

# HOLD THE FRONT PAGE!!!

## BOOK SWAP GRAND OPENING

Lots of parents have commented on the lovely new seating and book shelf in the foyer – and we are thrilled to invite parents and children to start using it now. Since this photograph was taken the shelves are filling up!



The Book Swap was the idea of Violet in Swift Class, and she told us:

*"When I applied to be elected as a school councillor, I had said that I would implement a book swap in school. I am really happy and proud that this has now been put in place. The Book Swap is somewhere which has a selection of books that some of us have finished with but other people might enjoy. If you have a book that you might like to swap, bring it along and see if you can find one you'd like more! There will be a variety of books from reception to year 6 and beyond,*

*as there is a section for books for grown-ups. I am excited because I think that people will really love it and I am looking forward to people using it in the future."*

The Book Swap is now open!!!! Here are some parents and our school council enjoying the books and deciding which they would like to swap some of their books for. They want you to know that the books are absolutely free and you can come and help yourself! If you have books you would like to leave for others, that would be great!



# St White's Primary School

*Always Learning!*



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## 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024

Welcome to our newsletter half way through the first Summer term! As always there is lots going on in school!

**Happy birthday** to our pupils and staff who have



celebrated their birthdays in April: Poppy W, Penny W, Savannah, Harriet, Dubem, Megan, Hollie, Charlotte, Martin, Tia, Theo A, Tommy Jackson, Nate A, Rory L,

Daniel, Naphali, Keith, Noah J, Georgia-Rose, Ruby, Maiya, Adrian & Angelina, Miss Creed, Ms Nicholls and Mrs Sheen

**Danceathon** – A huge thank you to everyone who joined us and to all the children, especially the dance clubs for all their fabulous moves at the danceathon on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April. We raised an amazing £780 to spend on equipment and costumes for the dance clubs, and we are hoping to enter lots more competitions. Everyone had great fun, and there was a whole page spread in the local newspaper. Well done to Miss Cartwright for dancing all day too!



**Readathon** Thank you to everyone who took part in the Readathon through March – we raised £193 for the charity Read for Good.

## Diary Dates

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May** – Spring Bank Holiday  
**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May** – Year 5 London Trip  
**13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> May** – Year 6 SATS week  
**Weds 22<sup>nd</sup> May** – KS1 Dean Heritage Centre Trip  
**Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> May** – Robin Class Beach Trip  
**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May** – last day of term  
**Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> June** – school starts  
**Tues 4<sup>th</sup> June** – Aspirations Morning  
**Weds 5<sup>th</sup> June** – UKS2 Cheltenham Science Festival  
**Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> June** – School Science Fayre  
**Fri 7<sup>th</sup> June** – LKS2 Cheltenham Science Festival

**Robin Class – Beach Party** – The children and lots of parents had a very exciting afternoon at their indoor beach party! They were getting in lots of practice ready for their trip to the real beach at Barry Island later this month. We hope the weather will be a bit warmer by then!



**Oracy Learn Alongside** – The children were very pleased to show off their oracy skills to all the parents who came in to learn-alongside on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April. A big thank you to all the teachers for working so hard to help all our children develop their confidence in speaking.



**Artwork for the New Hospital** We are very pleased to have been invited to help with artwork for the Children's Department of the new hospital in Cinderford which is opening very soon. Lots of children sent in individual pictures for the vinyl mural, and then our year 5 pupils had a visit from the artist making the mosaic artwork and they all had a chance to help. We can't wait to be able to visit the new hospital to see all the artwork!



**Swift Pond Dipping** Swift Class were lucky to have a Forest Ranger come in to do a pond dipping session. They found lots of fantastic beasts including newts, leeches, tadpoles and a frog. We are very lucky to have this wildlife within our own school grounds.



**Skylark Forest Poetry** – Skylark Class were very lucky to have a visitor from the University of Gloucestershire to speak to us about their Reading the Forest project. They discussed writers from the Forest of Dean, including Catherine



Drew, the Forest Poetess. Then a small group of children from Skylark were invited to the

Dean Heritage Centre to be the first to see some amazing artefacts which are on display, including some of Catherine Drew's original poems.



**Eco Committee hedge planting** We were thrilled to be asked by Forestry England to help with their new community project at the old Bilson Mission site which is being turned into a nature reserve. The children met with forest rangers to plant some fruit trees and hedging



along the fence line. We are told they did a fantastic job!



**Heron writing** The children in Heron class had a writing task to write a letter to someone who inspires them. Two of the boys wrote to Manchester United Footballer, Koobie Mainoo, and were lucky to receive a reply with signed photographs!



**Cookery** On Friday afternoons, the delicious smells from cookery classes drift through the school! This term the recipes include cheese straws and fish cakes.



**Forest Schools** This term it is the turn of Jay and Nightingale Classes to have Forest Schools, and Robin class are lucky to have a session every week as well. They have been doing some really important jobs including putting up squirrel feeders.



**Year 5 & 6 Football** On 12<sup>th</sup> April we sent two teams to the Prostars Football Tournament at Five Acres and they showed great sportsmanship and team work. One team won 2 games, and the other team got through to the final and won!!



**Year 3 & 4 Girls Football** On Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April the girls team went to the Prostars tournament at Five Acres School and they did fantastically well, making it all the way through the final and finishing runners up in a very close game.



**Bowling** A group of year 5 & 6 pupils went to Gloucester on 18<sup>th</sup> April to compete against other schools in bowling. They had great fun and were



all great at encouraging each other. They all received medals and certificates and two of them received special certificates for their high scores!



**KS1 World Wildlife Fund** – Kingfisher, Nightingale and Sparrow Classes had a non-uniform day with an animal theme to raise money so that they could sponsor animals through the World Wildlife Fund – they have all chosen to sponsor a polar bear this year. They had a fun day and all looked amazing! Thanks to the generosity of pupils, parents and staff we raised over £90!



**Computing Club** – Thank you to Mr Hayward and Mr Pagan-Lodge for running the KS2 computer club on Mondays which is a great success. The club is fun and very popular. If there are any more parents who would be



interested in helping out, or would like to know more, please contact Mr Hayward on [peregrine@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:peregrine@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk)



**Mental Health Champions** St White's Primary School are proud to have been awarded GHLL Mental Health Champions for the second time. A special thank you to Erica for all the work she does with the children and families around mental health.



**Corinium Museum** Earlier this week Skylark, Jay and Swift Classes had a trip to the Corinium Museum in Cirencester to learn about the Romans! They saw some amazing mosaics and learned all about how the Romans lived. They even got a chance to dress up – including the teachers!



**Danceathon update ...** Well done to Eva in Nightingale class, who won the competition to guess how many songs they would dance to – the total was 127 – and she guessed 130! Her prize was a sparkly ribbon to dance with!



**Next Newsletter** – Our next newsletter will be published on 24<sup>th</sup> May. 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 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024.