



Whiteshill Weekly News

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

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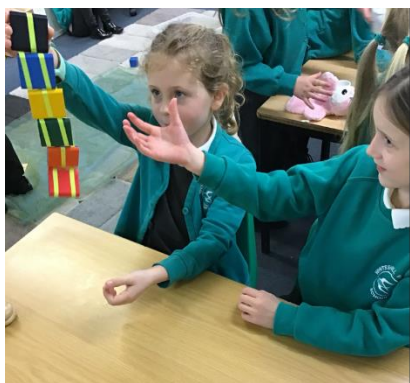
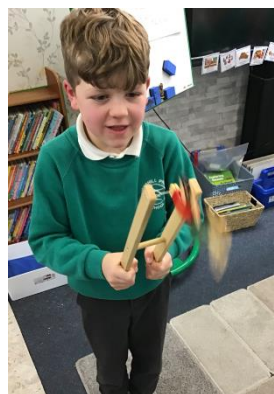
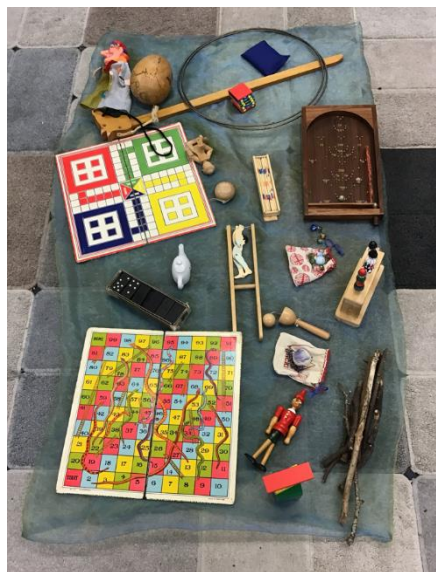
Tel: 01453 762 949

27/01/23

Willow Class have been enjoying some fantastic learning this term with Mrs Woolway and Mrs Russell. This week they have focussed on the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch, which you can take part in this weekend (click [here](#) for more information). They have made their own binoculars, created beautiful bird art and made some brilliant bird feeders in their forest school session last week.



For their 'We are historians...' enquiry, Elm class are answering the question 'Would I rather be a child now or in the past?' As part of their learning, they had a zoom session with a Museum in the Park curator and borrowed their historical toys box so that they could experience some older toys themselves. They have great fun learning about what children would have played with in the past. Next Tuesday, Mrs Woods has arranged for a visit from the learning officer of Stroud Mills who will come and talk to the children about what it was like working in the mills as a child. It is fantastic to see them learning from and interacting with experts on the subject. Thank you to Mrs Woods for her hard working in getting it all organised for the children.



Old Nelson Fundraising Quiz

At the bottom of today's newsletter, you will find a poster advertising a quiz at the Old Nelson in Stroud on Monday 6th March at 7pm. One of our parents has helped to arrange the quiz and has very kindly asked for half of the money raised to go to the school. Tickets are selling fast but there are still some available so please do go along if you are able! It should be a fun night out and a chance to support the school too! Thank you so much to all those involved in organising it.

Upcoming Events

Next week, school council will be meeting with Mr Haidon to discuss possible fundraising activities for the children to get involved in this year. I wanted to let you know about two events that are coming up. At present, we don't have firm plans as to how we will celebrate either day but I thought it would be useful for you to get them in your diary.

World Book Day – Friday 3rd March

Red Nose Day – Friday 17th March

Please don't forget to subscribe to the school website calendar so that all the dates will come up automatically on your phone.

After School Clubs

Clubs start next week – please see School Ping for details and to sign-up your child. Unless you have heard differently direct from Mrs Angove, they have been allocated a space in the clubs they have ticked on School Ping.

Internet Safety Day

Next Friday, 3rd February, we will be celebrating internet safety day in school with all of the classes. Stay Safe Workshops will be visiting, as they do every year, to talk to all the children about how to stay safe online. Our local PCSO Amy Webb will also be in school to lead an assembly on the subject. **Please note – Forest school for Maple class will still go ahead on this day in the afternoon but forest school for Willow Class will be cancelled to allow them to get the most out of our visitors.**

Reading Books

As I have mentioned before, we have recently invested in reading books for Elm and Maple class and have re-organised our reading books in Willow class to match our new phonics scheme. As a result, the books your children bring home have changed. You should have received a letter to explain the change for each class, but if you have not, please let your child's teacher know and they will make sure you get a copy.

