

St White's Primary School

Always Learning!



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Welcome to our final newsletter of 2024/25 school year. It has been an amazing year with so many fabulous achievements. A huge thank you to all our parents for their support, our staff for their tireless work and to our amazing children!

Happy birthday



to our pupils and staff who have celebrated or will have their birthdays in July and August –

Harrison W, Amber T, Toby, Arthur, Harrison E, Franchesca Ryan Z, Grayson, Arlo, Violet T,

Reyaansh, Helena, Grace S, Piper, Beatrix, Freddie Lucas, Kianna, Amelia, Willow M, Eva-Grace Jacob T, Coby, Hope, Albie, Ava P, Frankie, Briar-Rose, Jacob O, Phoebe PL, Katie, Maria Miles, Emily FJ, Caleb, Bradley, Austin, Zoey, Jax, Mr Cassidy, Mr Jones, Mrs Manning, Miss Meek, Miss Underwood and Mrs H Williams.

Sporting Competitions!

Our amazing summer of sport has continued! Our **Dodgeball** Team made it all the way through to the National Primary School Dodgeball Championships which was held in Stoke-on-Trent on 4th July. They faced some very tough competition and battled really hard. They finished third in their group with 1 win, 1 draw and 2 losses. That means they were 12th in England! A huge well done to the team and thank you to all the parents who went along to support them!



Diary Dates

3rd September 2025 – First Day of School

29th September 2025 – School Photographs

2nd & 3rd October – Flu immunisations

There will be lots more to tell you about in September!

Well done to the team who represented us in the last Pro Stars Football event – Both teams displayed excellent sportsmanship! Well done teams!



Year 4, 5 and 6 played in the final girls' football event and came out as champions of the Forest of Dean! They won 2 matches and drew 1 – Well done girls and thank you to the parents who came along to support!



Year 5 and 6 represented the school at a cricket tournament in Lydney – they played very well and came in second place! Well done team!



Sports Week – we had lots of sporting activities all of last week, including “Fishing Workshops”, work around the Euros, a whole school sports competition on Friday and of course Sports Day on Tuesday. The weather was spectacular and everyone had a marvellous time!



A huge well done to Topaz (Yellow) house who won the cup.

Eco Activities – Kingfisher, Nightingale and Sparrow Classes had an assembly and workshops called “Life’s a Beach” all about plastic waste. They worked in groups to sort rubbish into how long it would take to decompose, and then some of the children did some litter picking around the front of the school!





Skylark Class Poetry Showcase – Skylark have worked hard on their poetry this year alongside the Forest Of Dean Writers Commission, supported by Jason Griffith from the University of Gloucester. They held a showcase to perform to parents – well done you were stars!



Lions at Large The Lions at Large trail officially opened on 11th July and runs through to the 14th September. To follow the Trail you can find all the information on their website [Lions at Large | Cheltenham & Gloucester Hospitals Charity](http://LionsatLarge.Cheltenham&GloucesterHospitalsCharity) Woodpecker and Jay classes are enormously proud of their work on the project this year – they raised over £1000 and we produced our wonderful little lion called Cinderheart! If you would like to find him, he is inside Gloucester Cathedral – there are several little lions there and you can get a map and a sticker if you visit! If you go to see him, please take a photo with him and send it to us, you could also write about it in your summer journal! Any photos sent in will earn your child a whole house point sheet and we'll celebrate these in assembly next term. A small group of children went to a Lions at Large VIP Event at Hartpury College where they took part in lots of activities!



Swift Artwork – Swift have been studying the artist Henri Rousseau and creating artwork using water colours and foreground.



Year 1 Violin Concert Well done to our Year 1 children who performed the pieces they have been learning on the violin for their parents on Tuesday. Well done everyone – it was a wonderful performance!



Kingfisher Class have been working very hard on their writing all year. They wanted to inform people about the wildlife in the local area, and they wrote a very persuasive letter to Mrs Tilling asking for a trail camera. We have some very special visitors in our forest school area! There are

some video clips on the class page on the website!



