

Academy Newsletter

Autumn 2026



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RRS - Silver to Gold



FROM THE HEADTEACHER...

OCT
2026

Welcome to the first edition of our school newsletter for the new academic year. It has been a fantastic start to the session, and I am delighted to share with you some of the many achievements, experiences and opportunities that our young people have been enjoying both inside and beyond the classroom.

At Whitburn Academy, learning extends far beyond lessons, and this newsletter highlights the wide range of activities that enrich our school community. From our successful Macmillan Coffee Morning, where students and staff came together to raise funds for an important cause, to our S3 Spanish pupils' visit to the Filmhouse in Edinburgh, our learners have embraced opportunities to broaden their horizons and make meaningful connections with the wider world.

We have also welcomed our new S1 students through activities such as Dignity Day, which supports our continued commitment to creating a respectful and inclusive school community. This work is particularly important as we continue our journey towards achieving the Rights Respecting Schools Gold Award.

Our P7 visitors recently enjoyed taking part in a SMART STEM event, helping to inspire curiosity, creativity and a love of learning as they prepare for the transition to secondary school.

Within these pages, you will find many articles written by our students, showcasing their talents, experiences and reflections. Their contributions provide an insight into the life of our school and the many ways in which our young people are developing as successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors.

I hope you enjoy reading our first newsletter of the year. Thank you for your continued support of our school community.

Tracey Loudon
Headteacher





SPOTLIGHTING SENIOR PUPIL'S SUCCESS

On Tuesday 1st September, many of our staff and senior phase pupils along with their family, gathered to recognise and celebrate the commitment, effort and excellence of our S4 to S6 pupils at this year's awards ceremony.

Awards were presented for both academic excellence and outstanding effort in each subject offered at the Academy, as well as other special awards. This year, alongside these awards, the school also presented a new award to those who achieved 5 or more A's on their National 5 or Higher exams.

Last session's S6 graduates were invited back to the school to sit amongst their peers one last time as we celebrated their success in their final year of school alongside last session's S4 and S5, who were all presented with an award

that they were nominated for by their teachers. These awards commemorate not only the incredible exam results of our pupils, but also the hard-work and perseverance behind them.

The ceremony included a speech from two of our previous school captains, Sam and Sajla, who graduated in 2025 and shared a bit about their journeys since leaving the school. The two presented a mix of both nostalgia and inspiration as they detailed the challenges of leaving home and making new friends at university and the fond memories they both made in Whitburn. Sam and Sajla chose to share the moments that pushed them alongside their own achievements, reminding us that the skills and friendships built at school can carry you much further than you realise.

One of our current students, Mae, also took the stage to read an excerpt from her National 5 English folio titled "Observation". The piece was full of vivid descriptions and beautifully written characterisation of a young boy about to be put on death row, as his sister looks at him through the observation mirror. The excerpt shows just how much care had gone into the crafting of this piece as she shows the delicate past of the character and the emotional intensity of the scene. She did an amazing job capturing the attention of the audience, highlighting both her own talent and the thriving creativity within our school community!

“Nothing can quite describe the feeling of seeing your own face reflected back at you, broken. He looked worse than he had during the trial; fresh injuries littering his face. His hair – once curly with a gentle chestnut hue that used to garner many complements – was buzzed close to his scalp, now appearing as more of a mottled mousey colour. The gentle curvature of his nose was decimated, twisted to a strange angle due to an accumulation of breaks throughout his time behind bars. Pink lips were burst and scabby, his once perfect cupid’s bow now practically imperceivable behind the mess of cuts and scabs. Worst of all were his eyes. Growing up, they had always held a certain innocence despite everything. Now, however, they were entirely without a trace of life. He was a walking corpse, skin pale and eyes hollow. My chest swelled at the tragedy- he had always been such a beautiful boy, and now even that had been stripped from him. The boy who once looked like he belonged in a renaissance painting now looked better suited to a morgue. I sank down in my seat at the thought – he’ll be in one soon enough.”

The evening ended successfully with refreshments, giving families and staff an opportunity to congratulate the award winners and take photographs. The ceremony was a proud reminder of the talent within our school and an encouraging

start to the next chapter for our senior pupils, whether that's the next school year, internships, or higher education.

LEGO CLUB



Whitburn Academy has started its own lunch time Lego Club!

The newly launched group, which meets in Miss Moffat's room (307) at lunchtimes on Wednesdays, have already started building their own creations!

