# St White's Primary School

Challenge Commit Conquer and Celebrate

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# January 2022

Welcome to our January edition of the newsletter, the first one of 2022. We hope that you all had a lovely Christmas break. As you will probably be aware, this week we hit a record for the most COVID cases in school since March 2020. We really appreciate everyone who has continued to test daily and let us know about any positive results. Thank you also for your kindness and consideration at this very difficult time as we do everything we can to try and keep the school open.

# **Sporting News**

On Monday 10th January year 5/6 competed at the annual sports hall athletics tournament at Dene Magna. Both boys and girls worked together competing in relay races, over under races, javelin, chest push, long jump, triple jump,

speed bounce and vertical jump. The team were amazing and finished FIRST! Some of our pupils had the best scores of the



tournament meaning they were the best in The Forest of Dean. We just pipped Forest View by a narrow 12 points. Well done team and a very well deserved win

Happy birthday to the children (and staff) who celebrated birthdays this month: Soraia, Briellah, Adam W, Ellie T, Kyler, Keaton, Neiva, Heidi,

Jacob J, Lily, Lilly-Hanna, Alister, Ben, Isla-Faith, Violet-Belle, Josh, Harrison, Amber, Oliver, Elsie, Emily S, Charlie, Leiah, Emily C, Niall, Milo, Jenson, Olivia, Henry,



Miss Dromgoole and Mrs Reynolds.

# **Diary Dates**

February 2022 1<sup>st</sup>: PTFA meeting (Virtual) 7<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>: Mental Health Week 11<sup>th</sup>: "Dress to Express" day 15<sup>th</sup>: Parent Evening 17th: Parent Evening 18<sup>th</sup>: Last day of school 19<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> Half term holiday 28<sup>th</sup>: School starts

# **Photography Competition**

We have a very exciting photography competition that is running all the way up until October! Earlier this month we sent out a letter explaining how you can enter into this competition, this has been re-sent along with this edition of the newsletter. Everyone can take part in this competition, including parents and families, so please send us your photographs to photographs@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk. We will be sharing some of the wonderful pictures we have received in our newsletters so that you can enjoy them as well. A massive thank you to Kaz Heyworth and Karen McDermott for sending us your beautiful photos, we look forward to seeing more entries!





#### **Charity Committee**

You might be wondering what the charity committee have been up to. Last term was full of success: raising money for the British legion; collecting food for the food bank and organising a non-uniform day for Children in Need.

This term we are going to be organising a selection of events that every pupil can participate in. If you are an origami expert, a book lover or green fingered you will enjoy the upcoming events!

Mental health week is the 7th - 13th February and, as a school, we want to support the charity Place2Be, who are raising money to support those who need additional help with their mental health. To raise money for this kind charity we would like to hold a "Dress to Express" day on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> of February. This is an opportunity to come in and express yourself through your clothes and costumes, which supports our mental health. We are asking that all of you dress to express yourselves and, if possible, bring a £1 donation into your class. All of this money will go to the charity Place2Be and it will be fun to see all of St White's expressing themselves!

The Charity Committee are hoping to do a fundraiser on March 3<sup>rd</sup> for the charity "Read for Good" this will be a whole school Readathon. Another day to put in the diary is 18th March, which is National Red Nose Day. Also keep an eye out for a paper aeroplane competition – this will be exciting! More details about all these events will follow – so look out for our updates! Yours sincerely, Charity Committee

#### **Gloucester Rugby**



We have recently become an affiliated member of Gloucester Rugby, which means that we work closely with them inside and outside of school. As part of our affiliation, we may receive tickets for matches and these will be offered out to parents. Last week, we ran a ballot for the

tickets to last Saturday's game; Gloucester vs Perpignan. Leanne was lucky enough to win the ballot and went to watch the game; it looks like they had a fabulous time!

#### **PTFA News**

Our PTFA is always looking to recruit parents to join the team and help come up with exciting fundraising ideas for the rest of the school year. If you are interested or would like to know more, come along to their next meeting on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February at 2.15pm. With the rise in COVID cases within the school, we will be holding this meeting virtually over Microsoft Teams. The link to this meeting is on the email.

# **Parent Evenings**

A letter has been sent out along with this newsletter regarding parent evenings this term, they will be held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February. At the moment, we are offering either online or in school meetings but obviously, this will be reviewed nearer the time depending on the school's circumstances. The booking system will go live on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January at 8 am. Please make sure you get yours booked in promptly so that you can have a time suitable for you. When you book, you can indicate using the notes box which sort of meeting you prefer.

# **School Admission Appeal Panel Member**

Are you interested in education and want to get involved? Do you have excellent listening skills, have the ability to put people at ease and make balanced decisions? Would you like to become involved in an important, impartial service provided to parents and schools? If you have answered yes to any of the above, why not apply to become a Volunteer School Admission Appeal Panel Member? All information on how to get involved is attached to this email alongside the newsletter.

**Next Newsletter** – Our next newsletter will be published on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February. 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 14<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

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