

4<sup>th</sup> May 2021



# May Newsletter

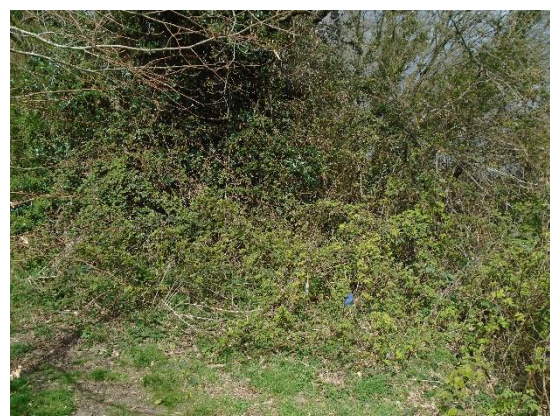
Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that everyone enjoyed the longer weekend and you were able to meet up with other families or relatives as the covid restrictions ease.

## Outside area

The outside areas beside the pond and beyond the mound have both had their makeovers completed! It is with great thanks to everyone who contributed to previous PTA events, as the funds raised have enabled these areas to be completely overhauled and improved. This has enhanced the outdoor environment for the children and will enable richer and more varied use of the space. We can already imagine improvements for the curriculum, especially in science and art, and the children are excited to start using the space.

Before...



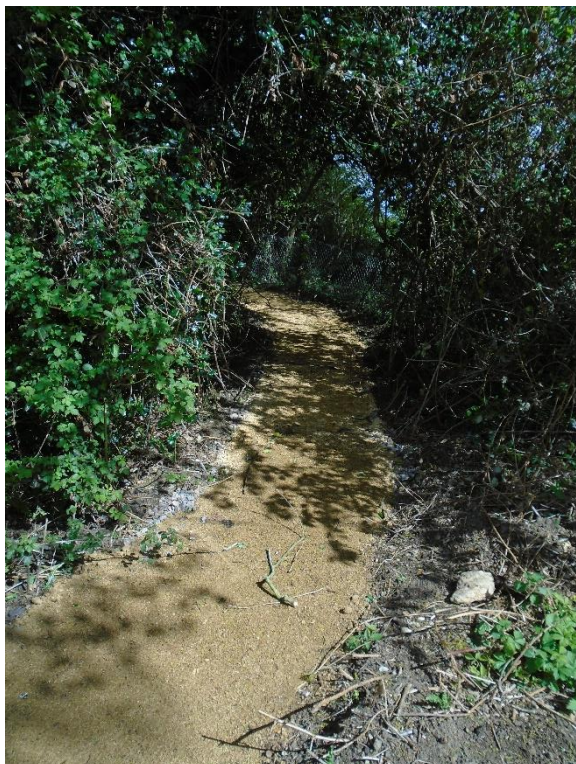
Mrs Proctor officially opened the areas on a wet Wednesday afternoon before leaving Whitewater.





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After...look at these areas now - fully accessible, ready and waiting!



We have started to plan and think about how we will use the new growing beds this summer. Watch this space for further updates and possible ways in which you can help.



### School Update from Miss Edwards and Governing Body

We are pleased to be able to share some really positive news this month demonstrating the commitment and level of work everyone involved with Whitewater School are doing to help us improve our school environment. Over the Easter break the Outdoor Learning Area was completed. This new area will open up many enriching opportunities for the children and could not have been achieved without your ongoing fundraising support and the amazing efforts of the PTA over the past few years. Officially opened on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> April, we hope it brings much enjoyment to all.

Governor Monitoring Visits were still taking place during the last term but virtually and scaled down, whilst the school was partially open. This term the full visit schedule is in place and Governors, alongside County, will be working with the school to evidence the continual cycle of improvements that the school are focused on delivering. Already this term, we have had very positive visits that highlight the progress the school is making against our school priorities (correlating to key areas identified in the last Ofsted and our Getting to Good plan). Governors and school leaders are continuing to evidence the improvements that are being made and the impact these are having in the classroom.

As previously advised, the Government have cancelled all statutory assessments this term however the teachers have been assessing each child since their return in March to identify their support needs and any areas which may require focus. Please remember that if you would like to know how your child is doing since returning please arrange via the school office to speak to their teacher.

Finally, thank you to all of you who completed the Remote Learning Questionnaire. Your responses and comments have been gratefully received and are being reviewed by the school and Governing Body to see where improvements can be made in the future if required.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

### Parking

Please remember to park considerately at drop-off and pick-up. Despite the staggered times, there have been recent incidents of double parking, blocking in other drivers and parking across driveways. We want our children to be safe when arriving and leaving school as well as thinking about Rotherwick residents. We share the space with the local community as the school has no official parking of its own and they very generously offer the village hall car park as a safe place to leave your vehicle. Please take time to think before you park. Thank you.

## PTA News May 2021

Welcome to the summer term and we hope you all had an enjoyable and relaxing Easter holidays!

We hope all the children enjoyed the 'Break the Rules' day on the last day of term and we are really pleased to announce that you all raised over **£114** for the school!

