



# Whiteshill Weekly News

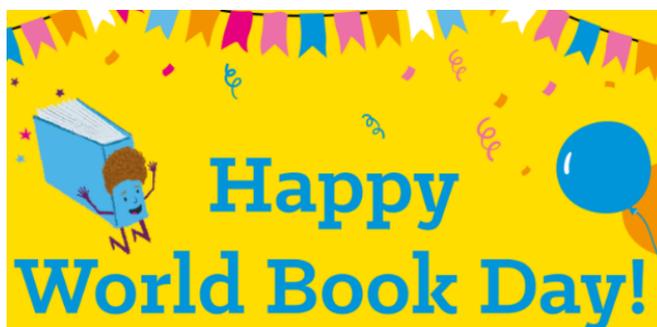
We are curious, we are unique, we are together, we are Whiteshill!

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Thank you so much for all of the wonderful efforts that have been put in at home to get the children ready for today! I know how much hard work it takes to get costumes ready, so thank you all! The children look absolutely fantastic and it makes it a really special day in school for everyone. They have spent the day in their teams, taking part in activities the teachers have prepared inspired by some of their favourite books.

Mrs Clarke chose *The Ugly Five* by Julia Donaldson and the children were designing their own animal to add to the story, Mrs Colman chose *Little Red Reading Hood* by Lucy Rowland and the children were writing stories, blending together two ideas from their favourite books – we had Luke Skywalker climbing a beanstalk, Cinderella and the Big Bad Wolf having dinner together and Snow White eating a pumpkin! Miss Davis chose *Once upon a Raindrop* by James Carter with the children writing poetry, making bookmarks and painting, finally, Mrs McKay was the Queen of Hearts and the children focussed on *Alice in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll, playing games inspired by the story.

It is great to see the older and younger children interacting together – the older children are fantastic role models and there has been a lovely atmosphere of learning and excitement! Most importantly, we have all got to share our favourite books together and talk about reading and books all day! I will make a wish list of new books to get for the school library too, inspired by the children. There are a huge amount of photographs from today on our school website gallery so please do take a look!

[www.whiteshillschool.co.uk/gallery](http://www.whiteshillschool.co.uk/gallery)

## Martial Arts

We have had Matt Fiddes Martial Arts in this week teaching Elm and Oak class in PE, with Maple class taking part through an after-school club. (It's not too late to sign up for this if you haven't yet!) What a success the first session was, the children were all focussed and learnt some new moves already. Mrs Court has a wonderful way with the children and we know they are going to learn so much from her about discipline, focus and confidence too. I have added some photos at the bottom of the newsletter for you to see.

I'm also really pleased to share that I have booked in a fencing instructor to work with Oak class after Easter as part of their PE provision! They will have 6 weeks working with an expert who will provide all of the equipment – we hope they will enjoy learning this new skill.

## Schoolsbeat Officer Visit

Three times a year, the year 6 children are visited by PC Mark Weedon, our local Schoolsbeat police officer. He talks to year 6 children right across Stroud and also visits all the secondary schools too, with the hope of building up a positive relationship with children and giving them a friendly police face to know and trust. He visited year 6 just before half term to talk about healthy online relationships and he will be back again in the summer term. Schoolsbeat have also provided us with some videos with information about how to keep your children safe online, one for parents and one for children, which I have added in to the school website – they can be viewed here:

<https://www.whiteshillschool.co.uk/supporting-your-child-at-home/>



## Talking to your children about the war in Ukraine

We know that many of the children have been aware of what is happening in the news at the moment in Ukraine and this of course may be worrying for them, particularly the older children. There is an article here from Save the Children with advice about how you can talk to the children effectively about this subject if you feel you need to:

[Ukraine: 5 ways to talk to children about conflict \(savethechildren.org.uk\)](https://www.savethechildren.org.uk)

## Oak Class PGL Payments

Please be aware that the final payment for the Oak class PGL trip has to be made by 1<sup>st</sup> April. We need to have received the full amount of £255 by this date in order to confirm the final numbers with PGL and secure your child's place on the trip. If you are not sure how much you have paid so far, please contact Mrs Angove in the school office and she will let you know your outstanding balance.

## After School Clubs

All after school clubs are on as usual next week fingers crossed: Photography and coding on Tuesday, Tag Rugby on Wednesday and martial arts on Thursdays – apologies for the last minute changes this week.



[www.whiteshillschool.co.uk/gallery](http://www.whiteshillschool.co.uk/gallery) for so many more photos!!



Martial Arts