

# St White's Primary School

Challenge Commit Conquer and Celebrate



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## 18<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Welcome to our final newsletter of the year! We have had an amazing last day with all the classes having great fun. We were all (staff included) very happy to get soaked in the water fights and a huge thank you to the PTFA for arranging an ice-cream van so every child had an ice-cream or lolly this afternoon.

We hope everyone has a lovely summer holiday and look forward to seeing everyone back on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September.

## Goodbyes

We have said a sad goodbye to some staff today. Mrs Winstone and Miss Dromgoole (PPA teachers), and Mrs Hinks (TA) have left to move on to new schools and we wish them luck.



Miss Wright, Sparrow Class Teacher, is moving



to a teaching post much closer to her home and we cannot thank her enough for commuting all the way here for the last 18 months and her wonderful work with KS1.

We have to say a huge thank you to Kerry Dixon who has been maternity cover Family Support



Worker for the last year – she has worked with lots of children and families and we will really miss her. Erica Fearn will be returning in September to take up

the role again.

## Diary Dates

### September

**Weds 7<sup>th</sup>** – School starts for all pupils

**Thurs 8<sup>th</sup>** – Welcome meetings with teachers 3.00

**21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Flu immunisations – all pupils

### October

**Mon 3<sup>rd</sup>** - Individual Pupil Photographs

**7<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>** – Cheltenham Literature Festival Trips

**17<sup>th</sup>- 21<sup>st</sup>** – Year 6 Residential Aberdovey

**24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>** - Half Term Holiday

Finally we are wishing a very happy retirement to Mrs Linda Osborne who has worked here as a cleaner and Mid-day Supervisor for nearly 20 years! We will really miss you Mrs Osborne and wish you a fun and relaxing retirement.



**Year 6** Today we said a final sad goodbye to our Year 6 pupils. After a couple of years break, it was great to be able to put on a full year 6 production again and welcome parents back into school to see the performances. Well done to all the year 6 pupils for how hard they have worked in learning their lines, working in rehearsals and organising props and scenery. We are very grateful to Miss Blake for recording the performance for us. Thank you to parents for supporting with costumes. Shakespeare Rocks!

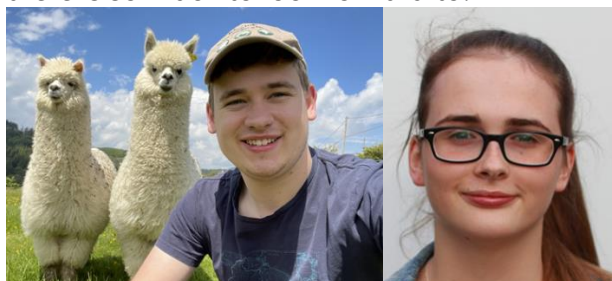


**NOLA** Over the past half term, year 6 have been taking part in the National Outdoor

Learning Award in sessions run by Mrs Cook. They have increased their skills in nine different areas including being safe, being respectful and learning about the environment. They also improved their team working skills. Well done year 6! We will really miss you all and the best of luck in your new adventures!

### Hellos

In September we are welcoming Mr Moorby as Skylark class teacher. He has already met the children! "Hello! I am from Aberystwyth in Wales. I have a love for music, playing in the percussion section in orchestras, and for mountain biking. I cannot wait to get started at St White's, the Bump up Day was great fun and there is so much to look forward to!"



We also have a new PPA teacher, Miss Hutchinson who will be working with several classes across the school. "I am passionate about art, reading and sport (especially gymnastics and tennis)! Looking forward to meeting and teaching you all soon!"

**Huge congratulations** to Miss Lewis, Nightingale Class Teacher, who is getting married in the holidays and will be Mrs Clayton when we come back in September!

**Happy birthday** to the children (and staff) who will be celebrating birthdays in August: Ava P, Frankie, Phoebe P, Jacob T, Ragul, Damian, Jacob O, Kai, Emily F, Coby, Orla, Amber, Ava Y, Ollie, Freddie F, Lucas J, Amy S, Tylan, Tilly-Rose, Bella, Mr Jones, Mrs Osborne and Miss Underwood.



**Year 4 Residential** From 6-8<sup>th</sup> July, St White's held its first (of hopefully many) year 4 residential trips. The group went to stay at St Briavels Castle and took part in secret spy training based on the book Alex Rider: Stormbreaker by Anthony Horowitz.



