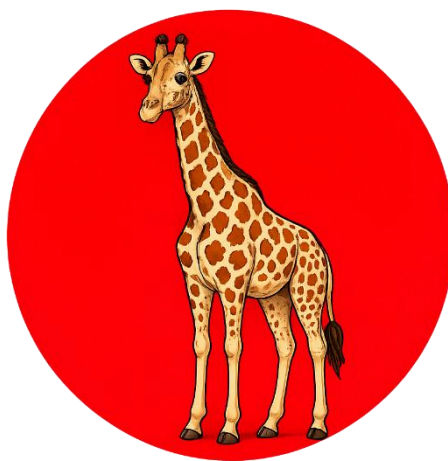
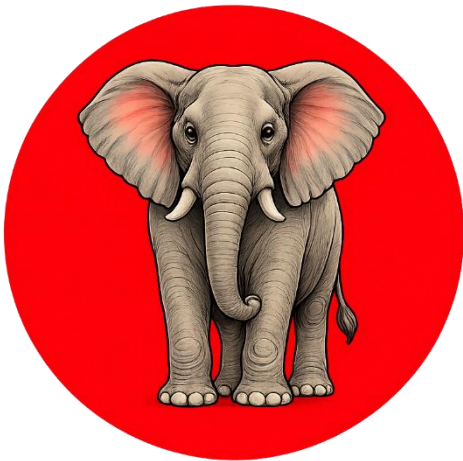
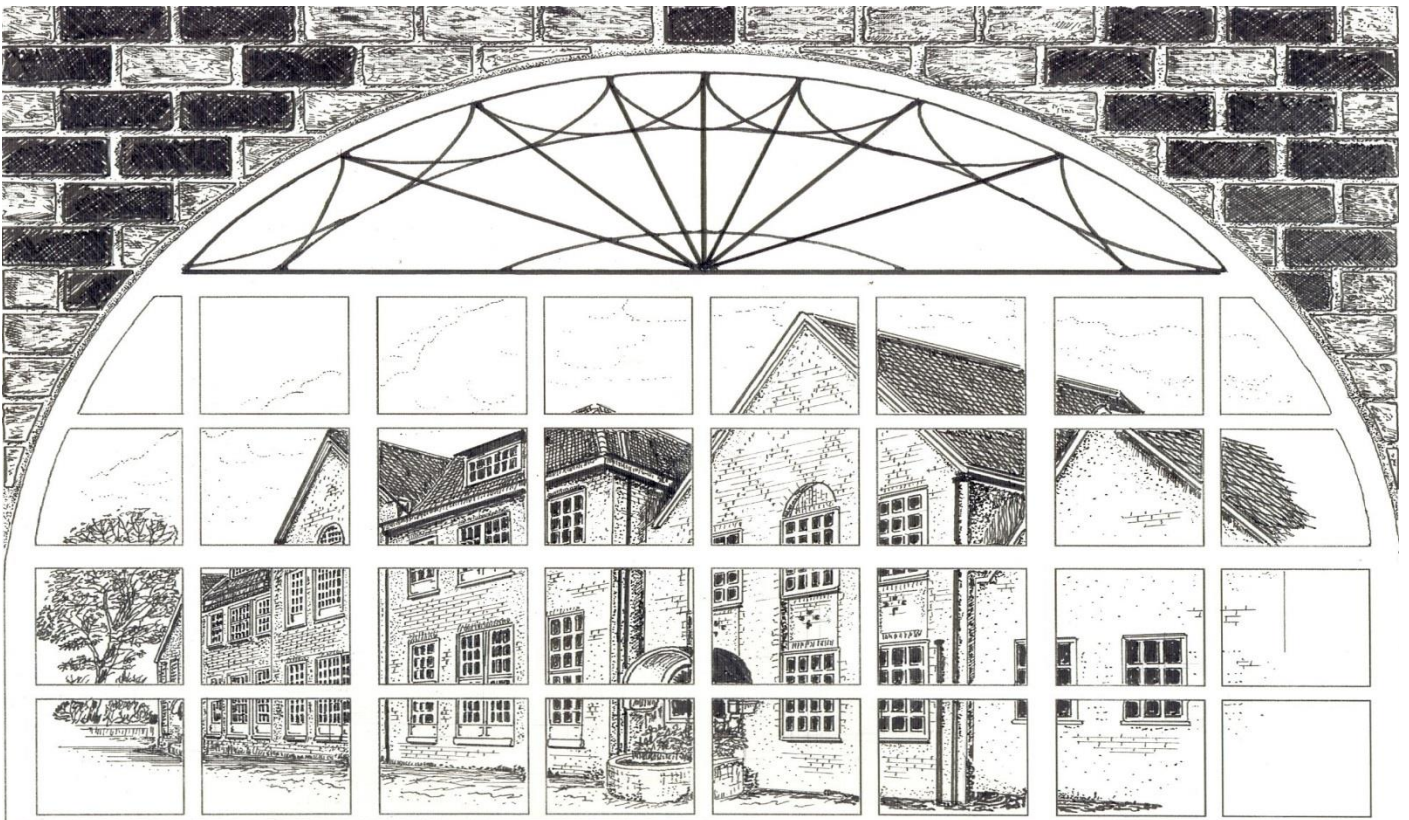




