

# St White's Primary School

Challenge Commit Conquer and Celebrate



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## 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023

Welcome to our last newsletter for 2022/23 school year! We hope everyone has a wonderful summer break! As always, there are lots more photos on the class pages on the school website!

**Happy birthday** to our pupils and staff who are celebrating birthdays in August: Eva-Grace, Jacob Coby, Amber G, Albie, Ava Y, Ava P, Frankie, Briar-Rose, Jacob O, Phoebe Katie, Ollie-Jay, Miles M,



Emily FJ, Freddie F, Bradley, Lucas J, Bobby, Austin, Zoe, Amy S, Mr Jones, Miss Meek and Miss Underwood

## Goodbyes

Firstly, we are saying goodbye and good luck to our wonderful Year 6. This is the first year group of children who started Reception in this building when it was brand new. They have had an amazing last week, performing their spectacular play *The Greatest Show*. Huge thanks to everyone who helped with the costumes and props! Today they had a celebration barbeque and received their Year Books at their leavers assembly. We know they are going to have an amazing time at secondary school and really hope they will all keep in touch.



## Diary Dates

### September

Weds 6<sup>th</sup> – First day of school – 8.45am start!!!!

Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> – 3pm parents invited into classes

25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> Flu Vaccinations – all pupils

### October

Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> – School photographs

23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> – Year 6 residential to Aberdovey

30<sup>th</sup> Oct – 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov – Half Term

We are saying a sad goodbye today to several members of staff. Class teachers Mr Moorby, Miss Hutchinson and Miss Cummings are all moving on to new adventures. Miss Blake our school business manager is going to work in the private sector. TA Miss Bailey is leaving to work at another school, Mrs Milosevic has done sterling work as a MDSA and cleaner and HLTA Miss Hyndman is leaving after 18 years supporting our children and teachers. We wish them all the very best.

## And Hellos

We are welcoming three new teachers in September – they all met their new classes at bump up day last week and are going to be fabulous!

*Hello everyone! My name is Miss Marshall and I am very excited to be teaching in Woodpecker class in September. Having been lucky enough to teach at St. White's already and I am delighted to be back! I love reading and cannot wait for the excitement of reading new stories with Woodpecker class. I also enjoy cooking and trying*



*new recipes; I'm sure I'll get to share some of my creations over the next year! My favourite subject is maths, but I also love art and D&T and I'm looking forward to getting creative with you all. I'm excited to hear about all of the fun things you*

get up to over the summer holidays! See you in September!

'Hello, my name is Miss Ewles and I will be teaching Kingfisher class! I have loved visiting St White's over the past few weeks and getting to see all the exciting things that go on in the school! I love reading and spending time outdoors with my family and friends. I am really looking forward to joining St White's and I cannot wait to meet you all in September!



Hello! I'm Miss Ross and I am very excited to be joining St White's in Jay class in September. I grew



up in the Forest of Dean but I've been living in Birmingham, Cheltenham, and then Swindon, for the last 8 years. I'm really happy to be coming home to the Forest! For the last four years, I've been teaching in years 5 and 6 which I have loved (although I'm sure I will have just as much - if not more - fun in year 3/4). Before training to be a teacher, I studied Criminology in Birmingham which was really interesting, and definitely sparked a passion in politics, sociology, and psychology for me - I love learning new things! As well as this, I also love plants so you will no doubt see many plants lining the windows of my classroom! I look forward to becoming part of the school community very much! See you soon!

### Sports Week

We had a wonderful week of activities in spite of the weather – we are so sorry to parents who weren't able to come along to watch and join in with the races! There are videos of some of the



races on the school website - [St White's Primary School - PE \(st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk\)](http://st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk) As well as the phase sports days, we had a whole school walk on Wednesday morning around the local area, and then a whole school sports morning on the Thursday. We also had dance workshops and a dental nurse workshop on healthy snacking and decay.



### Sports Trips

Wimbledon – last Friday a super excited group of 8 children from Year 5 & 6 went to Wimbledon! It was a rainy day but luckily they had tickets for No1 Court which has a roof, and they saw the women's doubles semi-final matches. What an amazing day!



Football – the final Prostars football tournament of the year was held on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June and our Year 3/4 came second! Year 5/6 were unlucky not to progress out of their group but showed great

determination and team work! Well done teams, and can we also say a big thank you to the parents who have helped out transporting children to and from sport events all year! We couldn't do it without you!



Walk & Ride – on 28<sup>th</sup> June a group of our children had a wonderful day out with children from other forest primary schools at the Dean Forest Railway. They had a walk through the forest and then a ride on the train.



### Class Cooking

Cinnamon Crunch Toast and Caribbean Fruit

Salad have been on the menu for class cooking in the last few weeks – delicious!!!



### Mitcheldean Festival Story Competition

Congratulations to Lily and Freddie from Woodpecker Class who won prizes in the Mitcheldean Festival Story Competition. We are really proud of you!



### Swift Class Pond Project

Swift Class spent Monday afternoon cleaning and maintaining the pond with help from staff from the Forestry Commission. They have been learning about the pond all year and they all worked hard clearing the undergrowth and trying to find and fix a leak in the liner.



## PTFA News

Thank you so much to everyone who came along to the summer fayre (even though the weather was definitely not what we were hoping for). A massive thank you to the PTFA members, parents and staff who gave up their time to prepare



everything, run the stalls and clean up afterwards! Amongst the stalls was one with plants which were grown by our children working on the allotment – a big

thank you to Miss Knight for all her hard work with this – they made some super hanging baskets!

The photo pet show was very popular and great fun. Willow from Wren Class was delighted to win best in show with her dog Frankie!



It was very hard work but a lot of fun, and the PTFA raised over one thousand pounds! They will be sending their own newsletter out soon to let you know about all their activities and plans!

## Young Minds Matter

Last week, all Year 1s participated in a session with Young Minds Matter on recognising and



managing emotions effectively. Strategies such as finger breathing and using "I Messages" were

introduced and practiced in this lesson. Handouts on these strategies have been sent home with your child so please be sure to reinforce these over the summer 😊. If you would like further information on this topic, please contact Erica.

## Extreme Reading Challenge for the Summer!



We are asking the children to take part in the extreme reading competition over the summer holidays. Send us a photograph of yourself reading in an unusual place or situation. Closing date 15<sup>th</sup> September.

Entries should be emailed to [admin@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk) please. Only one entry per child.

## Homework Survey

Thank you very much to the 70 parents who responded to give their thoughts on homework. It was great to hear from so many parents from across the different year groups. Thank you to those who added further comments - they will help us to improve what we are doing. All of your thoughts are being looked at by the leadership team and we will let you know of any changes when we return to school in September.

**Next Newsletter** – Our next newsletter will be published in the Autumn Term. 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 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023.



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