The first of these was in the form of a Lego Challenge, to build an animal, vehicle, plant or flower using 25 random bricks and the second was to make something Halloween related. The results are shown below!

The Lego Club is open to pupils (and staff) in all year groups, so come along and have a 'bricktastic' time!





RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS: SILVER TO GOLD

In April 2025, Whitburn Academy received the Silver Rights Respecting Schools Award from UNICEF UK, and now we're working towards Gold.

The Silver Award is given to schools that have shown that they are rights aware, demonstrating real commitment to promoting and understanding children's rights and encouraging all school members, both staff and students, to respect the rights of others. Whitburn Academy is currently one of around 1,200 schools in the UK that have achieved Silver.

Progressing to the Gold Award is a continuation of a journey which will result in

an award that symbolises the great importance being placed on embedding the rights of a child into the daily life and practices of the school. It also means helping with local issues as well as taking interest in international issues, like International AIDS Day.

A great example of the school's commitment to this is the Dignity Day held on 16 September, which aimed to help inspire young people about their self-worth and potential and foster compassion and kindness within the school community.

Miss Nicol, one of the teachers involved in the Rights Respecting School Award and the progression from Silver to Gold, says, *"I think we do a pretty incredible job as a rights respecting school because it's always been embedded in our practice but we're finally getting recognition for it."*



Know your rights



All children have rights and also the right to know their rights. Which do you know? On this poster you will find all the rights that apply to you and all other children in the world. These rights are stated in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. It states what every child should have or be able to do.

1 DEFINITION OF A CHILD	2 NO DISCRIMINATION	3 BEST INTERESTS OF THE CHILD	4 MAKING RIGHTS REAL	5 FAMILY GUIDANCE AS CHILDREN DEVELOP	6 LIFE, SURVIVAL AND DEVELOPMENT	7 NAME AND NATIONALITY	8 IDENTITY
9 KEEPING FAMILIES TOGETHER	10 CONTACT WITH PARENTS ACROSS COUNTRIES	11 PROTECTION FROM KIDNAPPING	12 RESPECT FOR CHILDREN'S VIEWS	13 SHARING THOUGHTS FREELY	14 FREEDOM OF THOUGHT AND RELIGION	15 SETTING UP OR JOINING GROUPS	16 PROTECTION OF PRIVACY
17 ACCESS TO INFORMATION	18 RESPONSIBILITY OF PARENTS	19 PROTECTION FROM VIOLENCE	20 CHILDREN WITHOUT FAMILIES	21 CHILDREN WHO ARE ADOPTED	22 REFUGEE CHILDREN	23 CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES	24 HEALTH, WATER, FOOD, ENVIRONMENT
25 REVIEW OF A CHILD'S PLACEMENT	26 SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC HELP	27 FOOD, CLOTHING, A SAFE HOME	28 ACCESS TO EDUCATION	29 AIMS OF EDUCATION	30 MINORITY CULTURE, LANGUAGE AND RELIGION	31 REST, PLAY, CULTURE, ARTS	32 PROTECTION FROM HARMFUL WORK
33 PROTECTION FROM HARMFUL DRUGS	34 PROTECTION FROM SEXUAL ABUSE	35 PREVENTION OF SALE AND TRAFFICKING	36 PROTECTION FROM EXPLOITATION	37 CHILDREN IN DETENTION	38 PROTECTION IN WAR	39 RECOVERY AND REINTEGRATION	40 CHILDREN WHO BREAK THE LAW
41 BEST LAW FOR CHILDREN APPLIES	42 EVERYONE MUST KNOW CHILDREN'S RIGHTS	43-54 HOW THE CONVENTION WORKS	CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD				



Staff led a workshop with our entire S1, and it encouraged reflection on what dignity means personally and collectively, emphasising the value of inclusion and shared humanity.



DIGNITY DAY

On Wednesday 16th September, Whitburn Academy hosted its first ever Dignity Day.

Aiming to educate and inspire young people about their self-worth and potential while fostering compassion, kindness, and understanding among the school and wider community.

S3 SPANISH FILMHOUSE TRIP

On 17th September, a group of S3 Spanish students visited the Filmhouse in Edinburgh for a screening of Spanish film 'Remember My Name' followed by a Q&A and discussion session about the film.

Students enjoyed the film and loved listening to the live Spanish - English interpretation during the discussion with the movie representatives.



P7 SMARTSTEM EVENT

On 24th September, Primary 7 pupils from our cluster primary schools visited the Academy to take part in the annual SmartStem workshop event.

