



# Whiteshill Weekly News

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

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I must start this week with an absolutely huge well done to our year 6 team of Rosanna, Ewan, Lara and Molly who competed on Wednesday in the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust Primary Schools' Wildlife Quiz 2022 Stroud Area Final! They have been working hard with Mr Pritchard during their lunchtimes and have learnt so much about British Wildlife. Thank you as well to Rein who was in our winning team in the first round and came along to support us on Wednesday. It was a really tough competition with questions like 'What is the colour of a swallow's throat' and 'which is the most common bird in English gardens – house sparrow or blackbird?'.

They had to answer questions individually, as well as working together to identify photographs and specimens. I'm really pleased to share that they came third overall on the day. This means that we were the third best place team from schools in the whole of Stroud. We hope that next year we will be able to take part again and build on this year's success!

Most importantly as always, they represented the school incredibly well with enthusiasm and resilience. I received an email from the organiser this morning saying 'they were a lovely team and did themselves proud, especially for a first time taking part in the quiz!' Well done to you all and thank you!



## Maple Class Trip to Chedworth Roman Villa

Last week, Maple class headed out on their first trip of the year to Chedworth to support their learning in history this term. They had a great day out and learnt so much being amongst real roman ruins. They also completed a mosaic workshop as part of the package! Thank you to the Friends of Whiteshill School who paid the coach cost to make this trip possible. Unfortunately, with rising fuel costs, coach prices have really shot up so without their support this would have been very difficult.

Thank you as well to the parents who came along on the day to supervise.

Lots of photos can be found on the website here: [www.whiteshillschool.co.uk/gallery](http://www.whiteshillschool.co.uk/gallery)



## PGL Residential Trip

Hopefully most of you were able to attend the meeting yesterday about the PGL trip from 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> June. If you were not there, don't worry, there is a pack of information coming home with your child and if you have any questions at all, please do ask.

## Jubilee Celebrations

Tomorrow we will be celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a 'street party' style lunch in the playground for the children. You should have hopefully already ordered if you are having a lunch from school, if not, please send the children in with their usual packed lunch.

We would love for the children to dress up and accessorise in red, white and blue if they are able. They can wear a mix of colours or just one, or just accessorise their school uniform with some ribbons in their hair or a scarf perhaps? They can use face paint or hair colour if they would like too – whatever you have at home! If they don't want to dress up, please can they just wear school uniform as normal and not their own clothes. They will be making hats to wear for the lunch in the morning at school as well.

## Teddy Tombola Reminder

Don't forget, FOWS are running a teddy tombola stall at the Jubilee next week and really need your support to donate any old teddies or dolls you have so that they can raise money for school. Please bring donations in to school tomorrow – there is a box in reception.

## Multiplication Check and Phonics Screening

After half term, we will be carrying out two further national tests in school. Year 4 children will be taking part in an online times tables check which will allow us to identify which children need further support with this skill as they move on in to Oak class. Year 1 children will take part in the annual phonics screening which checks that they know all the phonics that they need for reading as they move through in to year 2. We will use the information we get from this check to inform our support of them going forwards – it will allow us to fill any gaps in their learning that we identify. Those children in year 2 who did not pass this check last year will also take it again to measure the progress they have made in the last year.

Both checks will be carried out one-to-one with children by their normal class teachers and marked in school. We will let you know in your child's annual report at the end of the summer term how they got on in this check.

Information for parents about both of these checks are attached to this email. If you have any questions at all please do get in touch.

## Sports Day Change

Please note – sports day will now take place on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July in the morning.

## Website Help

We would love to update the information on the school website for parents but we do not have anyone in school who has the time to carry out this role. We wondered if there were any parents or relatives out there who might be able to give a little time to adding some information to the website – perhaps somebody who works with computers and would feel confident doing this. We can give you full training on how to use our school website – it really is just time and willingness we are after!

We would also love to have some more up to date photographs of staff etc and wondered if there is anyone out there who is able to take some photographs for us during the summer term? We had some lovely photographs taken at the time of the website being put up, but the staff have all changed since then so we'd love add some more.

If you are able to give your time for either of the above, please contact Miss Francis or Mrs Angove.

## Thank you!

No doubt you will have noticed a great new addition to our playground – two brand new football nets for the children to use at break and lunchtimes. These have been organised by parents at the school and provided free of charge to us by GELengineering. The fantastic Whiteshill School labelling on them was completed by CR Signs of Nailsworth.

The children were absolutely over the moon when they saw them earlier in the week and have been making the most of them every day as you can see!! No more arguing over whether a goal was scored or not!

Thank you so much to everyone involved in getting these sorted for the children – it is very much appreciated by us all.



## Reception 2022 Parents Info Evening

Last night we welcomed the new Reception parents in to school to hear about life in Willow class and give them all the information they need for their children starting school in September. If you were not able to make the meeting, there is a pack of forms waiting for you in the school office so please do come up at any time to collect them. The PowerPoint from last night is also available on the school website here: [www.whiteshillschool.co.uk/newsletters](http://www.whiteshillschool.co.uk/newsletters) along with online copies of all the forms as well.

I'm also really pleased to let you know that Miss Davis, our current Maple class teacher, will be continuing with us here at Whiteshill and taking over as Willow class teacher in September to cover Mrs Cripps' and Mrs Clarke's maternity leaves.

**Have a wonderful half term and we will see you on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June**