



GEORGE WHITE  
JUNIOR SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER – FRIDAY 27<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear parents and carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you and your family well.

It has been another busy week of learning across the school at George White. I have been particularly impressed this week with the high level and engagement of independent writing the children have produced. The content, presentation and neater handwriting shown in the children's English books is now much improved. A big well done to all children for working so hard once again this week. Keep up the excellent work!

Next week we are focusing on **friendship**. Please can you take the time to talk to your child about their friendships and ways in which they feel they are a good friend. We have already begun to discuss this in our celebration assembly this morning.

Thank you for your continued support and warmest regards,

Mrs Petchey and the George White Junior School Team

**Our RESPECT VALUES** are integrated into the curriculum and enhance each child's development.

**We value RESPECT.** I show consideration for myself, other people and my environment.

**We value Responsibility**

I care for myself, others and the environment in which I live.

**We value Empathy**

I understand other people's feelings and situation.

**We value Safety**

I tell the truth. I know how to keep myself and others safe.

**We value Perseverance**

I keep trying when faced with challenges and adapt to change.

**We value Engagement**

I want to do well, I am interested in learning and want to find things out.

**We value Confidence**

I think for myself. I take ownership of my own learning and behaviour

**We value Teamwork**

I am helpful, patient and work well with others.



## OUR LEARNING THIS WEEK

### YEAR 3

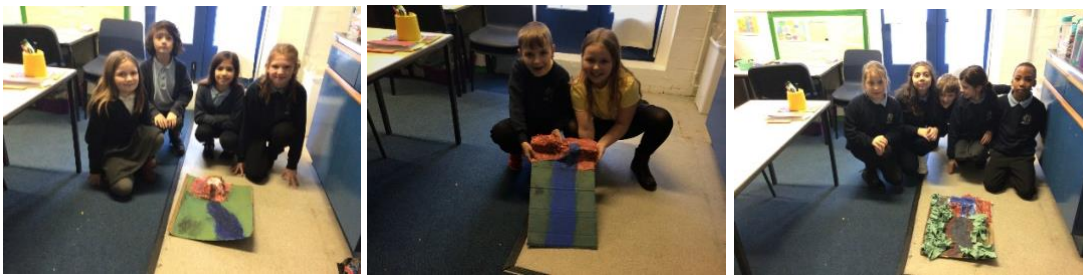
This week year 3 has been really excited to start a new writing outcome - an explanation text looking at what goes on under our feet. In Maths, we are getting to grips with multiplication and division and really developing our understanding of these calculations. We have been Scientists and investigated objects around the class to test if they are magnetic. Of course, we first made predictions. In History we have been learning about life in Anglo Saxon times and seeing how Britain changed after they settled.

### YEAR 4

This week Year 4 have started to explore a non-fiction text called '*Once Upon a Raindrop*'. They have researched some great facts about water - I wonder if they can tell you any?

In Maths they are almost at the end of their multiplication and division unit, practising to solve calculations using written methods. They have learned key words partition, quotient, dividend and divisor! Continuing to learn states of matter, Science has been super fun, especially the balloon experiment. Year 4 predicted what would happen to the balloon on the bottle when the Bicarbonate of Soda dropped into the vinegar. They then drew and recorded the results.

In Geography they worked together in groups finishing making 3D river models and labelling them. They look great! Another busy week which we all agreed has flown by.



### YEAR 5

This week, year 5 have begun planning and writing their own versions of *The Highwayman poem* from the perspective of the Highwayman. In math's, we completed our topic on multiplication and division and have begun our new topic - fractions! Science consisted on proving the shape of the Earth, Sun, and Moon. We continued our 'dance by chance' and combined our actions, dynamics and spatial relationships within our routines. In PSHE, we discussed permission. This involved talking about when we should and should not ask for permission, and different ways of asking for permission.

### YEAR 6

In Maths this week, Year 6 have been learning algebra and also refreshing their knowledge on the methods they use for multiplication.

In English, they have finished a wonderful narrative based on *Hansel and Gretel*. They are now following the same theme but switching to a newspaper report about the disgraceful behaviour of Goldilocks in the three bears' house down in Honeypot Wood.

In Science, we have been using further classification systems to sort through animal groupings. Children still have to figure out our list of strange animals. The children are fascinated by our experiment on how mould is growing on food in our petri dishes.

