



# WHITEHOUSE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs. S. Randle  
Dunelm Road, Elm Tree Farm, Stockton on Tees TS19 0TS Telephone/Fax 01642 678212  
[www.whitehousepri.org.uk](http://www.whitehousepri.org.uk)

## *'Aspirational Opportunities for all'*

6/09/19

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new academic year and a very warm welcome to those who are joining the school for the first time. I hope that you all had an enjoyable summer holiday. The children are obviously pleased to be back at school, playing with their friends, eagerly telling me about their holidays and with super singing in assembly!

Our new starters into Foundation Stage are gaining confidence day by day and settling in well to the routines of the classroom but best of all, making new friends.

Our Y5 and Y6 children help the younger children around our school by being a 'Buddy' so you may hear your children talk about their 'Buddy' when they come home.

### **School Calendar**

With this letter you will find a school calendar with all the events planned for the next term. For some events and after-school clubs, additional letters will be sent out to the pupils concerned giving further information. Although dates are correct at this time sometimes things change so please look out for letters coming home or via e-mail/text.

### **Communicating with Parents/Carers**

We try our best to send relevant information/letters out via parent/carers email, however if it is a short and urgent message, we will send you a text. We also publish information/letters on the school website <http://www.whitehousepri.org.uk/>. If you require paper copies of any letters please see the school office. To help with this communication it is important that we have all relevant and up to date information from parents/carers.

With this letter you will find a Home\School Agreement form, a Responsible Use of the Internet form. It will help us greatly if these forms could be completed and returned to school for next Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September.

### **Communicating with school**

The class teacher will collect and dismiss the children from their respective playgrounds at the beginning and end of each day and should you wish to speak to them then you could make an appointment for a mutually convenient time. Please be aware that the teacher may not be able to talk with you straight away as he/she has the supervision of the children to consider. You could also write a note in the blue or white home/school contact book to help with informal communication between school and home. The school has an electronic record system known as CPoms for recording meetings with parents along with first aid, safeguarding and behaviour.

If your child has any medical/dental appointments or absences then parents must inform the school office. If your child is absent and the school office has not been informed then parents will be contacted on the first day of absence as this is part of our safeguarding arrangements.

### **Parking**

In order to reduce the parking around school and increase safety for all pupils we request that parent/carers park away from school and walk. Sainsburys supermarket (Barlborough Avenue) has given permission for parents to use their car park and there is also free parking available **behind** the Elmtree Shops (behind Elm Tree Avenue). It only takes a few minutes to walk from either of these parking areas and is a great opportunity for a chat with the children and other parents. Please be considerate to our neighbours by not parking inappropriately and reduce pollution in our school vicinity.

Thank you to our dog owners who remember to leave the dogs outside and a reminder that **dogs are not allowed onto school premises even when they are being carried by parents.**

There are spaces available for children to store their bicycle and scooters in the school bike shed but they must receive a permission letter from the office before they do. Only children wearing helmets will be allowed to use the bike sheds.

#### **A reminder about school uniform and appearance**

It is lovely to see our children looking so smart in their uniforms and being appropriately dressed as this does influence their attitude towards school and learning. We do have high expectations for our children which I am sure you share as parents, so please do not send your children into school with jewellery (including earrings), hair gel, nail varnish and inappropriate hair styles. Also no big bows and hair accessories. A simple plain navy hairband or bobble is sufficient to keep hair out of eyes.

Thank you if you have spent some of your summer sewing name tags into uniform and belongings. This means that your child's clothing is less likely to be in the lost property box at the end of term.

#### **Parent Support Adviser**

Our Parent Support Adviser is Mrs Gibson. She is available in school on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday all day and Wednesday and Friday mornings only. She is very knowledgeable about the range of services available to parents in Stockton and is willing to answer any enquiries and find information for you that will help in supporting your child at school. Her contact number is 07949612489 or email at [whvGibson@sbcschools.org.uk](mailto:whvGibson@sbcschools.org.uk).

#### **Safety on the School Site**

We do try where possible to co-ordinate the 'coming into school' times and 'going home' times as safely as possible for all parents but we are aware that to deliver/collect children from different entrances can be difficult. In order to try to alleviate these difficulties, can we suggest that you would take your children to the **KS2** entrances first when the doors will open at **8.40am** and close at **8.50am** and then take your children to the **KS1** entrance where the doors will **open at 8.45am** and **close at 8.55am**. At the end of the day the bell goes at 3.15pm. If you would like to collect your children from the KS1 entrance first and then collect your other children from KS2, the teachers always ask the children to stay with them until the parent/carer comes to collect them, so they will be safely looked after. I do hope this is helpful for those parents who have children in different key stages/classes. Please can we only have one parent/carer coming onto the school site to bring/collect children. We seem to have an increasing number of parent/carers coming onto the school site to drop off and collect over 400 children in relatively small playgrounds. Parents **must wait behind the yellow line** in the playgrounds when the children line up. This ensures teachers can clearly see the children handed over to parents/carers safely. School now has **CCTV** around the premises which is used for the safety and security of all visiting the site.

Children should only be on the school playground from 8.35 am and no sooner. Staff are not available to supervise the children before the doors open. Please **do not use your mobile phone** while on the school premises especially when waiting to collect children on the playground.

Please remember that children are **not allowed** on the outdoor play equipment before or after school and should be closely supervised by the adults with them.

Along with the staff, governors, children and parents I look forward to another term filled with happy school events and good educational opportunities for all the children. Thank you for your continued support of your children in our school.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S Randle  
Head Teacher

