

# St White's Primary School

Challenge Commit Conquer and Celebrate



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## June 2021

Welcome to our June edition of the newsletter. With all this lovely weather, summer is finally here and we are facing the last two weeks of the academic year.

### Planning for September

A huge thank you to all our children and parents for the way you have supported the school through this most difficult year. We know it has been frustrating for everyone at times dealing with the restrictions, and the changes to the way the school has operated. We couldn't have got through this without you – it has been a real team effort!

At the moment we have no idea what to expect in September. We have a range of potential plans ready to go, depending on what the Government tells us. As soon as we know, we'll let you know. If we receive the information this term, we will let you know then. We are expecting to have to wait until the holidays and if this is the case, we will let you know our plans through Parentmail and on the school website through the summer holidays. Please keep a look out.

### Class Photographs

The proofs of the class photographs have arrived and were sent home earlier this week. Because we are so close to the end of term, orders must be placed online directly with Tempest by this Sunday 4th July in order to get the photographs delivered to school and save parents having to pay postage. (We will not be accepting any orders in the envelopes through the school office.) The photographs should arrive in the last week.

### School Uniform

As we know lots of parents are thinking ahead to September and ordering school uniform, we are sending out our uniform policy with this newsletter as a reminder about the requirements. We would like to particularly point out that school shoes should be black and not have bright colours, even on the soles, leggings are not part of our school uniform, and skirts should reach the knee.

### Goodbye and Thank you!

At the end of the academic year we are sadly losing some valued members of our St White's team. Mrs Haroun and Miss Hodson will be moving to new exciting opportunities in their teaching careers. Mr

## Diary Dates

### July

**5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> July:** Sports Week

**7<sup>th</sup> July:** Swift Allotment

**12<sup>th</sup> July:** Bump Up Day & PTFA raffle draw

**14<sup>th</sup> July:** Jay Allotment

**16<sup>th</sup> July:** Last day of the school.

Leavers Assembly 2pm

### September

**1<sup>st</sup> September:** INSET day

**2<sup>nd</sup> September:** All children return to school.

Paterson is expanding his horizons beyond teaching and joining a new career outside of education. Mrs Hampton had a beautiful baby boy in May, we wish her and the family the best of luck in the future. A massive thank you to Mrs Stephens who has stepped up to cover Woodpecker class since January. We are grateful and we wish her the best of luck going forward and we may see her around school again for cover. Mr Griffiths is fully retiring from his position of Mini bus driver. He will be greatly missed by all the staff and children of St White's. We wish him a long and happy retirement.

### Bump Up Day – 12<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Every year we look at the class structure and the needs of the children in school and think about how best to split the classes. This year, we have thought really carefully about how best to support everyone to make the best progress and have decided on this class structure.

Miss Cummings - Wren EYFS

Mr Brown - Robin EYFS

Miss Hall - Kingfisher Y1

Miss Lewis - Nightingale Y1 and Y2

Ms Wright - Sparrow Y1 and Y2

Miss Underwood - Skylark Y3

Miss Bruce - Jay Y3 and Y4

Mr Cassidy - Swift Y4

Mr Hayward - Woodpecker Y5

Miss Cinderey - Peregrine Y5 and Y6

Mr Jones - Heron Y5 and Y6

We are currently finalising the class lists for next year and you and your child will find out where they are going on July 12th. After our bump up afternoon, there will be a team's meeting with your child's new teacher. The link will be sent out via parentmail at 3.30, ready to start at 3:45. We hope to see you there!

**All new staff joining us in September have introduced themselves below:**



Hello Everyone!  
I'm Miss Bruce and I am delighted to be joining St White's in September as Jay Class Teacher and LKS2 Phase Lead. I have visited your school on two separate occasions and I have been captivated by all of the happy and smiling children I have encountered each time;

I cannot wait to meet you all properly in September. After spending the past few years living and working in London, I now love nothing more than hopping in my motorhome with my two pugs and exploring our beautiful countryside, so my summer holiday will be filled with lots of camping adventures. I hope you all have a super summer, whatever you are doing and I can't wait to meet you all in a few weeks!



