

Whitchurch Primary School and Nursery

Year 1 Meet the Teacher

September 2026



Our Vision



The Whitchurch family rests at the very heart of everything we do, celebrating our uniqueness and building on our community's strength. We support our children to become confident, resilient and socially responsible global citizens who set and achieve the highest standards for themselves. We work in partnership with the whole community, respecting and responding to its voice and valuing its diversity. Our school provides a broad and rich curriculum that engages each and every child to know more, remember more and aspire for more.

'Learners today, leaders tomorrow'



Our Mission: During every school day...

- Children thrive with our broad and rich curriculum that inspires and motivates a love of lifelong learning and achievements.
- We plan stimulating learning experiences, inside and outside of school, where children practise, develop and apply new skills, knowledge and understanding.
- Children build values that will help support their confidence and their resilience in life beyond the school gate.
- Our whole community is happy, safe, secure and supported in learning together.
- The school community celebrates the importance of its cultural diversity, learning from one another in order to grow and develop together.



'Learners today, leaders tomorrow'



Year 1 Team



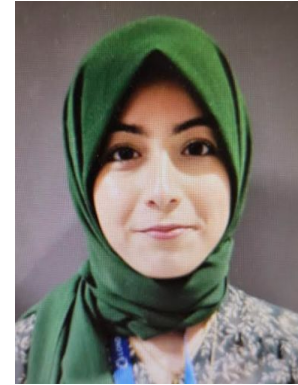
Miss Datoo
Year Team Leader



Mrs Ahmed



Mrs Bainbridge
Phonics Lead



Miss Syed



Miss Francis-Dottin
AHT



Mrs Patel
HLTA
Phonics Interventions



Mrs T



Mrs Priyanthan



Whitchurch Core Values

Respect

We show respect for those around us, the diversity of our community and for our environment

Responsibility

We take responsibility for our learning, our behaviour and the choices we make

Honesty

We are honest with ourselves and others

Aspiration

We continually strive to be the best we can be

Generosity

We are generous in our words and actions

Resilience

We are resilient to the challenges we face daily

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Pick up and Drop off times



Morning drop off

- The main gate and Marsh Lane gate open shortly before **8:40am**.
- Classroom doors open at **8:40am**, when our soft start begins. Soft start is a valuable opportunity for pupils to revisit previous learning or read one-to-one with an adult. Children should therefore arrive promptly at **8:40am** to make the most of this time.
- Children can arrive between **8:40am and 8:55am**. The gates close at **8:55am**. Children arriving after this time must report to the main school office and will be registered as late.
- Daily attendance at school is of the **utmost importance**.
- Children are expected to be punctual in the morning so that they do not miss the morning routine

Afternoon collection

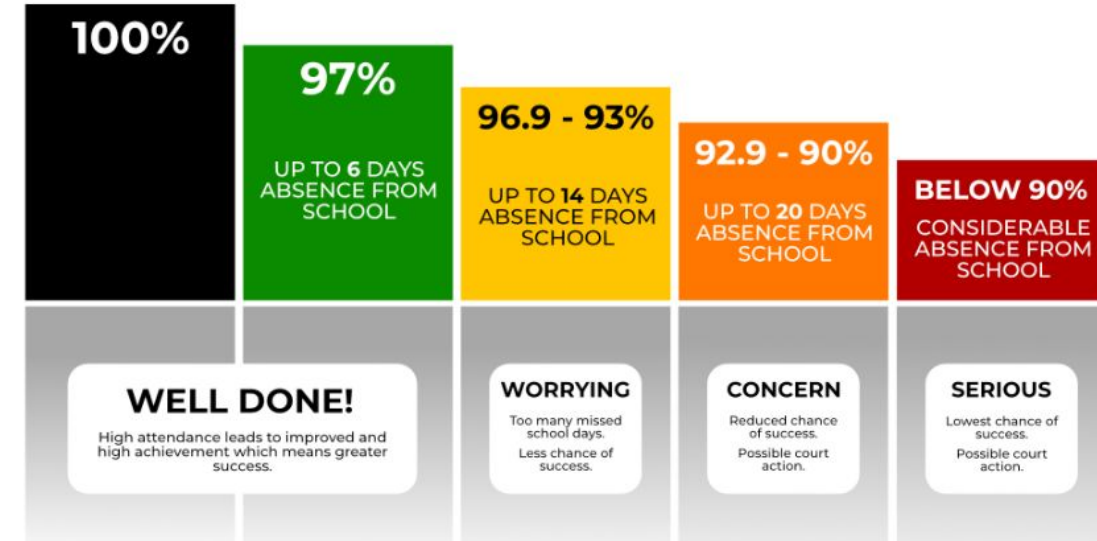
- Year 1 classes now have new fencing outdoors to support their daily learning.
- Classroom doors will open at **3:20pm** for dismissal and parents/carers must wait patiently at the fencing.
- If you would like to speak to your child's class teacher please wait until we have dismissed all other children (the handing over of children is our priority at the end of the day). Emails and scheduled appointments are the best and preferred way to communicate with your child's class teacher.



