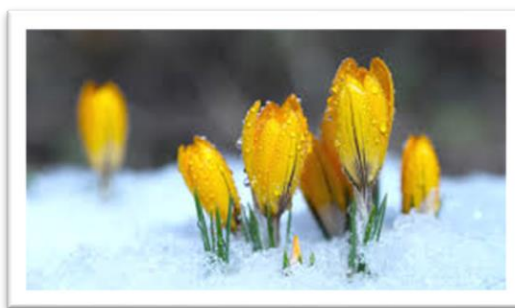




Whitehouse Primary

Spring 1 Newsletter



Upcoming Events

- 02/03/26**
Children return after half term
- 02/03/26 – 06/03/26**
Y4 swimming all week
- 05/03/26**
World Book Day – non-uniform
- 06/03/26**
Winning Team Treat
- 06/03/26**
KS2 SATs Meeting for Parents 3.30pm
- 11/03/26**
Parent Forum Meeting: 4-5pm
- 16/03/26– 20/03/26**
Assessment Week
- 19/03/26**
3LH Class Assembly
- 20/03/26**
Red Nose Day – non-uniform
- 24/03/26**
Eid Celebration afternoon
- 25/03/26 & 26/03/26**
Parent Learning Review evenings
- 26/03/26**
Local Governing Committee
- 27/03/24**
MND awareness Walk
- 26/03/26**
3/4 CAB Class Assembly
- 02/04/26 – school closes for**
Easter Break

Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians

As we come to the end of the Spring 1 half term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and partnership.

This half term has been filled with rich learning experiences. Pupils took part in **Online Safety Week**, developing vital skills for staying safe and making responsible choices in the digital world.

Our **Child Mental Health and Wellbeing Day** provided a valuable opportunity for children to reflect on their emotions, self-care and a sense of belonging all while enjoying a relaxed non-uniform day.

One of the most popular moments was **Music Week**, where the school was alive with singing, rhythm and creativity. The children concluding the celebrations with the joyful **Music Dress Up Day**, which brought wonderful energy and colour to the end of the term.

We were also delighted to see so many confident performances during our class assemblies. Each assembly was a testament to the children's hard work, teamwork and growing confidence in sharing their learning.

I hope you and your families enjoy a well-deserved half term break. We look forward to welcoming the children back for Spring 2, refreshed and ready for the exciting learning ahead.

Warm regards,
Jane Eyre



Return after

Half Term:

Monday 2nd March

Mental Health Awareness
Wellbeing Day

Thank you for your donations!

We raised

£231

for wellbeing resources in school.

Break up for

Easter:

Thursday 2nd April

Curriculum Highlights



Year 5 Ambassadors

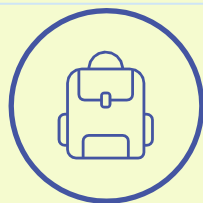
Our Year 5 Ambassador's went to Layfield Primary School to find out more about their school. They had a tour of the school and took part in STEM activities. They had the chance to interview their head boy and girl and head teacher. Our ambassadors loved their visit and had lots of ideas to bring back to Whitehouse.

Quick Reminders

- Doors open at **8.35am** and close at **8.50am** every morning.
- **Easter Holidays:**
Break up - 02/04/26
Return – 20/04/26



 **Building Confidence and Character**



Recent Highlights

- Child Mental Health Week
- Music Week
- Preston Park Visitors in EYFS
- Online Safety Week

