

City Academy Whitehawk

An aerial photograph showing the City Academy Whitehawk building, a large brick structure with a red roof and a central tower, situated in a residential neighborhood. The school is surrounded by greenery and a parking lot. In the background, a dense residential area with many houses is visible, and further back, a green field under a blue sky.

**Headteacher's Newsletter 2
2021-22**



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24th September 2021

Dear City Academy Whitehawk Families,

I hope this finds you well at the close of our third school week.

Children have achieved great things in school and I am pleased to report that many children are actively engaging with our reading records.

Please support your child to be successful in school by reading with them at home and signing their reading record. Please spend some time rehearsing addition facts and times tables too.

Don't forget that if you're keen to keep up to date with what your children will be studying this term, you can click [here](#).



City Academy
Whitehawk

Attendance at City Academy

Dear Parents/Carers

We are delighted to report that whole school attendance has been amazing this term so far and that overall we are on target and in line with the national average. Last Wednesday we recorded our **best ever attendance in the school's history!** The Class Attendance trophies are back – awarded in Monday's assembly to the classes with the best attendance each week.

Class Attendance winners

Week beginning 13th September

YEAR 1 - 3

Mr Isaacs' Kites Class

Year 4 - 6

Mrs Luna's Falcons Class



Parent LAB Member

24 September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

We are currently seeking nominations for a parent volunteer to join our Local Academy Board (LAB). The LAB is responsible for the governance of the school at a local level. This is similar to a governing body in a local authority maintained school but operates slightly differently because we are part of the Aurora Academies Trust.

What is the LAB?

The purpose of the LAB at City Academy Whitehawk (CAW) is to ensure that all children at the school access the best quality educational experiences leading to high levels of achievement and aspiration..

Who is on the LAB?

Our LAB potentially has 10 members:

Chair (appointed by Aurora)

Headteacher (ex officio)

1 staff member(elected by staff)

2 parent members (elected by parents)

Up to 5 community members (appointed by the LAB following an application process)

How many meetings will there be?

We meet 6 times per year either in person or, at the moment, online. Minutes of the meetings are available online. We also visit the school at other times, meet with the children and staff and undertake a range of monitoring activities in agreement with school.

What does a LAB member do?

LAB members contribute to the strategic direction of the school and work closely with senior leaders, both supporting and challenging as appropriate. As a parent LAB member you will be responsible for listening to the school community and being an ambassador for the school locally. It is our job to ensure that the school's senior leadership secure the best possible outcomes for all the children in the school.

What skills does a LAB member need?

You don't need experience of being a LAB member or school governor. We are looking for someone with a passion for the school and the ability to act as a "Critical Friend" to the school's Senior Leadership Team. This means being supportive of the school but also challenging the school where, and when, appropriate.

How do I apply?

If you are interested in nominating yourself for the role of Parent LAB Member please read the [role description](#) and follow [this link](#) to complete a nomination form. Alternatively you may contact the office for a hard copy. The closing date is 8 October 2021. All parents and carers of pupils in the school or nursery are eligible to stand for election.

If you have any questions or want to discuss the role informally please don't hesitate to contact myself or the headteacher.

Yours sincerely

Janis Taylor

LAB Chair

Reading Records at CAW

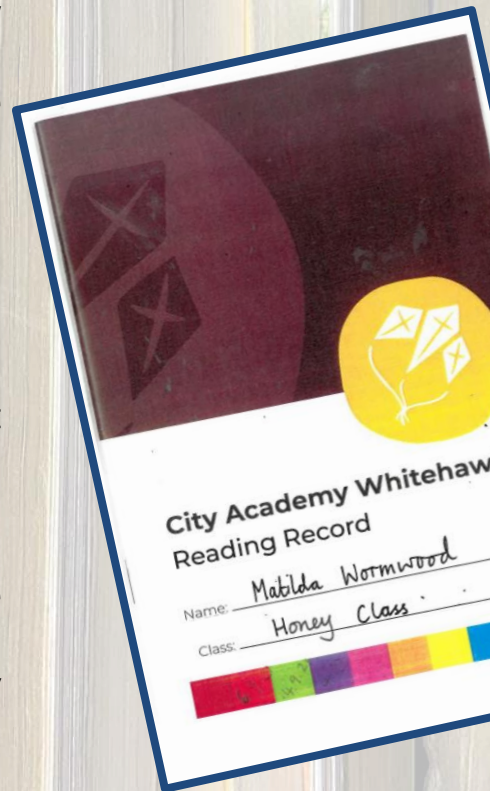
One huge learning point for us as a school during our closures last year was how keen many families are to support their children with their learning. This is most important in reading! Practice really does make perfect and once you've mastered it, there is so much to explore and enjoy.