Attendance and Punctuality



- **Holidays should not be booked during term time.** These absences will not be approved and will be recorded as unauthorised.
- Wherever possible, appointments should be booked outside the school day. If you do have any appointments during term time, you must show this evidence to the admin office so that they can authorise the absence
- Unauthorised absences can result in a penalty notice being issued.



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Booking School Meals



We recommend a hot school meal in the middle of the day. Children are supported in the hall and we ensure they are encouraged to eat and try new things.

Please explore the menu with your child and book for the full half term through **ParentPay**. We have bands which are given to the children in the morning. The colour is dependent on your child's choice of food:

- **Red: meat and fish option**
- **Green: vegetarian options**
- **Yellow: vegan or alternative option**
- **Purple lanyard: allergies**



If you do not book a school meal for your child by Sunday each week, you will be asked to bring in a packed lunch for the week for your child.

Packed lunches are discouraged for a number of reasons;

- Difficult to ensure a healthy balance of all the essential food groups;
- We have a number of children with extremely serious allergies and have to be strict about the food coming into school;
- It's more difficult for us to monitor what children are eating;
- We may replace any packed lunch that is not compliant with our lunch policies (we will of course advise parents of our concerns).

School Uniform

- We ask that your child always has on a clean uniform;
- Red sweatshirt or cardigan (with or without school logo);
- White polo shirt (with or without school logo);
- Dark grey trousers, skirt or pinafore dress / red and white dress for the summer;
- Smart black school shoes;
- Shirts should be tucked in at all times;
- If your child wears laces, ensure they can tie them independently. If not, Velcro or slip-on shoes are advised.
- The weather will begin to change this term, so please ensure your child has a coat/rain mac. Encourage your child to practise putting on and zipping up their own coat.
- These small skills build independence and help children manage their belongings confidently at school.
- Please ensure all uniform and PE items are **labelled so they can be easily identified...** even shoes!



Physical Education

All Year 1 Classes have PE on **Monday (indoors)** and **Friday (outdoors)** afternoons.

On their PE days, children should come to school in their P.E. kit:

- Coloured t-shirt (with or without school logo) - depending on team colour
- Black shorts
- Grey sweatshirt – outdoors
- Grey tracksuit bottoms – outdoors
- We ask that a sweat band is provided to cover a Sikh wristband.
- No other jewellery is allowed. (Earrings must be removed / covered in masking tape.)
- Long hair should be tied up.
- Please cover verrucas with a plaster or provide a verruca guard (socks are not allowed during indoor PE due to slipping)

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Reading



Reading at home

- Children are expected to read at least 10-15 minutes of a reading book each evening.

Reading Records

- Reading books are changed and reading records are checked by an adult weekly.
- Please sign your child's reading record daily to indicate your child has read to an adult each day.
- **Reminder:** children must bring their reading records to school every day.



Read Write Inc Phonics

In Year 1, children will continue to follow the Read Write Inc. phonics scheme.

Children will be given a core phonics reading book and a book bag book to bring home each day.

These books are matched to their reading level and are intended to support confidence, fluency and comprehension, so children should be encouraged to read them independently.



