

Upcoming events

Please find a list of diary dates:

- 7th Oct – Rags to Riches (WOWSA)
 - 8th Oct – Bread making workshop for Willow Class (led by Aspens)
 - 10th Oct - Bread making workshop for Sycamore Class (led by Aspens)
 - 9th – 11th Oct – Year 6 on residential
 - 17th Oct - PCSO Workshops for Y6
 - 18th Oct - PCSO Workshops for Y6
 - 18th Oct – Prospective parent tour, 9.30am
 - 24th Oct – 'Break the Rules Day'
 - 25th Oct – INSET day
 - 25th Oct – Last day of term
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- 4th Nov – Children return to school
 - 5th Nov – Parents' Evening
 - 7th Nov – Parents' Evening
 - 7th Nov – Flu vaccinations
 - 15th Nov – WOWSA 'Musical Bingo' evening
 - 21st Nov – WOWSA Discos
 - 5th Dec – Reception Nativity, 9.30am
 - 6th Dec – Reception Nativity, 1.45pm

Reminders

Many of you will have noticed that we have invited local PCSOs to carry out patrols around our school entrance at drop off and pick up times. This is in response to us witnessing some dangerous driving and parking on Whiteoak Way and nearby roads but also in response to many of your concerns. **If you see something that concerns you, please do let us know as we are continuing to pass these on to the PCSOs.**

Thank you for helping keep all our young people safe.

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Don't forget that Mrs Reyes is now on either the Hannah More or Grove gate every morning and very happy to chat, to answer questions or to listen to any ideas you may have for making our school even better!

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Don't forget that WOWSA have a 'Rags to Riches' event this **Monday** where you can fill the bags sent home with clean, good quality, reusable clothing to raise funds for our schools. Once you have filled your bags, please **bring them to the office on Monday morning.** Happy sorting!

Sporting Success

A huge well done to a group of our Year 5 and 6 pupils who took part in a cross-country event on Wednesday this week alongside seven other local schools. They did incredibly well and the Year 5 girls' team came second overall!



Not only that but four of our young athletes have been invited back to compete for North Somerset (not just their school) later on this term. What a fantastic achievement by the whole group!

You'll notice that the children are wearing our brand new Whiteoak Team sports tops and caps! We are so proud to have these and the children loved wearing them to represent their school. A huge thank you to Mrs Jarrett for sourcing and providing these for us. Thank you also to one of our parents who commented upon the children's wonderful behaviour and sporting attitudes, noting that they clapped for every child from start to finish, from first place to completion. They made us very proud!

Library Update part 2

The library is well on its way to being finished now and is such a delightfully welcoming space. Miss Flemming and Mrs Bugler are working hard to fill the new shelves with an inviting selection of books and I know the children are going to love visiting it once it's ready!



Smart Phone Free Childhood

Some of you may be aware of a national conversation taking place around children's access to smart phones and the damage this can do to developing brains. If you are interested in reading more about this, visit the [Smartphone Free Childhood website](#) where there is a wealth of information and resources to help understand and explore this topic.

A first assembly for Reception!

Our new Reception children had their very first assembly this morning (all to themselves) and it was such a treat to lead them in this. We shared certificates and talked about the four house groups at Hannah More and Grove, which you can see the children proudly holding below. We have no doubt they will soon be ready to join all the other children to celebrate together!



Open Classrooms

Thank you again to everyone that popped into the classrooms on either Monday of this week or Friday of last week; it was great to see so many parents enjoying a visit to their child's new classroom! Teachers will soon upload the class information powerpoint that was playing in each room to the [Class Pages area of the website](#), for your reference.

Coming to school late

Unfortunately, we are seeing a steady stream of children arriving late to school each morning this term. Please understand the impact this has on the start of your child's day; to enter a classroom that has already begun can be very tricky and cause anxiety in our young people. Those morning classroom routines are crucial and teachers start key learning opportunities almost immediately.

Do remember that the **gate opens from 8.40am every day**, giving you 15 minutes before it closes again and plenty of time to get your child in before their class starts.

Reception Nativity – a date for your diary

Whilst we appreciate it is not yet time to talk about Christmas, we know how busy diaries become and wanted to give our Reception families plenty of notice for the much-loved Nativity performances!

The children of Honeybees and Ladybirds will be sharing two performances of this year's Nativity on the following dates:

Thursday 5th December at 9.30am
Friday 6th December at 1.45pm

To help us manage numbers in the hall, please do just attend one of these. Thank you.

I hope you all have a great weekend.
Victoria Reyes, Headteacher