



Dear parents,

I want to start by thanking our whole school community for the dedication and efforts everyone has made to ensure Whitelands has had a fantastic opening year. I am exceptionally proud of our students, staff and parents. Despite the challenges of the last sixteen months the students have remained positive, polite and dedicated to improving themselves. Pleasingly, our data also shows that our students are making very good progress against national benchmarks.

As parents picking a secondary school is a tough decision – I know having gone through the process myself this year! I recognise how challenging it must have been to pick a school 'off plan' when it is such an important decision. I would like to thank you for your support and trust in helping us this deliver our shared goals this year. I am certain that by consistently applying high standards as a group we can expect great things from the students both personally and academically.

Next year brings an exciting expansion of our staff who will bring new skills and experiences to the team. By us continuing to work as a partnership I am excited by what we can achieve. Hopefully next year will bring less disruption. However, regardless of the challenges we may face, we will all stay focussed on ensuring our students become the 'Covid generation' who have developed resilience, independence and empathy like no other generation therefore becoming successful in whatever pathway they choose.

I wish you all a fantastic summer,

Adrian Cush
Head Teacher

New staff and students

We would like to thank Miss Sherratt for all of her hard work and dedication this year. She has been a fantastic support to all of our students. We wish her luck in her new job!

This term, we welcomed Kristian and Leo into 7 Franklin. We have also been joined by Mr Maudsley who is Assistant Head for Pastoral and Behaviour.

As well as looking forward to welcoming our new year 7 students, we have seven new members of teaching staff joining us from September. These are; Mr Godfrey (DT/Art), Miss Marsh (Science), Ms Walsh (MFL), Mr Day (Maths), Mr Johnson (Humanities), Miss Davey (English) and Miss Billett (Science). There also 3 new members of staff for SEN – Miss Saunders-Cross (teacher), Ms O'Neill (TA) and Ms Darke (TA).



Key dates for September

Thursday 2nd of September	INSET DAY - NO STUDENTS AT SCHOOL
Friday 3 rd of September	Testing Preparation Day - NO STUDENTS AT SCHOOL
Monday 6 th September	LFT Testing for Year 7 and Year 8
Tuesday 7 th September	Year 7 Induction Day (No Year 8)
Wednesday 8 th September	Year 8 Return

Testing time slots

Time	Group
8.30 - 10.00	8C and 8F
10.00 - 11.30	8H and 8M



Bailey

Bailey has been a very special addition to the Whitelands Academy community this term. He has settled in brilliantly to his role as a school dog and our students are already benefiting from his calming influence. We have been incredibly impressed by how mature and responsible our students have been around Bailey.

Our students have made excellent progress with their reading this term and Bailey has enjoyed listening to them read.





The **Respect Award** is awarded to students that have consistently demonstrated respect to their peers, members of staff and our school environment.

Cavell – Oliver Perring

Hillary – Thomas Hide

Franklin – Daniel Ojo

Mandela – Joseph Stevenson

The **Tolerance Award** is awarded to students who have consistently shown willingness to understand and listen to others.

Cavell - Hannah Bradshaw

Hillary – Jessica Rymell

Franklin – Mia Lister

Mandela – Abin Jose

The **Resilience Award** is awarded to students who have consistently tried their best even when they have found things difficult.

Cavell – Chloe Vlashi

Hillary – Abigail Evans

Franklin – Dominic O’Sullivan

Mandela – Mia Leverton

The **Integrity Award** is awarded to students that have stood by our values and demonstrated honesty throughout the year.

Cavell – Sidrah Khan

Hillary – Finn Soutar

Franklin – Adrian Rektor

Mandela – Grace Tuffrey

The **Ambition Award** is awarded to students who have endeavoured to succeed and set big goals throughout the year.

Cavell – Mithuna Senthil

Hillary – Emily Hutchison

Franklin – Lili McKinnon

Mandela – Kaci Lothamer

The **Teamwork Award** is awarded to students who have consistently supported their peers.