RWI Core Storybook



RWI Book Bag Book



Read Write Inc Phonics

All children will receive a new book bag book every Friday.

Depending on their phonics group, they will also receive a new storybook on either the third day (green, purple, pink or orange groups) or the fifth day (yellow, blue or grey groups) of reading that text.

Please ensure your child is reading their phonics books every day and brought to school daily in book bags.

If your child does not return their phonics book (or any school reading book), they will not receive a new one until it is returned. If the book is lost, a £10 replacement fee will be charged.



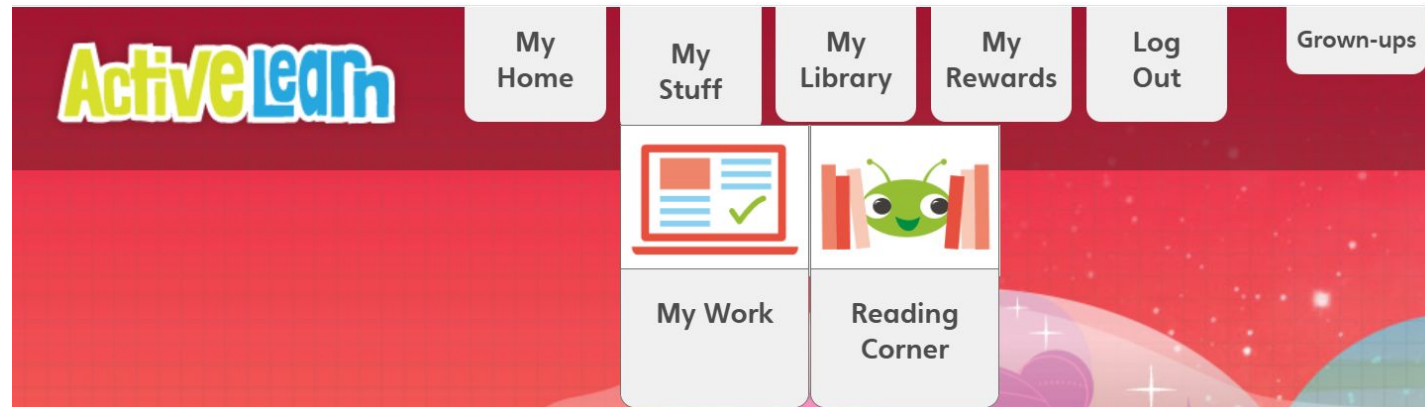
Bug Club



Bug Club is an online reading platform used to support children's reading at home.

In KS1, pupils can login and click on '*Reading Corner*' to explore a range of online books to enjoy with an adult or independently.

Login details can be found inside your child's reading journal.



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Year 1

- Year 1**
- # Recommended Reading Books
- Whitchurch Primary School and Nursery
- 
- Below the grid of book covers, there is a blue banner with white text that reads: "To read all of these books in Year 1. Sufficient for reading 5, 10, 15 and 30 books." To the right of the banner, there are two star icons: a gold star and a silver star.
- To read all of these books in Year 1.
Sufficient for reading 5, 10, 15 and 30 books.
- Gold Award



Home Learning



Weekly Home Learning

Maths Home Learning (Purple home learning book)	Home learning is given out on Fridays and are due on Wednesdays.
Spellings	Spelling lists are shared in advance. Every Thursday children will have a spelling test. Children should practise their spellings in purple home learning book.
Reading	Children should be reading every day. Parents/carers should sign diary daily. Reading Records are checked weekly

