



Upcoming Events

17/07/26

Children break up for summer holidays

Wednesday 02/09/26

Children return to school

08/09/26

Welcome key stage webinars for parents online (after school)

22/09/26

Open Evening 4 - 6 pm for new, current and prospective parents.

05/10/25

Individual school photographs

25/11/26

Flu vaccine for all children

Whitehouse Primary Summer Newsletter



Sun, Sport, Smiles and School's Out!

Dear Parents/Guardians/Carers,

Summer Term has been packed full of activities and experiences: the most notable including the hatching of Jemima's 5 ducklings; Educational Visits, Sport's Days, KS2 SATs, Art's Week and last but not least, the final goodbyes to our year 6 children!



We are **incredibly proud of our Year 6 children.**

As another school year comes to a close, we would like to celebrate our wonderful Year 6 pupils and all they have achieved. They have shown determination, resilience and a positive attitude throughout the year, embracing challenges and making the most of every opportunity.

From academic successes and sporting achievements to performances, leadership roles and acts of kindness, Year 6 have been fantastic role models for younger pupils. They have grown in confidence, developed new skills and created many special memories along the way.

We are incredibly proud of the way they approached their SATs with remarkable maturity and composure. As they prepare for the exciting next step to secondary school, we wish them every success and happiness for the future.

Well done, Year 6 – you should be very proud of yourselves. We certainly are!

I would like to thank our parents and carers for your wonderful support throughout the year. Your kind messages and encouragement have been greatly appreciated and have helped us achieve so much together for our children. I would also like to thank our dedicated staff and governors for their commitment and teamwork in continuing to move our school forward.

Wishing everyone a happy, safe and restful summer break - we look forward to welcoming you back on Wednesday September 2nd.

Curriculum Highlights



Celebrating the end of SATS in style!



Quick Reminders

- Doors open at **8.40am** and close at **8.55am** every morning.
- **School reopens for all on**
- **Wednesday 2nd September, 2026**



Recent Highlights

- ✓ Visits and Walks
- ✓ Sports' Days
- ✓ Summer Fair

Reception and Nursery Aquarium Visit

Our EYFS children visited Tynemouth aquarium in the final week of term.

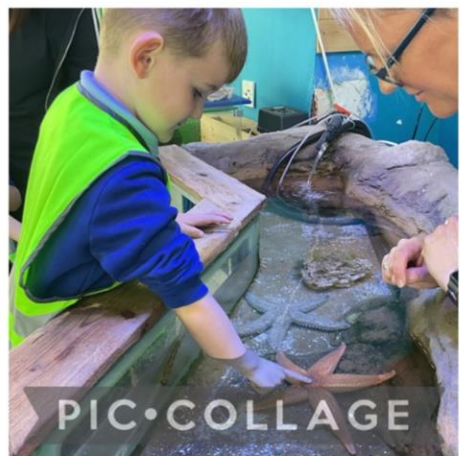
The children were excited to spot an octopus moving around its tank as well as enjoy a seal show, touch star fish and spot two big sharks!

Our youngest children in school had impeccable behaviour and showed such curiosity the whole time.
We are so proud of them!





EYFS trip to the Aquarium!



Our EYFS children raised **over £1000 in sponsorship on the International Day of Dance.**

The children danced all day, ending with a big danceathon with parents to finish it off.

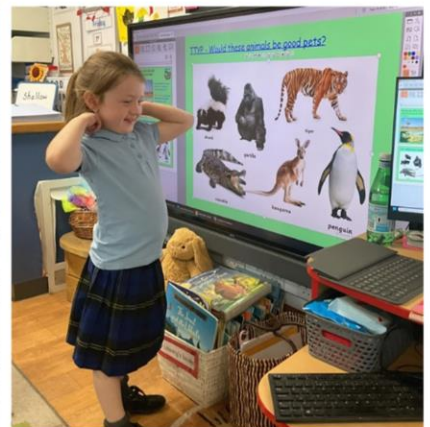
The highlight was definitely the foam party!

