St White's Primary School

S ST WHITES

Challenge Commit Conquer Celebrate

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24th October 2019

Year 6 Residential trip to Aberdovey What a fabulous adventure our pupils (and staff) had last week! There are still lots of



photographs on the school website for everyone to see. A huge thank you to all the children for their bravery, sense of adventure and excellent behaviour. Thanks also to all the parents for their part in organising (and especially labelling) all their kit, and to Mrs Tilling, Mr

Jones and Miss Cinderey for accompanying them.

14th November is Odd Socks Day – for Antibullying week. Throughout the week there will be lessons and assemblies focussed on Anti-bullying, and on 14th November we would like everyone to wear odd socks, along with normal school uniform, to demonstrate that "change starts with us".

Planting Butterfly Banks with the Forestry Commission Last week Miss Evans took a



group of intrepid KS1 children out into the woods to work with the Forestry Commission. They helped with planting on the banks

alongside a forest track to improve the habitat and encourage butterflies. It was very, very muddy but great



Diary Dates

October

25th – Inset Day

November

4th - School starts for all pupils

4th – Bring in finished sketching competition entries

8th – Assembly Battle Skylark v Jay Year 3

11th - Armistice Assembly

11th - 15th - Bikeability Year 6

14th - Odd Socks day for Anti-Bullying Week

15th – Assembly Battle Kingfisher v Nightingale Yr 1

19th - Open Day for 2020 Reception Intake

22nd – PTA Annual General Meeting 3.15pm

29th - PTA Christmas Fair

December

3rd - PTA Film Night KS1&EYFS 5pm

4th – PTA Film Night KS2 5pm

9th & 10th - Flu immunisations - all year groups

11th - Christmas Lunch

16th & 17th – EYFS and KS1 Christmas Plays

18th - Pantomime trip

20th – School Finishes

January 2020

6th – Inset Day

7th - School Starts

fun! A special thank you to Dennis who drove the minibus and then had to give it a really good clean inside and out!

Jay Class Project Group A report from Willow: On Wednesday afternoon Jay project

group went on a trip to the Forest Sensory Service at Foxes Bridge. We learnt about braille and a kind lady called Amy is



Vacancy We have a vacancy for a Teaching Assistant – for details please see the school website.

Writing Competition We received some fantastic competition entries for Autumn 1. After much deliberation, Year 6 pupils have decided on 3 winners who were awarded in Assembly today:

KS1 - Miah (Sparrow Class)

LKS2 - Emmy (Skylark Class)

UKS2 - Maria (Woodpecker Class)



A note from Charlie (Peregrine Class) Friday 25th October will be the launch of our Autumn 2 writing challenge. With Armistice Day fast approaching, we are asking that all writing is focused on this or World War 1. This

time we are asking pupils to write in a text type that they have learnt about in class.

- EYFS Draw and label a character
- KS1 Character descriptions
- LKS2 Letters
- UKS2 Narratives

All entries must be handed into Peregrine Class or Mrs Hewitt by Friday 6th December. Winners will be announced the following week. As always, parent/carer entries are very welcome.

Harvest Festival A big thank you to all the families who brought in donations of food and clothing for our collection today. This will



be distributed through the Royal British Legion to homeless

veterans. We were very lucky to have Jason from Caterlink spend time cooking with children today. They made fruit salad, bread and soup. Last week children in KS1 created

portraits using vegetables – this was great fun and photographs of them were on display today along with other harvest artwork. If



you would like to purchase your child's artwork the cost is 50p – please bring money to the office by Wednesday 6th November and it will be sent home on Friday 8th.

Fire Engine Visit

On 15th October, EYFS and KS1 children had a

visit from the fire service to learn about fire safety and they brought the fire engine!



Armistice Day On Monday 11th November, parents and carers are welcome to join us at the start of the school day. There will be an art exhibition in the Hall from 9am, followed by learn alongside in classrooms and then we will hold our assembly at 9.30am which will



finish by 10.15am. We will be joined by representatives from the Royal British Legion. Poppies and other British Legion items such as wrist bands, reflectors and zip pulls will be on sale in school from 4th November – there are no set prices but we

suggest a donation of 50p- £1.00 per item. Children can bring money in to school and the items will be brought round to the classrooms each day.

Activities in Half Term week

In the school office, we have 50% off vouchers for the National Sealife centre in Birmingham. Barnados Holiday Lunch Club Monday 28th October 2019 at the River Children and Family Centre, Naas Lane, Lydney, GL15 5AU Text to 07738860812 or sarah.finlay@barnardos.org.uk to book a place.

Halloween Party at Cinderford Library on Thursday 31st October at 2.30pm. Tickets are free from the library.



Dean Heritage Centre and Taurus Crafts are running special half term activities all week – all children have received leaflets or you can check out their websites.

Cyberland A report from Charlie in Jay Class:

On Wednesday 23rd
October Years 4 – 6
were lucky enough
to do a STEM
activity. Cyberland
was super fun! The



reason is that we got to go on a computer and do some puzzle solving. We also got to stop a fake hacker. Thank you to Sam, Ben, Simon and Kate from Lockheed for giving up their time.

School Transitions A final reminder to Year 6 parents that you should apply for your child's secondary school place by 31st
October at the latest. If there are any parents who need help with the process, please contact the school office. And a reminder about our Open Day for families with children due to start in Reception in September 2020. It will be on Tuesday 19th November with two sessions – from 1.45 to 2.45 and then from 4 – 6pm.

Lost Property There is lots and lots of lost property in the box, mostly jumpers and cardigans but a few coats and other items as well. Please would parents make sure all items brought to school are named – take the opportunity over half term to make sure any names which have faded are re-written. Please encourage your children to try and take responsibility for their belongings.

Parent Conduct We are very sorry to have to end the newsletter on a negative note, but unfortunately there have been a number of incidents this half term where children have been upset and frightened because adults have approached them or their parents in the playground to discuss issues between children which often happen outside school. This can be very intimidating for children and

other parents and can lead to an escalation of problems. We would ask all parents to be very careful about how they speak to other parents, and remind them that under no circumstances should they speak to anyone else's children in this way on school premises. The school has a policy on Managing Violent and Abusive Visitors which can and will be used to ban parents from the school site if their behaviour causes children to be upset or afraid. Senior leaders are always available at the beginning and end of the day for you to share any concerns and our family support worker Erica is always available to speak to parents and to work with children on friendship issues. The school has behaviour and anti-bullying policies which can be used to deal with incidents in school.

Next Newsletter – The next Newsletter will be published on Friday 15th November 2019.

