

# Whitley Lodge First School

## Newsletter 10 - Spring 2025



### New Outdoor Classroom

We are delighted with our new outdoor classroom which was created by 'Pentagon Play'.



As the old outdoor classroom needed to be removed for the back yard resurfacing, NT Council funded us to purchase a replacement. The new outdoor classroom looks over our field. It has doors, windows and a whiteboard so we can learn outside all year round. Children will get a chance to use it over the coming weeks.

### Uniform Policy

Thank you to parents/carers who are adhering closely to our uniform policy. It is wonderful to see the children looking so smart and ready to learn. Recently, we have had some queries regarding our policy on jewellery and hairstyles, please see below:

- \* **Watches can be worn but no smart watches**
- \* **Small stud earrings only and no earrings on PE days**
- \* **Hair colours should be their natural hair colour only**
- \* **Tramlines, skin fades, patterns, shaved heads are not permitted**
- \* **Hair accessories should be plain.**

The complete policy is available on our [school website](#).

### Tree Planting with Hedges for Hope

Wednesday 29 January 2025

Every child in school on the day will plant their own tree around the perimeter fence. We have a timetable arranged and parent/carer volunteers have been informed.

On the day, children will need to bring:

- **A warm coat**
- **Gloves**
- **Hat**
- **Wellies/Boots** (in a carrier bag on the day please)



### Hedges for Hope Extra Day

They will be planting the remaining trees during half term on **Thursday 27 February** (9am-11am). Children and families are welcome to help with planting again. If you would like to help, please email the office to express your interest.

### Friday 7 February is ...



Across school we will be taking part in fun maths activities, puzzles, games and problem solving fun. Children will work together applying their maths skills to solve tricky investigations and maths challenges.

### WLFS Online Safety

Online Safety is an important part of safeguarding children. As part of our broad curriculum, we teach and empower children to understand how to be safe and behave appropriately online. We recognise that school and parents /carers work in partnership to ensure children remember and apply what they have learnt to stay safe online. We know that children increasingly use devices with access to the internet (tablets, games consoles, handheld consoles). With this in mind, we want to share some useful links on keeping children safe online.



There is a range of guidance and advice on how to keep children safe online available via the links below. **National Online Safety Resources**

Here are some other links which parents/carers might also find useful: [NSPCC Online Safety](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/)  
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

For advice on **reporting and blocking**, socialising online and the considerations on online gaming, download the resource available via this link:

[Topic - Online Safety and Gaming | SWGfL](#)

**YouTube.** To create a YouTube account you need to be 13+. However, you don't need an account to watch videos on the platform. Parents/carers have expressed concerns about the inappropriate content of some of the videos posted. For advice on YouTube visit <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/how-to-keep-your-child-safe-on-youtube/>

**Fortnite.** In the UK, the Video Standards council rate Fortnite as **PEGI 12** because it has frequent scenes of mild violence; it is not considered appropriate for first school aged children. Internetmatters.org has published a guide to understanding [Fortnite and its terms](#).

**Roblox.** The NSPCC offer tips on keeping children safe on Roblox. <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/roblox/>

There are extensive online safety links also available on our [school website](#).

### Diary Dates

2025

29.1.25 Hedges for Hope

21.2.25 Orange Class Assembly @ 9am (Fri)

24.2.25-28.2.25 Half term

**27.2.25 Hedges for Hope extra**

10.4.25 Green Class Assembly 9am (Thurs)

14.4.25-25.4.25 Easter Break

5.5.25 May Bank Holiday

9.5.25 Purple Class Assembly 9am (Fri)

26.5.25-30.5.25 May Half Term

20.6.24 Training Day

27.6.25 Yellow Class Assembly 9am (Fri)

9.7.25 Reception Joint Class Assembly 9am (Wed)

17.7.25 Last day of term

18.7.25 Training Day

### New Academic Year

WLFS

September 2025

1.9.25 Training Day

2.9.25 Pupils return to school

**27.10.25-31.10.25 Half term**

**19.12.25 Pupils break up for Christmas holiday**

The next newsletter is out on Friday 7 February 2025.