In History, children are looking at various sources to see what Baghdad life was like in AD 900.

## APPLE CLASS

Apple Class have been working on their speedy maths skills this week, completing various tasks using base 10, counters, place value grids and tape measures. Our school council members gathered views on how to improve our school and ways we can be more eco-friendly. They showed great leadership skills, ensuring everyone had their voice heard. Continuing with our work towards a character description, we investigated appropriate adjectives to use in our work and put these into sentences. We ended our week with a fast-paced game of dodgeball after which we ate the bread rolls we had made that morning. A busy week!

## Attendance Matters



**Our school attendance target is 95%**

Our attendance certificate for the highest class attendance this week goes to **6 Larch**

**With 96 %- Well done**

## Teacher Strikes

Please see below a copy of the email sent to all parents and carers this week with regards to the planned teacher strike on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February.

As communicated in an email last week, the NEU are planning the following teacher strike days:

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March

The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the Government over teachers' pay and not because of any issues with the school. Having spoken with all staff and looking at the capacity available at George White Junior School, I am writing to inform you that the **following classes will be OPEN on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023:**

**Apple Class**

**3 Rowan**

**3 Oak**

**4 Sycamore**

**5 Lime**

**5 Cedar**

6 Larch

6 Silver Birch

**All other classes not listed above will be CLOSED on this day** and we ask that if your child's class is not on the list above that you do not send your child into school on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February. Due to this being a teacher strike, we will not be able to provide remote learning on this day or any further strike days for those classes who are unable to open. Please refer to your child's term on a page document and knowledge organisers for activity and learning suggestions children are able to engage with if you so wish.

As a school community, we have not taken this decision lightly. We remain committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our pupils. I would like to reassure you that all our teachers care very much about all children in their class. I understand that this could cause issues for some parents and carers, but we appreciate your understanding and support, just as we support the teachers right to strike while maintaining our commitment to doing the very best for our children.

Nearer the time of the next planned strike action on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March, I will communicate all updates on classes which are open and classes which are closed.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mrs S Petchey

## What's On – Diary Dates

<b>JANUARY 2023</b>	
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January	INSET Day – School Closed
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	Start of Spring Term School starts at 8:40am
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> January	Spring Gymnastics Event
<b>FEBRUARY 2023</b>	
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	World Number Day – come to school dressed up as a number. There will be house points and certificates for the best dressed number!
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Time to talk day – children's mental health and well being
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>OPEN DOORS 9-10am</b> – focus on English Tuesday – Year 6 Wednesday – Year 3 Thursday – Year 5 Friday – Year 4
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	<b>Parents evening for all year groups 3:30 – 6:45</b> Sign up information to follow
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February	<b>Parents evening for all year groups 3:30 – 5:30</b>

	Sign up information to follow
<b>MARCH 2023</b>	
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> – Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Year 4 Trip to Aylmerton
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	Football match George White VS Lionwood
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Science Event at Norwich School
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Cross Country Event
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Easter bonnet competition and parade. Easter colouring competition.
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	Football Match George White VS Magdalen Gates
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Spring term ends at 3:20pm
<b>April 2023</b>	
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> April	Start of Summer Term School starts at 3.20pm
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	Swimming Gala
<b>May 2023</b>	
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	Bank Holiday
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday – Kings Coronation
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	KS2 SATs Week
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Half Term
<b>JUNE 2023</b>	
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	School Starts at 8.40am
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June – Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check (MTC)
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Athletics Event at UEA
<b>JULY 2023</b>	
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Athletics Event at Heartsease
Dates to be Confirmed	Year 6 Farm Trip
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Summer Term ends at 3.20pm

## Hot Chocolate Friday

Hot Chocolate Friday takes place every Friday at the end of the school day under the playground shelter. Mrs Waller will be serving hot chocolate and a biscuit for a bargain price of £1.



## Parent and Carer Course

Please find below information about upcoming parent and carer courses.

www.dyslexiaoutreach.co.uk

### Dyslexia Outreach Parent/Carer Courses & Workshops

These workshops and courses have been designed to support anyone who has contact with a child of school age e.g. parents/carers, grandparents or other family members. The child does not need to have an official diagnosis of any learning difficulty for parents/carers to attend workshops or courses.