Year 6 Today we have said a very sad goodbye to our Year 6 – they have had an amazing last week with their spectacular performance of "Porridge", and then their leavers assembly this afternoon. We wish them all the very best of luck as they move on to their next schools, and then go on to make the world a better place! We are so proud of you all!



Sad Goodbyes Today we have also said a very sad goodbye to some wonderful staff. Mr Hayward, Miss Ewles and Mr Bradley are going to work at other schools nearer their homes – we will miss them all hugely. They promise to come back and visit us so we hope to keep up with their new adventures. I am sure you'll join with us in thanking them very much indeed for all their hard work at St White's and wish them every success for the future. Mr Blake has been with us almost full time as a supply teacher for the last couple of years, and we want to thank him for all his hard work and being such a big part of the St White's family – we expect to still call on him from time to time!

Welcome to our new staff (and welcome back)

From September we have two new teachers to introduce to you!



My name is Miss Phelps and I will be the Kingfisher class teacher in September! I am so happy and excited to be part of the team at St White's. I'm really looking forward to being involved in introducing some of the

new intake of children into the St White's community and helping them become settled into school life, as well as providing a fun and happy learning environment for those in year 1! I am from Gloucester and have worked in many child care and educational settings. Outside of school, I enjoy spending time with friends and family, reading and playing with my dog Teddy.



My name is Mr Mulhearn, and I've recently joined St Whites Primary School as a year 4 teacher in Skylark class. I'm really excited to be part of the team and to get to know the children and families here. I am originally from Bristol and

have enjoyed getting to know the Forest and meeting its people and I am really excited to get started! Outside of school, I enjoy helping on the farm and playing rugby.

We are also really pleased to welcome back Mrs Clayton and Miss Ross from their maternity leave – they will jointly be teaching Jay Class next year. All the children had a chance to spend time in class with their classmates and new teachers at bump up day last week.

Pupil adventures!

Max from Skylark Class travelled with the Cinderford Under 8s football team to play against Manchester City Academy – they played two games and came away with a win and a draw! What a fabulous experience!



Governors a big thank you to our governors for all their work supporting the school. Their input was important in our successful Ofsted outcome, and they work very hard behind the scenes monitoring our school improvement, helping to invigilate the SATS tests, interviewing for new staff, monitoring school systems around attendance and safeguarding and most importantly making big decisions about our school budget and resources.

You Said – you really valued the Summer Fayre and loved the opportunity to come in and have fun.

We Did - school staff with the assistance of some parents (thank you so much for your help) put on the summer fayre last week and we raised over £1000! Thank you to everyone who donated prizes and came and spent their money!

You Said – you would like more opportunities to come into school!

We Did – we organised sports day for parents all on one day this year and gave you the opportunity to stay and have a picnic lunch with your children! It was a huge success, with so many families enjoying themselves with their children on the field!

What a fantastic year! Thank you to all our children, parents and staff for another amazing year – in our Ofsted inspection we were outstanding in three out of five judgements – Personal Development, Behaviour and Attitudes and Early Years Provision (and good in the other two). Our class project groups have achieved amazing things including our lovely lion Cinderheart on display in the Cathedral which meant we raised £1000 for the hospitals trust. We took part in the Cinderford Arts Festival, and the

beautiful batique banners we made are now on display in the foyer!



Next Newsletter – Our next newsletter will be published at the end of 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 them through to us.

We achieved the gold Woodland Trust award (thanks to the Eco Committee). We have just been awarded the Bronze REaction award for our work on Religious Education, we have also just been informed that we have been awarded our Eco Schools Green Flag with distinction! We achieved the Platinum School Games Mark and we received the GHLL Mental Health Champions award for the third time in a row!

We took part in lots of competitions, we won plenty and always showed great sportsmanship! Teams have taken part in everything from sports to oracy, spelling, history and writing! Well done everyone who represented the school this year.

Look at the website for more celebrations!

We launched our "Always Learning" awards and lots of children have taken part through the year – don't forget to keep going through the holidays!

All the staff would like to say thank you for the very kind gifts from children and parents! We wish everyone a very happy summer holidays and we can't wait to see you all in September!