So a big **THANK YOU** to everyone!



### Virtual Balloon Race

We are very excited to announce that we will be taking part in our first ever virtual balloon race this year!

We are entered in to the **Coronation Race** which starts on **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June at 12 noon**

from Westminster Abbey in London.

The race lasts for 7 days and can be tracked virtually online!

**Each balloon costs just £3 and you can buy as many as you like!**

*All monies raised will be going directly to school to help purchase more reading books & art supplies. Both of these items are used daily throughout the school but supplies are low due to quarantining & sanitising protocols that are now in place.*

You can design and decorate each of your balloons along with changing flight parameters to enhance your chances of winning. The balloons simulate a real time flight pattern that is affected by real time changing weather conditions! You can also track and locate your balloons at any time during the race.

EcoRacing offer some great prizes for all races and they are also 100% eco-friendly.

To enter please follow the below link to buy your balloons;

<https://ecoracing.co/user/page/1637>

Further information on the **Coronation Race** can be found here;

<https://ecoracing.co/race/view/20>

We hope you all have lots of fun designing and decorating your balloons and we are looking forward to seeing you all virtually in the race!

**GOOD LUCK!**



### Quiz Night Fundraiser

Looking for something fun to do with friends and family now that restrictions are slowly starting to ease?

How about hosting a quiz night?!

The PTA have a family quiz pack with a number of rounds, plus answer sheet available to purchase that is easily used either via Zoom calls or played in person.

We are asking for a donation of **£2.50** per quiz pack and this can be emailed to you. Please contact the PTA to order your pack!

[whitewaterpta@gmail.com](mailto:whitewaterpta@gmail.com)

### 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 email the PTA.

### 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](https://yourschoollottery.co.uk) and search for **Whitewater C of E Primary School**.

**EasyFundraising** – Download the EasyFundraising app and select [whitewaterprimaryschoolpta](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/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](https://www.amazon.com/Whitewater-Parent-Teacher-Association) as your charity

### **Whitewater PTA Committee**

Plans are starting for the next academic year and any ideas, help or support would be very much welcomed! If you would like to get involved or would like any more information on what the PTA does for Whitewater please get in touch!

[whitewaterpta@gmail.com](mailto:whitewaterpta@gmail.com)

**Best wishes,  
Whitewater PTA**

## Irises of Hope: Diocese summer focus

We will be holding a curriculum focus week after half term using the Diocese project for schools called, 'Irises of Hope'. We are currently planning a variety of activities with the value of 'Hope' and irises as the focus. The following information, from the Diocese, outlines the reasons behind the mini-project:

### Why the Iris:

- Blue Irises symbolise **hope** and **faithfulness**. After a year of lockdowns and disrupted school and family life, these are fitting Christian values for our children and for Year 6 pupils to take into the next stage of their schooling.
- **Irises** have Christian symbolism - associated with the passion of Christ and the resurrection because Irises bloom around Eastertime.
- The Iris fittingly takes its name from the Greek word for 'rainbow' – the biblical sign of God's promise. God attached special meaning to the rainbow so that every time we see it, we may be reminded of God's covenant to never destroy everyone and everything on Earth again with a flood. The rainbow illustrates God's promise of redemption, to not only spare Noah and his family but also to give humanity a chance to start again. In this sense, the rainbow is a symbol of new beginnings. All sorts of Rainbows featured prominently in our communities over the past year, so is highly relevant.



This will form part of the wider Diocese project of 2021: **Ten Ten # flourishing**. **Ten Ten # flourishing** is derived from John's Gospel, chapter 10 verse 10: I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

## Celebrations!

### Gold Book

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

Rabbit Class:	Felix, Katelyn, Phoebe and Maggie
Otter Class:	Olivia, Jason, Harry C and Isobel
Hedgehog Class:	Toby, Daniel, Freya and Harry
Fox Class:	Ethan, Taya, Lilly-May and Elliott
Red Kite Class:	Aston and Harry

### Clubs and Outside School

Well done to the following children who have achieved sporting, musical or academic success outside school and in clubs during April:

Mia (Red Kite Class) for receiving a fifth place rosette for a one-day event. We loved looking at her photographs of the dressage, cross-country and showjumping!

### Final word...

Please remember to send your child into school with coats and water bottles. The weather is very changeable at the moment and we always encourage children to drink plenty of water during the school day and be outside during their breaks.

Miss Edwards



4<sup>th</sup> May 2021

### DATES LIST

Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May		Class Photos
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> May		Year 6 National Curriculum Swimming
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> May to	)	HALF TERM
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	)	
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June		INSET Day
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> June		Children return to School
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> June to	)	Curriculum Focus Week: Irises of Hope
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	)	
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> June		Year 6 National Curriculum Swimming
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> June		Year 6 National Curriculum Swimming
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> June		Year 6 National Curriculum Swimming
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> July and	)	Year 6 Induction Days at Robert Mays School
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	)	
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> July		Year 6 National Curriculum Swimming
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> July		Year 6 National Curriculum Swimming
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July		END OF TERM – School finishes at 2 pm