

# St White's Primary School

Challenge Commit Conquer and Celebrate



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## 20<sup>th</sup> December 2019

### Welcome to our bumper Christmas

**Edition!** First of all congratulations and thanks to the PTFA. The Christmas Fair on 29<sup>th</sup> November raised a fabulous £948.00, and the film nights on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> December raised another £101.25. The PTFA



paid for all the children to attend the pantomime at the Bristol Hippodrome on Wednesday – what an amazing time we had (Oh yes we did), and a really big thank you to the PTFA and all the staff and helpers – it takes quite a lot of planning to safely transport nearly 300 children into the centre of Bristol and home again! The pantomime was an amazing experience for the children – so bright and colourful and wickedly funny!

**Fundraising** On 13<sup>th</sup> December 2019, we raised a fabulous £257.00 for Save the Children's Jumper Day Appeal!



The children (and staff) all looked fabulous!

**Choir Performance** on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December a group from the choir visited Foxes Bridge day centre to sing with some



## Diary Dates

### December

20<sup>th</sup> – School Finishes at 3.15pm

### January 2020

6<sup>th</sup> – Inset Day

7<sup>th</sup> – School Starts. Sports Clubs start today

13<sup>th</sup> – Homework, art and guitar clubs start this week

14<sup>th</sup> – Swimming starts – Skylark class

15<sup>th</sup> – Mindfulness for families - taster session 9am

17<sup>th</sup> – Assembly Battle – Peregrine

27<sup>th</sup> – Cheltenham Dance Festival

### February 2020

4<sup>th</sup> – Learn alongside Maths 9am

12<sup>th</sup> – School Nurse Hub drop in

17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> – Half Term

of the older community members. We are so proud of them for singing so beautifully and really bringing the Christmas Spirit to our community.

**Carol Services** Thanks to all the parents who have helped to walk the children down to the church, and joined in with the carol services this morning. Also, special thanks to the choir and the drama group for their performances.



**Nativity Plays** Well done to Robin and Wren for their marvellous performance of "Whoops-a-Daisy Angel" on Monday and Tuesday this week. The children all looked fabulous and sang beautifully. The choreography and dancing, particularly in the snowflake song was amazing and so many of



the children stepped up to the microphone with such confidence to say their lines.

Kingfisher, Nightingale and Sparrow performance of "Prickly Hay" was another



amazing highlight with confident performers, wonderful choreography, fabulous costumes and some really moving songs – especially "If You Think You're Not Important".

**Mindfulness for Families** Reminder - We have a taster session on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Assembly Battle News** The battles have been very popular with the children, and we would love to have more parents come along to support us. Congratulations to



Woodpecker who won the spelling challenge on the 29<sup>th</sup> of November: the whole class was very proud. They would have won sooner if they had remembered that you should never start a spelling word with a capital letter, unless it is a proper noun!

**School Nursing Hub Drop In** On Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> 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/>

**New School Lunch Menu** There is a new menu for school lunches for the Spring term – it has been emailed to all families through Parentpay and is available on the school website. The new menu is open for bookings through Parentpay and please remember to book meals for the first week back by Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2020. Please note that for families who pay, the price of a school meal is going down to £2.32 from January!



**Clubs in the Spring Term** A reminder that sports clubs start again from the first day back – parents should have signed up and paid Progressive Sports for the new clubs which will run until Easter. Cookery club on a Wednesday lunchtime will also start on the

first week back. Other clubs such as guitars, homework and artspace animation and



pottery do not start until the second week back. There are still plenty of places on the animation for KS2 and pottery for EYFS and KS1 which will take place on Fridays after school – to sign up for this club, please make payment through Parentpay.

**Autumn 2 Writing Competition** We received some fantastic competition entries. After much deliberation, Year 6 pupils have decided on 3 winners:  
EYFS - Rory (Wren Class)  
LKS2 - Sophia (Jay Class)  
UKS2 - Maria (Woodpecker Class)

### Spring 1 writing competition

Friday 20th December will be the launch of our Spring 1 writing challenge. Following some fantastic suggestions, the theme of the writing competition will be animals. Once again we are asking pupils to write in a text type that they have learnt about in class.

- EYFS - Draw an animal and its habitat (you could also label or write a sentence about them)
- KS1 - Diary entry
- LKS2 - Narrative
- UKS2 - Balanced argument

All entries must be handed into Peregrine Class or the school office by Friday 7th February. Winners will be announced the following week. As always, parent/carer entries are very welcome

**Poppy Appeal update** The Royal British Legion have let us know that our school collected £496.42 in November! Well done everyone that is fabulous!



**Barnado's Hampers** The Charity Barnado's supplied hampers of fresh fruit and vegetables to every family with children on Free School Meals this week. We were very



pleased to be receive and distribute them. They looked and smelled amazing!

**School Gardening Award** We are pleased to say that we have completed Level One of the RHS School Gardening Awards – many thanks to Nicky Herbert who runs our gardening club and put us forward for the award. Gardening club will start again later in the New Year. We are looking out for the crocus bulbs planted in the Autumn to start to show on the way up from Buckshaft Road. These were kindly donated by the Rotary Club who are trying to help rid the world of polio.

**Roadworks!** Reminder that the roadworks on Sneyd Wood Road will continue into January once we are back for the new term, so please continue to walk and drive carefully and park respectfully – whichever way you come in to school.

**Attendance** We have really suffered from some nasty bugs in school for the last couple of weeks, and our whole school attendance has dropped to 96.72%. Despite this, we were very pleased to give out 137 certificates and badges for 100% attendance this half term.

All the staff wish you a very merry Christmas, and a happy New Year. We hope all the children have a fabulous holiday and look forward to seeing you for lots more adventures and exciting learning in 2020! A really big thank you to all the families for your kind gifts and messages of best wishes!

**Next Newsletter** – The next Newsletter will be on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