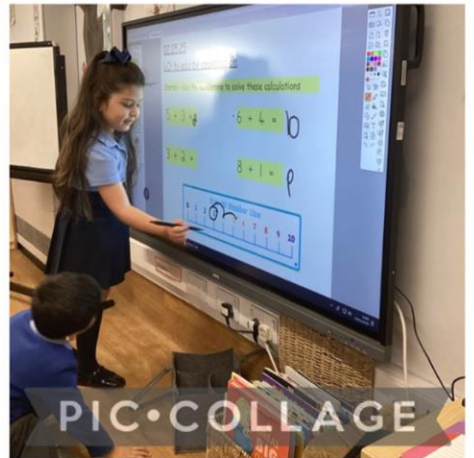
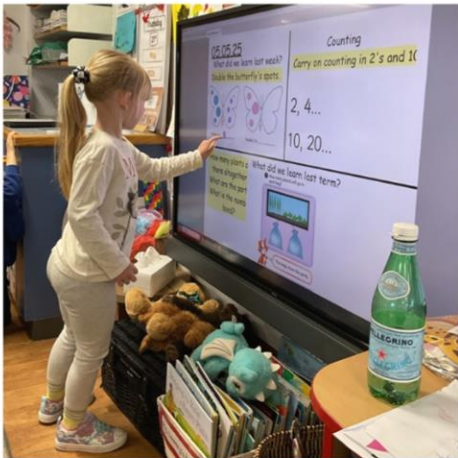
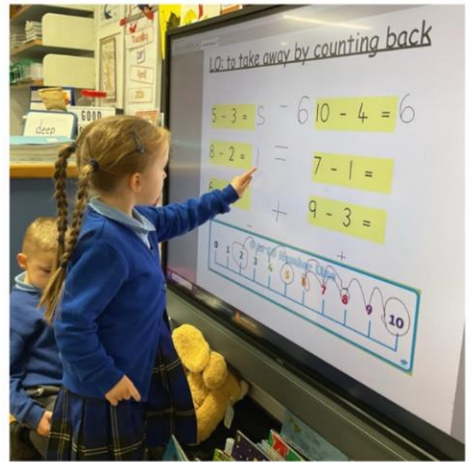
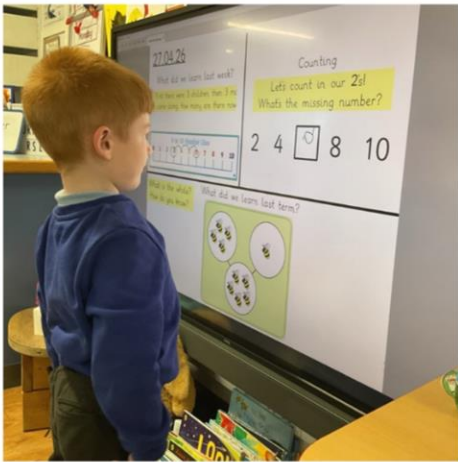


Reception

In topic, reception have been learning all about the African Savannah and they have created lots of different animals in art.

They have been learning all about doubles, halving and sharing in maths and the main focus, outside in the sunshine, was the development of gross motor skills.







Sport's Day Fun in the Sun for KS1 and KS2







Nursery

Nursery thoroughly enjoyed cooling down during the heatwave with lots of water play. Team work, caring for others and problem solving all came into play, during a very hot week!

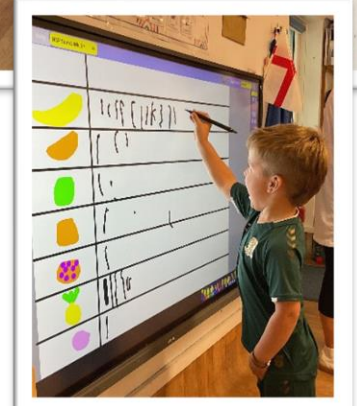


Nursery

Nursery enjoyed exploring Africa as part of their 'Big Wide World' topic. They used the story Handa's Surprise as their key text. The children explored different animals and then tasted the fruits from the story.

