

St White's Primary School

Challenge Commit Conquer Celebrate



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2nd November 2018

Welcome back – A very warm welcome back to everyone after the half term break. There are lots of events in school over the coming weeks – please do take the time to look at the school calendar!



Aberdovey Year 6 Residential Week – It was a thrill to hear that our Year 6 pupils had such a fantastic week in Aberdovey! Instead of writing about the wonderful activities pupils took part in during the week, it was thought that you would be interested to know what a day in the life of the members of staff who accompanied the pupils, looked like during a week on residential! Here goes:-

1. **5.45**-Teachers up to be ready to wake children at **6.30**.
2. **7.10**-Breakfast with their groups.
3. **7.45**-Staff oversee children prepping their rooms for inspection by site staff.
4. **8.00**-Room inspection.
5. **8.15** Briefing for lead teacher with night staff to check on any night time issues
6. **8.20**-Children help by school staff to prep their equipment for the day.
7. **8.30**-Lead teacher attends site briefing to work through the logistics and health and safety aspects of the day's events.
8. **9.00**- All teams of children and staff meet with group leaders and the day's activities then commence. Children and staff are

Diary Dates

November

- 9th – Armistice Day – Parents welcome from 9.45 am
- 12th – 16th Bikeability Year 6 pupils
- 12th – Summer Journal winners visit to Coleford Cinema
- 13th – World War I play in school
- 16th – Children in Need – wear something Spotty
- 19th & 20th – Road Safety Awareness Days
- 20th – Height & weight checks in school Reception & Yr 6 pupils only
- 20th – Road Safety Awareness
- 20th – Reception and Yr 6 pupils – height and weight measurement
- 23rd – CLICK Yr 6 visit to Quedgeley
- 28th – Yr 5 mtg re Aberdovey Residential visit 2019 – 3.25 pm Woodpecker Class

December

- 4th – Flu Vaccinations in school – Reception – Yr 5 pupils
- 7th – **PTFA** Christmas Fayre from 5.30 pm
- 17th – Reception Christmas Play – afternoon performance – times TBC
- 17th – KS1 Christmas Play – evening performance – times TBC
- 18th – KS1 Christmas Play – afternoon performance – times TBC
- 18th – Reception Christmas Play – evening performance – times TBC
- 19th – **Christmas Lunch**
- 20th – Whole school Topic Celebrations from 2.30 pm
- 20th – PTFA Christmas Discos
- 21st – School finishes for Christmas
- 21st – **MRS CROSS – LAST DAY** ☹️

January

- 7th – INSET – no pupils in school
- 8th – Pupils return to school
- 23rd – Young Voices Concert - Birmingham

then driven to locations or walk to locations and the full day of events until the return to the site for 5.00, supervised by site staff and teachers.

9. **5.15**-Evening meal with their team.

10. **5.50**-All school staff support children prepping for night activities, going to cages to sort the day's equipment, sort clothing in the drying rooms and cloth up for night activities.
11. **7.00**-teams meet group leaders and go off for night activities until 8.30 teachers supervising again with site staff.
12. **8.30**-Teachers supervise hot chocolate and biscuits in the dining area.
13. **8.45**-Teachers supervise children showering and getting ready for bed and settling for the night.
14. **10.30**-Teachers sign off with night site staff and head for bed themselves...

This gives parents a little insight into the commitment members of staff make when they accompany our Year 6 pupils on a residential trip. It was very kind of so many parents to send their thanks and best wishes to the staff who went this year.

Elite Commandoes – A group of our pupils have been working on a weekly basis with the a team of ex Royal Marines , completing tasks that focus closely with our core values- Challenge, Commit, Conquer and Celebrate. The Royal Marines' have been developing our children's understanding of integrity, self-discipline, courage, team building, determination, unselfishness, confidence and cheerfulness in the face of adversity.

Mrs Goddard, one of our Governors, spent time before half term with the Elite Commandoes during one of these session.



Mrs Goddard said that, *"Coming into school this week, I was unsure what to expect during the hour long session, however by the end of it, I saw a group of pupils who had worked together to solve problems, were honest with themselves and their peers, determined to achieve as a team and most of all enjoy the experience."*

Cross Country – On Thursday, 4th October

2018, a team of 12 Year 5 and 6 pupils took part in a Cross Country event at Five Acres. The team had to run 1.1 km with our first girl coming in 29th, and first boy 14th. Very well done to all pupils who took part!



Harvest Celebration – A huge thank you to all the parents that attended our Harvest Celebrations before the half term break. We were also very lucky to be joined by Jason from Caterlink who spent time with pupils making bread for our harvest celebrations.



Donations received were passed through to the Royal British Legion to pass out within our local community.

Armistice Day – The school will commemorating Armistice Day next Friday, 9 November 2018.

Parents/carers are invited to join us from 9.45 am (both entrances will be open).



There will be a display of artwork in the Sports Hall and refreshments will be served. You will then be invited to visit your child's classroom to take part in a related learning, before commemorating the end of the Great War 100 years ago with a 2 minute silence during whole school assembly.

Children in Need – The school will once again be supporting the Children in Need Appeal.

Donations of £1.00 per pupil are



suggested, and all pupils are welcome to wear something spotty - it is not a non-school uniform day and therefore if children do not wish to wear something spotty they MUST wear school uniform.

Head Teacher Visits- Over the past year, I am proud to report that the school has been recommended by external advisors, including the Local Authority and an ex Ofsted Inspector, to provide school to school support, not only for local schools but other school in the county. This week the school was visited by Head Teachers and leaders from three schools situated in Cirencester, to talk about our strategic direction and operational procedures. Our vision to become a beacon of excellence has come to fruition. This is due to the hard work and dedication and sheer commitment of the team here at St White's.

Debating Club – On Thursday, our Debating Club went to visit the Debating Club at Dene Magna. Our children were very excited to have a proper debate with the older students. Their pupils showed us how to ask good questions, use their body language to demonstrate good listening and about the importance of eye contact.

Miss Adams led a fascinating debate about Halloween where our children argued very effectively both for and



against this celebration. Miss Adams and her club were really welcoming and made us feel very at home. This trip has really inspired us and everyone was eager to start using some

of their ideas during our club that meets on Fridays.

Next Newsletter – The next Newsletter will be published on Friday, 16th November 2018.



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