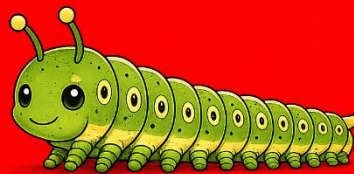
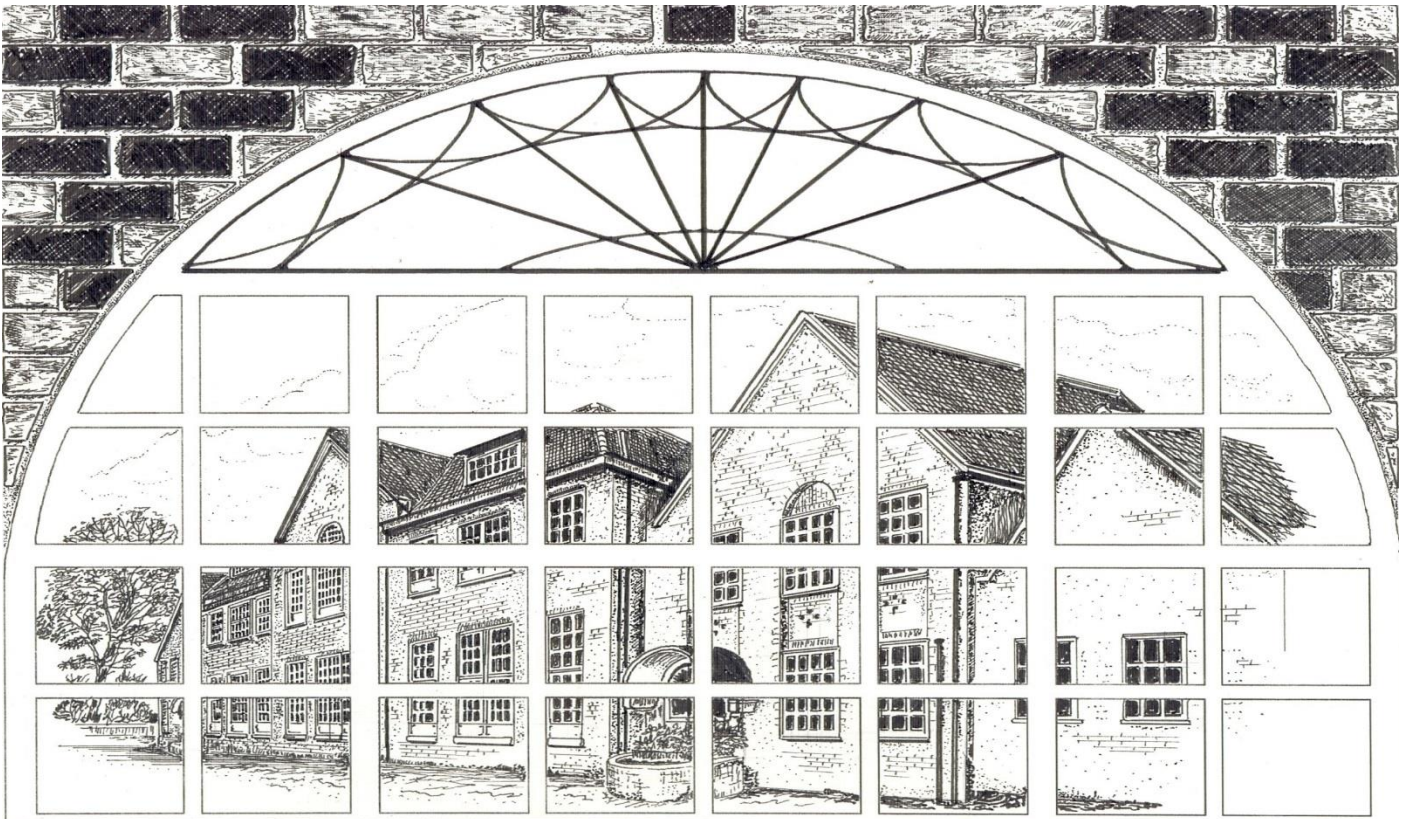




Welcome to Reception



STAFF

The following members of staff are in Reception this year.

Class	Class Teachers	Support Staff
Bees	Mrs Robertson	Miss Hall
Caterpillars	Ms Salah	Miss Lyford
Ladybirds	Mrs Hirani and Mrs Sidhar	Mrs Shah

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
- A red book bag only. No rucksacks.