Pupils took part in a wide range of workshops, which included activities such as:

- building periscopes
- designing and building wind turbines using K'nex building blocks
- some fun science experiments
- designing overhead line equipment for the railways using marshmallows, spaghetti and blutack

- decorating old clothing by adding strings of lights

A huge thank you to the following companies and groups who came along and provided many fun, interesting and engaging activities for the pupils:

- SmartStem
- Edinburgh Napier University
- Animal and Plant Health Sciences
- Thales
- Kidz for All Seasons
- West Lothian Climate Action
- Pen to Post
- Lost Shore
- Oil States
- Scottish Power



MEET OUR NEW SCHOOL CAPTAINS!

At Whitburn Academy, we are delighted to welcome our two new school captains, who are more than ready to take on their roles and create a positive impact within our school community. The two pupils went through a lengthy selection process, where they went up against 8 other pupils and had to present their case to the entire school. From there, every student in the school from s1-s6 had the

opportunity to vote in who they think would make the best captain. From this vote, 6 students went through to the next stage where they were interviewed by staff and pupils, who came to the decision on who this year's captains would be.

Our new captains have a shared focus on improving students' enjoyment, hoping to make school a fun place to be full of opportunities and memories that the students will carry with them long after they leave, motivating students



to make the most of their time here and get involved!

Here is what they had to say:

“It has been an absolute honour to be elected as one of the school captains of Whitburn Academy. As school captain I have some ideas in mind of how to progress this school which focus on a key aspect of involvement in which pupils feel a belonging to the school and carry a pride that they represent it. Within this I want to create ample opportunity for people to excel in what they are good at and interested through opportunities that aren't existing within the school or need further work. I will work relentlessly throughout the year with my fellow School and House captains, Miss Loudon and other members of staff to bring the most to this school I can through sharing ideas and take on roles to better the operations of Whitburn Academy. I won't just say I hope, because I know that we can bring great things to this school so all I can say is excited for this year”

“It's honestly such a surreal feeling to be given this opportunity, especially because I've only been part of Whitburn for a few years. A huge part of what made Whitburn feel like home was getting involved. From Maths Ambassadors to STEM, Learner Voice and Rights Respecting School, I've had the chance to meet so many amazing people and try things I probably wouldn't have otherwise. And I think school

should be about more than just getting through your classes and counting down to the weekend. This whole process has taught me to be resilient, even when I think I 'stand no chance'. I am so honoured to represent the school and student body in this way, and I promise to do my best to give back to Whitburn Academy. I'm so excited for this year and for everything we're going to achieve. I have no idea where the year is going to take us but I'm looking forward to making it a fun one.” -

GOLDILOCKS & CO. STEAL THE SHOW



This year, our school stage will come alive with a brand-new take on the beloved story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears! This year the pantomime has a double cast for the lead roles, allowing for even more of our incredibly talented students to take to the stage.

Putting on a school pantomime is no small task, and our amazing teachers have been working hard behind the scenes to pull it all together. Our drama, music and art departments all work together alongside pupils to create costumes, props, backdrops and persevere through many hours of rehearsals to make sure the pantomime is a memorable success and their creativity, dedication and teamwork help turn a simple script into a magical experience for everyone.

There will be two performances on Tuesday the 8th and Wednesday the 9th of December, and tickets will be available from the school office for only £4 a ticket! Bring your family and friends, and come along to support our talented pupils and staff as they put on an incredible performance.

WHITBURN ACADEMY READING CHALLENGE LAUNCHED

Our school librarian, Mrs Skinner has created a reading challenge open to everyone in our school. This challenge is to try to encourage reading for pleasure, to learn to use reading as a chance to relax and get taken away in a story.

It is also to give a break from screens and social media. If this challenge is successful, it will contribute to better mental health for the young people in the school as their screen time will significantly decrease and they will have taken up the new hobby of reading.



The end goal is for everyone who takes part to have read 12 books in a year. The motivation for this is that pupils will get a reward for every 4 books they read, ranging from; silver, ruby and gold.

Although there is a catch, every 4 books must be of different genres. This is to broaden horizons and expand each person's reading world. To encourage people to be open to reading new things that they aren't used to, taking them out of their comfort zone.

After each book that has been read, to prove you've read it, you will create something based on the book. This could be a book cover, playlist, poster, etc. Anything that you can relate to the book.

With every challenge that is won, that pupil will receive a certificate and participation points for their house.

How can you enter? Well, it is open for everyone! S1s and S2s get the opportunity to read during class time and are told about this challenge by their English teacher.