Hello everyone at St White's. I'm Mr Greening and I will be joining you all in September to drive the minibus. I'm looking forward to getting to know some of you, and to seeing more of what goes on in your lovely school. I'm fairly new to the Forest area so will enjoy exploring Cinderford when I get into the

routine next term - I promise I won't get lost! The local history around here is brilliant. I spend a lot of my spare time discovering new places around this part of Gloucestershire and going on beautiful walks with my dog Betsy. When I'm not out and about I'm usually found in the garden trying to sort out the roses and dahlias, or helping my wife run our local community choir - I do enjoy singing and all kinds of music. Whatever you enjoy doing, make the most of your Summer break from school and don't forget to give me a wave in September.



Hello I am Miss Dromgoole and I have moved up here from Essex to start my teaching career. I enjoy the countryside, especially on my

walks or when I am horse riding. I love animals and have 2 pets myself. For the children I work with, you will soon see my love of animals through my stationary which I am obsessed with. My 3 favourite subjects are PE, history and maths. I try to make my lessons as fun as possible, encouraging the children to use their imagination and creativity. I love to read;

my favourite book collection is Harry Potter, and my favourite author is Roald Dahl. I am very excited to start my role as PPA teacher and look forward to meeting you all in September.



My name is Mr Hayward and I'm very excited to be teaching Woodpecker class in September. I grew up in Malvern but moved to Cheltenham in 2018 and I love living here in Gloucestershire. I enjoy spending time with my family, going on long bike rides with friends and losing

myself in a good book. I also like travelling and soaking up different cultures so I'm looking forward to when things return to normal and we can go abroad again. During the pandemic, I have enjoyed discovering new hobbies, such as completing puzzles, cooking new and adventurous recipes (which haven't always gone to plan!) and finding new walks in our local area. I can't wait to hear all about the fantastic hobbies that you have discovered this past year as we get to know each other in September. Have a fantastic summer break!



Hello everyone! My name is Miss Cummings and I am very excited to be teaching Wren class in September! I can't wait to join the St Whites family and get to know everyone including children, parents and staff. My favourite subject is geography and I love

animals! I have two little guinea pigs who love to cuddle and eat a LOT of grass. I also enjoy being outside and going for long walks in the woods. I hope you all have a fantastic summer and I can't wait to see you all in September!

Hello! My name is Mr Cassidy and I am thrilled to be teaching Swift in September. Many of you may have seen me around school, helping out and covering classes, but I am delighted to have a class of my own! I am football crazy, I love playing and watching, but I also enjoy socialising and seeing the world. I cannot wait to get stuck in and see you all after a well-earned summer holiday.



### Star of the Week Awards

Now that we are all back in school our weekly virtual assemblies have restarted. Every week there is a 'star of the week' and a 'sports star of the week' pupil in each class. Well done to the children who have been awarded this month.

#### Week Commencing Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2021

	Star of the Week	Sports Star of the Week
Robin	Charlie C	Dexter
Wren	Finley	Jacob O
Kingfisher	Toby	Chester
Nightingale	Grace S	Jayden H
Sparrow	Tyler-James B	Alex H
Skylark	Dominic	Vinnie
Jay	Georgia-Rose	Noah J
Swift	Oliver	Todd
Woodpecker	Harry F	Dewi
Heron	Brooke	Brooke, Beth, Chloe G & Jamie
Peregrine	Jake	Lucas

#### Week Commencing Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2021

	Star of the Week	Sports Star of the Week
Robin	Emily T	Ragul
Wren	Charlie A	Penny
Kingfisher	Kingsley	Fae
Nightingale	Violet	Logan Gr
Sparrow	Harry	Isla-Faith
Skylark	Thomas	Declan
Jay	Noah	Lacey & Tiffany
Swift	Drew	Emmy
Woodpecker	Edward	Tom
Heron	Evelyn	Jackson-Reeve
Peregrine	Luca	Noah

### TTRockstars

Every week, KS1 and KS2 children practise their timetables on TTRockstars. To celebrate their achievements we are sending out a weekly bulletin to parents.