Venue: Taverham High School, Beech Avenue, Taverham, Norwich NR8 6HP

Date & Time	Course / Workshop Title & Description	Cost
Thurs 1 Dec 2022 9.30 – 1.00PM	Dyslexia Awareness for Parents / Carers Course – How to help with homework / support with further reading & spelling development / support with organisation & memory / how to communicate with school if there is a conflict.	£25 per person
Tues 7 Feb 2023 9.30 – 11.45AM	Working Memory Workshop - The workshop will explore what working memory is, as well as many ways for you to support your child with their working memory skills to help increase their confidence and ability when reading, writing, doing arithmetic or studying for exams.	£10 per person

Tues 28 Mar 2023 9.30 – 11.45AM	Supporting Maths Difficulties Workshop- The workshop will look at the types of challenges a dyslexic young person might face when doing maths and explore a wide range of practical support tools, resources and apps that you can use at home to support your child.	£10 per person
Weds 21 Jun 2023 9.30 – 1.00PM	Dyslexia Awareness for Parents / Carers Course - How to help with homework / support with further reading & spelling development / support with organisation & memory / how to communicate with school if there is a conflict.	£25 per person

To book your place please click [here](#)

Please contact Laura Bates for further information at:  
dosadmin@taverhamhigh.org or telephone 01603 860505 ex 239

## OUR SCHOOL FACEBOOK PAGE

Our school Facebook page is now up and running. If you haven't already, please like our page. It is an opportunity to find out more about your child's learning as well as any school and community notices.

Please find our page linked below:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100083188067525>

## School Uniform:

We would like to remind parents and carers that correct school uniform must be worn at all times. We take pride in wearing our school uniform and want our pupils to look smart. Our winter school uniform consists of:

- ✓ Blue polo top
- ✓ Grey or black trousers/shorts/skirt/pinafore
- ✓ Blue school logo jumper/cardigan OR a plain blue jumper/cardigan
- ✓ Black school shoes

### Our PE uniform is:

- ✓ White plain t-shirt
- ✓ Black or blue plain sports shorts
- ✓ Black, blue or dark grey plain leggings
- ✓ School logo hoodie or a black or blue jumper. If you do not have either of these, your child can wear their normal school jumper/cardigan to school on their PE days.
- ✓ Trainers

**We are seeing some branded clothing and non-school uniform clothing colours being worn in school during PE days. Please can you ensure your child is wearing the correct PE kit. We do not permit any football kits or branded clothing as these are NOT a part of our PE uniform.**

**Thank you for your support to ensure all our children look smart and respectable.**

**Please ensure all items of clothing are named, this makes it easier and quicker for us in school to return items back to the right pupil.**

## School Gates

We would like to politely remind all parents and carers to please not smoke or vape at, or around the school gates and entrance to the school.

We also politely ask for any dogs to be kept off school property and away from all school entrances and exits as we have some children who are frightened and anxious around dogs. Thank you.

## Parking

Please can we ask that parents and carers do not park on the double yellow lines outside the chip shop and convenience store on Silver Road. Please can we also ask that if you are parked up on the side of the road waiting for your child that you do not beep your horn to attract your child's attention. Our school is situated in a residential area. Thank you for your support.

## Road Safety

For the safety of all pupils and their families, please can you encourage your child to use the crossing by the corner of school to cross the road. Silver Road is a busy road with a high volume of traffic especially during school drop off and pick up times. We often see traffic exceeding the speed limit and strongly advise the use of the crossing when needing to cross the road.

## Proposed School Times

It is expected that all schools offer a 32.5 hour week by September 2023. This is part of the government plans to ensure children and young people can fulfil their potential in the classroom. To ensure we are meeting this requirement, we are proposing that from September 2023, the school gates remains open from 8:40am, registration is taken at 8:50am and the school day still ends at 3:20am. If you have any questions about this slight change to the timing of the daily registration time, please do not hesitate to contact me either via phone or email. Mrs Petchey

## School Car Park

Please can we ask all parents and carers who drop their child off for breakfast club to use the steps at the side of school by the office. The school car park can become quite busy in the morning and to ensure the safety of all pupils and staff, using the steps rather than walking through the car park is the safest option.

## Healthy Snacks

Please can we remind all parents and carers that children are to have only healthy snacks for playtimes. Items such as fruit, rice cakes, bread sticks and cereal bars are great but no crisps or chocolate thank you, these should be kept for lunchboxes.

