St White's Primary School

Challenge Commit Conquer and Celebrate

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30th September 2022

Welcome to our first newsletter of the year! We have had a very busy but wonderful first few weeks back and there is so much to tell you about already!

Goodbyes

We want to say a really big thank you and goodbye to two of our mid-day supervisors, Leanne Smith and Nancy Jones who left over the summer. We wish them all the best in their new adventures.

Happy birthday to our pupils and staff who celebrated birthdays in August and September –



Jacob T, Coby, Amber, Ragul, Albie, Ava Y, Ava P, Frankie, Jacob O, Phoebe P, Ollie-Jay, Miles, Emily, Freddie F, Bradley, Lucas J, Bobby, Amy, Marley E,

Leo J, Max L, Grace, Skyla, Antony, Melody, Athena, Levi, James, Evie, Niamh, Charlie J, Callen, Amber S, Fae, Oscar, McKenzie, Lacey, Sophia, Eva, Jacob P, Drew, Ryan W, Tiana, Alexa, Max & Lily, Emily R, Harley, Mr Jones, Mrs Kibble, Mr Turner, Miss Underwood and Mrs Williams.

HM Queen Elizabeth II We were all very sad about the death of Queen Elizabeth, and as a school we held a day of commemoration on



Friday 9th March with all the children producing work to go into a memorial book. A big thank you to the parents who sent us your memories.

The book will be available at parent evenings for

you to see. It was very special to welcome parents to our outdoor assembly in the afternoon. Year 5 and 6 pupils visited the Church to write in the memorial book and light a candle.



Diary Dates

October Mon 3rd - Individual Pupil Photographs Mon 3rd 2.15pm – PTFA AGM Thurs 6th – Census Day – Special Lunch Menu 7th & 12th – Cheltenham Literature Festival Trips 10th and 13th – Parents Evenings Mon 10th – Magic Show at 6.15pm Thurs 13th – Harvest Festival Tues 18th – Learn Alongside Day 17th- 21st – Year 6 Residential Aberdovey 24th – 28th - Half Term Holiday November Week of 7th Year 6 Bikeability Fri 11th – Armistice Day

Visitors to school Last week we were very lucky to have a visit from an extraordinary young man called Cain, with his carer Helen and members of his family. Cain is 21 years old and has cerebral palsy. He visits schools to show how he communicates and lives on a day to day basis for someone who cannot, walk, talk or feed himself but still has so much to give. He is incredibly clever and has so much to offer society – he is a real inspiration. He showed the children how he uses an electronic AAC machine that allows him to communicate back via eye communication and this is actually programmed with the voice of his younger brother. Our Year 5 and 6 pupils loved meeting him.





Team Building - In the first week back we had a visit from "Sportily" who came to do team building exercises with each class – it was a really great experience, and the class teachers and TAs joined in with the children as part of their teams.



Walk in the Woods This week Robin and Wren Classes went for a walk in the woods! They were very lucky with the weather and thank you to the parents who went along too.



They were looking for signs of Autumn and found different coloured leaves and lots of interesting insects!

Parent Evenings We will be holding Parent Evenings in person on 10th and 13th October – invitations will come through the parentmail system early next week. **Save Cannop Ponds** Nightingale Class had some visitors recently from the campaign to Save Cannop Ponds. The children learnt about the heritage of the site and the eco-system which supports many species. They asked some really good questions and the campaigners were very impressed and posted on Facebook about their visit. The class made their own posters.



Girls Friendly Football Tournament On Friday 23rd September, a group of 14 girls represented St White's at a friendly football tournament. They all had a fantastic time displaying great sportsmanship. They even enjoyed playing against each other! Well done girls and we look forward to the next tournament.



PTFA AGM – The PTFA will be holding their AGM on Monday afternoon at 2.15pm. There will be tea and cake! Please do join us, even if you can only spare a small amount of time to help!

Half Term activities Prostars who run our after school sports clubs are organising a holiday club in school during October half term. Information has been sent out to all parents about this. We will also pass on any other information about exciting half term activities.

GILT Primary Science Award

We are really pleased to tell you that we have now been awarded the Primary Science Award



GILT which means we have recognition for all the excellent science teaching and learning that happens in our school and all the extra

curricular science opportunities that our pupils enjoy. A huge thank you to Miss Underwood our Science Lead for all her hard work!

Following the success of the science club for KS2 this term, Diatom Dave will be running another club for Years 1 & 2 after half term. We will be sending out the booking information soon.

Reading Evening It was great to see the school full of parents and children for our annual reading evening. All of the teachers prepared





activities for everyone to try out and there were lots of entries in the treasure hunt competition. Mrs Tilling was busy serving hot chocolate to all the children who came in their pyjamas and told everyone that her least favourite children's book was Rooftoppers by Katherine Rundell! The new year 6 library assistants had been busy preparing the library for everyone to enjoy under the watchful eye of Mrs Fernandes.

It was great to welcome staff from Cinderford library who answered questions about the library. Thank you to everyone who came to join us and especially all the staff who gave up their time. We are already thinking up plans to make it even better next year!

The next exciting event on the reading calendar is Tuesday 18th October when parents/carers are invited in to school to join in with a Learn Alongside session in classes at 9am.

Library Time This school year our classes have started meeting up in the library each week so that the older children can read with the younger ones and they are all really enjoying this time together.





Census Day 6th October – Special Lunch Menu 6th October is school census day, when the government collects lots of information about

pupils in school, and amongst the information they collect is a survey or how many children in EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 have a hot school meal that day. The more children who have a hot school meal, the more money the school receives! So Caterlink are putting on a special menu that day. Instead of beef lasagne, the meat option is Sausage and Chips, and the other option instead of vegan burger or soup is Vegan Hotdog & Chips - both are served with beans and/or sweetcorn and there is Chocolate Cupcake with icing for dessert. To maximise our numbers on the day, we will be ordering a hot school meal for every child in EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 and encouraging them to try. Please do send a packed lunch in as well if you think your child will not want to eat the hot dinner. We are not able to change the options which appear on parentpay to book.

Calendar Photo Competition There are only a couple more weeks for entries for the competition to provide photographs of the local area for Cinderford Town Council's calendar for 2023. If you have any suitable photographs please send them to photographs@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk

Here are some of the latest entries:





Magic Show – We are pleased to announce that there will be a magic show in the school hall on Monday 10^{th} October 6.15 – 7.15pm. Admission is £3.50 for children and adults on the door. Please note it is not suitable for children under 3 years old.

Ellwood Football Club – have asked us to pass on this information to parents:

We are offering free training for a month for all local children in the following age groups. This is to help families who are struggling with the cost of living crisis, and because we want to help local families get their children into football, have lots of fun, learn to exercise and make new friends.

Training starts Tuesday 4th October 2022Freedom Leisure, Church Road, Lydney.Training times Every TuesdayReception 4.30pm-5.30pm Indoor Sports hallYear 14.30pm -5.30pm Indoor Sports hallYear 35.30pm-6.30pm Indoor Sports hallYear 1-26.30pm-7.30pm Indoor sports hall.If interested to book your child's place please contactJason 07707834782

Next Newsletter – Our next newsletter will be published on Friday 21st October. 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 <u>admin@st-</u> <u>whites.gloucs.sch.uk</u> by Monday 17th October 2022.

