

St White's Primary School

Challenge Commit Conquer and Celebrate



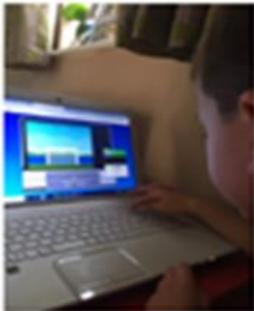
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26th June 2020

Welcome to our second newsletter since school has opened to our children in EYFS, Year 1 and 6. It has been wonderful to see more children back in school!

Well done to everyone at home who has been continuing their home learning and keeping in touch through the class padlets!

Here is what some children been up to...



Luka doing some great work on his coding!



Ava has made some bird feeders



Freddie has done some brilliant science work,, great moment to take the photo!



Daniel has started a science experiment at home to show how plants draw water up their stems. We can't wait to see what happens, Daniel!

Keep up the amazing work everyone!

Virtual transition

Year 6 may not get the opportunity to visit their secondary schools this term, but they have been taking part in a range of transition events. Those going to Forest High got to meet their tutors virtually this week and ask all their important questions such as 'What's for lunch?' Those going to Dene Magna have been watching a series of videos this week to introduce them to

Diary Dates

- 1st July – Rags2Riches Collection
- 6th July – Reports will be going home and will include information about classes for next year.
- 16th July – Last day of term.
- 16th July – Free school meal hampers for summer first delivery
- 17th July – Inset day & September new starter visits (Pre-booked appointments only).
- 10th August – Free school meal hampers for summer second delivery
- 1st September – Inset day
- 2nd September – School starts

how things are going to work when they are there. They have all worked on creating a profile page so that their new tutor can learn all about them. They are looking very professional!

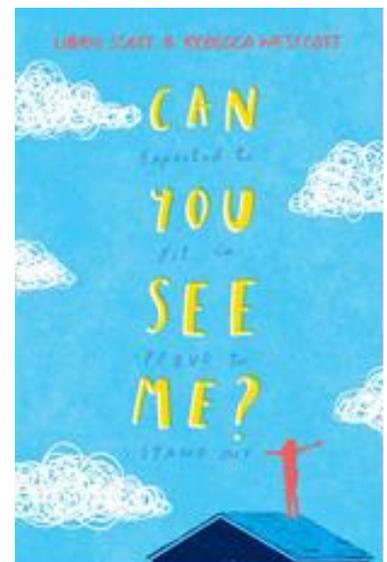
Virtual assemblies and lessons

We may not be able to gather in the auditorium in school at the moment but we can still come together to take part in virtual assemblies. All the children in school have enjoyed listening to Mrs Tilling's retellings of Aesop's fables linked to resilience - our value for this term.

We have also been able to take part in brilliant lessons led by Erica as she joins us virtually in our classrooms to

Reading Challenge

The year 6 bubbles in Peregrine and Heron have been enjoying lots of reading since they have been back at school. Both bubbles enjoyed reading 'Can You See Me?' which tells the story of a girl with autism starting secondary school. They all gained a



better understanding of what it is going to be like in September and how they can support their friends. Peregrine bubble are now reading 'Malamander' by Thomas Taylor. Miss Cinderey didn't enjoy it when she read it but Mrs Tilling thinks it's great! I wonder who Peregrine will agree with! Heron are going to start on 'The Middler' by Kirsty Applebaum which all of year 5, Mr Jones, Mrs Tilling, Mr Thompson and Miss Cinderey have enjoyed this year. Hopefully, year 6 will too!

Don't forget to sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge online

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/> and post any books that you recommend to others in the school on our Great Book Swap page https://www.st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk/web/the_great_book_swap_/479129/

Happy Reading!

Art on the Railings

Thank you to all the children who have submitted their artwork. They look amazing! Make it part of your daily exercise, take a walk to have a look at the creations. They will be on display at Ruspidge park until 30th June.



Competition Time!

Forestry England are asking for children to design a poster to encourage people to help keep our forest clean.



Design a poster

Help keep the Forest clean

- We invite children under 12 to design a poster to say why littering is bad for the woodland and why you #LoveYourForest
- Please use A4 white paper for each design
- Use colourful pictures to grab attention
- Include words, or even a poem!
- Please only decorate using pens or crayons

The winning design will be used around our Forestry England sites to help spread the message. Please ensure designs are sent to us via email or post by **Friday 10 July**. Don't forget to include the child's name, age and contact details of the parent/teacher. For full details please see:

www.forestryengland.uk/forest-dean-competition
Email: competition@forestryengland.uk
Post: Forestry England, Bank House, Bank Street, Coleford, Glos. GL16 8BA



The closing date is Friday 10 July.

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

Chloe, Luka, Ralph, Rosie, Ellie-May, Edward, Bella, Emmy and Mr Brown, Miss Cooling, Mrs Cowan, Mrs Fearn, Mrs Hewitt and Mrs White.