**We do not allow sweets or chewing gum in school.**



## SAFEGUARDING

Mrs Derer is on our school playground every Thursday and Friday morning. Mrs Derer is our school Parent Support Advisor, you may already recognise Mrs Derer as she works at Mousehold every Monday and Tuesday. Mrs Derer is always happy to talk to you about any worries relating to your child at home or any further support we may be able to offer or signpost you to.

Our school Designated Safeguarding Leads are:

**Mrs Petchey, Mrs Stolworthy, Mrs Eaglen, Miss Alderton and Ms Connor**

Please speak to one of these members of staff if you are worried or concerned about the safety of a child at school.

If you have a safeguarding concern about a child out of school hours, the number to ring is:

**CADS – Children’s Advice and Duty Service – 0344 800 8020**

## ONLINE SAFETY





# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION  
**13+**

(certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

TikTok is a free social media platform that lets users create, share and watch short videos ranging anywhere from 15 seconds to 10 minutes in duration. The app gained notoriety for its viral dances, trends and celebrity cameos and can be a creative, fun platform for teens to enjoy. Now available in 75 languages, it has more than a billion active users worldwide (as of spring 2022) and is most popular with the under-16 age bracket. In fact, a 2022 Ofcom report found TikTok to be the most-used social media platform for posting content, particularly among young people aged 12 to 17.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While TikTok's "Following" feed only displays videos from users someone follows, "For You" is a stream of clips based on their previously watched content. Most videos on a child's "For You" feed will therefore be light-hearted and amusing, but it could potentially surface something unsuitable. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or inappropriate content, but the sheer volume of uploads mean they aren't manually monitored and vetted.

18

CENSORED

### DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

Due to TikTok's immense popularity, some young people have unfortunately been influenced by videos challenging them to perform harmful, criminal or even deadly acts. One extreme example was the "blackout" trend, which encouraged users to hold their breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. It led to two families filing lawsuits against TikTok over the tragic deaths of their children.

### CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With around 1.1 billion users globally, the potential for contact from strangers on TikTok is high – especially as accounts created by over-18s (or youngsters using a false date of birth) are set to public by default. This not only means that someone's profile is visible to everyone else on the app; it also lets their videos be suggested to others and enables anyone to comment on them or download them.

### IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase emojis in the app. These emojis are then sent as rewards (retaining their monetary value) to other users for videos they've created. Coin bundles range from £9.99 to an eye-watering £99; TikTok's policy is that they can't be bought by under-18s, but it's possible to bypass this with a fake birthdate.

### ADDICTIVE NATURE

Like all social networking platforms, TikTok can be addictive; figures show that young people are investing increasing amounts of time in it. In the UK, children with TikTok spend an average of 102 minutes per day on the app, versus 53 minutes on YouTube. This compulsive repeated use can interfere with their sleep patterns – leading to irritability – and distract them from other activities.

### TIKTOK NOW

Introduced in late 2022, the 'TikTok Now' feature lets users post a daily video or photo at the exact same time as their friends. Users receive a synchronised notification at a random time of day, giving them three minutes to take a video or real-time photo. This addition can not only be a distraction to young people but could lead to them inadvertently sharing private content such as their location.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account with their child's and control their settings remotely. Parents can then, for example, turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content); set screen time limits; and manage their child's ability to send messages (and to whom). Children can't alter these settings without parental approval.



### MAKE ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Although under-16s will have their TikTok account set to private by default, bypassing this setting is relatively easy. However, parents have the ability to manually set their child's account to private – meaning that their videos won't be visible to strangers and they won't be able to exchange messages with people who aren't on their friends list.



### LIMIT IN-APP SPENDING

If your child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can alter the settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We'd recommend that you enable this feature, as it's quite easy for a young person – without realising what they're doing – to spend a significant amount of real money buying TikTok coins so they can unlock more features of the app.



### DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If your child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's crucial to talk about the potential risks in this type of app. For example, ensure they understand not to share any identifying personal information – and that they realise they could be exposed to inappropriate content. Thinking critically about what they see on TikTok can help children become generally more social media savvy.



### READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child might be spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something inappropriate or upsetting that they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the possible signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as are failing to complete homework or regularly not eating meals.



### Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a



National  
Online  
Safety