Welcome to Year 4



STAFF

The following members of staff are in Year 4 this year and Miss Sharma is the Head of Year, leading the team.

Class	Class Teachers	Support Staff
4E	Mx Spacey-Mageean	Mrs Bhogal
4G	Miss Sharma	Mrs Thomson
4L	Mrs Azeem and Mrs Perez	Mrs Darr (am) and Miss Chick (pm)

UNIFORM

Whitehall School has extremely high standards for our pupils' appearance and attire, therefore, we ask that you adhere to the following school uniform requirements (please clearly name all items of uniform):

- Plain red sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan
- White shirt/blouse or white polo shirt
- Grey trousers/grey shorts, grey skirt or red and white gingham dress for the summer
- Strictly white, short, elasticated hijab
- Strictly white patka or joora
- White or grey socks
- Red or grey tights
- Sensible black shoes with backs and no heels

Our P.E. Kit consists of:

- Plain black shorts & plain red T-shirt
- Plimsolls and long plain black jogging bottoms and top required for sessions taking place outside



MEDICAL NEEDS/MEDICATION

You should have already informed the welfare staff of any medical needs your child has. On the first day of school, it is essential that you hand in any medication (e.g. asthma inhalers/spacers, EpiPens etc.) to the school's welfare room so that this can be checked and then placed in the medical bag in your child's classroom. In the case of asthma inhalers and EpiPens, we ask for two to be supplied to the school (one for the classroom and a spare to be kept in the welfare room).

MORNING DROP-OFF ROUTINES

Your child will enter the school every morning through the school gate located on **Whitehall Road** (or **Cowley Road** if you have children who also attend Nursery, Reception or Year 1). These gates will be open between **8.30am – 8.45am**. Upon arrival, your child will be guided by our staff to walk sensibly to their classroom. The register will be taken at 8.45am. If you arrive at the school gate on Whitehall Road after 8.45am and find it is closed, your child is late and they will need to be taken to the school office to enter the school.

AFTERNOON PICK-UP ROUTINES

The gate on **Cowley Road** will be opened at 3.00pm and the gate on **Whitehall Road** will be opened at 3.07pm for parents to access the school site. Please collect your younger child/ren first at the following locations and times:



The gates on Cowley Road and Whitehall Road will be closed at 3.20pm.

PE DAYS

We are asking that your child comes to school wearing their PE kit on the days they have timetabled PE lessons. Your child will need to come to school in their PE kit on the following days this academic year: **Monday and Wednesday.**

SNACKS/WATER BOTTLE/EQUIPMENT

At Whitehall School, we encourage families to supply their child with a healthy snack (fruit/veg or a cereal bar) each day for them to have during morning break time; we do ask for any snacks or packed lunches not to contain nuts, as we have several pupils in the school with severe nut allergies. As well as this, please supply your child with a named water bottle which they can have with them in class throughout the day.

Each classroom will have a supply of the stationery that your child will need for each day at school: a pencil, rubber, ruler and sharpener. Therefore, your child **will not** need to bring their own pencil case to school.

SCHOOLMONEY SYSTEM

At Whitehall School, we use an online school money system for you to pay for your child's hot dinners, trips and breakfast club. The information you need to access this is on our school website. Please be aware that if you would like your child to have a hot dinner, you must order before **midnight** on the day before.

COMMUNICATION

Communication between home and school is essential. Therefore, please do not hesitate to contact us through your child's pupil planner or via our year group email address: year4@whitehallschool.org. Please note that this email account will not be checked during the school day, as staff will be teaching, or at weekends.