The children used their developing cutting skills to help prepare the different fruits. Trying new foods and flavours is a key part of learning and whilst some weren't impressed, we were very proud of them for giving it a go! We even did some maths and had a look at everyone's favourite fruit, by casting their vote with a tally!

As part of arts week, the children then sculpted their favourite fruits and painted them!



We have thoroughly enjoyed 'Arts Week' in 6LS. We kickstarted the week by discussing how art can be interpreted differently because we are all unique individuals. For the remainder of the week, we used this theme to create things which bring joy to us, as individuals. As you can see, the children's artwork is absolutely stunning and highlights the vast range of skills they have acquired over the past years.



A Celebration of Creativity: Access All Arts Week at Whitehouse Primary

As part of Sky Arts Access All Arts Week, the children at Whitehouse Primary School immersed themselves in a fantastic week celebrating creativity in all its forms. Throughout the week, they created a 2D portrait inspired by a famous artist, designed and made a 3D sculpture representing something that brings them joy, completed a photography challenge, wrote a personal poem and took part in exciting drama and dance workshops.

To celebrate the children's incredible achievements, we transformed the school into an art gallery and welcomed parents and carers to view their work. We are sure you'll agree that the quality of the artwork was exceptional! The week was a wonderful opportunity for our children to showcase their imagination, talent and creativity, and they certainly demonstrated what fantastic young artists Whitehouse Primary has!





Copies can be
purchased on Amazon



We have a self - published Author in school!

Year 5 and Year 6

As part of our commitment to build memorable life experiences, Year 5 and Year 6 pupils completed the Great Ayton to Roseberry Topping circular walk (approximately 7km).

The weather couldn't have been any better and made the scenic route even more enjoyable! Everyone showed great determination, resilience and teamwork throughout and ended the day with a real sense of accomplishment. Well done to everyone!





Stepping Up to the Challenge: Our 'Passport for Life' Walking Adventures

One of the key whole-school aims within our 'Passport for Life' programme this year has been to ensure that every child has the opportunity to take part in an outdoor walking challenge within our rich and diverse local area.

As part of this initiative, our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils successfully completed the Great Ayton to Roseberry Topping circular walk, covering approximately 7km. Years 3 and 4 enjoyed the Grindon Loop at Castle Eden Walkway, walking around 3.5 miles. Our KS1 pupils completed the 2.4-mile Cod Beck Reservoir Circular Walk, while Reception children proudly took part in a 1.5-mile walk to Newham Grange Park. Nursery children have also embraced the challenge through a series of local walks to the woods, post box, shops and nearby parks.

The weather was perfect for all of the walks, allowing everyone to fully appreciate the beautiful scenery and local landmarks along the way. Throughout each challenge, the children demonstrated outstanding determination, perseverance, resilience and teamwork, supporting one another every step of the journey. They completed their walks with a tremendous sense of pride and achievement, making the experience both memorable and rewarding for everyone involved.

We are incredibly proud of all of our children for embracing these challenges and showcasing the positive attitudes and values that are at the heart of Whitehouse.



IN SCHOOL EVERY DAY

★
Aspirational Opportunities for All

Be Here, Be On Time, Be Ready to Learn

Regular attendance and punctuality are
essential for children's learning,
achievement, wellbeing and safeguarding.



Be
Respectful



Be
Responsible



Be
Resilient



Be
Aspirational

IN SCHOOL EVERY DAY

Aspirational Opportunities for All

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Attendance & Punctuality

Whitehouse Primary School's vision, "Aspirational Opportunities for All," is reflected in its high expectations for attendance and punctuality, recognising that regular attendance is essential for children to achieve their full potential. Regular attendance supports learning, achievement, wellbeing and safeguarding. Arriving on time helps children settle quickly and avoid missing important learning at the start of the day.