Well done to Harry, Freya and Kai who answered the most correct answers and were at the top of the leader boards this month. Well done KS1! Also a massive well done to Chloe G, Chloe B and Jenson who were all at the top of the KS2 leader board this month. This is an amazing effort, well done everyone

### Science Week

During the first week back we celebrated science week in school. The classes have been doing projects in school to work towards the Eco School Award. You can see all of the amazing things they have been doing by going on our Eco Padlet. This is featured on the school website under our science page. If you

have doing anything that shows your child being environmentally friendly or caring towards our planet, please share photos with Miss Underwood by emailing [skylark@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:skylark@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk). During the half term, a group of children went out to take part in an organised litter pick up, well done to everyone who was involved!

LKS2 classes went on a visit within the local area to watch the trees being harvested. They all had a wonderful time and the weather was beautiful. Thank you to Leoni Dawson, our local forest ranger, who helped support and show our groups around the site and answered our questions.



### Kayaking – School Games Trials



Last week, a small group of children took part in a trial Kayaking event at Symonds Yat with Wyedean Canoe club. They had so much fun and even Mr Jones got involved too! If you and your child would like to try canoeing or kayaking,

you can join in with the Wyedean Canoe Club on Thursdays or on their new youth slalom night on Wednesdays.

If you would like more details contact Wyedean Canoe Club on 01594 541068 or via email

[membership@wyedeanclub.co.uk](mailto:membership@wyedeanclub.co.uk)



### Road Safety Day

On Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> June, the whole school took part in road safety day along with some very special volunteers. Our PCSO Sue Pritchard along with other members of the local police met with our classes to discuss the importance of road safety and helped us in our walk down St White's Road. Well done to all the children who took part: you all crossed the roads sensibly.



## Music Lessons

Throughout the summer term we have been lucky to have two music teachers come in to teach our year 1s and year 3s how to play the recorders and violins.

Our Year 3s have been enjoying their recorder sessions. They've learnt the notes B, A, G and C and the note values crotchet, quaver, minim and semibreve and are learning how to recognise these notes on a musical staff.

Our Year 1s have been learning how to play stringed instruments. They have really enjoyed taking part in these sessions.

## A Message from Heron Project Group

We are so excited to announce that the defibrillator has arrived at school and has been installed by the Sneyd Wood Road entrance. A massive thank you to Dan Adams Electrical for taking the time out to help with the installation. Also thank you to E. M. Davis Industrial Engraving Limited in Hereford who has provided us with the plaque above the defibrillator.

After purchasing the defibrillator, we have extra donations remaining and will be donating the remaining money back to charities. If you have any recommendations for charities, please contact Mr Jones via [heron@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:heron@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk).

London Hearts charity is offering anyone who is interested free online training where you can learn how to use the defibrillator in a lifesaving situation. If you are interested in this offer, please speak to Mr Jones.

## Vacancies

We currently have a vacancy open for a midday supervisor to start with us in September. If you would like more information about the position, please go onto the school website or speak to the office staff. The application form and all the documents are on our vacancy page on the school website. The deadline for applications close on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July.

We are hoping with the easing of restrictions we can start welcoming volunteers back into school in September. If you would like to volunteer and help support our children with their reading skills, please contact the school to register your interest.

## Lost Property

Please make sure that all items of clothing and especially coats and jumpers are named. We have some items which have gone missing. This often happens when children pick up clothes that aren't theirs without noticing. Please could everyone have a check of name labels and send back anything that has gone home by mistake.

The lost property box has become quite full with unnamed uniform. If your child has misplaced part of their uniform since we have been back, we encourage you to have a look in the box before the end of term.

All uniform not collected will be taken away during the holidays.