Rags 2 Riches

We know lots of people have used lockdown to have a good clear out at home! The PTFA have arranged for a Rags 2 Riches collection on Wednesday 1st July, which will raise money for the school. We will send reminders nearer the time, but we are letting you know now so please save your items to donate and bring them to school on Tuesday 30th June or early on 1st July. There will not be any special bags available this time - please put your items into a bin liner or carrier bag and tie the top closed. You can leave bags outside the Sneyd Wood Road entrance of the school, in the undercover area to the right of the front doors. Please do not bring items before Tuesday 30th June, and please continue to observe social distancing when bringing items. Remember to not include the following:



The Family Information Service

The family information service offers a free confidential advice line providing guidance and emotional support on any aspect of parenting and family life.

We understand that you may be finding the current circumstances difficult and worrying. This service will help listen and support: no worry is too small or too big. There service is available Mon-Fri, 9am-8pm and on Saturdays 10am – 6pm. You call them free of charge on 0800 542 02 02. You can also email them at familyinfo@gloucestershire.gov. On their website are lots of useful hints and tips, visit the site at www.glosfamiliesdirectory.org.uk.

Adult Education

Adult education are running an online zoom course for 6 weeks, every Wednesday. Have a look at the flyer for more details, there are only 8 spaces available.



Scams

Unfortunately, there are some scams out there asking families for bank details especially those in receipt of free school meals. The school will never ask for bank details in connection with FSMs, especially as we provide hampers. If you have a phone call or email that you are unsure of, please ring the school on 01594 822311 to clarify whether it is from us.

We are here to help you

As the government develops its plans to remove us from lock down, there are worries that we may enter a recession where many will lose their jobs or have their incomes significantly reduced. We are aware that this may impact on many of our families and we want to let you know that there is a lot of support available for families who are suffering hardship. Please ring the school on 01594 822311 if you do find yourself in this situation, or even if you just think that this might apply to you, and we will be very happy to help you.

Goodbye and Thank you!

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to two teachers this July. Mrs Morgan, who has been with us for nearly two years, and Mrs Conlin, who joined us last November. They have both had a very positive impact on the school and we are incredibly grateful for all their hard work. We will miss them and wish them both the very best for the future.

The Governors and staff of St White's wish to send their heartfelt thanks to Jose Brazier who has retired from her position as a governor after nearly 30 years. In her working life Jose was in charge of Modern Languages at Ribston Hall School, and she had a special interest in the

teaching of languages as well as English, Music and Art. Jose joined the Governors in 1991, and her knowledge and professionalism has been a great asset to the governing body and the school. Most recently she was on the Assessment and Curriculum



Committee and was link governor for Music. Jose was a very familiar face in school, for many years she volunteered to help with reading, and often attended learning walks with teachers to observe how the curriculum and school policies were being put into practice. The Governors and leadership team would like to thank Jose for her dedication and support for the school, and we hope she will continue to visit us.

As we say goodbye to two members of staff, we will be welcoming two teachers who will be joining us in September. Here is a little introduction to them both:

My name is Miss Hall and I am very excited to be teaching Kingfisher in September! I am looking forward to getting stuck in at St. White's and getting to know everyone, from the children to the parents and staff. I love books and reading, my favourite subject is history and I am partial to a cup of tea! I also enjoy exploring the outdoors and travelling to new places. I hope that you all have a wonderful summer and I can't wait to see everyone in September!

A portrait of Miss Hall, a woman with long blonde hair and glasses, wearing a dark top, sitting on a boat with a cityscape in the background.

Hello! I am Mrs Hampton and I am very excited to be the new teacher in Sparrow class. My favourite subjects are Maths, R.E, and PSHE but I am also very creative and enjoy singing and dancing. You may have spotted me around the school already as I have visited as much as possible. I am looking forward to meeting lots more of you in September!

A portrait of Mrs Hampton, a woman with long blonde hair, wearing a dark top, smiling.

Expectations for September

Government guidance at the moment suggests that we will be able to return to school in September, full time, in full classes!

This is what we are planning and hoping for! Of course, this all depends on levels of the virus continuing to reduce. Please keep an eye on parentmail and look at your emails over the summer holidays as we will share with you more information about arrangements for September when we know them.

During the week of 6th July we will be sending home reports and these will include a note telling you which class your child will be in next year.

We also hope that we will be able to offer wraparound care again from September. We will be in touch with regular wraparound users, but if there are any new families who need wraparound care please contact the office or use the special email address wraparound@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk to make requests.

Class Photos

Due to the lockdown, we have not been able to take our usual class photographs this year, but we would like to produce something for families and as a memento of this extraordinary year for the school records.

Class teachers are going to create their own collage class photos using individual photographs, and so we are asking all parents to send a recent photograph of your child/children.

We are asking for a "head and shoulders" photograph of your child, facing forwards. As this is a memento of lockdown, we do not expect them to be in school uniform.

Please send a photograph by Wednesday 1st July to photographs@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk

In the subject line, please put the class and your child's name. Everyone who joins in, will receive a digital copy of the class collage photograph."

Next Newsletter – The next newsletter will be the last one for the year and will be near the end of term. Please do let us know about your celebrations and special events at home, we look forward to reading about all your news!



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