

St White's Primary School

Challenge Commit Conquer and Celebrate



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May 2021

Welcome to our May edition of the newsletter. We hope you all have a lovely and enjoyable half term break. We can't believe that summer is finally here (no jokes about the weather please!) and that the 6-week break is just around the corner!

The school has been asked to assist with contact tracing if there are any positive covid cases over the half term. If a member of your family develops covid symptoms during half term, please arrange to take a PCR test (not a lateral flow test – these should be for asymptomatic testing only). If your test result comes back positive, please contact the school by email to admin@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk

Thank you to all the parents who have responded to our survey about summer term activities. Following your input, we will be starting sports clubs after half term. Information has already been sent out to Year 5 & 6 about a tennis club and about Progressive Sports' clubs for parents to sign up directly.

Hot School Lunches are back!

Following our parent survey that was sent out last week, it is clear that the majority of parents do want us to return to serving hot school lunches - this means that lunchtimes and break times will be run in "super" bubbles of phases after half term. Thank you to everyone who has booked early! School lunches must be ordered in advance through Parentpay and must be ordered by Sunday night for the following week. If you have any problems, please contact the office. The summer lunch menu has been sent out to all parents along with information about how to book them. This information is also available on our school website.

Parking and driving by the school

Please remember to drive carefully and park respectfully when bringing or collecting your children. We can't avoid traffic, although I would always recommend that families that can, either walk, bike or 'scoot' to school. I can easily imagine that it may be very difficult to cope with all the traffic if you are a resident without children in the school – all the problems and none of the benefits! The school is very keen to be a positive presence in the community

Diary Dates

May

28th May: Last day of term

June

7th June: School starts

7th, 9th and 11th June: LKS2 Beechenhurst visit

9th June: Heron Allotment

16th June: Kingfisher Allotment

23rd June: Nightingale Allotment

and this, like so many things, will work so much better if everyone is kind and considerate to each other.

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

Charlie, Oscar, Aiden, Clark, Jonah, Summer, Vinnie, Noah, Zara, Skye, Finley, Lacie, Maddison, Rahnne, Simion, Samuel, Miah, Leo S, Connie, Rory, Libby, Lawrence, Emily, T, Dominic, George, Emily W, Miss Blake, Swee, Miss Johns, Mrs Pendrey, Mrs Saddington and Mrs Smith



School Council

A massive thank you to our school council children in UKS2 who helped us during our interview process for the Mini Bus Driver position. You all did an amazing job as the interviewing panel.

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 Alex, Bradley, Ben and Jonah 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 Vibisha and Kyler who were both at the top of the KS2 leader board this month. Vibisha was top of the leader board for the first two weeks, scoring a combined total of 52,412 correct answers. Kyler was top of the leader board for the last two weeks, scoring an amazing total of 47,129. This is an amazing effort, well done everyone!

Well done to swift class who were top of the class tournament this week. This is great to see the year 4s engaged as they are going to have their times table check after half term!

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 10th May 2021

	Star of the Week	Sports Star of the Week
Robin	Ava	Max
Wren	Harley	Charlie J
Kingfisher	Tommy	Ruby
Nightingale	Elsie	Bradley
Sparrow	Nel	Lily
Skylark	Vibisha	Miah
Jay	Ashley	Kegan
Swift	Connie	Sam
Woodpecker	Alyssa	Adam
Heron	Billy	Alex-Jon
Peregrine	Lexi	Noah

Week Commencing Monday 17th May 2021

	Star of the Week	Sports Star of the Week
Robin	Hector	Leiah
Wren	Onira	Keela
Kingfisher	Violet	Lily
Nightingale	Rory C-B	Ryan D-F
Sparrow	Cooper	Tyler Bilett
Skylark	Nate	Dominic
Jay	Tiffany	Eva
Swift	Heidi	Nevia
Woodpecker	Honey	Asha
Heron	Tia	Ethan
Peregrine	Keira	Amber

Week Commencing Monday 24th May 2021

	Star of the Week	Sports Star of the Week
Robin	Leiah	Callen
Wren	Grace	Emily C
Kingfisher	Emily	Kingsley
Nightingale	Piper A	Jessica L
Sparrow	Samuel M	Toby
Skylark	Adrian	Harry
Jay	Miles	Tiffany
Swift	Sophia	Dougie
Woodpecker	Lacie H	Bella J
Heron	Jessie	Billy
Peregrine	Poppy T	Toby W

Science Week

The first week back is science week and the classes are starting to work towards the Eco School Award. If you are doing anything that shows your child being environmentally friendly or caring towards our planet over half term, we would love for you to share photos with Miss Underwood, you can do this by emailing skylark@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk.

A Message from Heron Project Group

On 10th May 2021 we did a sponsored spin-bike to raise more money to help obtain a defibrillator for the school and Sneyd Wood Road residents. Our total distance of cycling was 494km (306 miles), almost the distance of Cinderford to Scotland!

