



Whiteshill Weekly News

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

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17/10/19

This week, we had the first of our sporting events as part of our drive this year to ensure all children in the school from year 1 upwards represent us in a sporting event or competition throughout the year. On Tuesday, a group of children from Oak class went down to Stratford Park for a Badminton Festival run by Badminton England. The children tried out a range of activities across the afternoon and had a lot of fun whilst trying something new and being **curious!** Next up is a handball festival after half term, again for a group of children in Oak class. Handball is an exciting sport which is gaining popularity and a lot of secondary schools are now playing. Miss Middleton will also be attending some training on the sport in her role as PE subject lead, allowing us to add it in to our PE curriculum so that the children are ready for sport at secondary school and have another new game in their repertoire to enjoy and master.

This week, two children in Oak class also took part in a debating and Philosophy for Children event at Minchinhampton Primary. They tried out their debating, discussing and questioning skills against other children from the Diocese of Gloucester Academy Trust schools. They debated questions like 'Is a hot dog a sandwich?' and 'would you rather have an extra eye or an extra limb!?' This event was organised by DGAT as they are keen to ensure the children in the trust work together whenever possible. We are hoping that there will be further events in the future too that we can be part of.

Well done to all of the children who represented the school so well at these events this week.



Next Tuesday, 22nd October at 2.30pm, there will be a second-hand school uniform sale in the hall. If you have any old uniform that you would be happy to donate, please bring it in to the office on Monday or Tuesday. At this sale, there will also be some books which we no longer need in school – free to a good home!

Next Thursday 24th October, is our annual Harvest Festival at St Pauls Church in Whiteshill. The celebration begins at 2pm and everyone is welcome. All the classes will be sharing songs, stories and poems on the theme of Harvest. The festival will last approximately 1 hour and we will then return to school all together for a normal end of the day at 3.15pm.

Please can I remind you that at school events such as this, we are unable to allow you to take your own photographs or videos of the children due to important safeguarding reasons. Please make sure other relatives who may attend are also aware of this rule before the event starts. However, we will make sure to take a whole host of photographs of the children, both during the harvest festival and in the dress rehearsal which we will add to the school website for you to see and enjoy.

The Friends of Whiteshill School will be holding their AGM on Thursday November 7th in the school hall at 2.15pm. Everyone from the parent body is invited to attend and there will be refreshments available. Members of the current committee have decided that this will be their last AGM as a team and therefore this meeting is a chance to come along and find out about the role of the Friends and also hear how you could possibly be part of the team in the future. Very happily for us, they will continue their fantastic work on behalf of the school throughout this academic year and support the new team so that there is a smooth transition by the summer term. Alternatively, just come along to hear about all the successes of the last year and see how Friends fundraising has benefitted the school in so many ways.

Can I please remind you that children should only be wearing stud earrings in to school as any larger or hanging earrings can be a real hazard as they can be easily torn from the ear during play. If your child has had their ears pierced recently, they will be asked to cover them with tape during PE sessions or remove them once they are able. Thank you.

On Thursday, November 7th, Oak and Maple class will both be attending the Stroud Book Festival at the Subscription Rooms in Stroud. A letter with more details about this event will be arriving home in bags with these classes next week.

I wanted to also let you know that the festival is taking place between 6th and 10th November and there are a huge number of fantastic events that yourselves and your children might like to attend. More information can be found online at <https://stroudbookfestival.org.uk/> They have some brilliant and inspiring authors coming to Stroud including Tracey Corderoy, Julia Donaldson and Sophie Dahl for the children and lots more for the adults too! How lucky we are to have such a brilliant event on our doorstep.

Thank you so much for your fantastic efforts for 'Wear it Loud Day' on Tuesday. The children looked fantastic and it was really good of you to support the children with this event at such late notice. Altogether we raised £81 for the Gloucestershire Deaf Association.

Next Tuesday, 22nd October, Maple class will be walking around Whiteshill as part of their geography mapping work. Please make sure they have a raincoat on this day as the weather is changing all the time at the moment. They will wear their trainers from their PE kits so if you would prefer they wear different footwear, please send it in with them on Tuesday morning.

Don't forget to like our school Facebook page by searching for Whiteshill Primary School on Facebook and also keep checking our new gallery page on the school website at <http://www.whiteshillschool.co.uk/gallery-2/> to see photographs of everything the children have been up to in school.

Don't forget – no forest school next week because of Oak class' trip to Westonbirt Arboretum. If you haven't brought back your child's slip for this trip, please do so as soon as possible or ask the office for another copy of the letter. **Please also return any media consent or medical forms if you have not yet done so.**

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

I'm pleased to confirm that this year, our Nativity performance for the whole school will take place on Tuesday 17th December at 6pm, followed by another performance at 2pm on Wednesday 18th December at St Paul's Church in Whiteshill. We are hoping that this means the children will not be so tired out from doing both performances in one day. More details will follow but I thought you would want to get the date in your diary as soon as possible.

Parent's evening is taking place this year on Tuesday 12th November (3.30 – 5.30pm) and Thursday 14th November (5 – 7.30pm) for all classes. Sign-up sheets will be in the school lobby from Monday morning so please come in and choose a slot. If you are unable to come up to the office, please phone or email to let us know which times you are available and we will endeavour to find you a slot which suits.

Following on from our fantastic summer rock concert, I know that there are some children amongst us who really enjoy making music and playing alongside others too. You may have seen the banners in the town centre for the Bandit Workshops which run in Stroud during school holidays on different occasions throughout the year.

According to their website, 'Bandit is a four-day rock and pop workshop for 50 to 70 students aged 8 to 17. Students throughout the community come together to form bands and to be creative in writing and performing. The prime function of the workshop is to give young people from all backgrounds the opportunity to gain experience in musicianship, creative song writing and performance skills.'

There is a Bandit workshop running in October half term, although I don't know if there are any spaces left at this stage, but if you visit the website you can be added to their mailing list and contact them to find out more if your child shows an interest: <http://www.banditmusicprojects.co.uk/index.html>



Museum in the Park
Stroud District (Cowle) Museum Service

Half Term Holiday Activities October 2019

Apple & Pumpkin Day

Sun 27 October

Open LATE today: 11am to 5.30pm!

Come celebrate Autumn in the beautiful Walled Garden and have a go at FREE apple & pumpkin related activities with Stroud Valleys Project and friends. We look forward to seeing you!

Apple Pressing

11am – 12.30pm & 1.30pm – 3pm

Using a small, traditional hand-cranked press.

If you'd like to have a go, bring just one carrier bag of apples per family and some clean bottles.

Miss Daisy's Pop Up Cafe 11am – 5.30pm

Serving delicious homemade cakes and tempting treats all day, and soup and bread for lunch.

Make an Apple Tree Collage

Museum Quiz Trails

Pumpkin & Apple I Spy Trails

& Park Mini Railway running 2pm until dusk.



Carved Pumpkin Competition

Sun 27 October

Enter SVP's annual competition! Carve your pumpkin at home, then bring it along to the Museum between 11am and 4.30pm. Then, at 5.30pm, admire the lanterns lit up outside. Categories:

Best carved home grown pumpkin

Best pumpkin carved by a primary school child

Best pumpkin carved by a family group

Best carved pumpkin by an individual (11+)

'Mini Museums' Drop in Family Workshop

Tues 29 Oct to Fri 1 Nov 11am – 4pm (£2)

If you were a Curator, what would you collect?

Marvellous machines? Fantastic fossils? Curious costumes?

Make your very own mini museum to take home!

For families with children aged 5+.



Museum admission free, donations welcome
www.museuminthepark.org.uk | 01453 763394