Cavell – Thomas Samuel-Fagg

Hillary – Lola Riley

Franklin – Zachery Thomas

Mandela – Charlie Kilbane

House Points Award

Cavell – Maxwell Marshall

Hillary – Finley Marshall

Franklin – Amalia Lee

Mandela – Isaac Starren

The Headteacher’s Award

Cavell – Abigail Abraham

Hillary – Megan Allmond

Franklin – Samuel Parish

Mandela – Alexa Coleman



House Points

1st Franklin – 4671
2nd Hillary – 4134
3rd Mandela – 3765
4th Cavell – 3606



100% Attendance

Congratulations to the following students who have 100% attendance this year. Nathan Chung, Aksa Aji, Cameron Slevin, Kyla Byfield, Maisie Reynolds, Maxwell Marshall, Marion Odunaike, Leon Stinton, Adrian Rektor, Mya Wong, Jamie Cross, Kristian Hayes, Leo Brown, Simon Cheeseman, Mason Waddup, Louie Ribeiro, Abigail Evans, Jensen Keeper, Dylan Cook, Jacob Atkison-Barber, Marcus Baker, Evan Smith, Isaac Starren, Alexa Coleman, Toby Mann, Callum Mitchell, Sylvie Radford, James Girdler, Lewis De'Ath and Viktorija Benaite.

We are proud to be fundraising for Sobell House Hospice this term with our sponsored walk on the last day of term. Many thanks to those who have kindly donated. Our Justgiving page is active until Monday 26th July if you would like to donate. We look forward to sharing our donation total and total number of kilometres with you in September!

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/whitelandsacademy>

Sobell House is a hospice based on the Churchill Hospital site and is part of the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. It is jointly funded by the NHS and Sobell House Hospice Charity. They offer specialist palliative care to those facing life threatening illness, death and bereavement in Oxfordshire. This encompasses physical, psychological, social and spiritual care and includes supporting their families and those close to them. They care for around 3,000 patients and their families every year.



Congratulations to Hannah who has had great success in riding competitions recently. Hannah came second in a combined show (dressage and show jumping) where she was the only competitor under 16 and first in a show jumping competition. Well done, Hannah!



Extra-curricular clubs

Debate club is a fun place to socialise. Every week, on a Wednesday, children host their own debates which they have come up with on their own. Over the past few sessions, many children have run their debates. These topics vary so there are very different debates. - Jack

Our great extra-curricular activities are wonderful events to do afterschool, run by a great range of teachers. My favourites are chess, coding and debate. I have great memories of discussing if you would run over Santa and his reindeer or a selection of authors to beating Mr. James ruthlessly at chess and programming adorable robots in coding. It's been a great experience to do all of these amazing activities with my friends and having fun. - Isaac

One of the school's extra curricular options is chess which is great fun, helps with the brain and increases spatial awareness. Chess club is fun because there's a small amount of people which means it is quiet and relaxing. - Skye

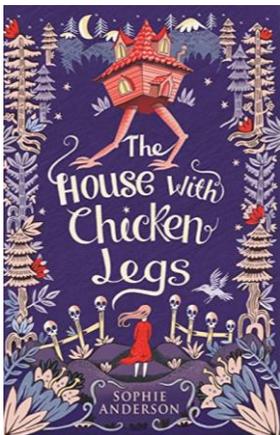
Guided Reading

It's been lovely being able to read as a class in year 7. I think it's lovely that the students get a chance to read as well as the teachers. It really improves our reading skills. - Kyla C

I like how the books all display a message. A Monster Calls was about grief, Ghost Boys was racism, and The House with Chicken Legs I think is about acceptance. - Simon

It was fun, I guess all the stories were interesting and enjoyable. Every book has a different story and different setting and that's what makes every book we've read unique. - Ziv

I really like the fact that some of the books were made up but some were based on a real life events. - Hope



This term in guided reading we have been reading *The House with Chicken Legs*.

Twelve-year-old Marinka dreams of a normal life, where her house stays in one place long enough for her to make friends. But her house has chicken legs and moves on without warning. The only people Marinka meets are dead, and they disappear when her grandmother, Baba Yaga, guides them through The Gate. Marinka wants to change her destiny, but her house has other ideas...