Unfortunately, we have had a delay on delivery of some year 1 books and so some children are still using the books they were previously. However, they have arrived this morning so we will send them home next week.

Policy Updates

The following policies have been updated by DGAT on our school website –Relationships and Health Education – you can find a copy of the updated policy on our school website [here](#).

Teacher Development

I am very pleased to share with you that Mrs Colman, who is currently on maternity leave, has been awarded her Post Graduate Certificate National Award in Special Educational Needs Co-ordination. This is a nationally recognised qualification, which she completed over the previous year, attending university each week and completing a huge volume of coursework and assessments. The knowledge she gained from this course has already impacted on our provision for SEND children in school and I know that when Mrs Colman returns, she will be very excited to continue to develop all that we do in her role as SENCo.

Elsewhere, Miss Middleton and Mr Haidon are currently enrolled on the Primary Teaching for Mastery maths course with the GLOW Maths Hub, working with a group of teachers and maths leads across Stroud and beyond to develop teaching for mastery in maths. Miss Middleton has transformed the way we teach maths over the last few years as our subject lead and is a leading thinker in the group, in particular on the subject of mixed age maths lessons and mastery. On Friday 10th Feb she has 12 teachers coming to observe her lesson to help them develop their own teaching! We are very proud to be able to share the way we approach maths teaching and learning with other schools in this way.

Website Gallery Problem

Unfortunately, I had a problem with the website gallery over Christmas so the photographs I added of the school Christmas lunch and nativity didn't load, but they are now online if you would like to take a look! Please click [here](#).

Forest School Volunteers

Please sign up via School Ping to volunteer with forest school each week – we always need your help so please do come if you are able – in particular we are finding it difficult to get enough volunteers for Willow Class so please do come along if you can. If you have any problems with the sign-up, let Mrs Angove know.

Industrial Action

It is looking at present like all classes will be open as normal next Wednesday, however we do have a number of teachers in the NEU and we cannot therefore confirm this until the morning of Wed 1st Feb as during industrial action, teachers do not have to give notice that they will be taking part before the day of the strike. Please make sure you have childcare in place just in case.

First Aid Training and Head Bumps

Last week, I completed my paediatric first aid training, which I, along with a number of other staff, complete every two years. The course was incredibly useful and covered a whole host of subjects including accidents, CPR, common illnesses, allergies and asthma.

As part of the training, we learnt about head bumps, in particular the need to monitor for symptoms of compression injuries which can be serious and life-threatening – not just concussion, which is a temporary injury to the brain. I wanted to share this as I think it helps to understand why we ask you to monitor your children at home when they have had a head bump. People who have suffered a compression injury can seem well after they have had their head bump, but may deteriorate, and therefore need to be monitored for at least 48 hours.

We have updated our head bump information sheet and it is also available on our website [here](#) – **please do make sure that you check your school ping each day or have the notifications on so that if your child has a head bump or accident in school you know about it and can monitor them appropriately.**

If your child has a more serious head bump in school, we will of course call you straight away, which is why it is important that you keep your mobile and work numbers up to date with the school office. We may ask you to come and pick your child up if we do not feel we can safely monitor them in school in a busy classroom.

I'm pleased to share that the trainer who ran the paediatric course was very impressed with our systems for recording accidents and head bumps, in particular the fact that our head bump sheet is handed to a teacher after break and lunch if an accident occurs, so that the teacher knows to monitor that child during the afternoon and records to say they have done so. Monitoring is the most vital first aid you can give to a child who has had a head bump, not an ice pack or a bag of peas - these will only lessen swelling!

Please do remember as well that the reason we let you know about cuts and grazes that occur in school is so that you can make sure that they are cleaned and monitored at home to ensure no infection occurs. Information about sepsis and blood infection can be found [here](#).

OLD NELSON PRESENTS ...

OLD NELSON CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT

£5 ENTRY PER PERSON

£40 to the WINNING TEAM

TEAMS OF 2-6

MONDAY 6TH MARCH 2023* 7PM* OLD NELSON*

TO BOOK, CALL 01453765821 OR RECEPTION TEAM ON 01453708662*

FREE COMPLIMATERY WINE ON ARRIVAL.

2 meals for £9.49 & raffles.

All money raised will be donated to

Great Ormond Street Hospital and Whiteshill Primary School.