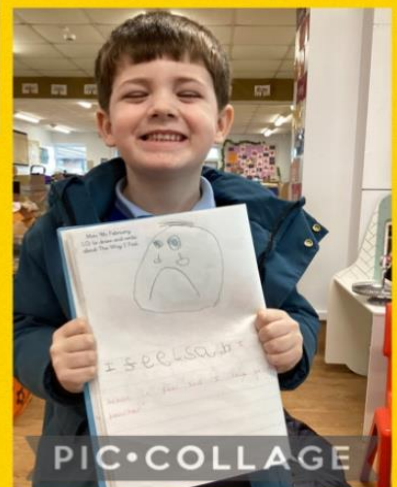
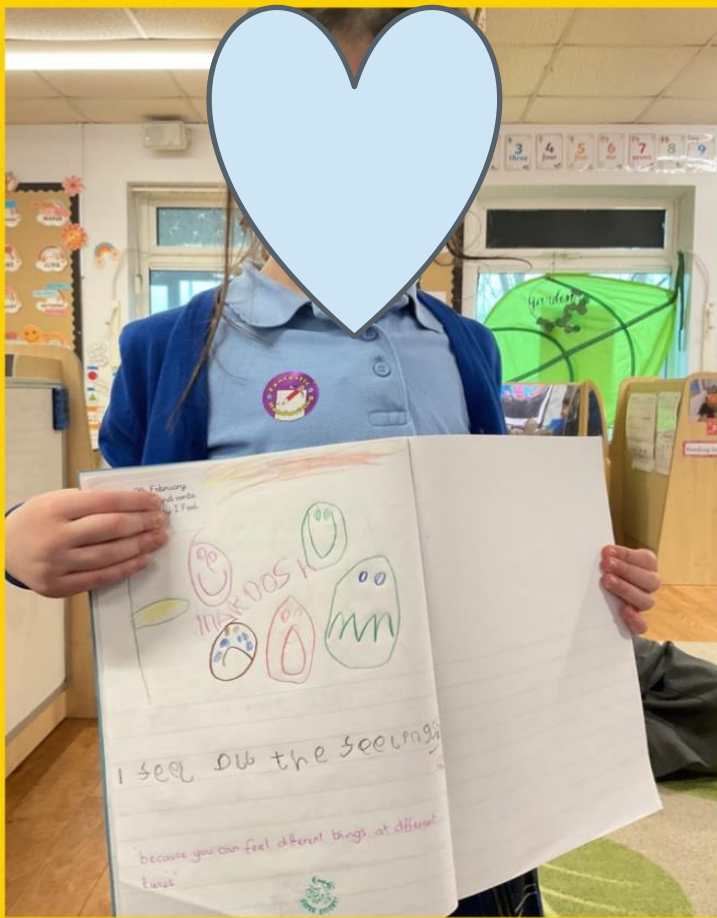
 **Pupil Leadership Opportunities**



Celebrating Children's Mental Health Week

A range of activities, guest assemblies and discussions highlighted the importance of mental health and how a sense of belonging can help. The children identified where they belong including classes, families, sporting clubs as well as belonging to the Whitehouse family





PIC•COLLAGE



Mental Health Week

Mental health week was all about belonging. Nursery enjoyed activities where they talked about people and places that made them feel safe. Our “belonging circle”, involved children talking about belonging at nursery and the friends that helped them feel welcome. And our “belonging suitcase” allowed children to talk about special things or times in their lives.

Nursery

Each week Nursery complete food-based activities, we were very lucky to get a brand-new oven this term. Nursery enjoyed measuring, mixing and baking heart shaped cookies!



Nursery

Nursery have been enjoying phonics this term, learning to listen for initial sounds.

They love doing lots of activities, like going on an **orange** hunt for 'o'.

Our children get very excited if they spot something beginning with our sound of the week, like the octopus in the water area!



SEN Parent/Carer Survey Results

What you told us and what we're doing

[Click here to view](#)

School Council

Our pupils help shape the life of our school. We want every child to know that their thoughts and opinions matter. Pupil voice is central to our ethos and we ensure children feel heard and valued through many forums including the school council.

Being on the school council is a school leadership position. Through attending school council, children learn about democracy, make improvements to the school environment, lead projects, events and influence real change in school. The school council have been reviewing and giving their views on the **Team Points System** this term.



