

St White's Primary School

Challenge Commit Conquer and Celebrate



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31st January 2020

New Age Curling! St White's Primary School are the County Schools Games Champions!



Well done to Holly, Kaycie, McKenzie and Oliver who represented St White's in the County Finals at Cheltenham Ladies College and won! We are really proud of you!



Diary Dates

February 2020

- 4th – Learn alongside Maths 9am
- 6th – Travelling by Tuba sessions across the day
- 10th – 3:15pm Meeting for current Year 3 parents about residential in 2021
- 11th – Reception & Year 6 Nurse Checks & School Nurse Hub drop in 1.30pm
- 17th – 21st – Half Term

March 2020

- 5th – World Book Day. Learn Alongside Reading 2pm
- 5th to 10th – Scholastic Book Fair after school
- 18th – Mindfulness taster session 1-3pm
- 24th & 25th – Talent Show Heats
- 26th – Homework celebration

April

- 1st – St White's Has Talent - Final 6pm
- 3rd – Term Ends
- 4th – 19th – Easter Holidays
- 20th – Summer Term starts!
- 22nd – Mindfulness course starts

May – KS1 SATS throughout the Month

- 8th – (Friday!!) VE Day Bank Holiday
- 11th – 15th KS2 SATS Week

June

- 8th – 12th Phonics Screening Week (Year 1 & 2)

Dance Festival On Monday 27th January, a group of children performed at the Cheltenham Dance Festival. A big thank you



to all the parents who helped out with transport and well done to the children. It was a fabulous performance! The video is available to watch on the school website. We hope the group will perform again at the Talent Show next half term.

Charity Committee Everyone who wrote their name down for the Charity Committee has been invited to meetings – it was so lovely not to have to disappoint anyone! The children who came have met three times already. This



Committee is working really hard and they have decided that the school should support three National charities, and four local charities every year. They are now hard at work researching the charities that they think are important. At the next meeting, they will feed back to each other and make a decision about which charities will be supported this year. Watch this space for more information and updates!

School Nursing Hub Drop In On Tuesday 11th February from 1.30 – 3.00pm 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/>

In the morning, the nurses will be doing their annual checks of Reception and Year 6 pupils.

Spring 1 writing competition Reminder about the Spring writing challenge, on the theme of animals. The closing date for entries is next Friday 7th February. More information is available on the website.

Mindfulness for Families We are pleased to say that a course will be running for 8 weeks on Wednesday mornings starting on 22nd April. We will be holding another taster session on the afternoon of 18th March from 1pm – 3pm. We welcome any more parents or family members who would like to join this

free course, which explores mindfulness, focussing on attitudes of compassion, acceptance, nourishment and kindness. The course 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.



Adult Education – English and Maths skills

There are courses available for free starting in Coleford at The Main Place, Old Station Way – enrolment session on 24th February at 9.30am – for more information please contact 01452 583800 or email

Megan.Thoresson@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Family Transitions Parenting Course

We have sent information on parentmail about the course, which started in Lydney on 29th January. This course is aimed at parents going through separation or divorce and struggling with conflict. For more information about this course or to find alternative times and venues please contact Georgina Lewis at GCC on 01452 328014 or use the link: <https://www.glosfamiliesdirectory.org.uk/kb5/gloucs/glosfamilies/coursebookings.page?e=course/wnrjBAYla7U&courseid=wnrjBAYla7U>

Competition Time!

St White's will be participating in the Royal Forest of Dean Rotary Club ART Competition. There are two age range categories that can be entered- Lower key stage 2 (years 3 and 4) and Upper key stage 2 (years 5 and 6). Please note that the school can only submit 8 entries per age range.

Children must create a hand-produced piece of art inspired by the subject: **Life In the Forest of Dean.** The



closing date for entries to be returned to school is Friday 14th February. All artwork must be A4 size. Your name and school must be written on the reverse of your piece. A short description of your piece of work should be included with your submission. Only 8



children per age range will be entered to be judged against other school entries by the Rotary Club. Each child that is selected to be submitted to the rotary club will receive a £10 voucher. Winning entries in each category will receive a £50 voucher.

Runner up in each category will receive a £25 voucher. 2 highly commended entries will receive a £10 voucher.

Internet Safety Warning We are aware that there are some children at St White's who use social media – we have received messages on the school's facebook page from primary school age children. The age limit for a facebook account is 13 years old – so none of the children at this school should have their own facebook accounts. It may be that older siblings have set up social media for younger

Science Ambassadors We had lots of applications for the role of science ambassador and a group of 9 children were chosen for having the best applications and are wearing their badges with pride.



Woodpecker Class project group trip to Ruspidge Halt On Wednesday, a group of seven children from Woodpecker class walked to Ruspidge Halt to see Forestry England tree surgeons clearing away small areas of woodland. They were also joined by



Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust who were able to discuss some of the reasons why the area needed to be cleared to promote various endangered species. The pupils who attended are embarking on a writing project which will aim to promote wildlife in school and beyond.



Age Restrictions for Social Media Platforms

(Ages specified in terms of 2014)

Twitter
Facebook
Instagram
Pinterest
Google+
Tumblr
Reddit
Snapchat
Secret

LinkedIn

WhatsApp

Vine
Tinder

Path



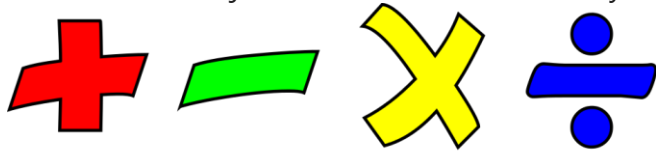
YouTube
Keek
Foursquare
WeChat
Kik
Flickr



brothers and sisters without the knowledge of parents. Please make sure you know what your children are accessing on-line. There is lots of information for parents on the Action for Children website:

<https://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/news-and-blogs/parenting-tips/?category=20222>

Learn Alongside Maths Parents and carers are welcome to join us at 9am next Tuesday



4th February to learn alongside your children during a maths lesson. We hope to see lots of parents in school.

Rags 2 Riches Thank you to parents who donated bags of unwanted clothes. The PTFA raised £32 for school funds. We will hold another collection



later in the year.

Talent Show We are busy putting plans in place for the Talent Show – heats will be at the end of March and the final on 1st April. Application forms will be sent home just after half term, but children can start to think now about whether they wish to enter and start practising at home if they do!

Clubs after Half Term – sports clubs, guitars, pottery and homework club will all continue straight after half term. In addition, we will be



starting up the gardening club again – this is for parents and children to take part together, and we will send a message out on

parentmail as soon as we confirm which afternoon it will be taking place.

Attendance – whole school attendance is looking fabulous so far this half term, and now stands at 96.87% for the whole year. National information has been released this month and our school is in the top 20% in the country for attendance. School leaders and governors believe that good attendance is really important for children to get the best from their education, and we will continue with our strong focus and firm policy on

attendance. Thank you to all our families for your support and commitment to your children's education.

Thank you to all the parents who came along to Parents Evening which was very well attended. All the teachers do appreciate having the chance to speak to you face to face about your children's learning.

Wildcats Football for Girls

If there are any girls aged from 5 – 11 who are interested in football, there is a Wildcats group on Wednesday evenings from 5 – 6pm starting on 11th March at Mitcheldean Sports Club. For more information contact mark.prostars@gmail.com

Half Term Activities

Prostars are running half term clubs around the area, their leaflet has been sent via Parentmail. Look out on the school website for information about other activities.

Next Newsletter – The next Newsletter will be on Friday 14th February 2020.

