



Whiteshill Weekly News

15/11/18

Together we succeed!

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First of all, thank you to Miss Middleton and Miss Boor who arranged the exciting trip to 'We the Curious' at Bristol for class 2 and class 4 yesterday. The children got to go to space in the planetarium and took part in some science workshops as well as exploring a whole host of activities and hands-on exhibits. Thank you to everyone who volunteered – school trips are such an important part of the curriculum and we really couldn't do it without you. You will have probably noticed, if you picked up after the children returned last night, that they all came back into the hall before you took them home. This allows the staff to count the children back into school and make sure each child goes home safely with an adult, as well as communicating any issues to parents if necessary. This will be the process after all school trips that finish outside of school hours from now on, to ensure the children get back home safe.



It is our whole school cinema trip tomorrow as part of the IntoFilm Festival to watch 'Ferdinand' at Vue Cinema in Stroud. We will be walking down in the morning and (fingers crossed!) having lunch in the park on the way back up to school. Please provide your child with a packed lunch, water bottle and one small packet of sweets or a piece of fruit for them to enjoy in the cinema. Please also make sure they are in school uniform with a coat and comfortable shoes as it is a long walk down. Thank you to all the volunteers who are accompanying us. Those reception children who are being taken straight to the cinema, Mrs Cripps will be there to meet you from 09.30. The film begins at 10am and finishes at 12.

Please note – there will be no forest school this week due to the whole school cinema trip, but mini-marines will still be taking place in a more low-key way so that we don't tire out the children too much! I have had some parents asking about Children in Need. We decided this year that as we had two trips this week and we had recently been fundraising for The Poppy Appeal and McMillan Cancer we would not hold a non-school uniform day to fundraise for Children in Need this year.



As I'm sure you are aware, headlice are very common in school aged children so could you please keep an eye out for them on a regular basis by checking your child's hair. In those instances, where head lice or eggs are found, treat your child's hair accordingly. More information on how to treat headlice can be found at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/> Thank you.



On Monday, I had a very proud teacher moment as I was able to introduce the children to Seren Levay who was a pupil of mine in year 5 and 6 at Uplands Primary School. Over the summer she put herself forward to take part in a show on CBBC called 'Got What It Takes' and was incredibly lucky to be chosen to move in to the 'music mansion' for three weeks over the holidays. Her and her mum were filmed alongside 7 other children and their mums taking part in a whole host of music industry challenges, including meeting some famous people that even I have heard of! Each week, the children take part in a sing-off having learnt and performed a chosen song. The show is on CBBC on Mondays at 5.25 and next Monday, 19th November, Seren will be performing in the semi-final episode. It can all be watched on iplayer at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/b08dzw1z> and following the semi-final you can vote online to help Seren achieve her dream of reaching the final!

During the assembly, not only were we lucky enough to hear Seren sing, she also answered some really thoughtful questions from the children and gave an incredibly inspiring talk about how her perseverance and determination have really paid off. I hope this will inspire our children to really follow their goals and take a risk as they see that dreams really can come true!



As we continue to review our whole school homework policy, please note **there will be no spelling or maths homework for all classes again this week.** Please continue to read with your child as often as possible as this has a hugely positive impact on all areas of their learning.

Finally, a few photos of our trip to We the Curious...



Here is a poem I wanted to share with you which was written by Sienna during Mrs McKay's creative writing club this week. They looked at Remembrance poems and I think Sienna really got the tone spot on with her piece. She brought it in to my office to read out loud and it brought a tear to my eye. I was also incredibly proud of all the year 6 children who came down with me to the war memorial on Friday. They read the names of those lost in Whiteshill out loud with such a thoughtful level of respect and a very mature attitude. Well done.

In 1942, I waited for my husband to come back,
He always had fresh clothes on the drying rack,
I waited and prayed, hoping he wouldn't have to be laid.

In 1942 I waited to see my wife,
Hoping I wouldn't lose my life,
Guns constantly heard but never a jolly word.

In 1943, I waited to hear my door opening,
Wondering if he was still fighting,
Wondering if he had hope, wondering if he could cope.

In 1943, I was in the battlefield,
Standing there with no shield,
Then my muscles grew tight, the poppy gave a glimpse of light.

In 1944, I received a wire,
My beloved man had gone higher.

By Sienna Y6