We want to thank everyone who donated towards our project, we have totalled our donations from everyone and raised £1,850! The funds have been used to purchase the defibrillator from the London Hearts charity and we are giving all the remaining money back to charity. Please contact us if you have any recommendations for charities. London Hearts charity is offering an online training session on how to use the defibrillator in a lifesaving situation which will be offered to staff and residents of Sneyd Wood Road.



Vacancies

We currently have a vacancy available 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 deadline for applications closes on Friday 11th June.

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.

My Child's Art

There is still plenty of time to order items from My Child's Art. They would make fabulous father's day presents! You can order all sorts of things from tea-

towels, mugs, water bottles, mouse-mats, all personalised with their design. Orders must be placed on the website by 1st July.

The website is www.mychildsart.co.uk/order

The Login for our school is

Username: StWhites

Password 6GxK8T7u

Class Photographs

On Monday, the photographer from Tempest came into school to take whole class photographs. Once we receive the proofs they will be sent home with ordering instructions. We are so happy to finally have some normality back in school.

Royal Mail Competition

Thank you to all children who have entered into the Royal Mail stamp competition. The designs were sent off on Tuesday so the judges will have received them already. The designs that have been created are amazing and in our eyes you are all winners! We just want to share a selection of the brilliant designs we received.



Clothes Bank

Parents who use the Buckshaft Road entrance may have noticed the new clothes bank down by the bottom fence. This has been organised by the PTFA to raise funds for the school, and is more convenient than having collections a couple of times a year, because it is always available and can be used by the wider community as well.



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. I wonder if everyone could have a check of name labels and send back anything that has gone home by mistake.

Message from PTFA

Due to the ongoing COVID situation this will be the second year that we have not be able to hold fundraising events for the school. We appreciate that companies are struggling at this time but if the company that you work for are continuing to provide charitable donations then we would appreciate you considering us for such a donation.

All monies are used to provide additional resources and activities for the children. We are hoping to be in the position to hold a Christmas fair this year for all parents and children to look forward. There will be a PTFA raffle this summer, so if anyone is able to donate a prize please let the office know. Tickets will be sent home with children later this term.

School Pond

You may have noticed by our Buckshaft Road Entrance that our school pond has started to fill up with water, so at least with all this rain there have been some benefits! Now it is looking like a pond we are starting to have some visitors which is really exciting.



Message from Early Birds

Early birds have found scooters and general rubbish in their garden which have been thrown over the fence. Children in the park have also damaged their fence by climbing over into their garden and it is becoming a big issue. As Early Birds know that a lot of St White's children go to the park after school they have asked us to ask you to remind the children to be respectful to the local area.

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.

Reporting concerns in the community

From time to time the school receives reports of concerns about our children or reports of dangerous driving from the community or other parents – and these are often anonymous. Although we record such reports it is very difficult for the school to act on third party reports. We would strongly advise anyone wanting to make such a report to ring 101

Adult Education

The Family Learning Team have some great wellbeing courses for parents/carers/grandparents starting in early June. Further details of these courses are on the school website, under our family support section.

- Happier and Calmer - Wellbeing at Home: Friday mornings from 9:30-11:00.
- Writing for Wellness: Tuesday mornings from 9:30-11:00.
- Calming the Mind: Tuesdays mornings from 10:30-11:30 or Tuesday evenings from 7:30-8:30.

Summer update from the School Allotment.

Hello, this is such a busy time of year for gardeners and as you will see the children have been working hard and learning about sowing, planting and growing vegetables and flowers.

Well after one of the driest April months in years and wettest of May we are finally moving into June and the children's hard work on the allotment is starting to produce some very positive results.

Peregrines came and planted out the French Bean Plants that they grew from seed and the directly sown Carrots and Beetroot are responding to the warmer weather and will require thinning out to produce larger plants and vegetables in the next week or so.



As the weather improved the Jays helped with digging the trench and planting the peas around the wigwam. Once the ground was prepared we transferred the greenhouse grown peas, with a great set of roots, from guttering into the trenches – and compared their growth with that of the few tiny plants sown direct in April.



As we are nearing the end of May and hopefully frosts really are no more the Skylarks had the task of starting to plant out the Sweetcorn; learning about how they are wind germinated so planted in Blocks to aid this and improve the crop. The other important job was sowing the Pumpkin and Squash seeds which we can hopefully harvest with the Sweetcorn on the children's return in the Autumn.



The last jobs before Half Term fall to the Swifts. In the Spring Term Sparrows helped to sow Tomato Seeds and we planted a slice of Tomato to see if it grew. Both lots of seeds have grown into strong healthy plants and Swifts helped plant them outside up canes to support them. We removed the side shoots to focus on strong flower and fruit development.



Everyone has enjoyed the Allotment and I look forward to welcoming them back with Mrs Self in the Summer Term when we can hopefully share some of our successes and produce.

Nicky the Gardener. @ruspidgegrows

Next Newsletter – Our next newsletter edition will be published on Friday 2nd 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-whitesgloucs.sch.uk by Monday 28th June 2021.

