

# Whitehead Primary & Nursery Unit



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Principal: Mr J. Loughins BEd MEd PQH(NI)

4 March 2019

Dear Parent

As Mr Bennett retires, I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for the huge difference he has made to so many pupils, both in his class and particularly through music. I wish him a very happy and healthy retirement. Miss Martin will replace Mr Bennett in Year 5 until the end of June.

As Miss Morrison leaves us to start her new job in Antrim, I would like to thank her for her hard work and commitment to the pupils of Whitehead Primary School. She has been a great asset to the Whitehead Primary School staff team and I wish her every success in Round Tower, Antrim. Miss Milligan will replace Miss Morrison in Year 3 until the end of June. Can I also take this opportunity to pass on our sincere condolences to Miss Morrison whose father passed away very suddenly last week. Miss Morrison and her family are very much in the thoughts and prayers of everyone associated with Whitehead Primary School.

Following the recent interview process, Mr Philip Hill has been appointed as the new Year 5 teacher to replace Mrs Kelly. Through this process we have also been able to appoint Miss Catherine Higgins who will take up post in August 2019. As no start date has been confirmed for Mr Hill, Miss White will continue in Year 5 until she is replaced by Mr Hill. At that time she will move to Year 7 to cover Mrs Hill's maternity leave.

As Mrs Hill and Mrs Holmes begin their maternity leaves, we wish them well as they embark on this new and exciting stage of their lives. Mrs Hill's class will be covered by Mrs Grier and Mrs Higgins this week. From Monday, 11 March 2019 Miss Gray will cover Mrs Hill's class until Miss White takes over.

## Nursery Assistant

In order to cover Mrs Holmes' maternity leave we require a Nursery Assistant who is able to work a total of 11.5 hours as follows:-

Thursday	8.30 – 11.30 am & 12.30 – 3.30 pm
Friday	8.30 – 11.30 am & 12.30 – 3.00 pm

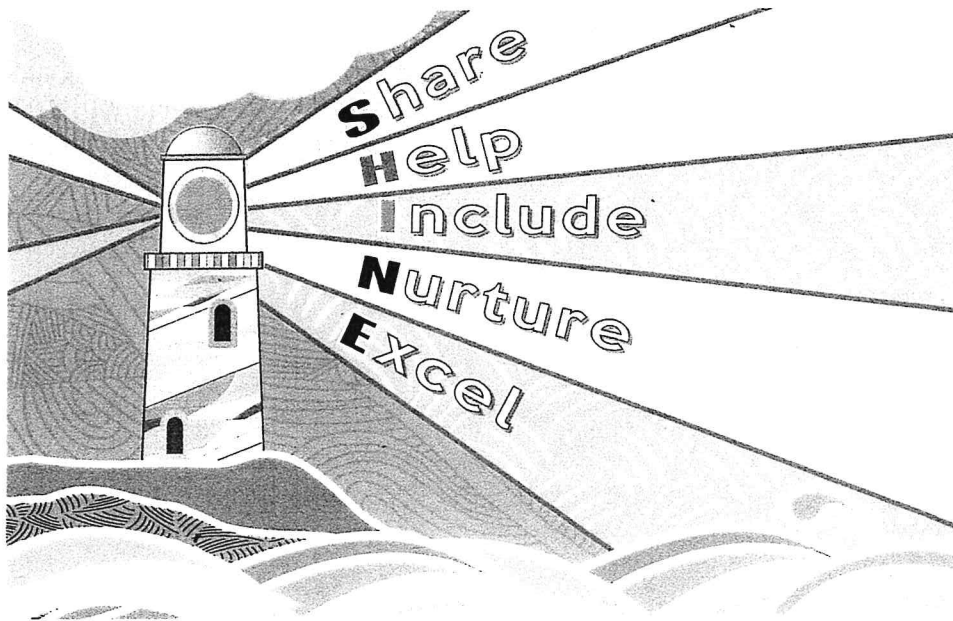
It would be preferable if the hours were filled by a qualified classroom assistant. If you are interested, please contact Mrs Lowry in the office.

## School Development Plan

Every three years we as a school produce a new three-year development plan. As part of this process, we ask pupils, parents, staff and governors to complete questionnaires in order to ascertain areas of school life which are working well and also areas in which we need to improve. I would really appreciate your support in completing the questionnaires. **ALL QUESTIONNAIRES SHOULD BE RETURNED TO A BOX IN THE MAIN FOYER.** Questionnaires can be returned anonymously, however, named questionnaires enable me to follow up on any issues that are raised. Questionnaires should be returned by Monday, 11 March 2019. Questionnaires will be analysed and I will provide feedback to parents during our Curriculum Evenings in September.

## SHINE

As you may be aware, we have been reviewing our school rules. Through the input of the pupils, parents and staff, we have produced our new rules around the mnemonic "SHINE". Sophia Chowne from Year 7 won a competition to design a poster for the new rules. Based on her poster, a graphic designer produced new posters and postcards. Every child will get a postcard and the posters will be displayed in the classrooms and throughout the school. Thank you for your support in this initiative.



### Money Week

Money Week will take place this week, 4 – 8 March 2019.

Your child will participate in money related lessons each day in class. This is a good opportunity for pupils to gain skills, knowledge and confidence in money matters.

Throughout the week, Year 6 and 7 pupils will be participating in a 'Young Enterprise' Challenge where they have to turn an initial £25 investment into profit.

The 'Young Enterprise Challenge' will provide an opportunity for Year 6 and 7 pupils to develop and reinforce vital skills such as organisation, communication, confidence, resilience, team work and, of course, develop essential money skills through analysing information, managing their budget, problem solving and decision making.

Once the initial £25 is repaid, the children will be able to spend their profits on a treat of their choosing as a reward for all their hard work!

On Friday, 8 March 2019 your child will have an opportunity to visit the stalls where they can buy items which the Year 6 and 7 pupils are selling. There will be a selection of items for sale such as lemonade, pick-a-mix, buns, popcorn, candyfloss, etc.

If your child wishes to purchase items from the stalls, it is important that they bring a purse/wallet to school on Friday 8th with a maximum amount of £1 in change (silver coins) so that they can avail of the opportunity of counting out their money and working out change if necessary.

Regards

**J LOUGHINS**  
Principal