



Great Whelnetham CE Primary School
Stanningfield Road, Great Whelnetham, Bury St Edmunds, IP30 0UA
(01284) 386203
Executive Head Teacher – Mrs. Claire Flatman
Head of School – Ms. Imogen Wallis
office@greatwhelnetham.co.uk

9th September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new and exciting year at Great Whelnetham C of E Primary school. I hope that you have all had a wonderful summer and that the children have enjoyed their first few days back at school. It has been wonderful to see all the children back together, playing and enjoying each other's company. They are an absolute credit to you all.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your kind words, cards, gifts and well wishes at the end of the summer term. They were greatly appreciated, and the staff were overwhelmed by your kindness and thoughtfulness.

As this is the first newsletter of the school year there are many important messages and key dates for your information below.

Welcome to Great Whelnetham!

We are delighted to welcome to Great Whelnetham Primary, our new reception children and their families. Please join us in welcoming: Caitlyn, Sienna, Molly, Adelaide, Maisie, Arthur, Etholle and Joseph. The children are all settling in beautifully and are getting to know each other and the school environment. We are very proud of them.

Please also join us in welcoming Paige and Freddy to Robins class, Jeremiah in Owls class and Scarlett and Molly in Swans class. Finally, we also welcome Miss Rodda who joins us as a one-to-one Teaching Assistant in Swans class.

New Website

We are very excited to share with you that we have a new website, which we hope will provide you with easy access to key information, dates and announcements. You will also be able to find lots of important information about the school, including what your children will be learning. We are very excited about this and feel that it reflects the wonderful work that is continuing within school. Our school Facebook page continues to provide daily updates from each class and celebrates the children's learning experience across the school.

Universal Infant Free School Meals

The children in Reception, Yr. 1 and Yr.2 will receive a free school meal under the government's universal free school meal scheme. **Free school meals (FSM) are different to UIFSM (above) and are available to children of families who are in receipt of certain government credits and allowances. If you think you may be eligible please check the government website on <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals> to check the criteria and fill in the relevant form.** The school would also receive additional funding to help support your child in other ways such as academic and financial support. If you need any assistance with this then please do contact the school.

Great Whelnetham Church of England Primary School is part of the All Saints Schools Trust.

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Medication

Could I ask all parents to ensure that they have brought in all inhalers and epi pens for those children who have been prescribed them; please make sure that these are clearly named and are in date. Thank you.

Snacks and Water Bottles

Please can you make sure that your child has a **named** water bottle in school. They will need to bring it in every **Monday** and take it home on a Friday to be washed. Children in Y3,4,5 & 6 are encouraged to bring in a healthy snack to have at break time, children in Reception, Year 1 and 2 are provided with a free school snack of fresh fruit and vegetables.

Uniform and PE Kit

Please make sure that your child has their PE kit in school with all items clearly named. Their PE kit will remain in school until half term (excluding Swans). They will also need a pair of **named** trainers to be kept in school

Nut Allergy Reminder

Please can we remind you all that because we have a number of children who are severely allergic to nuts all packed lunches need to be nut free. You will need to check the ingredients in snack biscuits and bars etc. Thank you in advance for supporting the school over this.

Music Tuition

It is very exciting that this term, children in Swans class will be learning how to play the flute! We will be having a specialist music teacher who will be coming into school every Friday, starting next week. We are certain that the children will really enjoy this experience and look forward to attending one of their concerts some time very soon!

PTFA

PTFA are our parent committee who meet every half term or so to plan and organise events for the children and their families to enjoy. These events raise money for the school which is invaluable as it provides the school the ability to purchase equipment or arrange events that may not otherwise be possible. However, this committee would not be possible without the support of parents. The first PTFA meeting of the year will be held **this evening at 7.30pm** at the Rushbrooke Arms. Please do come along if you can; all parental support is greatly appreciated.

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Pupil Passports for Children on our SEND register.

Children who have a Pupil Passport and who are on our SEND register will be spending time with their class teachers and support staff in the next coming week to set their new targets. We will communicate these to parents during our consultations early this term.

School Decorating

Over the summer period, the remainder of the school building has been painted and it looks wonderful! It is a fresh, welcoming and vibrant environment for the children and their teachers to work together effectively in. We are very proud of our school.

Thank You

I wanted to say a huge thank you to the PTFA for painting our school fence over the summer holidays. It is so appreciated and looks very inviting. Thank you for giving your time and for supporting the school in this way.

Bags to School

We thought you would like to know in advance that Bags2school clothing bags are being sent home next week. This is a great way to recycle unwanted clothes and to raise money for school at the same time. Thank you everyone for your support in advance.

As always, if you have any questions or would like to discuss any matters, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff. Please feel free to approach your child's class teacher who will be available at the end of each day. If you need to speak to Ms. Wallis or myself then please do contact the school so that we can arrange an appointment.

Yours sincerely

Claire Flatman

Executive Headteacher

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