Our Expectations

- Attend every school day unless a child is ill or there are exceptional circumstances.
- Arrive on time every day. School doors **open at 8:40am**, the **school day begins at 8:55am** and registers **close at 9:25am**. Children **arriving after 8:55am** without prior arrangement are **marked late**, and **arrivals after 9:25am** may be recorded as an **unauthorised** absence unless exceptional circumstances apply.
- Parents should **notify the school on the first morning of any absence** via the Arbor app or by telephone and, where possible, provide medical evidence.
- Medical and dental appointments should be supported by appointment evidence and, where possible, arranged outside school hours.
- **Avoid taking holidays during term time**. Leave is only authorised in exceptional circumstances at the Headteacher's discretion and **unauthorised holidays may result in penalty notices**.
- Work with the school's Attendance Officer if attendance concerns arise. **Attendance below 90% may result in additional support and intervention**.
- The school celebrates and rewards good and improving attendance through weekly and termly incentives for individuals and classes.

Working Together for Success

By ensuring children attend regularly, arrive on time and communicating promptly when absences occur, families and school can work together to provide every child with the best possible opportunity to learn, achieve and thrive.

Be Here, Be on Time, Be Ready to Learn

SUMMER SAFETY GUIDE

Risks your child may not see coming



COLD WATER SHOCK

Jumping into rivers, quarries or the sea triggers involuntary gasping — even in strong swimmers.



RIP CURRENTS

Invisible channels pull swimmers out to sea. Swim parallel to shore — never fight the current.



GETTING LOST

Unfamiliar places disorient quickly. Agree a meeting point before exploring.



ABANDONED SITES

Old buildings and quarries hide real dangers: unsafe floors, deep water, toxic substances.



ALCOHOL ACCESS

Away from home supervision, access increases. Alcohol near water is a dangerous combination.



SILENT DROWNING

Children in trouble rarely shout or wave. Watch for still, upright, silent figures in water.



HEAT STROKE & DEHYDRATION

Headache, confusion and stopping sweating are red flags. Hydrate before feeling thirsty.



LANGUAGE BARRIERS ABROAD

Warning signs may be in another language. Teach kids to look for symbols and flags.



PEER PRESSURE

New groups and new places increase risk-taking. Practise saying no before the moment arrives.



DEAD PHONE BATTERY

No charge means no GPS, no emergency call. Carry a power bank and share your location.

*Adventures are for everyone —
knowing the risks keeps them fun.*

TALK TO YOUR CHILDREN BEFORE THEY GO.

Stay safe this summer

Let's help every child thrive



Mental Health and Wellbeing

At Whitehouse we are committed to supporting the mental health and well-being of our pupils.

We believe it is essential to promote the importance of maintaining positive mental health and children having a strong understanding of how they can recognise and manage feelings of worry.

We are pleased to share that our school has begun introducing **The Thrive Approach** to support children's emotional well-being and readiness to learn. At this stage, Thrive is being integrated gradually.

We also deliver several well-being courses across year groups and deliver regular assemblies dedicated to mental health. If you feel your child would benefit from support or have any questions regarding your child's emotional well-being please contact **Victoria Gibson- Well-being lead on 01642 678212.**

Look after your wellbeing this summer - choose one, two or three activities to complete each week and tick them off as you go! Share your favourite activities on social media and tag @ThriveApproach in your post.



1. Nature week

Explore your garden or local park and see what you can find - sticks, leaves, feathers. Arrange your items on the ground to create a picture.

Make a cake for the birds. Make a small hole in the bottom of a yoghurt pot, thread some string through and tie a knot on the inside. Leave enough string so that you can hang the pot up. Cut some soft lard into pieces and mix with seeds, raisins and cheese. Fill the pots and put them in the fridge. Once set, hang where birds can enjoy, and you can watch them!

Plan a day out with your friends or family. Go for a walk, bike ride, swim or picnic and enjoy being outside in the fresh air.



2. Art Week

Create a splatter painting! Dip your paint brush or spoon into the paint then flick your wrist to splatter the paint across the paper. Splatter with different colours and movements to create your masterpiece.

Make a fan for a hot day. Decorate one side of a paper plate then fold it in half so the blank side is on the inside. Staple the outer edges together and tape a lolly stick to the middle as a handle - your fan is ready to use!

Try continuous line drawing - the aim is to not take your pencil off the paper. It doesn't matter if it makes the drawing look scribbly or messy - that's part of the fun!