Alternatively, you can make a specific appointment with your child's class teacher by contacting the school office.

PUPIL PLANNERS

Your child will be supplied with a pupil planner on the first day of term. This planner is a very useful way to communicate important messages with your child's class teacher; the children's reading is checked daily and any messages you leave will be read. Therefore, it is essential that the planner is taken home each day and returned to the school the next day. The planner will contain your child's Google Classroom, Reading Plus, Mathletics, Spelling Shed and Times Tables Rockstars passwords (on the second page). There are many useful reference pages within the planner for your child to use to support their learning at home. Please take time with your child to look through these reference pages as they will help you support your child with their curriculum knowledge.

BEHAVIOUR SYSTEM

At Whitehall School, we believe that happiness is at the heart of learning. As part of this, we hold high expectations of behaviour from our pupils at all times. These high expectations and our positive ethos create a calm, stimulating and safe learning environment for our children. To enable us to achieve this, we have a positive, restorative behavior system so all of our pupils know the expectations and consequences if the school rules are broken. Our school behaviour code is simple: Ready, Respectful, Safe – every action can come back to these expectations. At their discretion, teachers can choose to award 'recognition time' to their class at the end of the week. We have a very fair and consistent approach to behaviour across our school.

YEAR 4 CURRICULUM

At Whitehall School, your child's learning is taken from the National Curriculum and a locally agreed syllabus for religious education. The Curriculum aims to provide opportunities for all pupils to learn and achieve; to prepare all pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life. Through their learning experiences, our pupils are also encouraged to further their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. In addition, we place a strong emphasis on embedding SEAL (social and emotional aspects of learning) within everything we do.

Autumn Term lessons consist of:

- English: reading and writing a variety of genres, as well as specific spelling, handwriting and grammar lessons
- Mathematics: regular mental mathematics tasks, as well as problem solving and applying mathematics skills for all areas of mathematics
- Science: the topics of 'Living Things and their Habitats' and 'Animals including Humans' will be taught through practical and investigative skills
- Art: painting, drawing and learning about artists
- DT: electrical and mechanical (trebuchets) and stiff materials (shield making)
- History: The Romans and Anglo-Saxons
- Computing: The internet network system and creating media
- RE: Islam and Hinduism
- PE: dance, gymnastics and invasion games

HOMEWORK

Your child's homework will consist of:

- A minimum of 20 minutes reading to be recorded in planner (and signed) daily
- Times tables and number facts to be practised regularly at home for our weekly mental arithmetic test
- Weekly spellings issued on Monday and tested on Friday
- Weekly CGP Books: assigned Grammar, Punctuation and spelling task, Comprehension task and Mathematics task
- Optional extension homework, which is available on your child's Year 4 page of the school website: www.whitehallschool.org

ONLINE RESOURCES

Whitehall School will supply your child with a Reading Plus, Mathletics, Spelling Shed and Times Tables Rock Stars username and password; these will be written in the front of your child's pupil planner. Please use the following websites to further support your child's learning in reading and mathematics at home:

Reading Plus: <https://student.readingplus.com/seereader/api/sec/login>

Mathletics: www.mathletics.co.uk

Times Table Rock Stars: www.ttrockstars.com

Spelling Shed: www.spellingshed.com/en-gb

Oxford Owl: <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>

E-SAFETY

At Whitehall School we take E-safety very seriously and have regular assemblies and lessons to teach your child about the importance of keeping themselves safe online. We kindly ask that you also have these important discussions with your child at home. Some useful websites for you to access to get further help and information about E-safety are:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>
<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

YEAR 4 PRIORITY TARGETS

Within each year group, teachers have agreed a set of focused 'priority' targets; areas of learning which they believe are absolutely essential to their year group. To enable you to support your child at home, these targets are listed below with some ideas on how you can practise these skills outside of school. We hope this information is useful in enabling you to support our work in school and in helping your child to flourish.