S4-6 do not get this time as they need to focus on exams. Although they are still more than welcome, in fact, encouraged to join in.

This challenge is an excellent way of increasing the number of readers in the school and for

helping people to be more open minded to reading something different. So, get yourself to the library, get a book and get involved!

Mrs Skinner, School Librarian, said:

"The Reading Challenge is a fantastic opportunity for pupils to discover new authors, explore different genres and develop a lifelong love of reading. We hope that as many pupils as possible will get involved, challenge themselves and enjoy the rewards that come with reading."

The challenge forms part of Whitburn Academy's ongoing commitment to promoting literacy, reading for pleasure and wider achievement across the school community.



MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

On Friday 25th September, at break time, a coffee morning was held in the Staff Room for staff and S6 pupils. The coffee



morning, in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support, helps to raise funds to support the vital work they undertake providing specialist healthcare, support, and care to people currently suffering the effects of this horrible disease.

After paying a small entry fee, guests of the event would be greeted to a calm, yet social and welcoming environment, where they could talk to their peers freely.

Everyone was lounging around and having a relaxing time chatting to one another, and it was a warm and friendly environment all-around.

There were a various assortment of sweet treats and cakes as well as tea and coffee that could be ordered from at one of the counters, and even though there was a queue, the wait wasn't too long, and you could take as many treats as you wanted! The cakes were of a high quality, and the bakers went above and beyond for this one.

There was also a raffle that you could participate in, and get various rewards, such as a box of Celebrations chocolates and a Blu-ray DVD of the Oppenheimer movie.

Unlike the treats, you had to donate to play this, contributing to the total amount raised, but it was only £1 per raffle ticket, so it wasn't monetarily draining and an acceptable price.

We interviewed a member of the Charity Committee who was heavily involved in the running of the event, here is what they had to say:

Question 1: Which role did you take on when planning and setting up for the event and did it run smoothly?

Answer: *"Planning was simple enough; we just said what we wanted to do at our meeting and then got assigned jobs both for the day and leading up to it. We also got the rest of our year involved by asking them to make food for it along with us making it, and some people went around the school leading up to it to sell raffle tickets."*

Question 2: Did you think that working at the event was a worthwhile experience?

Answer: *"It was worth it as a charity thing, and as a general event. We raised a decent amount of money from both the raffle and donations, and it*



was quite popular with a lot of people enjoying the food and taking part in the raffle.”

Overall, the MacMillan Coffee Morning event was very well-received among those who attended and either helped to run the event or came along to it.

Our coffee morning raised the fantastic total of £436.05, with all proceeds going to MacMillan Cancer Support.

Well done and thank you to everyone who donated, bought raffle tickets, baked, attended or in any way, contributing towards raising an amazing sum of money for such a worthwhile cause!

NEW HOUSE SYSTEM

Whitburn Academy has recently had a significant change to our house system. We’ve increased the number of houses from three to five.

Previously, pupils were divided into Bruce, Douglas and Wallace. But now we have an additional two houses; MacDuff and Stewart.

Having these new houses is important as it allows us to be further connected with Scottish history.

The names are chosen to represent important Scottish historical figures. Bruce represents

Robert the Bruce, Wallace represents William Wallace and Douglas is linked to the powerful Douglas family, while Stewart represents James Stewart.

The most significant change with the new houses is MacDuff. MacDuff is the first representation we've had of a female historical Scottish figure. Isabella MacDuff was important as she crowned Robert the Bruce as her father could not. However, it was tradition for the crowning to be done by a member of the MacDuff family, so she stepped up to the role.

Two new houses mean that pupils now have more opportunities to get involved in events and competitions. Although it may take some time to settle into this new system, the addition of MacDuff and Stewart marks a new and exciting chapter for Whitburn Academy.

Bruce House

- SLT Link: Mr Bulloch
- Head of House: Mr Durkin
- House PSW: Mrs Prendergast

Douglas House

- SLT Link: Mr Bulloch
- Head of House: Mrs Carroll
- House PSW: Mrs Cochrane

Wallace House

- SLT Link: Mr MacKenzie
- Head of House: Mr Rhodie
- House PSW: Mrs Brady

MacDuff House

- SLT Link: Miss McGrath
- Head of House: Mr Stevenson
- House PSW: Mrs Prendergast

