be a direct emphasis on developing spelling, grammar, punctuation, adventurous vocabulary and improving handwriting.

Maths

The principal focus of mathematics teaching and learning will be to ensure that pupils develop confidence and mental fluency with whole numbers, counting and place value. In addition, the children will focus on developing knowledge in addition, subtraction, multiplication, division and measurement.

PSHCE and Life Skills

In PSHCE, pupils will learn about themselves and how to manage conflicts. In life skills, we will explore various ways of staying safe online.

RE

In line with The Milton Keynes Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education, we will learn through enquiry led approach about Christianity with a focus on special clothing and food. We will consider key questions including believing, belonging, behaving and reflecting.

Humanities

In History, pupils will explore Britain's past and that of the wider world. The focus will be British monarchs and their powers. In Geography, the pupils will learn about physical and human geography in the United Kingdom and overseas.

Science

Through enquiry and investigation, the pupils will learn about materials and their properties.

Computing

The pupils will use Information Technology to learn about games and apps. We will enhance our skills in programming using Bee-bots.

ART and DT

The pupils will develop their skills in drawing and painting. Using various artists, pupils will create their own pieces of art.

Food

The children will develop their vital skills and knowledge in cooking and nutrition through preparing simple dishes with beans and pulses.

Performing Arts

In Performing Arts, the pupils will create various pieces in drama and singing using Oliver Twist as an inspiration.

PE

The pupils will take part in a variety of individual and team sports activities including swimming.

Free School Meals Online Application



If you think your child may be entitled for free school meals, you can register and find out if your child is eligible by visiting a quick and easy system: <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims/>

Our school menu and order form can be downloaded from the website:

https://www.whitespireschool.org.uk/sites/default/files/pdf/Lunch_Order_Form.pdf

Uniform

Please ensure your child wears correct school uniform, and each item is labelled with your child's name.

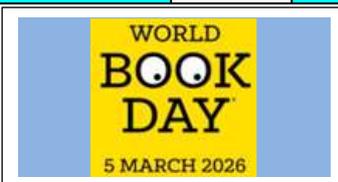


Attendance

We believe regular school attendance is essential to achievement. Please help us by ensuring your child attends school every day.

Term Dates

4 th January	Inset Day - School Closed
5 th January	School Opens for Pupils
12 th February	School Closes for Half Term
22 nd February	School Opens for Pupils
25 th March	School Closes for Easter Holidays



Please check the planner daily for updates.

KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Break and Lunchtime clubs

- Library
- Sports
- Music



Breakfast Club is open daily from 8am to 8.30am.

After School Club offers a variety of activities.

Advance booking is required, please contact the school office or your child's teacher.

Equipment



Please note children will not need to bring in their own pencil cases or resources. Please help us by not sending in any toys or soothers.

Daily Home School Communication



Please ensure the school diary is sent into school every day and check it for regular updates.

Our School Website is updated regularly for key updates, term dates, events and other useful information. Follow the link below:

<https://whitespireschool.org.uk/school-calendar>