Leadership

Democracy

Being Heard

Pupil Voice

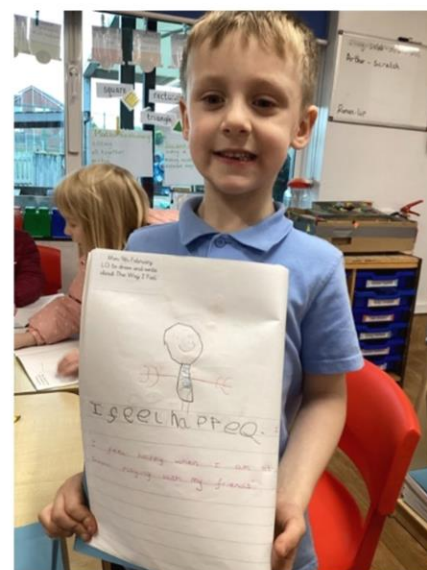
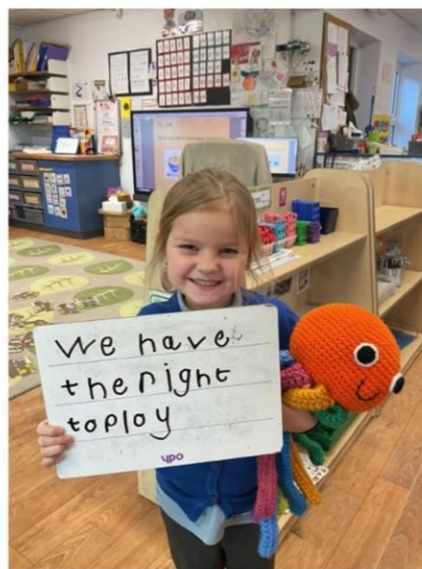


Reception

Reception have had a fabulous Spring term 1, with many new experiences!

A PE trip, meeting a baby, tasting some new foods and learning to write their first sentences.

They also learned about the importance of Children's Rights. 😊





Reception Learning Together Sessions

Reception invited parents into school to learn together with their children.

This is something we are developing more of at Whitehouse to build a **true learning community**.

There were lots of smiles and a real learning buzz...and that was just from the parents!



Music Week

As part of Music week the children in KS1 have explored BritPop album covers and created their own as if they were a BritPop artist:



Music Week

KS1 were also introduced to notation, understanding that pitch means how high or low a note is.

In 2JP, the children carefully followed the sheet music to play some British nursery rhymes and did a fantastic job! The children also used iPads to compose digital music for a silent section of the film Wallace and Gromit, thinking about the tempo of their music to match what was happening in the film.'



Music Week

Year 5 were invited to Conyers secondary school to take part in a guitar and drumming workshop. They were all brilliant musicians and had a fantastic time!





Class Assemblies

5ZA kick started off the class assemblies with their amazing performance, taking us back in time to the Mayan Civilisation!

Class Assemblies

1JG had their dress rehearsal performance in front of an audience of Nursery and Reception!



Reading for Pleasure!

It's so important that our children get lots of opportunities to read a wide range of books and authors.

5ZA enjoyed their visit to the library bus which offers every child a book to read of their own choosing, ready to snuggle up and read on World Book Day!



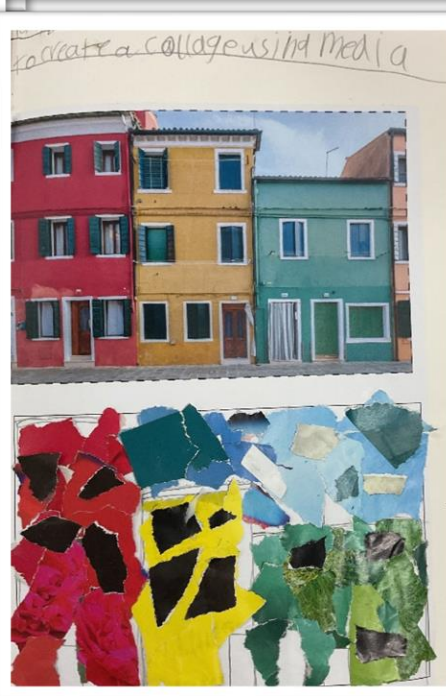
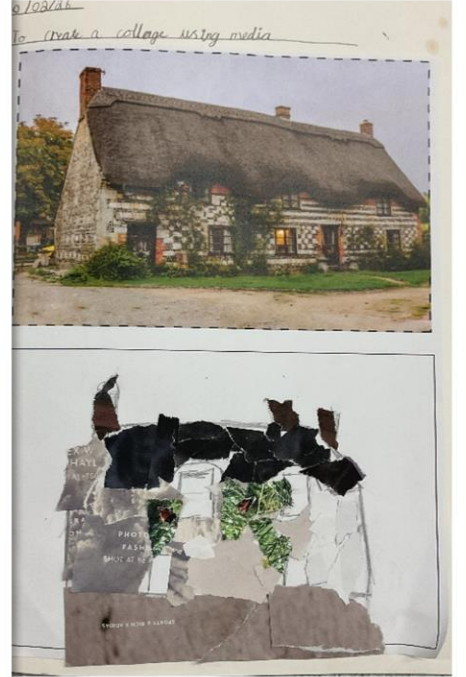
Religious Education

Year 5 are learning about Judaism in RE. 5ZA explore the Torah scroll and were amazed at how long it is. Some children dressed up and wore the kippah and shawl.



