



White Spire School

Spring Term

Welcome back, and Happy New Year we hope you have all had a lovely break. We are excited to see what 2026 brings. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or queries!

**Classes 14,
15, 16 and 17
Newsletter
Spring Term
2026**

Curriculum

During the Spring Term we will be covering the following areas -

English

- Our main text is 'The Count of Monte Cristo'. We will be working on developing our basic writing skills. This will include identifying word types to improve our writing and checking our written work is accurate. We will continue to work on reading, handwriting and spelling.

Maths

- Our focus will be on knowledge of 'Calculations'. We will be working on the four main operations and developing our formal written methods. We will be working on word problems involving these operations. We will continue to work on mental maths skills.

Vocational Studies

- As part of our vocational work, we will be looking at Handling Money and Solving Problems.

RE

- This term we will start off looking at Christianity and the key beliefs. We will also be looking at Humanism and the key beliefs.

PSHCE

- We will be learning about planning for our futures including how we can be successful in employment, leisure and education. We will also be continuing work on sexual health including contraception, fertility and the dangers of pornography.

Options for classes 14, 15 and 16

- Sixth formers have selected an option from car care, performing arts, childcare, volunteering, science or enterprise this term.

Cooking

- We will continue to work on developing cooking skills enabling us to cook simple meals independently. We will be focusing on how we can make simple meals healthier.

Diaries

Please continue to check diaries daily for notes/points/ letters etc.



Interventions and Clubs

Our lunchtime/breaktime clubs will continue this term and will focus on a variety of social skills and activities.



PE

PE will continue to be twice weekly. Please make sure children come in wearing appropriate clothing to take part in activities.

Forthcoming Events/Dates:

- 12th Feb – Internet Safety Day
- 13th Feb – half-term
- 5th March – World Book Day
- 9th March – Careers week/Work Experience Week
- 27th March – End of term



Please check your child's diary for the latest updates and information on the dates.

Trips

We will let you know about any trips that are going ahead via diaries.



Careers

Years 12 and 13 are important years for considering next steps. Year 14 need to have a clear idea of what they want to do and start applying for their next steps. We will take part in a careers week this term. Our theme this year will be 'Ready to Work/Work Ready.' During the week we will take part in a range of activities to promote awareness of careers as well as choices they have to make and when they will make them. It is **vital** you continue to support children in this area.

Year 12 Ways to Support

- * Continue to support with the development of independence skills e.g. Does your child know their own address? Are they able to repeat it without prompts. Do they know which days are bin days? Can they put out the bins? Do they apply deodorant and clean their teeth daily?
- * Look at and discuss MK College Website, Christian Foundation or MK Snap. There is an MK College open day on the **24th Jan 10am-1pm.**
- * Talk to your child about what they like doing and suitable jobs for the future. Think about what they want to do at the end of Year 13. Be realistic when talking about jobs and possible college courses.

Year 13 Ways to Support

- * Be aware your child has the option to leave at the end of Year 13. This decision should have been made by the end of **December**. Applications should be in and you should be getting confirmations and interviews. Please continue to check emails.
- * Talk to your child about what an interview is like. Ask sample questions.
- * Your child will have a meeting with Mrs White, our careers advisor, at some point during the year. Make sure you have discussed options with them.
- * Make sure you attend the EHCP meeting, when asked.
- * Continue to work on developing independence skills at home.



Year 14 Ways to Support

- * Your child will be leaving at the end of Year 14 which is **Friday 26th June 2026**. It is important you know and have applied for the next steps as soon as possible. This will enable us to support them with transition.
- * Talk to your child about interests and choices. This will help them in their interview.
- * Your child will have a meeting with Mrs White, our careers advisor. Make sure you have discussed options with them.
- * Support them in attending interviews etc.

Attendance

School attendance is important because it helps students stay consistent with their learning. When students attend school regularly, they are able to follow lessons step by step instead of missing key information. This consistency makes it easier to understand new topics, keep up with coursework, and perform better. Missing school often can create learning gaps that are hard to catch up on later.

Good school attendance also helps students develop strong habits such as responsibility, time management, and self-discipline. Arriving at school every day and on time teaches students the importance of commitment and routine. These skills are valuable not only in school but also in future careers, where being dependable and punctual is essential for success.

Another benefit of good school attendance is the opportunity to build social skills and relationships. Being present in school allows students to interact with classmates, participate in group activities, and form friendships. It also helps students feel more connected to their school community, which can improve confidence, motivation, and overall well-being



Free School Meals Online Application

If you think your child may be entitled to free school meals, you can register and find out if your child is eligible by visiting a quick and easy system:



Important



We continue to spend **a lot** of time dealing with incidents resulting from mobile phone use and social media. Please support us by discussing appropriate usage with your child e.g.

- not sharing numbers from group chats
- the danger of sending inappropriate images and messages
- usage at night

Clever Never Goes

We continue to teach children about awareness of personal safety when out and about. Please support us by discussing this with your child. There are several websites that offer support in this area –