All school subjects are equally important but we know it to be true that Reading is the first amongst those equals. Children who read well and read for pleasure go on to be significantly more successful.

You will have received a letter from Miss. Scozzafava earlier this week about our new Reading Records. This is a brand new whole-school venture for us at CAW, promoting the amazing reading so many of you do at home; hopefully this will enable and encourage you to do it even more often and earn some amazing reading prizes whilst doing so. See the next page to learn about our raffle.

We have an amazingly well stocked library here at school and fantastic Read Write Inc. books to support your child in learning to read. Your child should be bringing books their book to and from school daily – please encourage them to practise at home and celebrate their progress. A book bag or back pack is a great way to help your child stay organised with this.

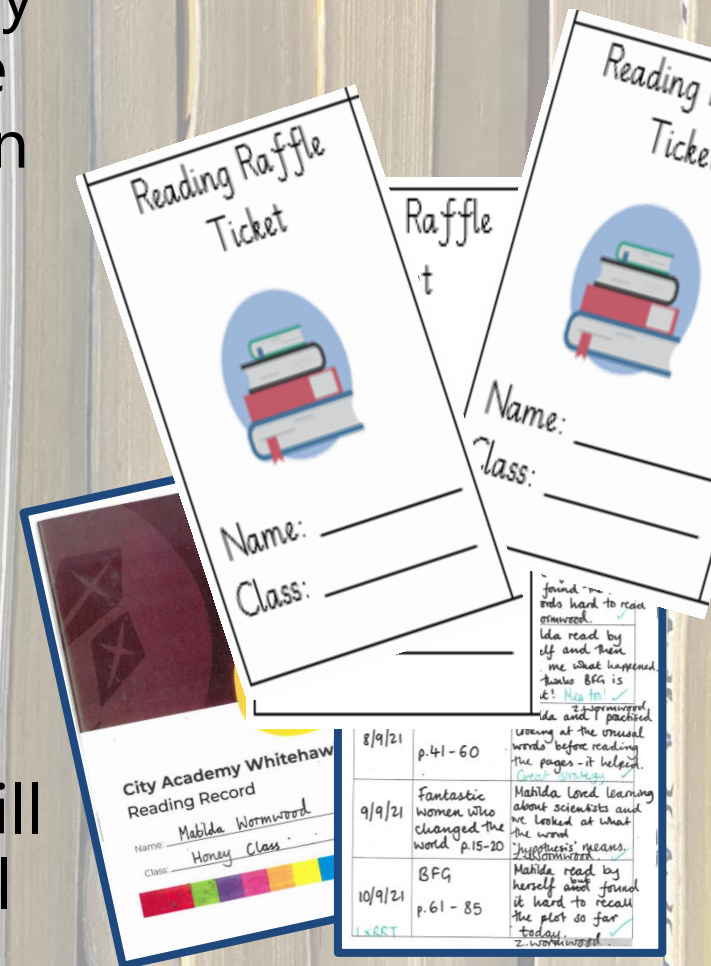
I look forward to seeing the children's reading records in the mornings as I visit each classroom.



READING LOG		
Date	Name of book and page number	Comments and signature
6/9/21	BFG p1 - 22	Mabilda loved the start of this book but found the made up words hard to read. Z.Wormwood
7/9/21	BFG p.23 - 40	Mabilda read by herself and then told me what happened. She thinks BFG is Z.W. great! Miss To!
8/9/21	BFG p.41 - 60	Mabilda and I practised looking at the unusual words before reading the pages - it helped. Great strategy
9/9/21	Fantastic women who changed the world p.15-20	Mabilda loved learning about scientists and we looked at what the word 'hypothesis' means. Z.Wormwood
10/9/21	BFG p.61 - 85	Mabilda read by herself and found it hard to recall the plot so far today. Z.Wormwood

How does the Reading Raffle work?

- For every 5 dates of reading (typically 1 page) you will earn a reading raffle ticket, ideally this would be 5 reads in a week.
- You can earn 1 ticket each day you read.
- Your teacher will give you a special Reading Raffle Ticket.
- You get to choose which book you would like the chance to win!
- In the penultimate week of term, I will draw the tickets and each winner will receive their books in assembly!



Reading Raffle Update

from Miss Scozzafava



I've been so impressed with children's and families' efforts with reading at home. We have another 3 weeks of earning tickets for this selection of books before the prize draw takes place in the second to last week of term. Many children have already visited our display to vote for the book they want to win. If you would like to see more information about the selection available [click here](#).

I can't wait to speak to even more children about their votes next week!

