

1st April 2021



April Newsletter

Dear Parents,

We come to the end of a very different spring term - one dominated by Lockdown Three and then a full return to school. Thank you for the fantastic job every one of our parents did to continue with remote learning provision. All the teachers were happy to see the reopening of schools and it has been wonderful to see the children so engaged with their learning as soon as they came back.

We are looking forward to a busy term in the summer when we can build on the information and assessments the teachers have gathered, to help support your children with their learning journeys.

There is a new section of the newsletter, on page two this month, which will give you the very latest information around School improvement. The aim is for myself and governors to summarise and present the very latest aspects of school improvement and to communicate the positive steps forward the school has been taking. We hope that you find this useful.

Church Links

We have been continuing with Collective Worship in school, meeting virtually rather than being in the hall together. Marion has led assemblies online and all the classes experienced a, 'Walk through Easter' as part of this.

Marion and the church organised and gave every child an Easter egg today. The Real Easter Egg is the only one with a copy of the Easter story in the box and is both Fairtrade and Charitable. Thank you!

Red Nose Day – Comic Relief



Red Nose Day was on **Friday 19th March**. The school raised £107.90. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

Staff Update

We are delighted to announce that Mrs Burningham and her husband are expecting their second child in September. Mrs Burningham will remain with Fox class for the remainder of the academic year. Congratulations!

Bikeability

Congratulations to all of Year 5 and Year 6 children who took part in Bikeability last week. This is the first time that all the children achieved Level 2 – well done!

School Improvement

School update from Miss Edwards and the Governing Body.

- We are pleased to note that our school experienced high levels of pupil engagement during Lockdown Three with 95% of pupils either fully or partially engaged in learning.
- The school was able to provide broad, balanced and fully comprehensive learning curriculum for all children, whether in school or at home or, in some cases, a combination of the two.
- We are also delighted at how the children have returned to school in such a positive way. They very quickly settled back into class and school routines within their class bubbles.
- With the full school back in the classrooms the teachers are now working hard on assessing gaps in learning and designing and planning to cover aspects of any missed curriculum or areas that may need consolidation. This also enables teachers to understand where each and every child is at on their learning journey, enabling their progression within the curriculum.
- Internal monitoring by the school's leadership team (including governors) also continues to enable teachers to improve the education provision and pupil experience.
- Hampshire County Council remain committed to provide support to the school, specifically to address our priority areas in getting back to a "Good" OFSTED rating. We have just had a positive English visit from their education team, which highlighted good teaching practice in the school, particularly in Phonics.

COVID Updates

If your child develops any COVID symptoms in the first few days of the Easter break, it is very important that you inform the school. This is so we can track and trace other children or adults who may need to self-isolate. Please email the school office.

PTA News April 2021

Well the last few weeks have flown by and now Spring and the Easter Holidays are upon us!

We are delighted that we can slowly start working towards fundraising for our school again with some small and COVID safe events coming up. We will be kicking off the PTA's return to fundraising this **Thursday 1st April** with our first ever '**Break the Rules**' day!



All children are invited to break a selection of school rules in exchange for a 50p per rule fine!

A collection pot for your fine money will be available at the green gate at morning drop off.

*****Please remember all other normal school uniform and school rules will still apply*****

Outdoor Learning Area and Woodland Walk - BIG NEWS!

A contractor has been approved and works to complete the Outdoor Learning Area and Woodland Walk begin week commencing Monday 5th April! We cannot wait to return to school after Easter and see the transformation!

An amazing **£12,500** is being spent on this project with more being donated at a later date to help purchase plants, gardening tools, a greenhouse etc. All of this money is coming from the PTA, which is money you have all raised so **THANK YOU!** A huge amount of our school community have fundraised and worked incredibly hard for this project over the last few years and it is going to make such a difference to all the children and will be a real asset to the school going forward.

Virtual Balloon Race

We are in the process of organising an eco-friendly virtual balloon race for the summer term...watch this space for more information coming soon!

Easter Crafting with ToucanBox

If you are looking for a craft activity for over the holidays take a look at a ToucanBox!

Each box includes two crafts, a magazine full of activities and some stickers and right now ToucanBox are offering all new subscribers through Whitewater School a FREE first box (excl. P&P) and a £5 donation to Whitewater PTA!

<https://toucanbox.com/taster?code=SCH45SE&school=whiteprg2706ff>

*** subscriptions are easy to cancel and there is no minimum order ***

Second Hand Uniform

We are currently very well stocked in second hand uniform – thank you! Therefore if you require any uniform going in to the Summer term please contact Heather Trill (Anouk's mum, other Class) or email the PTA – whitewaterpta@gmail.com

Ongoing Ways to Support your PTA

Your School Lottery - If you would like to support the lottery and be in with a chance of winning a weekly cash prize along with a jackpot and other additional prizes then you can sign up at any time by going to: yourschoollottery.co.uk and search for **Whitewater C of E Primary School**.

EasyFundraising – Download the EasyFundraising app and select whitewaterprimaryschoolpta as your chosen cause and then shop with your favourite retailers for a percentage donation to your chosen cause!

Amazon Smile – Shop on your own Amazon account/App. Go to 'Your AmazonSmile' in *Account Settings* and choose [Whitewater Parent Teacher Association](#) as your charity

Whitewater PTA Committee

Although the PTA committee is currently quite quiet we still very much need your support going forward this year and for planning the next academic year. If you have some new ideas or would like to help and get involved please get in touch!

We also have a vacancy on the Committee for a Secretary. These roles have to be filled in order for us to maintain our Charity status and ultimately for us to be able to fundraise for the school. The Secretary role predominantly involves taking minutes at PTA meetings and the annual AGM, producing the PTA News section of the school newsletter, general admin tasks and being involved as much as you are able in arranging PTA events.

In September we will also have a vacancy for the PTA Chair.

Please feel free to message us to chat if you would like any further information or if you would be interested in any of Committee Member vacancies this year.

whitewaterpta@gmail.com

Finally, we hope that everyone has a brilliant Easter holiday and we will keep our fingers crossed for good weather so that you are able to meet with some family and friends to celebrate!

**Best wishes,
Whitewater PTA**



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Celebrations!

Gold Book

Congratulations to the following children who have been in the Gold Book in March:

Rabbit Class:	Harriet, Ava, Aidan, Edith, Ian, George, Harry and Theo
Otter Class:	Otter Class, Harry W, Indigo, Charlie, Anouk, Lola and William Ca
Hedgehop Class:	Alex, Bella, Seren, Scarlett, Tilly, Bertie, Thomas and Tilly
Fox Class:	Daisy, Esme, Zeppe, Jasmin, Lilly-May, Oliver; Evan and Ela
Red Kite Class:	Jake, Zachary, Mabel, Kitty and Martha

Final word...

I would like to wish everyone a restful and enjoyable Easter break. We return to school on **Monday 19th April.**

Miss Edwards