Half Termly Home Learning - Showcase

English	Maths	Other Curriculum Subjects
 Read a range of stories about starting a new school or meeting new people. What do you think a story about a new child in a class might be about? How might they feel? Draw a picture of how you would help someone settle into a new class to settle in.	  Use small blocks to build towers that show different numbers from 1 - 10. Label each tower with the correct amount of blocks. Use language such as 'more than', 'less than' and 'fewer' to compare the towers.	  Science: Human Senses Try some new foods. Talk about what you liked best. Draw and label your top 2 tastes.
 Look at pictures or videos of jungle animals. Draw 3 animals you might find in the jungle. With help, write a short sentence under each picture.	 Number detective! Look around your house and try to spot groups of items. For example: <i>I can see 6 apples, that's 6 ones.</i>	 Science: Human Senses Look in the mirror and draw a picture of yourself. Label each part of your body and what sense it is associated with.
 Draw a picture of a new child arriving at school. What might they be feeling? With help, label your drawing using adjectives (e.g. nervous, shy, excited, happy).	 Ask an adult to hide number cards from 1 - 10 around the house. Find 2 cards and add or subtract them. Explore and record the patterns you can find, e.g. $2+3=5$, $3+2=5$	 History: How am I Making History? Choose an item from your childhood that is special to you. Talk to an adult about your favourite memories.
Practice writing the long date e.g. <i>Monday 1st September 2026</i>	Explore number sentences within 10. Write 5 addition and subtraction number sentences e.g. $6 - 4 = 2$, $5 + 4 = 9$	Computing: Online Safety Create a poster of a set of rules on how to stay safe online.

Children are invited to complete a range of tasks linked to their learning in class. We ask that they complete **at least three tasks across different subjects**. Tasks can be completed in home learning books or presented in any format they choose.

Phonics Screening Check June 2027



This is a statutory government check that is used to confirm that all children have learned phonic decoding to an appropriate standard.

The check will be taken in June 2027.

More information regarding the check can be found [here](#).

Mrs Bainbridge will also be holding a Phonics workshop this term in the hall and will deliver an online Phonics Screening Check workshop in the Spring term.

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Section 1	Section 1	Section 2	Section 2
chip	fod 	brend 	label
hill	bep 	throst 	vanish
jars	zat 	stret 	blossom
shack	ult 	spraw 	thankful

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Year 1 Curriculum



[Home](#) | [Our School](#) | [Our Learning](#) | [Parents & Community](#) | [Enrichment](#) | [Contact](#)

Year 1

Welcome to Year 1. We very much s
parents and carers. Please refer to
your child's learning both at school and home.

If you have any queries please contact Miss S Datoo (Year 1)

Autumn Term

PE days
Children should come to school wearing their PE kit on their
days this term are: Mondays and Fridays (all Year 1 classes).

Homework
Spellings tests are on Thursdays.
Maths learning is set on Friday in the purple Home Learning book.
All home learning is due on Wednesdays.
Please ensure children read at home at least four to five times per week and that

- Early Years
- Whitchurch Curriculum
- Year Groups

- Nursery
- Reception
- Year 1
- Year 2
- Year 3
- Year 4
- Year 5
- Year 6

- Year 1
- Year 2
- Year 3
- Year 4
- Year 5
- Year 6

At Whitchurch, we plan a bespoke and interesting curriculum which centres around your child and our school community.

You can find the curriculum overview for this academic year on our website [here](#).

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Handwriting

In Year 1, children will have a 10–15 minute handwriting lesson four times a week, following the Nelson Handwriting scheme.

Lessons focus on correct letter formation, joins, consistent sizing and spacing, as well as good posture, pencil grip and positioning of the paper.

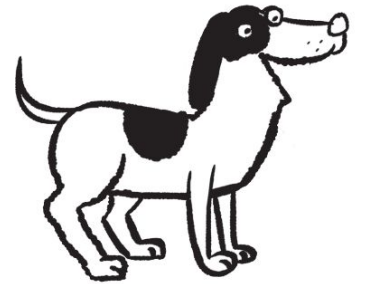
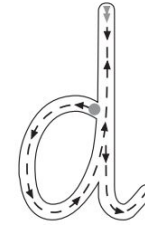
The aim is to develop neat, fluent and automatic handwriting, so children can concentrate on their ideas, spelling and the quality of their writing rather than thinking about how to form each letter.

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UNIT 2

Focus

Name _____ Date _____



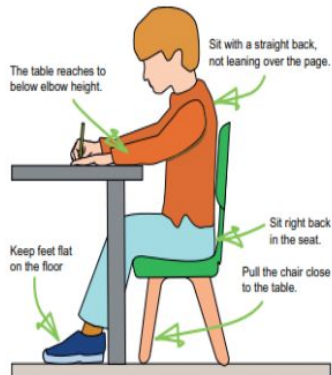
A Trace and write the pattern and the letters.