CAW Fluency Badge

Please can you join us in helping your children to learn their number bonds to ten (eg. $4 + 6 = 10$) and start to learn all single digit addition facts (eg. $5 + 7 = 12$). Knowing these facts helps children to be much more successful in all other areas of maths.

Children sit a national times tables assessment at the end of Year 4, by which time they should know all of their times tables facts. Please study these at home – we'll be teaching them at school too. I look forward to organising maths workshops for parents when restrictions are lifted. **Children in Key Stage 2 can be tested by Mr. McAdam to win their Fluency Badge!**



CAW Addition Facts

Our aim is for children to be able to recall all single digit addition facts as quickly as they can tell you their name.
They should also be able to recall their 2, 5 and 10 times tables.

+	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18

CAW Multiplication Facts

By the end of Year 4 your child is expected to know their times tables.
These multiplication facts should be hardwired just like the addition facts.

x	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24
3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36
4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40	44	48
5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60
6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72
7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70	77	84
8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80	88	96
9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90	99	108
10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
11	22	33	44	55	66	77	88	99	110	121	132
12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108	120	132	144

Parent Workshop Invitation

from Mrs. Singh

When: Tuesday 12 October

Time: 1.20 - 2.50 pm

Topic: Anxiety

Hosted by: Ellie Quine and colleague, Primary Mental Health Workers, Brighton Inclusion Service.

If you are concerned about the effects of anxiety on your child or even on your own wellbeing, we hope you will find this free workshop at City Academy Whitehawk really helpful. Ellie will deliver a brief presentation about anxiety, it's causes, impact on health, relationships and lifestyle and there will be time to share advice and discuss strategies to help.

Tea/coffee will be provided on arrival

Presentation - 20 minutes

Leaflets and discussions

Time for individual consultations

Unfortunately, we are unable to provide creche facilities during the workshop.

Please call me or the school office to book your place by Friday 8 October. We hope to hold further workshops covering different topics later in 2021 and 2022.

Sally Singh

Welfare Manager

01273 681377 op 3

Do you have what it takes to be a CAW Ambassador?



Thank you so much for all of the amazing application letters I have received. I have responded to each and every letter and have invited applicants to prepare a speech to present to Years 5 and 6 on Tuesday morning. After this, we will hold an election! Perhaps this is something you could be preparing for at home. I find it really useful to practise the things I have to say aloud to a big audience – it helps me to feel confident. Could this work for you too? Feet shoulder width apart, hands by your sides (like you're carrying shopping bags), chin up and eyes facing forward. Why not record yourself rehearsing your speech and making it better each time?

Bottles and 'Bits'

Please make sure your children bring their named water bottle to and from school each day. We must remind you, we struggle to provide children with cups as these cannot be shared and are ecologically and economically a worse option than each child having their own clean bottle. **Please help us to keep your children hydrated by sending them to school with a named bottle every day.**

Children may bring caps/hats to school for play times when it is hot and sunny – you must ensure that these are named if we are going to be able to support you in retrieving any lost property.

Please ensure that children bring a named coat (preferably with a hood) to school with them.

Year 6 Parents

Application deadline for starting secondary school in September 2022

The closing date for applications to transfer to secondary school in September 2022 is **31st October 2021**.

Guidance on the application process is available on the council website [School application guides](#)

Online applications are open on the council website. [Apply for a school place](#)

Email offers in response to online applications will be made after noon on 1st March 2022.

No decisions will be given by telephone.

A reminder: Breakfast Club

Children from Reception to Year 6 are eligible to come to school early for a free breakfast. Reception children are invited to join us from Monday 20th September and thereafter.

The Canteen Gate will be opened promptly at 08:00 and closed at 08:10 to admit children for breakfast.

Children are offered a wonderful range of breakfast foods and play opportunities. Our Breakfast Club team escort the children to class for 08:30.



School Meals and Payments

Please don't forget that Year 2s moving to Year 3 are no longer eligible for Universal Free School Meals. Please make sure that you have activated your ParentPay account if you haven't already.

You may be eligible for Free School Meals. Please don't hesitate to contact the FSM team who are really friendly and helpful; they're available to support you on 01273 293497 or at this [web address](#).