Bruce House		Douglas House		Wallace House		MacDuff House		Stewart House	
Old Tutor Class	New Tutor Class	Old Tutor Class	New Tutor Class	Old Tutor Class	New Tutor Class	Old Tutor Class	New Tutor Class	Old Tutor Class	New Tutor Class
1B1	1B1	1D1	1D1	1W2	1W2	1B2	1M1	1W1	1S1
2B1	2B1	2D1	2D1	2W2	2W1	2B2	2M1	2W1	2S1
3B1	3B1	3D1	3D1	3W2	3W1	3B2	3M1	3W1	3S1
4B1	4B1	4D1	4D1	4W2	4W1	4B2	4M1	4W1	4S1
5B1	5B1	5D1	5D1	5W2	5W1	5B2	5M1	5W1	5S1
6B	6B*	6D	6D*	6W	6W*		6M*		6S*
5D2	5B2	2D2	2D2	1D2	1W1	3D2	3M2	4D2	4S2
									

Stewart House

- SLT Link: Mr MacKenzie
- Head of House: Mrs Ledgerwood
- House PSW: Miss Rarity

S3 ITALIAN EVENT

On 30th September, the S3 Italian class had a very exciting visit from Francesco who owns Fruttivendolo, an Italian green grocers in Edinburgh.



Francesco, along with the help of two pupils, demonstrated how to make a classic Italian dessert, Tiramisù.

Pupils also had the opportunity to ask questions about the reality of running a business and also about Italy, Italian culture and the Italian language. It was a great event and helped the pupils link their learning in the classroom to real life experiences!

Thank you Francesco, and the whole team at Fruttivendolo, for coming to inspire our young people to learn Italian, which is a new and exciting subject at Whitburn Academy!

STAFF V PUPILS FOOTBALL MATCH

Recently, the annual pupils v staff football match took place on the 3G pitch. In front of a crowd of around 300 pupils, both teams lined up ready for kickoff! The pupil team, were looking to retain the title after winning 6-3 on penalties last year (the match finished 0-0 in normal time).

The pupil team was made up of S5 & S6 pupils, whilst the staff team included a couple of pupils.



After an early spell of pressure from the staff team, the pupil team took a surprise lead with the goal coming from a fast break from their own half leaving the staff team struggling to get back and defend!

The staff team had a couple of chances before a period of sustained pressure from the pupils ended with a quickfire double from the pupil team, making the score 3-0! Following the 3rd goal, the staff team came more into the game with a series of shots on goal and a few corner kicks won, however once again, the pupils broke away to score a 4th goal!

The staff team scored a late consolation goal to make the score 4-1, however it was too late to mount a fight back! The full time score was 4-1.

Congratulations to the pupil team on their outstanding victory, making it 2 wins in a row and thank you to everyone who took part!

MIDNIGHT MARATHON

On Thursday 8 October, S6 pupils took part in the annual Midnight Marathon, which involved staying in school from 5pm till midnight and taking part in a host of activities to raise money for their Prom and Graduation.

One of our S6 pupils has described their experience of the event:

The Midnight Marathon took place over 7 hours, which were jam packed full of activities and I think it's safe to say no one really got tired until it was time to go home.



Activities which stood out for me included the ceilidh, which helped to break the ice as the first activity, with people running into each other and flinging their partners about.

The scavenger hunt had a lot of us frantically running around the school taking funny pictures and videos, while a large game of hide and seek around the school found many of us finding some good spots to hide in the darkness of the first and second floors.

There were also opportunities to build house pride through some fun Halloween activities! I had the pleasure of being wrapped up in tissue roll as a mummy for Douglas, but I underestimated how hard it would be to stand in one place for so long. There was also an S6 version of our annual Halloween Hilarity competition - shoutout to Mrs Forbes for setting it all up!

Halloween Hilarity involves running up and down the hall sticking our faces in whipped cream and slurping jelly. It was fun, if a little disgusting.

Seeing everyone in their pyjamas was a fun experience and made the atmosphere more relaxed for a relatively new student like me. I found myself talking to people I previously hadn't really spoken to, especially during the mad rush for the food being delivered en masse. It seemed like every delivery driver in

West Lothian came to Whitburn Academy that night!

Huge thanks to Mr Reynolds, Miss Westhead, and all the other teachers involved in making this happen. Ultimately, I think the Midnight Marathon was a roaring success, even if I had to come into school shattered the next morning!

P7 TRANSITIONS

The P7 Open Evening takes place on Tuesday 27th October from 6pm - 8pm in the Academy. This will give Primary 7 pupils and their parents / carers the opportunity get a tour around the school, experience showcases from various departments and meet the key school staff. All Primary 7 pupils and their parents/ carers are welcome to come along and we look forward to meeting you!

