

# St White's Primary School

*Always Learning!*



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## 14<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2025! This has been quite a short half term, but very busy. We hope everyone has a great half term holiday and we will see you all on 24<sup>th</sup> February!

**Happy birthday** to our pupils and staff who have celebrated or will have their birthdays in January and early February: Lilly-Hanna, Violet-Belle, Luana, Carla, Dylan, Jai-Jai Melina, Jenson, Joshua V,



Harrison T, Ralph, Robbie, Leah, Alister, Emily C, Amber & Oliver W, Niall, Maisie, Ben, Olivia J, Isla-Faith, Azaan, Elsie, Henry H, Angelo, Tobias, Mrs Brain, Miss Marshall, Miss Medhurst, Miss Reynolds, Miss Rice and Miss Simion

**Look Who's Talking Competition** – Well done to all the children who took part, giving talks to their classes in school. Three children were chosen to go through and represent St White's in the competition against other local schools, Hattie from KS1, Penny from LKS2 and Isla-Faith from UKS2. Thank you to parents for taking them along to the competition and supporting them!



Well done to all three and huge congratulations to Penny, who won the Forest of Dean school's heat, and will go on to represent us at the County Finals! There are lots of photos and some videos

of the children in their class competitions on the school website.

## Diary Dates

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February – school starts  
25, 26, 27 Feb – Maths With Me for Y2, Y1 & YR  
6<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day – come to school in your Pyjamas or anything comfy!  
7<sup>th</sup> March – PTFA Quiz and Curry Night  
7 – 12 March – Scholastic Book Fair  
13 March – Robin Class Trip – Raglan Farm Park  
14 March – Year 5 Trip – Houses of Parliament  
18 March – Whole Class Photographs  
27 March – KS1 trip to Gloucester Cathedral  
Coming up in April – St White's Has Got Talent

**Clubs** - A really big thank you to Miss Weyman and Miss Hall for running their after school clubs this term. They have been very well attended and great fun! Horrible Histories Club turned themselves into Egyptian Mummies, including Miss Hall!



**Robin Class** have been having lots of outdoor fun in spite of the cold weather. Thank you to the



parents who came along on the woodland walk in January. It was very muddy but they had fun! They have also been making artwork from natural materials they have collected and arranging them in frames on the playground.



**KS1 Construction** – KS1 have had a great time in Design Technology learning about axles and wheels and making their own vehicles using cardboard and straws and deciding how best to fix the axles on!



**Cooking** - This term lower KS2 have been making yummy bread rolls and KS1 have made tzatziki with pitta breads to dip! Absolutely delicious!



**Always Learning Awards** Well done to everyone who is working hard on their Always

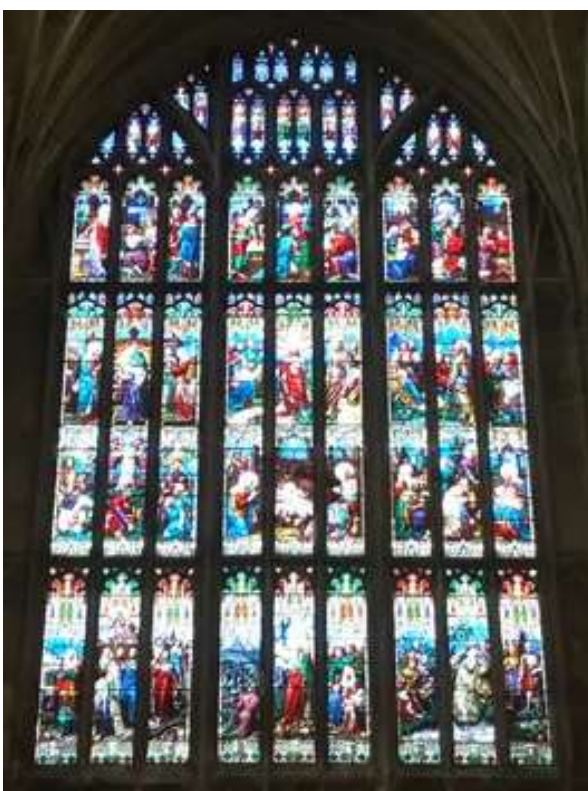


Learning Awards. Don't forget that there are lots of ideas for things to do during the holidays to keep busy

and tick off on your awards! Visits to museums, or the sculpture or cycle trails, playing board games with your family, spending time outside in nature, jumping in puddles or gardening. There are also lots of ideas for children to help around the home, including sorting through their toys and donating anything they don't need any more to charity.

### Trip to Gloucester Cathedral and Mosque –

UKS2 had a really interesting trip to Gloucester to visit the Mosque and the Cathedral. At the Mosque we learned about the Islamic religion and culture. At the Cathedral we learned about the history and we made a stained glass window, taking inspiration from the larger ones in the building. Can you tell which is which?



### Sports Competitions

In January ten pupils represented St White's in the Forest of Dean Cross Country competition at Newent School. They did fantastically well, and 7 of them qualified for the County Finals in March! Well done everyone and good luck!



A group of Year 5 went to Dene Magna to complete some team working activities with their Year 11 students one of the challenges was to build a tent in the quickest time and we won!



