

St White's Primary School

Challenge Commit Conquer and Celebrate



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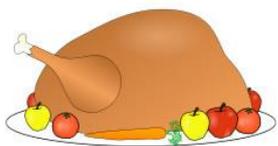
29th November 2019

Upcoming events! The PTFA Christmas Fair is this evening at 6pm. There are fabulous stalls and we are expecting a very special visitor! Thanks so much to all the members of the PTFA for their hard work organising this event, and particularly in decorating the grotto. The children always have a fabulous time!



Film Nights! Next week the PTFA are organising film nights for families. On Tuesday 3rd December they will be showing The Polar Express – aimed at KS1 and EYFS children, and then on Wednesday 4th December it will be the comedy Nativity! Both films start at 5pm and refreshments will be on sale. To reserve a place please come in to the office or tickets are available tonight at the Fair.

Christmas lunch! will be on Wednesday 11th December. The menu is roast turkey, with all the trimmings followed by gingerbread iced biscuits. Details of how to order have been sent on Parentmail.



Winter Jumpers On 13th December 2019, we are asking children to wear winter jumpers in support of Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day Appeal.



Save the Children

Children can wear anything either Christmassy, wintery or

Diary Dates

November

29th – PTFA Christmas Fair from 6pm

December

3rd – PTFA Film Night KS1 & EYFS – Polar Express 5pm

4th – PTFA Film Night KS2 – The Nativity 5pm

9th & 10th – Flu immunisations – all year groups

11th – Christmas Lunch

12th – Christmas Weaving Workshop

13th – Winter jumper day for Save the Children

16th – KS1 Christmas Play 2pm

– EYFS Christmas Play 5pm

17th – EYFS Christmas Play 2pm

– KS1 Christmas Play 5pm

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

15th – Mindfulness for families taster session 9am

February 2020

11th – School Nurse Hub drop in

just non-uniform on their top half for a donation of £1.00. School uniform skirts or trousers and shoes should be worn.

Nativity Plays EYFS and KS1 nativity plays take place on 16th and 17th December. Tickets for "Whoops-a-Daisy Angel" and "Prickly Hay" will be available from the school office from Monday 2nd



December and there are limits on the number of tickets per family. Details have been sent out on Parentmail. Any spare tickets will be made available on Wednesday 11th December. We would still welcome donations of any unwanted nativity costumes – please bring them to the office if your children have outgrown them!

Carol Services will be held on the morning of 20th December at St John's Church. There will be two services, and the school will be



divided into houses, so that families can all attend together. As usual we will be asking for volunteers to help walk with the children,

and lots more information including house colours will be provided soon.

Open Day On the 19th November we were pleased to welcome families to look around the school ready for children to start in September next year. A huge thank you to the Year 6 children who did such an excellent job of showing them around and told them all about the school with such confidence and enthusiasm. You are a real credit to the school and the visitors were very impressed.

BeeZee Bodies Information has been sent out on Parentmail about the BeeZee Bodies **FREE** programme called BeeZee Families, which exists to help families make small changes to live healthy lives. Sessions are starting in January at Cinderford Methodist Church, on Thursdays 5-7pm. Go to beezebodies.com/forest for more information and to sign up or telephone 01452 717262.

Mindfulness for Families We have a fabulous course lined up for parents in the New Year. There will be a taster session on Wednesday 15th January for parents and carers to decide if they would like to attend the full course. It is an eight week course which explores mindfulness, focussing on attitudes of compassion, acceptance, nourishment and kindness. With parents, the course leader discusses triggers and ways to achieve calmer situations at home as well as how the brain works; looking at the effects of stress, emotions, and conflict, always focussing on



cultivating compassion both for the learner and their family.

Outdoor Learning As you will have seen in the timetable provided in September, the Forest School area and the allotment are being rested in the first half of the spring term.

Children should always come to school with coats which are suitable for the weather conditions, as we will still be doing the daily mile and taking opportunities to go outside for some learning as well as at lunch and break times.



Whole School Concert On Monday 25th November, every class performed in a whole school concert for all the children to show each other what they have been working on in music so far this year. Year 5 children have been learning to play brass instruments this term, Year 3 and 4 children have been playing Abba songs on xylophones, and all the other year groups sang, some with their



own accompaniments. The concert was fabulous, especially when the brass played along with James Brown's "I Feel Good" and another highlight was the Reception children's dinosaur song.

Road Safety Week Last week Sue Pritchard and Tom Oliver from the police came in to work with the children on road safety. They brought traffic lights and crossings for younger children to practice in the playground, and took some groups





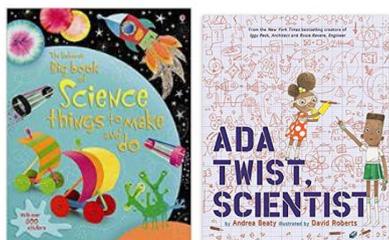
out onto the roadside –to use the speed gun on passing traffic on St White’s Road. They spotted a few cars being driven faster than the speed limit, but also lots of cars being driven safely.

Science Workshop and Books The children will bring home a letter about a fabulous opportunity to have a workshop here at



school run by the Cheltenham Science Group. We hope to arrange this in the Spring Term so please return the slips to let us know if you are interested. And

while we are on the subject of science, Miss Underwood has some recommendations of books which would make fabulous presents for any children who love science:



Look Inside Your Body by Louie Stowell (Usbourne); Big Book of Science Things to Make and Do by Rebecca Gilpin (Usbourne); Ada Twist, Scientist, - a series of books by Andrea Beatty; The Usbourne Official Astronaut’s Handbook, with foreword by Tim Peake

Donation from Santander We are very pleased that the PTFA have received a donation of £280 match funding for money raised at the Summer Fair

School Nursing Hub Drop In On Tuesday 12th February the school nurses will be holding a drop-in session for parents to come in and discuss any issues relating to your children’s health such as dental hygiene, sleep, anxiety, self esteem, behaviour, healthy

eating and weight. We will send out more reminders much nearer the time. There is a link to their website here: <https://ghc.nhs.uk/our-teams-and-services/school-nursing/hubs/>

Governor News Our SEN Governor, Lynne Adams, has been into school to meet with the SENCo to monitor how the school supports children with special needs, and our Pupil Premium Governor, Kathryn Goddard, has been to the “Closing the Gap” Conference with school leaders to learn about strategies to support pupils from disadvantaged families. Our Safeguarding Governors, Debra Clough and Richard Jones, and Chair of Governors, Matt Bishop, who are all “Safer Recruitment” trained, have participated on interview panels for staff vacancies. Jose Brazier who is our Languages and Music Link Governor attended the whole school concert this week. Our thanks to all the governors for their commitment and hard work.

Christmas Weaving Workshop There are still spaces for the workshop on Thursday 12th December 9.30-11.30 to make stars and Christmas trees. Let the office know if you would like to reserve a place!

Thank you to the parents who have come in or sent messages of support to the school over the last couple of weeks. We know we don’t always get everything right, but we try really hard to communicate clearly and to be consistent. This school is full of amazing staff, doing their best to provide a fabulous education in a fun and stimulating environment. Your messages of support and kindness have really helped us to keep our chins up!



Next Newsletter – The next Newsletter will be a bumper Christmas edition on Friday 20th December 2019.

