



Whiteshill Weekly News

23/09/22

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

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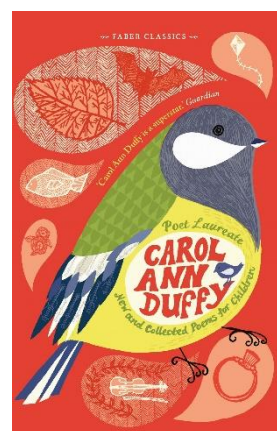
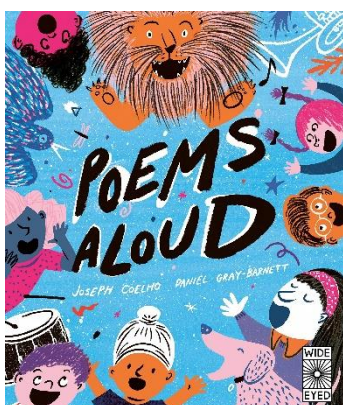
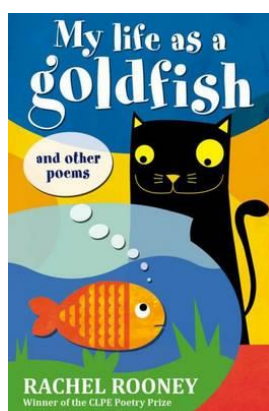
We are geographers...

We are already well in to the curriculum at Whiteshill and the children have been learning non-stop since the start of term. They of course started with a science week and then all the children in Elm, Maple and Oak have moved on to their 'We are geographers' enquiries. This term, they will learn about the geography of the United Kingdom. Attached to the newsletter email this week are class 'Knowledge Organisers' which give you an idea of the key learning that the children will gain this term. Any learning in green they should have learnt already in a previous year group, anything in black is the learning they will do this term. This can be used to help you have a conversation with the children about what they are doing in school, but also you can use it as a way of questioning them to see how much they know or remember – perhaps sit down together and talk about what is on the sheet and share what you know or let them teach you something new! Bear in mind they will not have learnt everything yet of course as they have just started last week.

Poetry Assembly – Friday 30th Sept

In English, the children in Elm, Maple and Oak have been busy learning poetry. Each class has a specific poet who have they have been studying, chosen by Mrs Cripps our English subject lead in order for them to be introduced to a diverse range of poets and authors over their time at Whiteshill. This year, Elm are studying the poems of Rachel Rooney, Maple are finding out about Joseph Coelho, who some of our Oak class children were lucky enough to see at Stroud Book Festival when they were younger. Oak class have Carol Ann Duffy who was the Poet Laureate for 10 years.

More information about these poets can be found here:



Please join us in the hall on Friday 30th September to hear the children reciting the poems together that they have learnt – all Elm, Maple and Oak class families and friends welcome. The assembly will start after register (just after 9am) so you will be able to come up to the hall after drop-off and wait for the children there.

Macmillan Coffee Morning – Fri 30th Sept

After the poetry assembly, we invite you to stay and spend some time chatting and eating cake! We will be hosting a Macmillan coffee morning, raising money for Macmillan Cancer Support.

We will provide tea, coffee and squash but would appreciate your support with donations of cakes or biscuits. Please do remember our very important no nuts and peanuts policy when buying or baking (you can read it [here](#)). Any cakes that don't go at the coffee morning, we will put out for donations at the end of the school day.

Those attending the coffee morning, please bring a cash donation for Macmillan Cancer Support.

If you can't make the assembly or your child is in Willow class but would like to come to the coffee morning, it will start at approximately 9.30am.

Welcome Event – Please put it in the diary!

On Wednesday 12th October, we will be holding a welcome event for all parents. Willow class parents can join Mrs Surman in the hall for a talk all about reading and phonics – you can find out how we are supporting your child with this very important skill whilst also learning how best to support them at home. This talk will take place at 2.45pm so that you can listen before picking up the children at 3.15pm. Please do come along if you are able.

Elm, Maple and Oak class parents are invited to come up in to the classrooms at 3.15pm the same day, with the children. You will have chance to see inside your children's new classrooms, meet the teacher informally and have a chat. There will be information packs out for you as well which you can take away and have chance to ask the teacher about – including the expectations for your child in their new year group and a chance to find out how we and you can support your child in reading as they go through the school.

Please do join us if you are able for this important opportunity to find out more about life in school.

Friends of Whiteshill School Quiz Night

I'm really pleased to share that on Saturday 12th November, the Friends of Whiteshill School will be holding a quiz night to raise money for the school! Please see poster attached to this email for more information and request for you to help out with preparing the 'Family Fortunes' round!! **The Friends would really appreciate donations of alcohol for this event and for the raffle later in the year. If you have any alcohol of any kind you are able to donate, please bring it up to the school office at any point.**

Friends of Whiteshill School Christmas Fair

Another date for your diary! FoWS will be holding their annual Christmas Fair as part of the village Winter Festival on Saturday 27 November, between 10am and 5pm. Save the date – more info to follow.

As part of the event, they will be holding a Teddy Tombola and selling pre-loved books. **If you have any new or nearly new soft toys or books you are happy to donate, please bring them up to the office.**

October Half Term Cricket

Please see below some dates during the October half term where the Gloucestershire Cricket Foundation are running cricket activity days for children aged between 5 and 12, who attended All Stars and Dynamos cricket programmes during 2022.

Oct-22	Date	Time	Cost
Cirencester, Deer Park School	Monday, 24th October	10am till 4pm	£20.00 per child
Stroud, Archway School	Tuesday, 25th October	10am till 4pm	£20.00 per child
Cheltenham Ladies College	Wednesday, 26th October	10am till 4pm	£20.00 per child
Bristol County Ground, Seat Unique Stadium	Thursday, 27th October	10am till 4pm	£20.00 per child
Bristol County Ground, Seat Unique Stadium	Friday, 28th October	10am till 4pm	£20.00 per child

To book on to any of these days during the half term week, please click here-

<https://booking.ecb.co.uk/d/j9qj99>

Whiteshill Playgroup Spaces

Whiteshill Playgroup are an outstanding playgroup right on our doorstep. They currently have spaces and take children from age 2 until they start school. More information about the playgroup can be found here:

<http://whiteshillplaygroup.co.uk/>

Threadworms – NHS Advice

Please be aware that we have had some cases of threadworms in school reported. You can find out more about this [here](#) and make sure you look out for symptoms in your child and treat accordingly – thank you.

Subscribe to our School Calendar

The school website has now added an extra feature which means you can subscribe to our school calendar on your mobile phone. This means that the school events will automatically be added to your phone calendar, allowing you to keep track of what is going on! Just go to the school website calendar on your phone and click on 'subscribe to calendar' then choose which operating system you have e.g. google calendar for android and iCalendar for iPhone. Thank you to Richard Turner for all his IT advice on this and for taking the time to explain it all to me!

Updated Policies

The DGAT 'Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy' and the 'Anti-bullying Policy' have been updated and the most recent versions can be found on our school website [here](#) if you would like to read them.

**Willow Class –
barefoot meditation!**

This week, Willow Class went outside and connected with nature, taking time to learn how to listen carefully and take notice of the world around them! Listening skills are key when you first start to learn phonics, so any opportunities to hone them are a great idea at home!

