

St White's Primary School

Challenge Commit Conquer and Celebrate



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

November 2020

Welcome to our November edition of the newsletter. We would like to thank all our parents again for keeping 'COVID safe' when dropping off and picking up at school.



Armistice Day

On the 11th November we remembered the fallen with a virtual whole school assembly and we were joined by Mrs Cross which was very exciting. During the assembly, each class shared their creative armistice poems and Mrs Cross delivered a moving speech. The school was presented with a 'Rigby' dog toy that was awarded to the class making the biggest



contribution towards the community. This year, this is Heron class as a group of their children are working on fundraising to purchase a defibrillator for the school and Sneyd Wood Road residents. They will include Rigby in all their work. Get ready to see him on their padlet and in the newsletter as he helps the children make a positive impact on their World. It was a shame we could not have parents in to join along and see the children's poems. All purchased framed poems have been sent home.

Thank you for all your donations to The Royal British Legion. We raised an amazing £793.37 from sales of poppy merchandise and poems. Thank you!

Shoe Box Appeal - Teams4U

Thank you to everyone who donated items for the Teams4U shoe boxes. This year has been a difficult time for most families, so it will be greatly appreciated by all children who receive your kind donations.



Diary Dates

December

1st – 4th December: Post boxes for Christmas cards will be out.
11th December: Save the Children Non Uniform Day
14th – 18th December: Pantomime Week
16th December: Christmas Lunch Day.
18th December: Last day of term

January

4th January: INSET day
5th January: School starts
7th January: Reception & Yr 6 height & weight checks by school nurses

Star of the Week Awards

Every week during our virtual assembly, there is a 'star of the week' pupil in each class. Well done to the children who have been awarded this month.

Star of the Week – 9th November 2020

Robin - Mabel
Wren – Leo J
Kingfisher - Athena
Nightingale – Rory C-B
Sparrow - Skyla
Skylark – Ralph
Jay – Chanse
Swift – Phoebe
Woodpecker – Gene
Heron - Jessie
Peregrine – Luca

Star of the Week – 16th October 2020

Robin – Melody-Dawn
Wren – Alfie
Kingfisher - Hannah
Nightingale - Ellis
Skylark – Lily R
Jay – Lily J
Swift – Abdul
Woodpecker – Lila
Heron - Kyla
Peregrine - Keenan

Star of the Week – 23rd November 2020

Robin – Melody-Dawn

Wren – Jacob T

Kingfisher - Kai

Nightingale - James

Sparrow – Alexa and Nel

Skylark – Skye

Jay – Daniel

Swift – Edmee

Woodpecker – Dexter

Heron – Finley

Peregrine – Simion

Class Padlets

Remember to keep checking the class padlets on the website for photos of the learning that is going on!

Children in Need

On Friday 13th November we held a non-uniform day to help raise money for Children in Need. Our staff took part in the annual duck race sweepstake which went live on the Children in Need facebook page. If you haven't already watched it, it was a very close race. Well done to Miss Cinderey whose duck came first. We as a school raised over £350.00 for Children in Need so thank you to everyone who donated.



Attendance

It is a long time since we have given an attendance update! Our school attendance policy has an expectation that children attend every day unless they have a valid reason to be absent. This year, due to the coronavirus pandemic, the school is taking a cautious approach to children with coughs, colds and other illnesses, rather than our usual expectation of resilience. For this reason, we have decided it would be unfair to pupils who have erred on the side of caution and stayed away, so we will not be celebrating 100% attendance with badges and certificates this year – instead we will

send home certificates at the end each big term for children with “fabulous” attendance. Our whole school attendance figure since September is a fantastic 97.4%. Any pupils who are isolating due to suspected or known contact with covid cases are marked on the registers with an X code, and this means their absence for these days is not counted.

Happy birthday to the children (and staff) who have celebrated birthdays or will be celebrating during November:

Luca, Fearne, Archie, Keiva, Scarlet W, Scarlett G, Freya, Honey, Max, Evie-May, Kaycie-Jay, Lucas, Jack, Declan, Rocco, Alex, Jayden, Tyler, Rory, Scarlett G, Lilly D, Katy S, Miss Hall, Mrs Hinks, Miss Powell and Mrs Tilling.



Christmas Information

We know it will be a very different Christmas this year, but we still hope to make it exciting for the children, so teachers will be decorating their classrooms as usual, and children will be doing all the usual classroom activities and art work you would expect.

Christmas Cards

From 1st to 4th December, there will be post boxes outside both entrances to the school. If children wish to send Christmas (or seasonal) cards to each other they can do so by posting them in the post box. Please make sure they are addressed with the name and class of the child.

We will then quarantine them for a week before distributing the cards to classes for children to take home in the last week of term. Please get the children to put their cards in here and not take them to class as this is far safer for everyone. Remember to be careful to observe social distancing when posting your cards!



Christmas Lunch!

Sadly, we cannot have our usual turkey, sprouts and pudding this year, but on Wednesday 16th December we will have our Christmas sandwiches in the classrooms with music and the children will wear party hats they have made! The packed lunch which the school can provide contains turkey baguette, sausage



roll, crudites, satsuma and chocolate brownie. (We can provide cheese or tuna baguettes if children do not like turkey). If you would like to order this please let us know by email

to admin@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk There is no charge for pupils in Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and benefits based Free School Meals. The price is £2.32 for all other children and should be paid through Parentpay.

Non uniform for Save the Children

On 11th December 2020, we are inviting all pupils to wear non uniform which can include winter/ Christmas jumpers in support of Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day Appeal. Children can wear anything they like as long as it is appropriate for the weather! Please do not feel you have to purchase something special for your child to wear – the idea is to raise funds for Save the Children. Please bring a donation of £1 on the day.



Save the Children

Reception and KS1 Performances

We are especially sad that we can't put on our nativity plays and invite everyone in this year. The PTFA have bought a fabulous video camera for the school, and the classes are going to do a short performance of Christmas songs etc. which will be recorded, and then shared with parents through the school website. These performances will take place from 7th -10th December.



Pantomime

As we aren't able to visit a theatre or even all sit in the auditorium to watch a travelling pantomime, we are going to stream a pantomime into the class rooms for the children. It is called "Once upon a Pantomime" and will feature lots of our favourite panto characters and punchlines. (Oh yes it will!!)



Christmas Service

We always make sure the children remember the Christmas message at this time of year. We have the option of streaming a Christmas service from our local church and is something we are currently looking into. The very kind people at "Open The Book", who have not been able to come into school to give their usual assemblies, are providing every child with a Christmas Story booklet.



Xmas4Schools

Thank you to everyone who completed their artwork designs and sent them into school earlier this month. The ordering deadline has now passed and delivery will be the last week of term. A message will be sent home once they have arrived.

Next Newsletter – Our December newsletter edition will be published on Friday, 18th December 2020.

If there are any achievements or any other celebrations you want to share with everyone, we will be very pleased to feature your child in the next newsletter. Please email admin@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk by Monday 14th December 2020.



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