Year 3 Art

In art this half term, 3LH have explored working with mixed media using collage and watercolours to create work inspired by buildings and the work of other artists.



Year 1 Art

1JG were incredibly proud of their work in Art, recreating some beautiful artwork to complete their topic in Chromatic.





BREAKTIMES AT WHITEHOUSE

Choice • Confidence • Creativity • Community

Introducing Our brilliant Junior Joes (Year 4 & 5) who:

- set up games every breaktime
- help others join in
- teach new games
- encourage kindness and inclusion



It's leadership, teamwork and confidence-building in action.



General Reminders

Social Media and Online Gaming

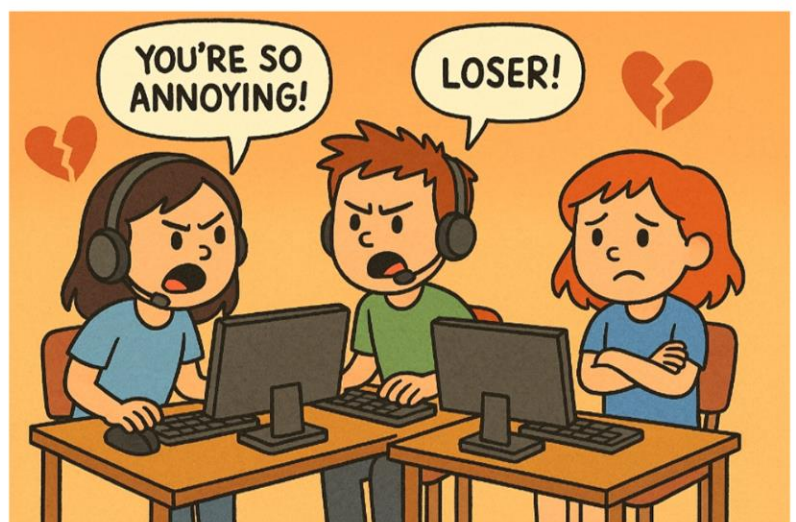
Following a few reported incidents this term regarding unpleasant behaviour, language use and communication between children on social media and during gaming, please can we **remind you to monitor your children** accessing online platforms and social media chats.

If you have any concerns regarding online issues, you can access a range of information and guidance at

www.nspcc.org.uk/online-safety

TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.



Safeguarding Digital Privacy for Children

Navigating the AI landscape safely

[Click Here for more information](#)

Update on Actions Following the Parent Survey - September 2025

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Parent Survey earlier this year. Your feedback continues to play an important role in shaping our school community. We are pleased to share the progress made so far, along with ways you can stay involved and continue supporting your child's learning.