Last week some Year 2 pupils went to Dene Magna School to try out some cricket activities – they had a super fun time and worked really well as a team!



**Eco Committee News** "We have some exciting news to share with everyone. Eco Committee have made the decision to help our school cut out carbon. The idea is that every time we do something that leaves a carbon footprint, we will do something good for the environment. Carbon is something that people leave when we do certain things for example driving a car, turning on lights or using electricity. We are working



together on this as much as we can in school. We would also like you to do your bit at home so

we will be sending home a Cut Your Carbon Challenge for you to have a go at over half term. Please speak to a member of the Eco Committee if you would like to know more. Thank you, Harry (Eco Committee member)"

**Motocross Star!** Alfie from Swift Class competes in motocross and he came 12<sup>th</sup> overall in 2024! Well done Alfie – what a fabulous trophy!



**Food Swap News** – The school council wanted to remind everyone about their amazing idea to put in place the Food Swap. "The idea is for people to donate, and pick up food from the trolley outside the main school entrance. There is absolutely no

fee and it is open to everybody. Thank you to everyone who has been donating! Best wishes from Violet-Belle and Josephine"



**New Playground Markings!** – The children are all so excited about the new playground markings! And the staff are too – on Thursday afternoon the staff all had a go and learned how to play King Squares. It was great fun. There is a video on the website!



**Bird Watching** – Nightingale Class spent some time outside in the Forest School Area on a lovely sunny morning looking for birds – they spotted starlings, sparrows, magpies, crows and a chaffinch! This is information for the RSPB.



There have been lots of exciting things happening in this last week of term – so look out in the next Newsletter for reports from Robin Class Jobs Fair, the Cheltenham Dance Festival, and the Basketball trip!

### Half Term Activity Ideas!

Don't forget the **photography competition** – the theme this time is 'Spring is Coming' – entries by 25<sup>th</sup> February please!

Keep going with the **Sketching Challenge** – or if you haven't started, you can always catch up – all the challenges so far are on the school facebook page and the website.

**Cinderford Community Litterpick** this Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2 – 4pm – meet at the skate park!

**Play Rangers outdoor activities** at Ruspidge Recreation Ground – Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 10am – 4pm

**Lego Club at Cinderford Library** – on Saturdays from 11 – 12.

### The Library

#### Lego Club at Cinderford Library



**PTFA News** – thank you to the parents who have come forward to join the PTFA Charity Committee – we need one more volunteer please! If you would like more information, please get in touch. The next event planned is a Curry and Quiz Night on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March – starting at 6pm.

The cost is £5 per person which includes food and entry to the quiz – maximum of 6 people on a team. To book in please email [ptfa@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:ptfa@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk)

[st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk](http://st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk)

St White's PTFA presents

READY FOR A QUIZ?

## Curry & Quiz Night

Friday 7th March Start 6pm

£5 per person  
Max 6 per team  
St White's School Hall

Tickets must be booked in advance - email [ptfa@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:ptfa@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk) or speak to the school office



**KS1 Litter pick** Lots of our classes have been out litter picking this week – on the school grounds and in the areas around the school. Sparrow Class collected two bags full of litter!



A group of year 3 and 4 boys with Mrs Cowan showed that they could take responsibility and commit by going out and helping to improve our school environment. They were very proud of the difference that they made.



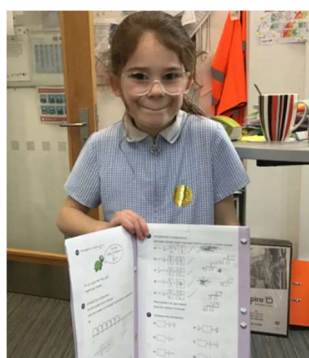
**Mental Health Champions** This week, the school had a visit from Gloucestershire Healthy Living and Learning as part of applying to renew our Mental Health Champions status. A group of pupils worked with Erica to check over our evidence books and led a learning walk around the school for the visitors. They did the school proud.



Well done to Tobias from Woodpecker Class who felt strongly about a bill that was going through parliament that he wrote to our local MP to make sure that he was going to vote on it. He was thrilled to receive a reply. Year 5 will be visiting the Houses of Parliament next month.



Well done to Hollie for earning a Head Teacher's award for fantastic fractions!



**World Book Day** is coming up on 6<sup>th</sup> March, and we will have the Scholastic Book Fair here from 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> March. For World Book Day we are asking children to come to school in their pyjamas or comfy clothes, and to bring their favourite book with them. We will send their book vouchers home after half term!

**Number Day** – we had great fun on Number Day and we raised lots of money for the NSPCC!



**Save the Date** - Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> June will be Aspirations Morning. This is when we invite people from our community to come into school to speak with the children (in groups) about their jobs. It's a really important experience for our children and the feedback from our volunteers is always great. If any parents, carers, grandparents or family friends would like to be a volunteer for this year's event, please do get in touch with me ([sparrow@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:sparrow@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk)) or let someone in the office know. Thank you! – Miss Underwood

**Next Newsletter** – Our next newsletter will be published on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2025. 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 17<sup>th</sup> March 2025.