



## SPRING 2 NEWSLETTER 2026

# WHITEGATE NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back, and we hope you had an enjoyable half term break. It has been lovely to welcome the children back to school, and we have been so pleased to see them return with such enthusiasm and positivity. We are really looking forward to the busy and fun-filled Spring 2 half term ahead.

### What's happening this half term?

#### Nursery – At the Zoo and On the Farm

Our youngest learners will be discovering animals from the zoo and the farm. Through stories, role play, creative activities and sensory play, children will learn about different animals, their homes and the sounds they make.

#### Reception (F2) – Planes, Trains and Automobiles

Reception children will be learning all about different types of transport. They will explore how people and goods travel, both now and in the past. Through creative play, design activities and storytelling, pupils will build and create their own vehicles while developing early writing and mathematical skills.

#### Year 1 – Kings, Queens and Castles

Year 1 continue their exciting journey back in time. Pupils will learn about monarchs and castle life, exploring famous historical figures, castle features and what daily life was like in the past. Through history, literacy, art and design, children will immerse themselves in this fascinating period.

#### Year 2 – The Legend of Robin Hood

Year 2 will be exploring the legendary tale of Robin Hood. Pupils will learn about the story's historical setting, key characters and themes of fairness and bravery. This topic will inspire creative writing, drama activities and historical discussions.

#### Year 3 – The UK and Its Regions

Year 3 continue developing their geographical knowledge by studying the UK, with a focus on the East Midlands. Pupils will explore counties, landmarks and local features, using maps and fieldwork to deepen their understanding of the region.

#### Year 4 – Romans

Year 4 continue their learning about the Roman Empire and its impact on Britain. They will explore Roman life, settlements, roads and the lasting legacy of the Romans. Learning will be brought to life through history lessons, creative writing and hands-on activities.

#### Year 5 – Mexico: The Yucatán Region

Year 5 will be travelling (virtually!) to Mexico, focusing on the Yucatán region. Pupils will learn about its geography, culture, climate and history, including the ancient Maya civilisation. This topic will link to geography, history and art.

#### Year 6 – Our Planet, Our Future

Year 6 continue exploring important global issues such as sustainability and climate change. With some exciting fieldwork planned, pupils will investigate how we can care for our planet and consider how their own actions can make a positive difference, linking geography, science and citizenship.

#### Class 15 and Class 16 – Water

This half term our theme is *Water*. Pupils will explore the importance of water in our daily lives, from oceans and rivers to weather and conservation. Through sensory experiences, science investigations and creative activities, children will develop their understanding of this vital resource.

### Governing Body news:

From this term, our Chair of Governors, Mr Stewart Powell, will be stepping down from this role. Mr Powell has served on the governing body for over 10 years and for most of that time as Chair, providing steadfast leadership, guidance and commitment to our school community. On behalf of the staff, governors and pupils, I would like to extend our sincere thanks to him for his dedication and the significant contribution he has made during his time in this position. We are very pleased that he will remain a valued member of the governing body.

I am also delighted to announce that Mr Mark Lonsdale has been appointed as our new Chair of Governors. We look forward to working closely with Mr Lonsdale as he takes on this important role and continues to support the strategic direction and success of the school.

### Key dates: 05.03.26. World Book Day

13.03.26. Comic relief non uniform fundraiser

23.03.26 & 25.3.26. Parent's Evening

24.03.26. Easter Egg competition