READING PRIORITY TARGETS	WAYS TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD AT HOME
• I can use my knowledge of root words, prefixes and suffixes to read out loud and to understand the meaning of new words.	• Root words have a prefix or suffix added to them which changes the meaning. For example: reread. The prefix 're' goes at the start of the root word 'read' and means to do again, so 'reread' tells us to read something again. A suffix goes at the end of a root word. For example, 'ful' in 'wonderful' – this suffix tells us something is full of wonder. Look out for these words when reading together and see if you can identify the prefixes or suffixes and root words.
• I can use a dictionary to check the meaning of words that I have read and explain the meaning in my own words to somebody else.	• Explore the meaning of any new words when reading and enjoying a book together. Use a dictionary to check that meanings of words are well understood. The next day, ask your child what the word meant to ensure they have remembered this new learning. Can they include it in a piece of their own writing? Some useful books for this are: 'Phenomenal! The small book of big words' by Jonathan Meres, 'Mrs Wordsmith Storyteller's Word A Day' and 'Britannica's Word of the Day: 366 Utterly Elevating Utterances to Stretch Your Cranium and Tickle Your Humerus'.

I can discuss interesting words and phrases used in books and explain the affect that they have on the reader.	Focus in on the author's choice of words when reading together. For example: Why do you think the author has used the word 'foolish' to describe the character? Why didn't they describe the giant as silly?
I can discuss books that have been read to me and books that I have read justifying my point of view, and listen to other people's opinions about them.	Enjoy time together reading and discussing a bedtime story. Ask your child questions about what they have read but also what they predict will happen next in the book. Share your opinions on the story too and ask your child to tell you the reasons behind their answers.
WRITING PRIORITY TARGETS	WAYS TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD AT HOME
I can use varied and rich vocabulary in my writing.	From time to time, some of our teachers ban the use of words like: said, big, nice and small. Using a thesaurus, or words learnt from reading, shows how much more exciting and varied vocabulary choice can be. Pick a word with your child and take turns to come up with alternatives. You could play this back and forth like a game of word tennis. For example, if you start by saying 'small' you could go on to come up with: tiny, diminutive, little, minuscule, minor, slight and so on. Words which have the same meanings are called synonyms.
I can proof-read my writing to correct spelling and punctuation errors.	Read through completed pieces of homework together to look out for mistakes in spelling or punctuation. Encourage your child to check through their work and use a dictionary to support their spelling. Lots of key words are listed within our Pupil Planners.
I can punctuate direct speech accurately with commas and inverted commas.	Use a reading book to find an example of when direct speech is used. Direct speech is when a character says something (so speech marks/ inverted commas are used). Work together to practise writing some sentences down, perhaps about family members, to practise this punctuation. For example: "Sit down!" bellowed Mum as she picked up the broken pieces of china from the kitchen floor. "I didn't mean to drop the plates," Bob whispered under his breath as a tear dropped gently from his right eye.
I can punctuate sentences accurately with full stops, capital letters, question marks and exclamation marks.	Write some sentences out for one another with deliberate mistakes or missing punctuation. Support your child to make the necessary corrections. Focus on the use of question and exclamation marks when reading together. Ask them to teach you punctuation Kung-Fu!
MATHEMATICS PRIORITY TARGETS	WAYS TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD AT HOME
I can recognise the place value of each digit in a four-digit number (thousands, hundreds, tens, and units).	Write and then read a range of four digit numbers. Ask your child to read the numbers as follows: 2576 is 2000 + 500 + 70 + 6 (two thousands, five hundreds, seven tens and six units). Point to different digits to check that your child can understand the value of the number.
I can find the effect of dividing a one- or two-digit number by 10 and 100, identifying the value of the digits in the answer as units, tenths and hundredths.	Use the place value chart at the bottom of page 115 of the Pupil Planner to explore X and ÷ by 10 and 100. If you would like further guidance on exploring this concept with your child, please talk to their class teacher who can show you how they explain these concepts in school.
I can recall multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12 x 12.	Your child will be tested on their times tables in the Government's new online 'Multiplication Tables Check' test this year. It is very important that children are confident in all of their times tables by the Summer Term. A copy of these is contained within their Pupil Planner. Also, if they log onto Mathletics they can sing along to the Tables Toons. Times Table Rockstar's online games replicate the test the children will be sitting so are great practise to use throughout the year! Once your child is secure, mix the order up and ask them a range of questions. If they know that 3 x 7 = 21, they should be able to tell you that 3 x 70 = 210.

- I can read, write and convert time between analogue and digital 12 and 24-hour clocks.

- Bring this skill into daily life! Use the TV guide to calculate the length of different programs, make full use of clocks around the home. Ask your child to tell you the time frequently. Do they have their own watch or alarm clock?

A very warm welcome to Year 4 at Whitehall School where 'happiness is at the heart of our learning'.