

St White's Primary School

Challenge Commit Conquer Celebrate



Sneyd Wood Road, Cinderford, Gloucestershire, GL14 3GD ★ admin@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk ★
Tel: 01594 822 311 ★ www.st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk

15th November 2019

Goodbye and Good Luck On the last day of term we said goodbye to Michele Nicholls who had worked at St White's for over 20 years as a PPA teacher. Today we said a sad goodbye to Tracey Threadgall, who has been working with us as a Teaching Assistant since January this year. We wish them both well for the future.

Armistice Day – It was lovely to see so many parents join the children for the Armistice



commemoration on the 11th. The children sat with our silhouettes representing the fallen, which was very moving. The

Royal British Legion once again supported the school. There was a very moving talk, a beautifully delivered reading and a bugler, who played beautifully before and after the two-minute silence. Thank you for coming and giving so generously towards this extremely good cause. The children's artwork was beautiful and we know that parents really enjoyed the exhibition. Mrs Cross sent the school a 'Rigby' dog toy that was awarded to the class making the biggest contribution towards the community. This year, this is Jay class as a group of their children are working on improving local tourist attractions for partially sighted people. They will include Rigby in all their work. Get ready to see him



on the padlet and in the newsletter as he helps the children make a positive impact on their World.

Diary Dates

November

- 19th - Open Day for 2020 Reception Intake
- 20th – Year 5 Aberdovey meeting 3.15pm
- 22nd – Assembly Battle – Robin v Wren
- 22nd – PTA Annual General Meeting 3.15pm
- 29th – Assembly Battle – Woodpecker v Heron
- 29th – PTA Christmas Fair

December

- 3rd – PTA Film Night KS1&EYFS 5pm
- 4th – PTA Film Night KS2 5pm
- 9th & 10th – Flu immunisations – all year groups
- 11th – Christmas Lunch
- 13th – Winter jumper day for Save the Children
- 16th & 17th – EYFS and KS1 Christmas Plays
- 18th – Pantomime trip
- 20th – Carol Services at Church in the morning – details to be confirmed
- 20th – School Finishes at 3.15pm

January 2020

- 6th – Inset Day
- 7th – School Starts

Hockey – on Tuesday 17 children participated in the School Games event at Newent School. We had 3 teams representing St White's and all of the teams played exceptionally well against some very tough opposition. The "A" team finished sixth where they were only 2 points off the medals. The "B" team did not lose a game in their pool and made it through to the final play off vs our very own "C" team. Both teams played amazingly in the final and it ended 1-1 and went to a penalty shoot-out.



The "B" team pipped it by winning 2-0 in the penalty shoot-out and they will be going to the School Games Finals in Cheltenham, where they will be competing to be the best team in

the county. Well done to all of the teams you displayed excellent sportsmanship and represented the School very well.

Events this term! As you will see from the diary dates, there are lots of exciting things happening this term – there will be lots more information nearer the time. The PTFA Christmas Fair is only two weeks away on 29th November!!! On 13th December 2019, we are asking children to wear Winter Jumpers in support of Save the Children's Christmas



Save the Children

Jumper Day Appeal. The school is, of course, expecting children who want to, to wear Christmas jumpers on this day –

but in order to include children from all our families, we have chosen to call it Winter jumper day so that everyone feels able to join in, and so that families do not feel they have to go out and purchase a Christmas jumper specially – any warm winter woolly will do. If you look at the school calendar, you will see that there are lots of Christmas events coming up – the PTFA Christmas Fair, Nativity Plays, Christmas lunch and Carol services.

30 Day Sketch Challenge Huge congratulations to everyone who took part in the sketching challenge! It was immense fun



for all concerned and everyone was delighted with their certificates. (Mrs Tilling has hers up in the

office!) I would like to thank the parent who very kindly emailed in to say, *"My child really enjoyed it. It was lovely to have her come home from school asking what the sketch was each day, and it was lovely to sit with her and see the lovely ideas flowing from her*



imagination onto paper. I look forward to future competitions." The school agrees entirely that this was really worthwhile and are already planning more challenges for the future. Watch this space!