Each P7 class from our cluster primary schools will visit Whitburn Academy for a pre-Christmas Transition Visit. This will involve pupils experiencing a mix of teaching from their primary teachers and Academy staff. The table below shows the dates that each primary school will be visiting the Academy.

The dates of these visits are:

- Whitdale: 7th October
- Longridge: 14th October

- Greenrigg: 4th November
- Stoneyburn: 11th November
- Fallahill: 18th November
- Polkemmet: 25th November
- Croftmalloch: 2nd December

Other events taking place later in Session 26/27 include:

- Pupil Support / Pastoral Care visits (these take place on various dates during May 2027 and the staff will be visiting the cluster Primary schools)
- P7 Transition Week Parent information evening: 2nd June 2027
- P7 Transition Week: 9th - 11th June 2027

More information about these events will be posted on the P7-S1 Transitions page on the school website nearer the time: <https://www.whitburnacademy.westlothian.org.uk/article/57933/P7-to-S1-Transitions>

EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS

Whitburn Academy runs Extra Curricular Clubs at break and lunchtimes on a daily basis throughout the school session.

All clubs are free and are mostly open to pupils of all year groups.

Details of the clubs that are operated by the school, the location and the times can be found

either in the following link or by scanning the QR code.



Link: [https://](https://www.whitburnacademy.westlothian.org.uk/article/13575/Extra-curricular-activities)

www.whitburnacademy.westlothian.org.uk/article/13575/Extra-curricular-activities

STUDY SUPPORT CLASSES

After School Study Support classes for pupils taking subjects at N5, Higher and Advanced Higher level run from September till December.

These classes will focus on general consolidation, please prioritise the after school classes for your subjects that you are below target in. Don't leave it too late, start now!

A copy of the timetable can be downloaded from the following link or by scanning the QR code.



Link: [https://](https://www.whitburnacademy.westlothian.org.uk/media/71335/After-School-Study-Support-Classes-September-December-2026/pdf/FINAL_Study_Support_Calendar_Sept-Dec_2026.pdf?m=1789724558037)

www.whitburnacademy.westlothian.org.uk/media/71335/After-School-Study-Support-Classes-September-December-2026/pdf/FINAL_Study_Support_Calendar_Sept-Dec_2026.pdf?m=1789724558037



Citizens advice are available to offer advice and assistance at Whitburn & District Community Development Trust,
Whitburn Community Centre,
Manse Road,
Whitburn,
EH47 8EZ.

Opening Times

Monday to Thursday 9.00 am - 4.00 pm (by appointment only) Call 07784 043091 or 01501 748708 to arrange an appointment

CITIZEN'S ADVICE

Citizens Advice Bureau West Lothian is working in partnership with Whitburn & District Community Development Trust to develop financial inclusion within the communities of Whitburn.

Email: enquiries@cabwestlothian.casonline.org.uk

Web: www.cabwestlothian.org.uk

A poster with a blue background and a stylized house illustration on the right. The house has a red roof, a yellow wall, and a green base. The text "WE HAVE MOVED" is in large yellow letters. Below it, in smaller white text, it says "As of 7 April 2026, our Whitburn Financial Inclusion project located in the CDT will be moving to the Whitburn Community Centre." The address "WHITBURN COMMUNITY CENTRE, MANSE ROAD, WHITBURN, EH47 8EZ" is listed below. A red location pin icon is in the bottom left corner. The Citizens Advice Bureau West Lothian logo is in the top left corner.

WE HAVE MOVED >>

As of 7 April 2026, our Whitburn Financial Inclusion project located in the CDT will be moving to the Whitburn Community Centre.

WHITBURN COMMUNITY CENTRE
MANSE ROAD
WHITBURN
EH47 8EZ

WHITBURN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST

Whitburn Community Development Trust is at the heart of the community, supporting local people through a wide range of projects, activities, support and volunteering opportunities.

Our Community Fridge helps tackle food waste while providing access to surplus food for local people, and our Community Garden continues to grow and evolve, bringing people together, encouraging volunteering and creating opportunities to learn, connect and enjoy the outdoors.

At Whitburn Community Centre, there is something for everyone. Our programme includes activities such as Walking Football, a Breakfast Club for over 60s, Yoga, Line Dancing,

Zumba and more. The Centre also offers a gym, soft play and a variety of spaces available to hire for groups, activities, meetings and events.

