

# St White's Primary School

Challenge Commit Conquer Celebrate



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## 15th February 2019

### New Head Teacher – Mrs Clare Tilling

On Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, the school governors interviewed three candidates for the post of Head Teacher. Parents will have received a letter through Parentmail from the Chair of Governors with details of how the decision was made.

We are delighted to announce that Mrs Tilling was successful and will formally take up the position after half term.



Thank you to all the children who were involved in the tasks on the Tuesday, especially the school council. All three candidates gave very positive feedback about the behaviour of the children who are a credit to the school and to their families.

### Use of car seats – Sarah Laming from Gloucestershire County Council will be visiting school on 6 March 2019, from 2.15 pm – 3.15 pm to talk to parents of children from EYFS, Y1, Y2 and Y3 about the importance of car safety and in particular the

use of car seats with young children. She will be offering helpful tips and advice, and can even offer guidance to ensure that you are fitting



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## Diary Dates

### February

15<sup>th</sup> – Books for Bugs visiting school – parents invited to visit stand from 3.15 pm – 4.00 pm

18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> Half Term Holiday

25<sup>th</sup> – Tai Kwando assembly

26<sup>th</sup> – Gymnastics event Dene Magna School

27<sup>th</sup> – Netball competition

28<sup>th</sup> – Gloucestershire Dance Festival, Cheltenham

### March

6<sup>th</sup> – Sarah Laming talk to parents – importance of car seats – 2.15 pm

7<sup>th</sup> – World Book day – dress for adventure!

8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> – Scholastics Book Fair – 3.15 pm – 4.00 pm

15<sup>th</sup> – Red Nose Day

28<sup>th</sup> – Talent Competition

### April

3<sup>rd</sup> – Years 2 & 6 Information Evening re SATS – 3.30 pm

4<sup>th</sup> – Topic Celebrations – 2.45 pm

5<sup>th</sup> – School finishes for Easter

### May

1<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> – KS1 SATS throughout the month

13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> – KS2 SATS tests

### June

10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> – Year 1 Phonics Screening Tests

your seat correctly – if you need help with this in particular, please ensure you bring your vehicle and car seat with you! Tea and biscuits will be available!

**Attendance** – There have been lots of really nasty illnesses around for the last couple of weeks – sickness bugs and a flu type illness which have meant our whole school attendance has dropped to 96.38%. The good news is that there are 156 pupils who will receive 100% attendance certificates for this half term. Well done!

**Reading** – Books for Bugs are in school this afternoon with a mini-book fair. All their books are priced at £2.50. On Thursday author Andy Seed was in school speaking to all the children. The 500 words competition was judged by Andy Seed along with local author Rich Pitman and an English Teacher from Dene Magna School, Mr Towler. We are delighted to say that the winners were:

**Upper Key Stage 2**

Winner: Casey

Runner-up Lily-Ella

**Lower Key Stage 2**

Winner: Erin

Runner-up Fearne

**Key Stage 1**

Winner – Sophia

Runner-up Trinity

**Icy paths on the school site** – our site supervisor does her best to put salt on the paths when they are icy, but we want to advise parents and children on icy mornings to use the path around the back of the amphitheatre as this is where the salt is used, rather than walking across the lower playground and up the steps.



**World Book Day – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March** - On world book day, our theme will be adventure! Children are invited to come dressed as if they are going on an adventure. This



could be as their favourite character from an adventure story, or any sort of adventure from their imagination!

**Scholastic Book Fair – 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> March** -

The scholastic book fair will take place after school on Friday 8<sup>th</sup>, Monday 11<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March. All children will receive a £1 voucher off a book from the fair. We can accept cash and cheques.

**Red Nose Day** – On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March, the school will be supporting Red Nose Day. This year, we will be doing so by inviting children to wear a red nose for the



day. **Please ensure that full school uniform is worn alongside the red nose.**

**FIRE ALARM!!!** – Thank you to all the parents and children who waited so patiently outside in the cold on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January when the fire alarm went off first thing in the morning.

The alarm was due to a faulty sensor, not an actual fire, but the school was evacuated very quickly with all staff and pupils accounted for.



The gates had been opened for a short time, and so there were some families on the school site who were guided to the assembly area. The gates were then closed to ensure there were no additional people on site.

The governors reviewed how the fire procedures had worked on that morning and were pleased that all stakeholders were kept safe. We have given thought to what would happen if the alarm goes off at the end of the day when the gates are open and there are lots of parents on site. We would not plan to hold a fire alarm practice at this time of day.

**If you hear the fire alarm while you are on site waiting to collect your child/ren from school, please walk straight to the MUGA.**

**Parents should not attempt to enter the building and should not try to take their children.**

Remaining children and their teachers will also walk to the assembly area in the MUGA.

We would ask parents to leave their children in the care of the teacher at this time. Once the whole school is assembled on the MUGA and the building swept to ensure everyone is accounted for, only then will children be released to their families. In the unlikely event that this happens, we hope parents will understand the most important thing is to make sure that everyone is safe.

### **Historic England listing of Cinderford War Memorial**

Following a campaign from our lower KS2 children the war memorial in Cinderford has been made a listed monument. A representative of Historic England will be attending a special assembly on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March to make a presentation to the children, and we would like to invite parents of school council members and children in Skylark, Jay and Swift classes to come along at 2.45pm for an extra special celebration assembly as they were instrumental in this successful campaign.



**Tag Rugby** – A group of pupils competed in the Gloucester Rugby Festival on Thursday at Gordon League Rugby Club. The children played some exceptional Tag Rugby winning 2, drawing 1 and losing 2. They were extremely lucky to meet an ex-Gloucester and Fiji Rugby Player, Terry Fanolua and current England women's star, Bianca Blackburn.



Well done to all who competed – we are very proud of you!

**Half Term Activities** – your children will have brought home leaflets from progressive sports for their holiday club and from Taurus crafts for their activities.

On Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> February at Ruspidge Playground there will be a free family activity from 11am – 1pm. This is a space themed outdoor activity called Xplorer. You can find more information at [www.xplorer.org.uk](http://www.xplorer.org.uk)

And then on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February the Play Rangers will be at Ruspidge Recreation Ground from 10am to 4pm with free activities for all weathers and all ages. Children under 7 should be accompanied by a parent or carer.

Have a super half term holiday!!

**Next Newsletter** – The next Newsletter will be published on Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> March 2019.



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