As well as on-site activities, they enjoyed going to Symonds Yat to take part in climbing adventures and to learn some bushcraft skills. At night, they slept in dorm rooms within the castle. What an exciting adventure it was!



Please see the page on the school website to see more of the exciting things they got up to: [https://www.stwhites.gloucs.sch.uk/web/year\\_4\\_residential/613667](https://www.stwhites.gloucs.sch.uk/web/year_4_residential/613667)

**Wimbledon** On Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July we were very lucky to be able to take a small group of pupils to Wimbledon. The children had a great time



sitting on Henman Hill and visiting No 1 Court. They enjoyed ice cream and some world class tennis! This was an amazing experience, and a



very long day! Thanks to Mr Greening for driving the minibus!

**Sport Competitions** We have had an amazing year for sport with lots of children going out and participating in competitions and events all over the area. Our Year 5 & 6 competed in the final Prostars event of the year. Going into the last round we were 2 points behind St Johns and needed to win every game in order to top the league. After a competitive tournament and 60 previous games we finished joint top of the league with St Johns, so we then had to play a "play-off" final. After a close and competitive match we came out on top, winning 1-0! Well done everybody who represented St White's at the tournament this year as all the points scored helped us to win this trophy! We are the CHAMPIONS!!!



On Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July, year 5 pupils participated in the last School Games event of the year. They enjoyed working as a team and overcoming challenges. Great Sportsmanship team!



**Robin and Wren Class celebrations** – Our youngest children have been learning about celebrations this term, and as part of the topic



they held a pretend wedding ceremony complete with wonderful outfits and a party.

Last week they also held a graduation and all received certificates. There are lots more pictures on their class pages on the website!



**Music Concert** on 1<sup>st</sup> July we held a whole school music concert where each class performed for everyone else, showcasing what they have learnt. Year 1 were very proud to show off their skills on the violin.



**Charity Committee** - Thank you to everyone who has supported the events organised by the Charity Committee over the year. They have raised money for a wide range of good causes and helped to meet the St White's vision of children who know what should be cherished and have the enthusiasm to do something about it.

**Summer Holiday Activities** – there is lots of information about summer holiday activities on the What's On page of the school website.

Don't forget to sign up for the Gadgeteers **Summer Reading Challenge** at Cinderford Library. To complete the challenge, visit the library to sign up and borrow any books you want to read. They could be picture books, chapter books or graphic novels. At the end of the summer, you will be awarded a certificate and medal – bring it in to school to share with your class! Remember the challenge is totally free!

### **Mitchelean Poetry and Short Story Competitions**

Congratulations to pupils and ex-pupils at St White's for their prize-winning entries in the Mitchelean poetry and short story competitions. All the prize-winning entries were written while pupils were at St White's but some were included in this year's judging due to circumstances relating to the organising team. They will be presented with their prizes in a ceremony at St Michael and All Angels, Mitchelean on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June at 12 noon. Please feel free to go along and support them and enjoy the rest of the festival.

#### **Poetry Competition - Age 9 – 11**

2nd Prize – Our Planet by Sophia W  
Highly Commended – The Climate Crisis by Trinity B

#### **Story Competition - Under 11 years**

Winner – Moonlight Boy by Emily F  
Runner up – My Life by Tommy B  
3rd – Bots Adventures by Levi F  
Highly Commended – A Sea of Tears by Evelyn  
Highly Commended – The Lost Bear by Sammi T

**Sports Days** A big thank you to all the parents who joined us for our phase sports afternoons last week – the children all had great fun and huge congratulations to Blue House who won the shield – it was a very close competition!



**Breaking News!** We found out this morning that we have been awarded re-accreditation as Mental Health Champions! A huge well done to Miss Dixon, Mrs Cowan and Mrs Fearn for all their work on mental health and collecting all the evidence. It was a huge amount of work! Also thank you to our safeguarding governor Debra Clough for her help, and well done to all the staff, children and to the parents who also came in to speak to the assessment team. The assessors at GHLL wanted it recorded that St



White's was one of the three schools out of the eight who were exceptional in demonstrating why and how they should be a MHC school. Well done to all the staff and children and thank you so much again for your help with showing off what we do!

### **Today we had great fun!**



**First week back** – On Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 3pm parents are invited to come into their child's classroom to meet their teacher and learn about what is in store for the year. We will open both gates at 2.55pm to allow access.

**Next Newsletter** – Our next newsletter will be published on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September. 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 26<sup>th</sup> September 2022



