

St White's Primary School

Challenge Commit Conquer Celebrate



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Welcome back – Happy New Year and a very warm welcome back to everyone following the Christmas break. We hope you all had a fantastic time and are ready for another busy term.



Value for this Term - As you know, each term the school has a value that is woven into all areas of school life. This term our value is commitment, which forms part of the school's vision statement. Our children will be learning that *motivation is what gets them started when they are aiming for a goal and then commitment is what will keep them striving toward that goal.*



Christmas Plays & Pantomime Trip –

Christmas is now a distant memory, but it wouldn't be right not to take this opportunity to celebrate the trip to the Bristol Hippodrome to see Aladdin at the end of last term, as well as the wonderful Christmas Nativity Plays from KS1 and Reception pupils.



The trip to the theatre was an incredible success! It was terrific fun and a joy to watch all the children joining in the hilarity!

Diary Dates

January

25th – Learning alongside your child in class – Maths from 9.00 am
30th - Whole school Parent Consultation Evening from 3.30 pm

February

1st – Whole school Parent Consultation Evening from 3.30 pm
12th – 16th – Half Term
19th – Pupils return to School
26th – Cheltenham Dance Festival – from 3.00 pm

March

1st - Learn alongside your child in class – Reading 9.00 am – 10.00 am
1st – World Book Day
1st – 5th – Book Fair
21st – KS1 Topic Celebration – 2.45 pm
22nd – KS1 Topic Celebration – 2.45 pm
27th – Yrs 2 & 6 Parent Information Meeting re SATS – 3.30 pm
28th – Talent Competition – times TBC

The school's sincere thanks go to the PTFA, and in particular Sandra Worgan, for organising the event, as well as to all the volunteers and staff who expertly manoeuvred all our pupils to and from the Hippodrome. Thank you also to the kitchen staff for organising the children's lunches so much earlier than usual.

Thank you to everyone who came to watch our

Reception and KS1 Christmas Nativity plays in the last week of term. All the children worked extremely hard learning their lines and



practicing the singing and dancing. I am sure you agree with us that the children and staff put on four fantastic performances!

The plays would not be possible without the full support of parents and carers who provided the most wonderful costumes. THANKYOU!



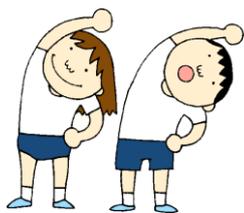
Donation – The school is absolutely delighted to have received a very generous donation from the Lions Centennial



Community Legacy Project (Severn Dean Lions Club) to be used to purchase books for the school library. Everyone is extremely grateful for this generous donation and know that all our pupils will benefit from the extra books purchased. Each one will have a stamp inside to show that it was donated by the Severn Dean Lions Club.

Uniform and PE Kit

reminder – Could I please remind all parents and carers that a PE Kit should be kept in school for every pupil during term-time, to ensure that they are able to take part in all PE lessons. There is still a number of children without their kit in school on a regular basis, which can result in them missing out in this key curriculum-based activity.



Please also ensure that children are wearing the correct school uniform at all times and that each item is labelled so that items of clothing can be returned to their rightful owners in the event they get left in the hall or outside.

Many thanks for your co-operation.

Lost Property – There is an increasing



amount of lost property accumulating in school. Please do pop into the small office opposite the

Office Reception desk to have a look through to see if there are any that belong to your child.

Enrichment Clubs – A reminder that Enrichment Clubs will start again from Monday, 15 January 2018 and run up until Thursday, 29 March 2018. Letters to confirm selections should already have been given to your child.

Guitar Lessons – The school is very excited to have so many pupils signed up for the guitar lessons with Mark Venus. Mark will commence the lessons from next Tuesday, 16 January 2018. Letters sent out before Christmas would have confirmed when your child's lesson will take place – either Tuesday or Thursday. Please remember to bring guitars into school on those days! Thank you.

Parent Consultation Evenings – Advance notice that Parent Consultation Evenings will be taking place for all classes on Tuesday, 30 January and Thursday, 1 February 2018. *All*



parents/carers should receive a prompt from Parentmail nearer the time to be able to book a slot on line. If anyone does have any problems booking on line, please do not hesitate to pop into the school office for assistance.