Thrive's 6 weeks of summer

3. Mindfulness week

Put a blanket down outside and watch the clouds. Notice how they move and change shape, what do they look like? Take some deep breaths and pretend you're blowing the clouds along.

Go for a mindful walk in your local area. Notice the colours, sounds and smells around you. How does your body feel when you walk slowly or when you go up a hill?

Find a meditation or body scan video to help relax your mind and body. How does it make you feel?



4. Gratitude week

Use the Thrive Gratitude Treasure Hunt to explore your surroundings and find things you're grateful for.

Make a jar of joy! Take note of joyful days, moments or feelings, write them down and put them in your jar. At the end of the year, open it up and remember all of the things that made you smile!

Say thank you to someone you care about by making them a surprise breakfast one morning.



5. Self-care week

Download the Thrive Self-Care Bingo and see how many activities you can cross off in a week. Challenge your friends and family to do the same.

Plan a home spa day. Make your own natural facemasks, have a bubble bath or do your own pedicure. Do anything that makes you feel relaxed and special.

Research yoga and the benefits it can have on your mind and body. Try different poses and build your own sequence to practice.



6. Food week

Find a local market and see what food is on offer - is there something you've never tried before?

Have a picnic outside with your friends or family. Ask everyone to bring their favourite food to share with the group.

Get creative in the kitchen and cook a meal or snacks from a different country.

Yay, you've completed Thrive's 6 weeks of summer! Celebrate by downloading your certificate from thriveapproach.com/resources

Decider Skills Workshop- Summer programme.

Tees Valley Getting Help (TVGH) and the 5-19 Service will be delivering a **Decider Skills Workshop** for children aged **8 to 10 years**, taking place at **Stockton Family Hub** during the summer holidays.

These friendly, supportive sessions are designed to help children better understand their thoughts and feelings, build confidence, and learn simple ways to manage emotions. We use gentle, child-friendly ideas from Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT) to support their wellbeing in a fun and engaging way.

After the workshop, families will receive helpful resources to continue practising these skills at home, and we're always here if any further support is needed.

Due to limited space, it may not always be possible for all parents and carers to stay during the sessions. However, where space allows, you are very welcome to accompany and support your child. There is also an on-site café where you can relax while your child takes part.

Workshop dates (children will need to attend all sessions):

- Friday 24th July – 10:00am-11:30am
- Friday 31st July – 10:00am-11:30am
- Friday 7th August – 10:00am-11:30am
- Friday 14th August – 10:00am-11:30am
- Friday 21st August – 10:00am-11:30am

Parents and carers can simply book a place using the QR codes on the attached flyer. The above are the dates for the Stockton Family Hub however the QR codes also include the sessions which can be booked at Thornaby Family Hub and Billingham Family Hub.

The booking needs to be only 1 venue. Families are unable to mix the dates across venues.

Growing Healthy
Stockton-on-Tees
You can... we'll help

The Decider

SKILLS WORKSHOPS

USING PRINCIPLES OF COGNITIVE BEHAVIOUR THERAPY. THE DECIDER SKILLS SUPPORT CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE, AND ADULTS TO IDENTIFY THEIR OWN THOUGHTS, FEELINGS, AND BEHAVIOURS. EMPOWERING THEM TO MANAGE THEIR EMOTIONS AND MENTAL HEALTH MORE EFFECTIVELY.

THORNABY	STOCKTON	BILLINGHAM

HOLIDAYS ARE **FUN**

Do You need
something to occupy
your child/children
over the summer
holidays?

Bookings are now open for the upcoming SUMMER HAF programme (Holidays Are Fun).
HAF provides 2 hours of enriching activities and a nutritious meal to children who are in receipt of **benefits tested free school meals (FSM)**.

Bookings are available on a first come, first served basis and can be made via the link below.

[Holidays Are Fun \(HAF\) Programme - Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council](#)

TEAM Whitehouse



Together Everyone Achieves More



Thank you for all of your support this year!

We wish you all a happy Summer.



See you in September!