



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, we will listen and respond to journey stories and learning about fictional texts about transport. There will be direct emphasis on developing word and sentence level work including 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 skills in addition, subtraction, multiplication and division using number stories and manipulatives.

PSHCE and Life Skills

In PSHCE, pupils will learn about themselves, their families and rules in a familiar environment.

RE

In line with The Milton Keynes Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education, we will learn about our special stories and festivals. We will consider key questions including believing, belonging, behaving and reflecting.

Humanities

In History, pupils will explore travels and journeys. In Geography, the pupils will learn about familiar places in the local area using maps and visuals.

Science

Through enquiry and investigation, the pupils will group and sort everyday items or objects.

Computing

The pupils will develop awareness in keyboard skills.

ART and DT

The pupils will develop their drawing and painting skills. Pupils will create their own pieces of art through a focus on transport and journeys.

Food

The children will develop their knowledge and skills in handling basic tools when preparing simple dishes.

Performing Arts

In Performing Arts, the pupils will compose songs and play percussion instruments relating to journeys theme.

PE

The pupils will continue to take part in a variety of individual and team sports activities with a focus on fine and gross motor skills.

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

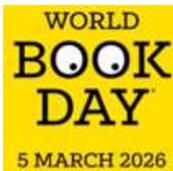
Please ensure your child wears correct school uniform, and each item is labelled with your child's name.



Attendance

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

Please check the planner daily for updates regarding trips and other events



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

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>