## Hot School Lunches are back!

Earlier this month our hot school lunches made a return and it has been so lovely seeing all the children eating in the hall. It is great to see that we are finally experiencing some normality again. Please remember that school lunches must be ordered by Sunday night for the following week through Parentpay. If you have any problems, please contact the office. All information about the lunches is available on our school website.

**Happy birthday** to the children (and staff) who have celebrated birthdays during June:

Jake, Lila, Nel, Chloe B, Teddy, Amber, Lucas, Hannah, Dougie, Ava, Ralph, Rosie, Tom, Jimmy, Grace, Ellie-May, Alfie, Daniel, Luka, Rhys, Darcy-Mae, Lowri, Jackson, Edward, Jessie, Miss Bailey, Mr Brown, Miss Cooling, Mrs Cowan, Mrs Fearn, Mrs



Hewitt, Mrs Ind, Mrs White and Miss Wright.

**We completely understand that your child would like to celebrate their birthday in school but please remember that bringing sweet treats into class is not allowed due to potential allergies within their group.**

## PTFA Summer Raffle

Raffle tickets have gone home to all children. Each child has had a book of 10 raffle tickets for the PTFA raffle. The cost of tickets is £1 each, or £5 for 6 tickets. If you do not wish to purchase or sell the tickets, please send them back to school as soon as possible. If you buy or sell tickets, please fill in all the stubs with name, phone number and email and return them to your child's class in an envelope with the money. If you wish to take advantage of the special offer, you can complete six stubs and return them with £5, or if you complete all 10 stubs and return them with £10 we will fill in an extra two with your name on and put them into the draw. If you want more tickets, please ask staff on the gates next week. Whichever class raises the most money will win a fabulous prize of an extra playtime!

The raffle will be drawn on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July at 2pm and we will host a live teams so parents can watch.

## Advice and Support from Erica

### Breakfast

A reminder to parents that it is very important for you to encourage your children to have breakfast every morning. We have several children in every classroom reporting each morning that they have not

eaten breakfast and that they are hungry. This is affecting their focus and concentration.

### **Summer update from the School Allotment.**

With the arrival of Strawberry Scarecrow came the warmer weather and at last the children were able to see (and taste) the results of their work in the allotment last autumn and earlier in 2021.

**Heron Class** arrived and helped to dig up and put out for drying a bumper crop of garlic which was sown last autumn – and early June was also a good time to start planting out the Squash plants so the Courgettes went in.



It was fun to be joined by **Robin Class** who came on a 'Veg Hunt' ... and we dug deep and found potatoes ready to be harvested (we composted the plant tops and roots) and then munched through the first of the peas that were hiding in the Wigwam.... a scrummy reward for all their hard work.



Despite the changeable weather **Nightingale Class** helped prepare the soil on a sunny Wednesday afternoon so all the Sweetcorn was planted and filled a bed. They learnt about the 'block planting' in the whole bed to help with pollination by the wind....and as the sun had been shining they checked out the Strawberry bed for a reward and watered the Wild Flowers.



**Sparrow Class** arrived this last week of June and we looked at how the Broad beans had grown from the seeds they planted in early Spring. We harvested Pods to try - interestingly many liked the fresh young beans – but snap peas were even better. Sparrow's tomato experiment of bought Tomato seeds against growing plants from a slice of tomato has produced equally successful plants – with flowers and some tomatoes – we hope to see them red and ready to eat in the Autumn Term. We looked at nature from Tadpoles/Froglets from my pond to the uninvited Cabbage White Caterpillars who were chomping on the Turnips, luckily we had netted the Cabbages, we hope it stays that way.



We have enjoyed the changing seasons and all they produce - Mrs Self has kindly shared the Allotment successes and failures with us - and we are always happy to answer gardening questions if you are passing.

See you all in the Autumn.  
**Nicky the Gardener**

**Next Newsletter** – Our last newsletter edition of the year will be published on Friday 16th July 2021. 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 [admin@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk) by Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2021.



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