

St White's Primary School

Challenge Commit Conquer and Celebrate



Sneyd Wood Road, Cinderford, Gloucestershire, GL14 3GD ★ admin@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk ★
Tel: 01594 822 311 ★ www.st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk

16th December 2022

Welcome to our last newsletter of 2022! We hope everyone has a lovely Christmas Holiday and a happy New Year. We look forward to seeing everyone in January!

Happy birthday to our pupils and staff who are celebrating birthdays in



December – Ellis, Ryan, Skye, Tommy, Kyran, Isaac, Darcy, George, Willow-Rose, Renas,

Gabrielius, Willow, Kegan, Shaun, Vibisha, Alexander, Lola, Trinity, Connor, Miss Prosser and Mrs Earthrowl.

Armistice Commemorations Thank you to all the parents who joined us on Armistice Day and donated to the Poppy Appeal by purchasing poppy poems and the Royal British Legion items which we sold at school. The assembly was really moving and we raised £642.25!



Save The Children – thank you to everyone who wore winter jumpers last Wednesday – we raised an amazing £140 for Save the Children and the



children all looked really festive for their Christmas Dinner. We were very pleased to have a special visitor at dinner time – Mrs Jones came out of retirement just for one day to visit us in her turkey costume!

Diary Dates

January 2023

Weds 4th – School Starts

Tues 17th – Cyber Safety Presentation for Parents

February

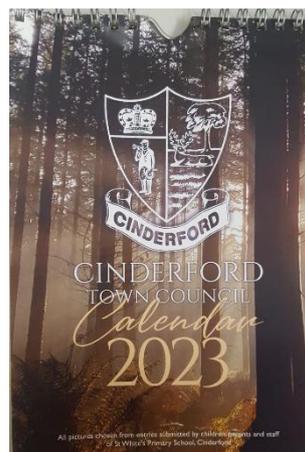
Mon 13th – Cheltenham Dance Festival

Fri 17th – Basketball trip

20th – 24th – Half Term Holiday



Community involvement at Christmas – we are



very proud to have been involved in lots of community activities this year. Firstly, the Cinderford Town Council Calendar for 2023 has been published with photographs which were submitted by the school! The staff voted for their favourite pictures from all the ones which were

sent in and it has made a really beautiful calendar full of local scenes and wildlife. Thank you to everyone who took part.

All the wonderful decorations which you made have been on display – some in the town centre on the giant wreath, and the rest on our Christmas Tree which was at St Stephen's Church for their Christmas Tree Festival at the beginning of the month and has been in the foyer since then. Thank you everyone for the lovely decorations and well done to the group of children who had displayed exemplary behaviour who were chosen to go to the church to decorate the tree.

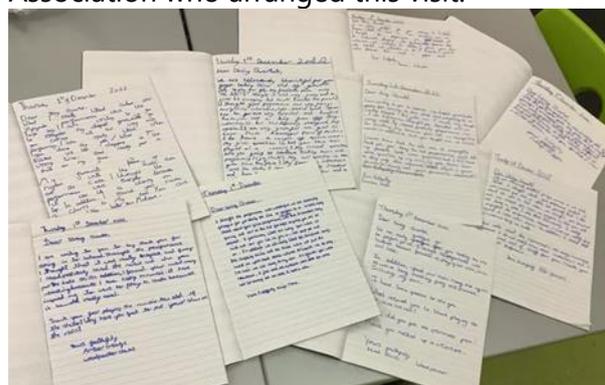


Visitors to School – We were really privileged to have a visit from the Carducci String Quartet – a group of professional musicians who played for the children in Years 3 – 6 and filled the school auditorium with the most amazing music. The children were a

fabulous audience and asked some really good questions, so we found out that one of their violins is over 450 years old! And that they have played with Ed Sheeran, Rag'n'Bone Man and on television and movie soundtracks such as Paddington Bear! Children then wrote them thank you letters and their writing was amazing!



A huge thank you to the Wye Valley Music Association who arranged this visit.



Nativity Plays Well done to the children who performed their nativity plays for us this week and a huge thank you to all the staff who worked so hard with the sets and rehearsals.



Christmas Crafts Robin and Wren classes were really pleased to welcome parents last Friday afternoon for Christmas craft activities. They made salt dough decorations, hats, marshmallow snowmen, santa pom-poms and glittery lollipop stars.



Football – Well done to our boys team who made it through to the County Finals last week, and came 5th out of 250 County Schools. It was a very cold afternoon and evening and we played six games – we won two, lost one and drew three. We only conceded one goal! It was a fabulous performance!



Goodbye
Roz Sykes will be leaving us at the end of the Christmas term after 11 years at the school. Roz has enjoyed her time at the school and would like to pass on her thanks to all colleagues, pupils and parents for being such a great team to work with. I am sure you would like to join the Governors and staff in thanking Roz for her work at the school and to wish her well for the future.

Celebration! Well done to green house who earned the most house points this term and were rewarded with extra playtime today!



Attendance - it has been a difficult half term for lots of people with winter illnesses affecting lots of families. Today we have given out just 80 badges and certificates for 100% attendance this half term – compared with 126 last half term. The badge for this half term is white.

PTFA News The PTFA held a very successful Christmas Movie Night and Rainbow Raffle. They would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who donated raffle prizes for the hampers. We had so many donations we were able to make an additional pamper hamper and a toy hamper as well as plenty of individual prizes of bottles and chocolates! Thank you everyone! They all looked amazing and the children and teachers made the boxes look very special! All the winners were very happy with their hampers! Congratulations to Savannah who correctly guessed the name of the Elf, Belle! We hope they are settling into their new home! And thank to everyone who attended on Movie Night itself, we hope you all had a great evening. We all certainly did and the children made enough noise to raise the roof! Plus 2 special guest visitors made for a fun if eventful evening!

Finally thanks to you all, the fundraising made a whopping £1800 for the school which will be used to fund equipment and trips for the children in 2023.

The PTFA would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Take time for your mental health this Christmas!

This year, Woodpecker class have been learning about the importance of mental health and why we need to ensure we connect with other people. Please read on to learn more!

Why should I connect with other people?

Connection with others is important for our mental health and those around you. There is strong evidence that indicates that feeling close and valued by everyone is a fundamental human need. For this reason, people need to feel loved and supported all over the nation. Good relationships are important for your mental health and well-being because it makes you feel able to face difficult times. With this in mind, try to do something different over Christmas or anytime and make a connection with anybody. In addition to this, it is clear that social relationships can help improve everyone's day. Keep in mind, if someone is sad or moody try to make them laugh (it might bring a smile to their face!).

How can I connect with others?

There are a million ways to make a connection with someone. Here is some guidance, which can help you support your friends, to build better bonds [no matter how old you are]:

- Arrange a day out to talk with friends
- Put five minutes aside, and ask someone how their day was and really listen to the answer.
- Take some time out of your day to spend time with family
- Say hello to people, smile and start conversations
- Get to know your neighbours
- Eat together without any distractions
- Try switching off the tv and play with someone

How can technology help us?

Technology can help humanity to socialise and communicate in a variety of ways: especially if you live miles away from the person or if life makes it hard to meet face to face.

We can connect through social media, games, FaceTime and through calling but it is important not to rely on technology or social media alone to build relationships. Sometimes, if you have

experienced fatigue from looking at a screen all day, it is okay to say no to more screen time. Connecting with others is very important at this time of year so please use our suggestions and take care this Christmas.

Next Newsletter – Our next newsletter will be published on Friday 27th January. 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 by Monday 23rd January 2023.



St White's Primary School
Challenge, Commit, Conquer and Celebrate

