



Newsletter

The White Hills Park Trust

Friday 25th September 2020

www.whptrust.org

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Choosing a School for next Year: Information & Open Evenings

Despite the fact that we have only just started back, parents of children who will be starting school for the first time in 2021 or who are currently in Year 6 will already be thinking about their choice of school for next September. The application process for secondary schools is already taking place, and applications should be completed by the end of October. Applications for first admission to primary schools begin after half term and should be completed by the middle of January. Details are on our school websites.

I firmly believe that what the vast majority of parents want is for their child to attend the local school, and for that to be a good school. They want to know that their child will be cared for, will receive a high-quality education, and to be given the opportunity to develop into successful and well-rounded young people. This is what our schools offer, and the growing success of all of the White Hills Park Trust schools means that our schools are popular and pupil numbers are very healthy. We simply want parents to have all the information that they need to make their choice of school, and we will never undermine or criticise other schools to influence that choice.

For the majority of parents, the choice is usually fairly simple. If an older brother or sister goes to a particular school or it is the only practical choice because of distance and travel arrangements, then the decision is normally straightforward. However, this doesn't mean that the process isn't important or valuable. In reality, the transition to a new school starts from the first time that the prospective pupil sets foot in the school, meets staff and other pupils, sees the sort of things that take place and the friendly and welcoming atmosphere, and starts to mentally prepare for the time that they actually become a pupil at the school.

In any other year, our schools would be busy preparing opportunities for parents and their children to visit and find out more about the school. We would be throwing our doors open and inviting people in to see the way that our wonderful schools work. We would be using our pupils as our best ambassadors and sharing the exciting opportunities that our curriculum offers. However, Covid-19 has put paid to our usual plans and in the interests of everyone's safety, we are having to take a very different approach.

Our Year 5 / 6 Open evenings are now beginning. We have had to be creative, and both Alderman White and Bramcote College are using a combination of online presentations, video tours and opportunities for parents to ask questions. We are also making sure that parents can find out specialist information, for example about our special needs provision, or enrichment opportunities. We will try and get across some of the excitement about starting secondary schools that always comes across during our Open Evenings. All the details are on the schools' websites. We will give details about opportunities to find out about The Florence Nightingale Academy later in the term.

Of course, this is only the start of the transition process. There are many other events that are planned during the year so that the start of school is as smooth and successful as possible. We fervently hope that as we go through the year, it will be safe to open up our schools again, and share the experience of school life with parents and new pupils.

Dr. Paul Heery
Chief Executive Officer

Thank you for the books Miss Cox!

We received a donation of a books last week from our lovely Miss Cox, she has raised money by organising a disco which people joined from all over the world!

With this money she has bought books for schools to raise awareness of ethnicity and diversity.

Thank you for the kind donation Miss Cox, our children will love reading these!



Well Done to our new Head Boy and Head Girl!

This week we announced our new Head Boy and Head Girl, we had a tough decision as Year 6 wrote some brilliant letters to showcase their attributes.

Congratulations to both Tommy and Skye, we look forward to them starting their new roles.

Alongside them we have also appointed Deputies: William and Harrison and Scarlett and Lydia-Mei. We know you will make a great team this year!



Vacancy: We're looking for a Site Manager

We are seeking to appoint a highly motivated and pro-active individual with energy and vision to join our team as a **Site Manager** at The Florence Nightingale Academy.

NJE Grade 4: £20,493 to £23,080

37 hours per week all year round

The responsibilities of the Site Manager will include the upkeep, care, maintenance, security and facilities management of the school's premises. The successful candidate will be required to undertake manual handling tasks and to work at height; manage contractors to ensure all on site work is in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Trust to include all Health & Safety, Safeguarding and Child Protection matters, have experience of leading and supervising colleagues and be willing to undertake training in, or have experience of, the legislation regarding asbestos, fire, water and electricity regulations.

The **closing date for applications** is **9.00 am on Wednesday, 7th October 2020**.

Interview date to be confirmed.

We welcome applications from a wide range of backgrounds and experience. Previous experience of working in a school environment is not essential.

Visits are highly recommended. If you would like to discuss the role in further detail or arrange an informal visit, please contact Gill Baggley, School Business Manager at The Florence Nightingale Academy on 01773 713452.

Further details and an application form are available to download on our [website](#).

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This week: See Early Years looking at how water flows.

Look at the fantastic pictures F2 made using Autumn leaves they collected on a walk.

Check out some fun Maths activities you can do at home thanks to White Rose Maths.