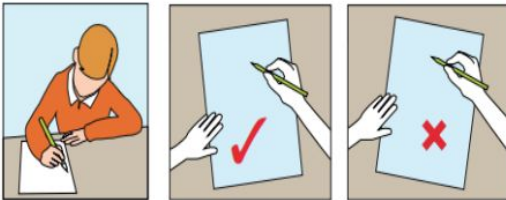
Handwriting

Right handed children

How to sit correctly to be comfortable for handwriting.

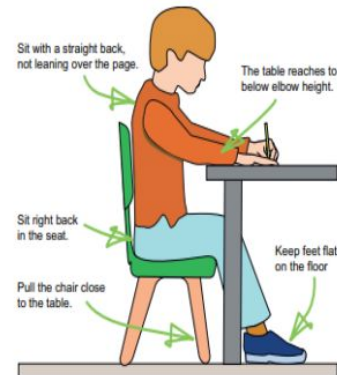


How to hold and position the paper.

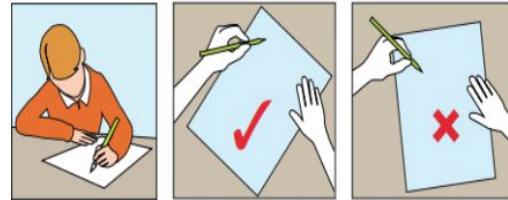


Left handed children

How to sit correctly to be comfortable for handwriting.



How to hold and position the paper.



FISTED GRIP
1-2 years old

Children often hold their writing tool like a dagger, scribbling using their whole arm.



DIGITAL PRONATE GRIP
2-3 years old

All fingers are holding the writing tool but the wrist is turned so that the palm is facing down towards the page. Movement now comes mostly from the elbow. Children should start being able to copy a horizontal, vertical and circular line.



OR



4 FINGER GRIP
3-4 years old

4 fingers are held on the writing tool. Movement is mostly from the wrist and the hand and fingers move as one.



STATIC TRIPOD GRIP
4-6 years old

This is a 3 finger grasp, where the thumb, index finger and middle finger work as one unit.



DYNAMIC TRIPOD GRIP
By 6 or 7 years old

Using only 3 fingers to hold the writing tool. This is the ideal grip to help move the pencil efficiently, accurately.

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Assemblies



Celebration Assembly

Every Friday, children are recognised with certificates linked to our Value of the Month, such as *Respect*. By the end of the year, every child will have received a certificate for at least one of our values. We also celebrate achievements outside of school. If your child has something they would like to share, contact their teacher or YTL.

Class Assemblies

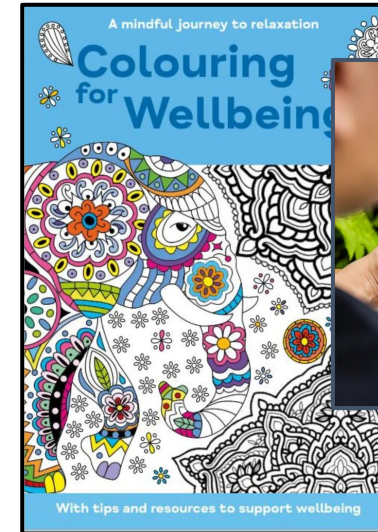
Each Year 1 class will have the opportunity to showcase their learning in a class assembly, which parents and carers are invited to attend. Assemblies take place on Thursday mornings at 9:05am. The dates for each class assembly will be shared via the school newsletter.

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Wet Play

- Pupils may bring in a **personal sketchbook or colouring book** to use during indoor/wet play.
- Books should be **clearly labelled with your child's name** and kept in their school tray.
- **Colouring pencils or crayons only**. No felt-tip pens, gel pens or paints.
- This is **completely optional**. Each classroom will also have a **Wet Play Box** with games and activities available.
- This supports a **calm, creative and enjoyable** wet playtime.



Key Information

Items children DO NOT need

- No toys, gadgets or smart watches.
- No Pokémon, football or other collectable cards.
- No stationery, including pens and pencils.
- Whitchurch Leaders will receive a lanyard. Keyrings, toys or other accessories should not be attached to these.

