

Parent Information – Friday 11th December

Thank you to everyone for donations to Save the Children today – we will let you know how much we raised in the newsletter next week.

Test and Trace - The DFE and Public Health have asked schools to continue in the Christmas holidays to assist with tracing and contacting anyone who may have been in close proximity to a confirmed covid case. So far, we have been very lucky that we have not had to close any bubbles because of positive cases. **If your child displays symptoms of covid during the holidays, please arrange to get a test, and if the test result is positive, please let the school know immediately** by email to admin@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk

Thank you to everyone for observing all our guidance about keeping everyone safe on the school site. These arrangements will continue unchanged when we return in January.

We have been asked by residents to remind parents to please drive slowly and carefully everywhere around the school. Also please ensure you park and move carefully and with consideration for pedestrians, other road users and residents.

Next week

Christmas cards will be distributed in classes from Monday. Our office elves have worked very hard sorting them all out for each child in each class! It was a huge operation – we think we sorted over four thousand cards! Well done to all the children who practiced their handwriting and wrote their own cards.

Video messages from EYFS and KS1 classes will be available on the school website next week – as we have not been able to invite parents in for nativity plays this year, they have recorded some Christmas songs for you. We will let you know through parentmail when they are ready!

Wednesday 16th December Christmas lunch day

Friday 18th December – last day of term! School starts again on **Tuesday 5th January 2021**

We will publish a newsletter next Friday 18th December.

Adult Education

Online courses are available starting in January: There are 3 Wellbeing courses:

- Calming the Mind- a focussed mindfulness course for 5 weeks on Tuesday mornings from 10:30-11:30
- Happier and Calmer :Wellbeing at Home- this course looks at the science behind wellbeing
- Yoga and Guided Meditation. The first half of this course focuses on yoga, which is aimed at all abilities. The second part of the session will be a guided meditation so that parents can find new ways to relax fully. Parents don't need any experience or special equipment- just space to lie down in.

Supporting children's maths:

- Give Your Kids A Boost in Maths in the Infants focuses on how children learn maths skills in Reception, Year 1 and 2, giving parents tips on the language used in school today and also sharing how they can bring maths into everyday situations

- Keeping Up With the Kids Maths in the Juniors focuses on supporting children with maths in the Juniors. We will discuss the way maths is taught in school today and give parents support with helping their child to learn their tables, and complete specific numeracy tasks, such as fractions.

English as a Second Language

- Improve Your English and Help Your Child delivers English lessons for ESOL parents and teaches them how their children learn in school
- Help Your Child with English in the Early Years is a course for parents with preschool children. They come together (virtually) to share a story and make some resources to go with it. This course focuses on teaching parents how they can support their child to develop their language skills.

If you are interested in any of these courses, please contact fay.tucker@gloucestershire.gov.uk

School Application Process for entry to EYFS in September 2021

We can see that lots of parents have already gone online and made their applications. Parents who have children due to start school in September 2021 must apply by 15th January 2021.