We also provide access to practical support within the Centre, with a full-time Citizens Advice worker available to support local people with benefit checks, financial advice and other advice and guidance.

Volunteers are at the heart of everything we do, and we offer a variety of opportunities across our projects, including the Community Fridge, Community Garden, Centre and wider community initiatives.

We are always looking for new ideas, volunteers, groups and activities that can benefit the people of Whitburn. Whether you want to get involved, access support, join an activity or bring an idea to life, we would love to hear from you.

For more information, contact us on 01506 280340 or email info@whitburncdt.org.uk.

Or follow us on Facebook by scanning the QR code to be kept up to date on our upcoming events and projects.



WHITBURN COMMUNITY FRIDGE

Whitburn Community Fridge Project operated by Whitburn and District Community Development Trust is a project and supported in its operation by a team of volunteers.

The Community Fridge is available for anyone in the whole community who is in need of support with food and household essentials.

There is a variety of surplus food available as well as long life ambient products and household essentials.

The Whitburn and District Community Development Trust asks individuals to register for this service.

The team encourages people to take only 1 basket so there is enough for everyone.



How do I access this?

- Self-referrals
- Referrals by third parties

Is there a cost?

It is £1 to access Whitburn Community Fridge. This gives members access to our surplus food areas. We have some chargeable pantry items at a reduced cost of 10p, 30p and 50p. Items are limited to ensure there is enough for all. We also have some butcher meat available at a reduced cost.

Public parking and wheelchair access are available

Opening hours:

- Monday: 10am - 12 noon
- Tuesday: 10am - 12 noon
- Wednesday: 10am - 12 noon
- Thursday: 5pm - 7pm
- Friday: 10am - 12 noon

WHITBURN COMMUNITY CENTRE

Whitburn Community Centre hosts a wide range of activities through out the week and the weekends

Please see below for the weekly programme of activities



WHITBURN COMMUNITY CENTRE

WEEKLY PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES

MONDAY & TUESDAY

MONDAY

Yoga – Stretch & Relaxation
10:00–10:50am
Community Garden
1:00–4:00pm
Andy’s Man Club
7:00–9:00pm
Pilates
6:45–7:45pm
5-a-side Football 16+
7:00–8:00pm
Citizens Advice
9:00–4:00pm
Yoga
7.00–8:00pm

TUESDAY

Kidzeco activities
9:00am–4:00pm
Hartbeeps classes
9:30 / 10:30 / 11:45am
Impact Coaching – Football
5:00–7:00pm
Joint Friendly Yoga
5:00–6:15pm
Line Dancing
7:30–8:30pm
Line Dancing
6:30–7:30pm
Cozmic Club
6:45–8:30pm
Citizens Advice
9:00am–4:00pm

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY

WEDNESDAY

Tiny Tots
10:00–11:30am
Baby Ballet
10:00am–12:05pm
Walking Group
11:00am–12:00pm
Judo
6:00–9:30pm
Fitt4all PT
6:30–7:15pm
Belly Dancing
6:30–7:30pm
Communion – First Wednesday of month
7:00–8:00pm
Citizens Advice
9:00am–4:00pm

THURSDAY

Walking Football 50+
10:30–11:30am
Community Garden
1:00–4:00pm
Crafty Ladies
1:00–4:00pm
Sound Bath – First Thursday of month
6:15–7:15pm
Zumba with Michelle
7:00–8:00pm
Judo
6:00–9:30pm
Jamie’s Sanctuary – fortnightly
7:00–9:00pm
Citizens Advice
9:00am–4:00pm

FRIDAY TO SUNDAY

FRIDAY

Breakfast Club 60+ – Last Friday of month
9:30–10:30am
Impact Coaching – Walking Netball
12:00–1:00pm
Impact Coaching – Netball
2:00–4:00pm
Xcite – Fall prevention
12.30pm–2:30pm

SATURDAY

Baby Ballet
9:30am–11:10am
Premier Football Academy
9.00am–10.15am
WLFA & Whitburn FCA Soccer School
10.15am–12pm

SUNDAY

Church Service
10:30am–12:45pm
Thanksgiving – First Sunday of month
10:30am–1:00pm
Judo
11:00am–1:30pm

GYM & SOFT PLAY

Gym
Mon–Fri 9am–9:30pm
Gym
Weekend 9am–3:30pm
Soft Play
Mon–Fri 9:30am–7pm
Soft Play
Weekend 9:30am–3:30pm

