



## SUMMER 1 NEWSLETTER 2026

# WHITEGATE NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to see everyone back in school after the Easter holidays and hope families were able to enjoy a restful break together. The children have returned ready to learn, and it has been wonderful to see their energy and eagerness over the first few days. We are excited to begin a busy and engaging Summer 1 half term, with plenty of opportunities ahead for learning and enjoyment.

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### What's happening this half term?

#### Nursery – Growing

Our Nursery children will be learning about growing and changes over time. Through planting, stories, outdoor learning and hands-on exploration, they will discover how plants grow and what living things need to thrive, supporting curiosity, language development and early scientific understanding.

#### Reception (F2) – Minibeasts

Reception pupils will be investigating the fascinating world of minibeasts. Children will observe insects and small creatures, learn about their habitats and life cycles, and explore this theme through storytelling, art, early writing and simple scientific enquiry.

#### Year 1 – Explorers

Year 1 will be stepping into the role of explorers. Pupils will learn about significant explorers and journeys, past and present, while developing their map skills and understanding of the wider world. This topic will inspire adventurous writing, creative projects and geographical learning.

#### Year 2 – The United Kingdom and a comparison with Egypt

Year 2 will be strengthening their geographical knowledge by studying the United Kingdom and comparing it with Egypt. Pupils will explore physical and human features, climates and landmarks, developing an understanding of how places differ while building essential map and enquiry skills.

#### Year 3 – Ancient Egypt

Year 3 will travel back in time to ancient Egypt. Children will learn about Egyptian civilization, including daily life, beliefs and achievements. This rich topic will link history, writing, art and design, allowing pupils to deepen their historical understanding.

#### Year 4 – Anglo-Saxons and Vikings

Year 4 will be learning about the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings and their impact on Britain. Pupils will explore invasions, settlements and way of life, using historical sources, storytelling and creative activities to bring this period to life.

#### Year 5 – The Maya

Year 5 will be studying the ancient Maya civilization. Pupils will explore Maya society, beliefs, achievements and the geography of Central America. Learning will be linked across history, geography, art and writing to build a rich understanding of this ancient culture.

#### Year 6 – Crime and Punishment

Year 6 will explore how crime and punishment have changed over time. Pupils will compare different historical periods and consider how laws, justice and society have evolved. This topic will promote critical thinking, discussion and persuasive writing.

#### Class 15 and Class 16 – Transport

This half term, Class 15 and Class 16 will focus on transport. Pupils will explore different forms of transport and how they are used, linking science, technology and creative learning through sensory activities, investigations and practical experiences.

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### Key dates:

**04.05.2026. Bank Holiday Monday – SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS**

**11.05.2026. – 14.5.2026. Year 6 KS2 SATs week**

**20.05.2026. – 22.5.2026. Year 4 Walesby residential visit.**

**22.05.2026. Last day of term. Non-uniform day.**

**01.06.2026. – Pupils return to school for Summer 2.**