Birthdays

- We will always celebrate your child's birthday in school, for example by singing *Happy Birthday* or sharing their favourite book.
- Food, sweets and party bags should **not** be brought into school or handed out in the playground. This supports our healthy eating approach and helps us manage allergies and dietary requirements safely.



Year 1 Enrichment



Year 1 have a range of exciting **trips, visitors and enrichment opportunities** planned throughout the year, both in school, within our local community and further afield. See below a few of the opportunities we have planned for this year:

- **Autumn 1 and 2:** Hindu visitor, Autumn Senses Walk, National Poetry Day poet visit, local church visit linked to RE, NSPCC *Speak Out. Stay Safe* workshop
- **Spring 1 and 2:** Minibeast Garden Exhibition, World Book Day
- **Summer 1 and 2:** Kew Gardens, animal workshop, Sports Day

Some enrichment opportunities are **free of charge**, while others involve additional costs such as **transport, coaches, entrance fees or specialist workshops**. Where a contribution is required, parents and carers will receive full information, including costs, closer to the date.

We aim to provide all planned opportunities; however, some activities may be subject to change or cancellation if we are unable to meet the associated costs. **Parent and carer contributions are therefore essential in helping us to provide these valuable experiences for our children.**

Parent/Carer Volunteers



We are always extremely grateful to parents and carers who are able to volunteer their time to support our pupils and staff.

There will be opportunities throughout the year to support with:

- School trips and visits
- Special events and enrichment activities

Information about these opportunities will be shared with parents and carers as and when support is needed.

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WRAPAROUND CARE



WRAPAROUND CARE can be booked via hello@junioradventuresgroup.co.uk and via the link on our school website - [Whitchurch Primary School and Nursery: Wraparound Care](#)

Enrichment clubs

External clubs like Karate, Chess, Robothink, Stage Coach are booked separately and paid for directly to the provider.

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Contacting Teachers/the school

Whitchurch Primary School and Nursery
Wemborough Road, Stanmore, Middlesex, HA7 2EQ

School Office | 020 8951 5380
office@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk

Your **first point of contact should always be your child's class teacher**. They know your child best and should have the opportunity to respond to any questions or concerns in the first instance.

- Email the **school office**. Your message will be forwarded to the class teacher to follow up.
- Allow up to **48 hours for a response**.
- We ask parents and carers **not to bypass the class teacher by contacting senior staff first**, unless the matter is urgent or relates directly to a member of staff.

If your question or concern remains unresolved following discussion with the class teacher, you can contact the **Year Team Leader, Miss Datoo at sdatoo6@whitchurchps.co.uk**.

Depending on the nature of the enquiry, Miss Datoo may refer it back to the class teacher where they are best placed to respond.



Communication

Whitchurch Primary School and Nursery
Wemborough Road, Stanmore, Middlesex, HA7 2EQ

School Office | 020 8951 5380
office@whitchurchprimary.harrow.sch.uk

- Remember to read the **school newsletter**
- **Important dates and updates** are posted on the school website – **please check regularly**
- Download the **School Spider app** to receive important messages and updates- the school office can help you with this
- If your child has been selected to attend an intervention after school, you will be contacted via a school spider email.

Important: Please tell us any change of details of people collecting your child



Whatsapp Groups

Create and join your class WhatsApp group to receive helpful reminders and updates. Decide on Class Reps.

These groups are intended for **practical reminders and information**, for example, *“Do not forget, it is non-uniform day today!”*

To keep the groups helpful and appropriate for everyone:

- Keep all communication **respectful and professional**.
- Avoid posting questions where information is unclear or unconfirmed, as this can create confusion for other parents and carers.
- Do not use the group to share **opinions, complaints or concerns**.
- **Do not post or discuss individual children or members of staff** in the group.
- For questions or concerns, check the **school website and weekly bulletin/newsletter**, or speak directly to your child's class teacher.

Class Reps will ask for inappropriate messages to be removed. **Repeated disregard of these expectations may result in removal from the group.**



Any Questions?