Our P.E. Kit consists of:

- Plain black shorts & plain white or 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 Lower School's welfare room so that this can be checked and then placed in the medical box 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 **Cowley Road**. These gates will be open between **8.30am – 8.45am**. Upon arrival, your child should be dropped off at the Reception drop off point. The register will be taken at 8.45am. If you arrive after 8.45am and find the gate closed, your child is late and they will need to be taken to the school office to enter the school.

AFTERNOON PICK-UP ROUTINE

The gate on **Cowley Road** will be opened at 3.00pm for parents to access the school site. Please collect your child/ren at the following location at 3.00pm. Please collect your child from their class collection point.



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

PE DAYS

After half term, Reception children will begin to have PE lessons. Your child will need to come to school in their PE kit on the following days from November onwards:

RC – Caterpillars on Tuesdays, RB – Bees on Thursdays, RL – Ladybirds on Fridays.

SNACKS/WATER BOTTLE/EQUIPMENT

The school provides a daily fruit or vegetable snack to all children during snack time. Please supply your child with a named water bottle which they can have with them in class throughout the day. Children under five are also offered free milk daily via the government's 'cool milk' initiative. Once your child is over five, you can sign up (for a subsidised fee) and your child will continue to receive daily milk at school.

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

Please send a spare set of clothing into school in case your child needs to be changed out of wet clothes. Please ensure all clothing and the bag are named.

SCHOOLMONEY SYSTEM

At Whitehall School, we use an online school money system for you to pay for your child's trips, breakfast club and to order free hot dinners. 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 share quick messages directly with the class teacher at drop off or contact us via our year group email address: reception@whitehallschool.org. Please note that this email account will not be checked during the school day as staff will be teaching, or at weekends. Direct messaging on Class Dojo is turned off so any messages sent via this route will not be visible.

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

READING RECORD

Your child will be supplied with a reading record during the second week of term. This reading record 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 reading record is taken home each day and returned to the school the next day.

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.

RECEPTION CURRICULUM

At Whitehall School, your child's learning is taken from the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (EYFS). This framework aims to provide opportunities for all pupils to learn and achieve through play-based activities. There are seven areas of learning and development. All areas are important and are interconnected. The three prime areas are particularly important for learning and forming relationships. They build a foundation for children to thrive and provide the basis for learning in all areas. These are the prime areas:

- Communication and language
- Physical development
- Personal, social and emotional development

The four specific areas help strengthen and develop the three prime areas, and ignite children's curiosity and enthusiasm.

The specific areas are:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world
- Expressive arts and design

Autumn Term learning consists of:

Personal, social, and emotional development (PSED)

- Settling in: learning new classroom rules, sharing and taking turns, and building relationships with peers and teachers

- Self-regulation: identifying and expressing feelings through stories, visual aids, and role-play
- Independence: managing personal care, choosing activities, and looking after belongings

Communication and language

- Listening skills: focusing attention during carpet and circle times and following simple multi-step instructions
- Speaking: sharing ideas, talking about families and personal experiences, and retelling familiar stories using puppets or story language

Literacy

- Phonics: daily phonics lessons (Read Write Inc.)
- Early reading: blending sounds into simple words and recognising common exception/sight words
- Mark making and writing: practising correct pencil grip (tripod grip), forming letters accurately, and writing their own names

Mathematics

- Number sense: matching, sorting, comparing, and counting objects accurately to 5 and beyond; representing numbers using fingers and objects
- Shape and measure: exploring simple repeating patterns naming 2-D shapes, and exploring size, weight, and capacity practically

Understanding the world

- All About Me: exploring family backgrounds, immediate communities, and what makes each child unique
- The Natural World: observing seasonal changes during autumn walks, exploring weather patterns, and participating in harvest celebrations
- Culture and celebrations: learning about various seasonal festivals and traditions such as Harvest, Diwali, Bonfire Night, and Christmas.

Physical development

- Gross motor skills: developing coordination, balance, and spatial awareness through outdoor play
- Fine motor skills: strengthening hand muscles through threading, cutting with scissors, playdough activities

Expressive arts and design

- Creativity: exploring colours, self-portraits, and collage using various textures and materials
- Music and movement: joining in with nursery rhymes, exploring rhythm and musical instruments

HOMEWORK

Your child's homework will consist of:

- A minimum of 10 minutes reading per day to be recorded in reading record (and signed) daily
- Additional homework activities will be set throughout the year on Class Dojo

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