Our first year at Whitelands Academy

I love Whitelands because it has encouraged me to focus on my learning and grow in my knowledge. All the staff are really helpful and kind and I can always rely on their help. I love having Mr James as my form tutor because he is always willing to help me learn and make sure I am doing my best. I love my lessons, but my favourite is probably Art or DT as I love doing practical subjects. - Kaci



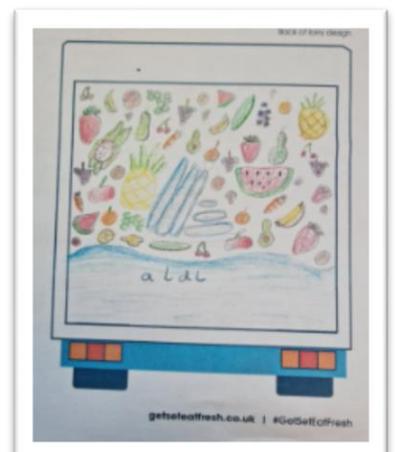
My time at Whitelands so far has been fabulous because the lessons you have, you can learn a lot from and for the most part they are enjoyable. My personal favourites are PE and History. Everyone is kind to everyone, every teacher will help you if you're stuck. The canteen staff are amazing and funny, for break we have a nice area to sit down and eat or play games. Our site manager Mr Riley is brilliant. Most days you have extra curricular clubs you can take part in if you want to. - Sylvie

My time at Whitelands has been really good. When we first started I struggled to make friends but as the weeks went on I got more confident. As the school building wasn't finished at the start of the school year, we were at another White Horse Federation school on the edge of Bicester called Gaglebrook. Then we had to go to home schooling which was an emotional ride for me but I pulled through. - Toby

My time at Whitelands has been very welcoming and fun. When I came to this school I only knew three people but now I know pretty much everyone, staff and students. My favourite moment would be when Mrs Edwards accidentally set the lab floor on fire. It was a lesson to be learnt, don't mix kids and fire. Thank you Whitelands for all your help and support. - Mia



Mrs Peters was delighted with how many excellent entries were sent to enter the Aldi lorry design competition. Well done to Megan who won the Whitelands Academy competition with this excellent design!



Whitelands Academy

Summer Project 2021: Make the world a better place

This summer project is designed to ensure that you make the most of the time off school and do something to make the world around you a little bit better.

We are incredibly proud of everything you have achieved this year and want to make sure we give you every opportunity to grow and develop. We hope the challenges on this sheet will inspire you to keep aspiring to achieve, to try new things and to care for others.

Your Challenge:

Over the summer holiday, your mission is to complete a selection of the 25 challenges listed on the other side of this piece of paper. Try to select challenges that won't be too easy for you to complete: the ones that you think are harder are more likely to be more rewarding. You don't have to complete all the challenges listed, but give as many challenges as you can a try. Send in photos, videos, drawings or messages about the challenges you complete to cmontague@whitelandsacademy.org so that we can celebrate your achievements in September.

For Parents:

We hope that students find the challenges listed both beneficial and rewarding, as well as memorable. The challenges should all be possible with little or no input from adults, and with little or no resources. If parents or siblings want to join in, then all the better!

Summer Project 2021: Make the world a better place

Watch the news.	Tell someone how much they mean to you.	Do a household chore without being asked.	Dream about your future and decide what you need to do to get there.	Read a book by an author you've not heard of.
Sort out what you don't need and give it to charity.	Speak out when you see something you don't think is right.	Walk a journey that you would usually take by car.	Write to your MP, about an issue you think is important.	Lie on the grass in summer and stare at the clouds.
Draw, paint or create something you are proud of.	Learn a poem by heart.	Write a list of things you would like to accomplish by the time you are eighteen.	Research a charity and organise a fundraising event.	Hand write a letter to someone special and post it.
Switch off your on-line presence and avoid all social media for three days.	Make a list of all the positive things that you can be thankful for.	Talk to an older relative about your family history.	Get in touch with a friend to find out how they are.	Grow something that you can eat.
Bake a cake for someone.	Try a new food.	Learn to play a song on an instrument or learn a magic trick.	Learn a new skill.	Learn to cook your favourite meal.