What you said:	Here's what we've done:	How you can support:
Communication: Many of you told us that communication felt overwhelming at times, with too many platforms to keep track of.	- Created a Parent Forum that now meets half-termly to discuss key topics and gather feedback. Communication was on the first agenda. - Shared a clear Parent Communication Guide/Charter explaining how and when we use Arbor, email, Seesaw and our social media channels. - Introduced opportunities for parents to meet informally, including our Christmas Catch-Up and Easter Family Quiz.	- Ensure you are connected to all relevant school platforms. - Check messages regularly so you don't miss important updates. - Communicate with staff respectfully and constructively. - Share any changes to your contact details with the school office as soon as possible. - Engage actively in your child's learning journey, especially through Seesaw.
Enhancing Our Outdoor Space Parents expressed a strong desire to improve playground facilities with many parents willing to help fundraise.	- Discussed ideas at the Parent Forum to gather a range of perspectives. - Shared our vision for playtimes and the outdoor environment through a recent newsletter. - Launched a fundraising programme with a clear goal: to purchase a new playground adventure structure.	- Attend or support our upcoming fundraising events—every contribution makes a difference! - Join the Parent Forum - Join Facebook Parent/Carer Community
After-School Clubs: You told us that booking clubs was frustrating and that you wanted a wider selection.	- Improved the booking system for fairness and accessibility. - Offering clubs that provide good value for money. - Increasing the number of lunch and after-school clubs available. - Ensuring all clubs are run by trusted, familiar school staff. - Expanding options so children of all ages can take part.	Get involved where appropriate - Some clubs welcome: - parent volunteers - donated resources - help during performances or events - Share your skills and talents by offering club suggestions
Learning Support: We heard that you wanted greater challenge for some children while others required improved SEN engagement.	- Curriculum focus on greater depth learning in all subjects. - Science, technology, engineering, math's (STEM) challenge days and weeks to extend opportunities for deeper thinking and problem solving. - SEN Engagement Plan launching Spring 2026 - Creating more opportunities for parents to discuss SEN plans and needs with staff - Further opportunities for liaison with outside agencies.	- Speak to teaching staff early if you have any concerns - Engage with the SEN information shared by school - Attend planned activities and the SEN opportunities provided
Join the Parent Forum If you would like to help shape future improvements, please contact Mel in the school office to find out how to get involved.		

KS1 Sport's Festival

Children in 1/2 JL/KP enjoyed attending the KS1 sports festival which was pirate themed! All of the children took part in all of the activities and had an amazing time. They managed to collect 114 golden coins from participating in the activities.



Science

In science, Year 5 have been learning about properties and changes to materials. They investigated how to separate different mixtures by sieving, filtration and using magnets. We also discussed evaporation and how this method is best used when separating a liquid.



In Reception

Playing is always learning!

Playing and Exploring

Children investigate and experience things. They are willing to 'have a go'

Engagement



Creating and Thinking Critically

Children have and develop their own ideas. They make links between ideas and choose ways to do things

Thinking



Active Learning

Children concentrate and keep on trying when they encounter difficulties. They enjoy their achievements

Motivation



Booking will go live at 4.00p.m on Thursday 19th February.

If you are lucky enough to secure a place, you will then receive a notification and link for payment.

Full payment must be made in order to secure your child's place in the club, if this is an issue please call the school office for further payment options.

Once this payment has been received you will see your child linked to the club on your home page.

Any questions please contact the school office.

Monday	Wednesday	Thursday
Year 6 SATS Booster – Maths Separate letter will be sent to children invited to the session	Year 6 SATS Booster – English Separate letter will be sent to children invited to the session	Dance Club – Miss Poole KS2 – 20 children £2.00 per session 12th March – 2nd April (4 weeks) Collection from LKS2 Playground (near main hall)
	Music Club – Miss Leach KS2 – 12 children £2 per session 11th March – 1st April (4 weeks) Collection from UKS2 Playground	Sewing Club – Mrs Robinson KS2 – 8 children £2.00 per session 12th March – 2nd April (4 weeks) Collection from UKS2 Playground
	Coding Club – Miss Ayub KS2 – 20 children £2 per session 11th March – 1st April (4 weeks) Collection from LKS2 Playground (near main hall)	
	Tennis Club – Miss Paterson KS1 – 12 children £2 per session 11th March – 1st April (4 weeks) Collection from LKS2 Playground (near main hall)	



Mrs Barwick is Retiring!

Mrs Lesley Barwick started at Whitehouse Primary as a cleaner thirty-four years ago. She has been a huge asset to the school during those thirty-four years and is now finally hanging up her rubber gloves and retiring. Lesley plans to spend her time looking after her grandchildren and spending more time with her family.

We wish Lesley all the very best for her retirement!



New cleaner appointed

We are thrilled to welcome a past pupil back to Whitehouse as a cleaner. Ruby Hutchinson is filling the very large shoes of Lesley, but has made an excellent start in her new role under the tutelage of Lesley.

Welcome back Ruby! We hope you enjoy your new role.



95%

WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE THIS TERM !

We are so proud of all our pupils
who are committed to attending
school everyday!

EVERY DAY COUNTS



TEAM Whitehouse

Together **E**veryone **A**chieves **M**ore



As always,
Thank you for all of your support!