Harvest Festival Thank you to everyone who came to our Harvest celebrations. I am sure that you will agree that the artwork was amazing as the skills of the children in sketching continue to improve even further. If you missed this, there is a lovely art display by the Buckshaft stairs – do feel free to go and have a look. It was lovely to have so many parents/carers share in our Harvest assembly where the singing was lovely. Thank you also for all your kind and very generous donations. All the clothes and food you donated were passed on by the Royal British Legion to ex-service personnel where it will be hugely appreciated.

Flu Immunisations – these are being carried out for all pupils on 9th and 10th December. Every child should have brought home a leaflet and consent form. Please fill in and return the consent to school as soon as possible. If you have made arrangements for your child to have the



immunisation at your GP surgery, then please return the form and indicate that this is the reason why you are not giving consent. The on-line consent system is not being used this year, so every child needs to have a form completed and returned to school. If you need more information, please contact the office.

Nativity Costumes – a plea We would welcome donations of any unwanted nativity play costumes – please bring them to the office if your children have outgrown them!



Aberdovey Residential 2020 – there is a meeting for Year 5 parents and children next Wednesday (20th November) straight after school to give you information about the Residential trip to Aberdovey which will be in November 2020. Please do come along – and you can also still check out the photographs from this year on the website.

Christmas Weaving Workshop – this is an



event for Parents/Carers to make stars and Christmas trees – on Thursday 12th December 9.30 – 11.30am. Please let the office or Erica know if you would like to book a place.

Clubs for the Spring Term Progressive Sports have already sent out their booking forms for clubs after the Christmas Holidays. In addition to these, guitars will continue and we are hoping to run some different Artspace clubs – information will be sent out as soon as it is confirmed.

Cycling Proficiency Congratulations to the Year 6 pupils who completed the Level 2 Bikeability cycling proficiency course this week – they all received their certificates and handbooks in Assembly this afternoon

Children in Need Congratulations and thanks to the PTFA who raised over £290 for Children in Need through their cake and merchandise sale yesterday, and are selling the leftover cakes this afternoon, so we hope to go well over £300.

School Beat Our School Beat officer Greg Steer came in to speak to the Year 6's about online safety and gave lots of really good advice including to turn off "location" on our apps and to delete people we don't know from our "friends" lists.



Architect Visit Last week the school had a visit from Joe Roberts of Roberts Limbrick, the

architect who designed our fabulous building, with staff from another school which they are designing. We are always proud and pleased to show off our wonderful building to visitors. The architect commented that they have visited schools which have only been open a year which are not so well kept. Well done to all our children and staff for the care which everyone takes to look after the school.

SEN Meetings – a big thank you to all the parents who have come along to Myplan meetings with staff about their children.

Photographs – we are very sorry for the delay in getting the proofs of the photographs to you – we know that lots of families want to purchase these for Christmas presents. We have tried to send them home today but they didn't arrive until this afternoon, so if you haven't received yours yet, it will be coming home on Monday. Please return your orders to the school by next Friday 22nd November. You are able to continue placing orders online after this date if you wish.

Governor News – Two of our governors have decided to stand down. Alan Meredith was a parent governor for many years and we are really grateful to him for all his hard work. Gareth Hughes was appointed as our Local Authority governor in February 2018 and is moving away from the area. Our thanks to him for his interest in the school and for the links which he created with the local council and MP's office. Before half term we advertised the vacancy for parent governor, and Martha Taylor was the only nominee and is therefore appointed. We welcome Martha to the Governors and look forward to working with her. The Governors are now looking for a suitable candidate to be appointed as Local Authority governor.

Next Newsletter – The next Newsletter will be published on Friday 29th November 2019.