OPENING TIMES
Mon–Fri 9am–9:30pm | Sat–Sun 9am–3:30pm

01506 280340
info@whitburncdt.org.uk

Something for everyone.
The Centre of Your Community

**£2
TICKET**

WHITBURN COMMUNITY GARDEN
PRESENTS



**SATURDAY
24TH OCTOBER
11 TO 3PM**

Pumpkin Picking

**WHITBURN
Community**
Development Trust
'At the heart of the community'

**Join us in the garden for:
ROASTING MARSHMALLOWS, DOOKING FOR
APPLES, CRAFTS & MORE!**

Please purchase ticket in advance from front desk of
Whitburn Community Education Centre, or e-mail
communitygarden@whitburncdt.org.uk

Ticket guarantees one pumpkin and refreshments

**LEGALLY
BLONDE**

The Musical™

Coming to Whitburn Academy Summer 2027!



S1 HALLOWEEN DISCO

All S1 Pupils are warmly invited to a
Halloween Disco where spooky elegance
meets endless fun.

OCTOBER 28TH
7-9 PM

WEAR YOUR BEST COSTUME!
£2 PER TICKET

COLLECT YOUR TICKETS AT MISS
WESTHEADS OR MR REYNOLDS ROOM
205, 215



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Pop in and say hello!

FREE Support for Parents

of Neurodivergent Children Aged 5-10

Practical support to help you better understand and support your child at home and at school

- Scottish Government funded
- Programme value: £900+
- £1,000+ of learning resources for child's teacher



Who can apply?

- ✓ Parent / carer of a child aged 5-10
- ✓ Your child is on the waiting list for diagnostic assessment for:
ADHD • Autism • DCD/Dyspraxia • FASD
- ✓ You haven't previously accessed an EPIC Think Learn paid programme
- ✓ You live in an eligible postcode area, including some rural, remote and priority areas
- ✓ Your child can engage through two-way conversation

What's Included?

12 months access to:

- ✓ Practical guides, videos & audio
- ✓ Live expert-led webinars & recordings
- ✓ A supported online parent community
- ✓ Live topic-based peer support sessions
- ✓ Regular new content & updates

Sign up for your funded place:

Complete our short survey to check eligibility and apply

Funded places are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis



epicthinklearn.com

SC792338

What to do if a child has an asthma attack



Actions to take if a child has an asthma attack and when to call 999.

- 1** Help them to sit up – don't let them lie down. Try to keep them calm.
- 2** Help them take 1 puff of their reliever inhaler (with their spacer, if they have it) every 30 to 60 seconds, up to a total of 10 puffs.
- 3** If they don't have their reliever inhaler, or it's not helping, or if you are worried at any time, call 999 for an ambulance.
- 4** If the ambulance has not arrived after 10 minutes and their symptoms are not improving, repeat step 2.
- 5** If their symptoms are no better after repeating step 2, and the ambulance has still not arrived, contact 999 again immediately.

Important: This asthma attack advice does not apply to MART or AIR inhalers. If a child has a MART or AIR inhaler, please tell the responder when you call 999.



An asthma action plan is a written plan with all the information you need about your child's asthma in one place.
Scan the QR code to get yours.

AsthmaAndLung.org.uk



Asthma and Lung UK is a charitable company limited by guarantee with company registration number 0990906, with registered charity number 20750 in England and Wales, SC036616 in Scotland, and 117 in the Isle of Man.

DATES FOR YOUR DAIRY

October Holiday:

Monday 19th - Friday 23rd October

In Service Day:

Monday 26th October

P7 Transitions Open Evening:

Tuesday 27th October 6-8pm

S1 Halloween Party:

Wednesday 28th October

S2 Parents Evening:

Tuesday 3rd November

S1 Parents Evening:

Wednesday 25th November

School Pantomime:

Tuesday 8th - Wednesday 9th December

Christmas Concert:

Tuesday 15th December

Christmas Holidays:

Monday 21st December - Monday 4th January

OCTOBER SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

The school is off for the October Week from Monday 19th October - Friday 23rd October. Staff return on Monday 26th October for an In Service Day and pupils return on Tuesday 27th October.

Have a fantastic October Break!

THANKS

A huge thank you to the following people for their input in producing this newsletter:

Our sponsors:

- Andy's Coffee House
- MyTrade Tool Hire

Our S6 Media and Communications Committee:

- Cate
- Elissa
- Rachael
- Gabriel
- Izzan
- Sam
- Mr Reynolds
- Mr Hawthorn