School Dinners Week 1

City Academy Whitehawk Week 1

Weekly menu



Monday

Chicken and Mixed Peppers in a Tomato Sauce served with Rice

Macaroni Cheese

Jacket Potatoes served with a variety of fillings

Seasonal Vegetables

Chocolate Ice Cream

Fresh Fruit or Yoghurt

Tuesday

Homemade Cheese and Tomato Pizza served with Potato Wedges

Mixed Bean and Vegetable Burrito served with Potato Wedges

Jacket Potatoes served with a variety of fillings

Seasonal Vegetables

Syrup Sponge and Custard

Fresh Fruit or Yoghurt

Wednesday

Roast Gammon served with Fluffy Roast Potatoes and Gravy

Vegetable Parcels served with Fluffy Roast Potatoes and Gravy

Jacket Potatoes served with a variety of fillings

Seasonal Vegetables

Cinnamon Cookie

Fresh Fruit or Yoghurt

Thursday

Beef Pasta Bolognese served with a Herb Bread Wedge

Homemade Veg Meatballs in a Tomato Sauce served with Pasta

Jacket Potatoes served with a variety of fillings

Seasonal Vegetables

Fruit Sponge

Fresh Fruit or Yoghurt

Friday

Battered Fish and Chips

Quorn Nuggets and Chips

Jacket Potatoes served with a variety of fillings

Seasonal vegetables

Shortbread Fingers

Fresh Fruit or Yoghurt

School Uniform

The past year and a half was very difficult for many families due to the pandemic, and as a school we understand that families have struggled to purchase new uniform. We have therefore not been enforcing uniform rules as we have done in the past.

We would like to see children in full uniform (please see next page for details). We will be returning to the expectations we had for uniform prior to the pandemic, and ask that all pupils come to school each day with clean, well fitting, named uniform. A permanent marker to the reverse side of the school logo is a great way to ensure that jumpers and cardigans are returned to their rightful owners.

The children will also require a named water-bottle and bag.

If there are any families who are on a low income and would like some support in purchasing new uniform, a local charity called Pelican Parcels has agreed to help. Please complete the Pelican Parcels order form available on our website. The pick/locations for Pelican Parcel deliveries are as follows:

- Whitehawk Foodbank
- CHOMP,
- East Brighton Food Co-operative
- Roundabout Children's Centre

Thanks for your support.

Uniform in September

Please visit [Logo Sports](#) to purchase your uniform or see the next page about Pelican Parcels.

blue polo shirt
with academy
logo

burgundy
sweatshirt or
cardigan with
academy logo

burgundy fleece
with academy
logo

black trousers,
skirts or
pinafore dresses

plain black
shoes (we
recommend
avoiding laces)

plain socks or
tights

In warm
weather, black
school shorts or
blue and white
check school
dresses can be
worn

Additional Information

- Put a memorable key chain on your child's book bag.
- Girls are asked to wear skirts over leggings.
- Please don't send your child in with toys from home in case they are lost or damaged.
- Please consider sending a spare set of clothes for your child's peg if you think your child may need this.
- Please name all of your child's items. We recommend displaying their name in the collar and also writing it on the back of the item's academy logo badge.
- If you would like to buy logo free blue polo shirts please do so. We do lots of messy play in Reception and we can get dirty sometimes. Some children like to keep their logo blue shirts for special occasions such as, school photos/events.
- Please bring a named water bottle to school.
- If eating packed lunches, please name your lunchbox.



Sickness and Diarrhoea

Sickness and Diarrhoea

To keep the school community as healthy as possible, it is important that children who demonstrate sickness or diarrhoea stay at home for 48 hours after their most recent bout of being unwell. Please liaise with the office team if you have any questions about this.

Contagious Illnesses

A number of our children are medically vulnerable; as such we ask that you let us know as soon as possible if your child develops a viral illness (chicken pox, for example).

Dates for your Diary

Our term dates for 21/22 are online: [click here to see them](#).

Thursday 7th October: Poetry Day

Tuesday 12th October: Parent Workshop

Week beginning 18th October: Parent Engagement Events tbc

Tuesday 19th October: Parent/Carer consultation 15:30 – 19:00

Wednesday 20th October: Parent/Carer consultation 15:30-17:00

Friday 22nd October: End of Autumn Term 1

Monday 1st November: Start of Autumn Term 2

Friday 12th November: INSET Day

Friday 17th December: End of Autumn Term 2

Wednesday 5th January: Start of Spring 1

Lastly: A bit of fund raising...

Friends and I completed the London to Brighton bike ride on Sunday 19th. We were unlucky with the weather but had a great time. Thank you so, so much to the members of the Whitehawk community who donated to charity so generously.

If you'd still like to make a charitable contribution to St. George's Hospital, we'll very, very gratefully receive it [here](#).

I hope this letter has provided you with all the information you need but please do not hesitate to get in touch or check through [previous newsletters](#).

We've had a special focus on Resilience, Excellence and Respect so far this term. I'm looking forward to passing out some Respect certificates on Monday and Tuesday.

Have a great weekend.

Thomas McMorris
Headteacher