Important dates for your diary – It won't be long before the statutory tests will be upon us once again. Here are the dates for both Key Stage 1 and also Key Stage 2:



KS1 - Tests will take place throughout May 2018.

KS2 – SATS will take place from 14 – 17 May 2018.

Phonics – Phonics testing will take place from 11 – 15 June 2018.

News from around the Classrooms:

Jay Class – Following on from the 'World's Kitchen Topic' that Jay were studying last term, the class created



their very own Cookbook. Recipes were included to make mouthwatering British traditional cakes. Well done Jay Class!

Road Safety – Gloucestershire Constabulary visited the school last term to talk with our pupils again about the important of road safety. Pupils were able to use a speed gun on St White's Road, which conjured up some interesting findings!



Parking on Sneyd Wood Road – The School has received a telephone call from The Forest of Dean District Council Environmental Control Section. Reports have been received from a Residents Group in Sneyd Wood Road. They have expressed their concerns about the health of



our children as a result of a number of cars during drop off and collection times, where engines are left running. The residents' group have also expressed concerns around the amount of air pollution that this action is causing and have asked the Council to look into this.

The School is being visited by a member of staff from Forest of Dean DC to look at the situation and monitor/action as appropriate.

The school is required to encourage our parents and carers who drive their children to and from school, to use the Buckshaft Road Entrance. Out of respect and courtesy to our neighbours, the school asks all our parents and carers to park with care, not block entrances to houses, and drive slowly on and off the estate so as to minimise the risk to pedestrians.

Thank you once again for your co-operation with this.

Census Day – The next Census Day for school is Thursday, 18 January 2018. The canteen have arranged for a special 'Winter Warmer Menu' to mark this. We would like to see as many pupils as possible take up school dinners. The menu is:-



Bangers, Mash and Beans

OR

Soup and warm Cheesy Baguette

Baked Chocolate Brownie with Chocolate Sauce

Attendance – I am delighted to announce that at the end of last term, 151 certificates for 100% attendance were awarded in the second half term, and there are a total of 107



pupils with 100% attendance since the start of the school year. This is just wonderful! Our whole school attendance for the year so far is 97.01%. Of the absence, 70% is authorised absence for sickness, etc and 30% is unauthorised absence for holidays or lateness after 9am.

The classes that have won the attendance awards for the most weeks with best attendance are for KS1 - Nightingale Class with 6 weeks and for KS2 - Swift & Jay Classes with 4 weeks. These classes will have a special activity in school to celebrate over the next few weeks. Well done and thank you to all our children and families for valuing regular attendance at school.

IMPORTANT RECEPTION PUPILS - Hearing & Vision Screening – Some advance warning for parents/carers of Reception class children. The School Nurses will be in school on Tuesday, 17 April 2018 to carry out hearing and vision screening for Reception aged pupils.

If you do NOT wish your child to be screened, please contact 0300 421 8225 to confirm this.

Free Swimming Sessions – Free inclusive Swimming sessions are being offered at Forest Leisure, Cinderford. These will take place on the first Sunday of every month from 4.00 pm – 5.00 pm. For more information, please contact Steph Moreland on 07710 708870.

Dolls in school – Unfortunately there were a couple of incidents this week, where some very expensive 'Lol' Dolls they have been brought in and lost in school, resulting in some very unhappy children. To



avoid this from happening, it may be better that the dolls aren't brought into school.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Respect on School Premises- I am sad to finish this week's newsletter on a negative but unfortunately, since returning from the Christmas break, there have been two incidents of parents having arguments on the school premises and using foul language toward each other in front of children and other families.



When people are openly aggressive and swear in front of others it can cause deep offense and upset. It is antisocial and completely unacceptable.

The school has no choice but to ban parents from the site who do not behave in a manner that demonstrates respect for all the other people around them, particularly our children.



Next Newsletter – The next Newsletter will be published on Friday, 26 January 2018.



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