



Whitewater Newsletter - 15th December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of another busy but successful term here at Whitewater C of E Primary, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the wonderful achievements and events that have taken place throughout Autumn.

One of the recent highlights of this term has undoubtedly been our fantastic Christmas performances. The children in Rabbits and Otters showcased their incredible talent and hard work, filling our hearts with joy and spreading the festive spirit throughout the school. From the delightful nativity plays to the enchanting carol concerts, our young stars never fail to amaze us with their enthusiasm and dedication. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of them.

Here's a brief overview of what's been happening in the classrooms:

In school...

Rabbits...

It has been a busy term of learning but not just within the classroom; we welcomed visitors to our school, went to the science centre at Queen Mary's College and enjoyed our outdoor lessons during weekly woodland walks. Personally, this term I loved joining coach Kayleigh's dance lessons to see the difference in the way Rabbits move, such confidence and skills! Our Rabbits are born to be on stage; this was also evident during our amazing nativity, what a great show!



I believe Rabbits have done an amazing job in Autumn working really hard to keep up with our high expectations. Next term we will work even harder to build on our experiences. I hope that you all have a restful break and come back with the same enthusiasm in 2024. Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Otters...

Even though it seems that the Autumn term has flown by, it is amazing to look back and reflect on everything that we have packed in!

Our Christmas play 'Prickly Hay' definitely dominated Otters and Rabbits as we all worked hard to learn lines, learn the words to the songs and remember when to enter and exit the stage! The classes did an absolutely phenomenal job of throwing themselves into their characters and everyone was extremely proud of each and every one of them. Thank you so much for providing such amazing costumes and even supporting your child in learning their lines at home where needed, that was so appreciated and definitely contributed to the smooth running of the show. We hope you enjoyed watching our play!

The class have thrown themselves into our 'Superhero' topic this term and were quite rightly proud of their art masterpieces they produced. The journey from creating a self-portrait to finishing art work in the style of Roy Lichtenstein has been brilliant to see, as we broke down each part of the art work into different stages, including sketching, painting and collage. The finished art work will be on display by our classroom, please stop by and take a look when you are next in the building.



All adults in Otter class have been so impressed by the children displaying our school values regularly this term. There have been many examples where Love, Respect and Courage has been shown from looking after our resources in the classroom to playing with someone on the playground who was on their own. We are so proud of them all! From Otter class, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and we look forward to seeing you all in the Spring term.

Hedgehogs...

What an end to a very special first term in Hedgehog Class. For me the Christmas term is one of my favourites all though it is very busy. The children have worked really well with changes to routines, changes to the class and constant reminders of how many days until Christmas! In English the children have written an impossible gifts poem about Christmas. The children's use of language has been lovely and their creativity was clear to be seen. Some of the gifts given were the first magical snowflake of a white Christmas eve, the tingle of excitement when seeing perfectly wrapped presents, the sparkle and glint of Christmas lights, the scarlet glow from a warm winters fire and the love of a family together for the holidays.

During RE sessions, we have been discussing faith and what it means to Christians and what it means to the children. Their discussions were a special experience to be a part of. The children have all created their own definitions for what faith means and common trust, courage and belief have come out.

In History the children have finished their topic of the Stone Age by creating their own Stonehenge and learning about the importance of tombs and monuments were for archaeologists. During art sessions the children used watercolours and old maps of Stonehenge to create a striking Stonehenge, they also used pastels to create silhouette are of a day and night scene. The year 3s had the chance to attend QMC science centre to learn all about teeth and the digestion process, they had a brilliant time. Their behaviour was excellent and the highlights of their day was any activity where they were able to eat anything!

Hope you all have a restful and special Christmas and the children return in the new year with their desire to work at a new high.



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Foxes...



We have all enjoyed a brilliant term together in Fox Class – there have been so many wonderful moments! Starting the year learning all about Brazil, led us to create some beautiful prints and teddy bear waistcoats – our creativity was really pushed to the test, and the results were fantastic!

Year 6 thoroughly enjoyed their Bikeability training – it was lovely to hear how their confidence cycling on the roads increased over the two days. All of the children were very proud to receive their Level 2 certificates – great work!

Our 'Glorious Greeks' topic has been loved by many, and we have had so many wonderful learning experiences! We were very fortunate to arrange a virtual tour of the Museum of Classical Archaeology in Cambridge to see some replica Greek statues and objects. The power of technology allowed us to be taken around the

museum by our tour guide, who was extremely knowledgeable. It was fantastic! Not only this, but our Greek Day was a great success! We all had lots of fun taking part in a quiz, making mini chariots and planning our own Greek myths. The poor weather cancelled our Greek Olympics on the day, but we managed to catch up with this at the end of last week. The children had to join in with a range of different sports: javelin throwing, discus throwing, squat jumps, relay racing, a boxing sequence and star jumps. Points could be earned for each event, and our totals were revealed at the end.

We have finished the term by painting our Greek pots, making a Greek-themed pop-up book, for our design and technology learning, having a visit from Rev. Marion, a Forest Schools session for Year 6, and taken part in lots of Christmas fun! It really has been a great term and we look forward to even more fun in the New Year!

Autumn Term Role of honour...

On the final Golden Book assembly of each term, we ask staff to select one child in each year for a 'Values Award'. This is a very special award for a select few children who demonstrate our school values of **Love, Respect** and **Courage** without fail. In recognition of their achievement, the children get a Values Award badge as well as a certificate. In addition, we will take the children out for the afternoon when we return from the Christmas break.

The winners of the Values Awards are:

Year R – Sienna P
Year 1 – Juliet H
Year 2 – Dylan D
Year 3 – Katelyn T
Year 4 – Clara C
Year 5 – Effie M
Year 6 – Chloe J

New entrants for September 2023...

This is a final reminder that the deadline date for Yr R Applications for September 2024 is January 15th. I am very pleased to share that our current predicted numbers for September are looking very positive. If you have not yet applied for a place for a younger sibling, you can do so by completing the online form.

Thank yous...

I would like to extend my warmest thanks to all the parents and carers who have shown their unwavering support throughout the year. Your involvement in your child's education is invaluable and greatly appreciated. Whether it was attending parent-teacher meetings, volunteering across the school, or simply being there to listen and encourage, your dedication has played a significant role in their success.

I would also like to express my heartfelt thanks to our incredible Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) for their outstanding fundraising efforts this year. Their commitment and hard work have allowed us to enhance our facilities, organise exciting events, and provide enriching experiences for our pupils. Without their tireless dedication, our school community would not be as vibrant and thriving as it is today.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the exceptional team at Whitewater. From our dedicated teachers and teaching assistants to our diligent administrative team and Governors, they have all worked tirelessly to create a nurturing and flourishing school for our children. Their passion for education and commitment to our school's vision is truly commendable. We are incredibly fortunate to have such a talented and dedicated team.

Lastly, I would like to thank the people who matter most, our children. It has been delightful to see how much you have grown and developed this year. Whitewater C of E Primary School is a warm, welcoming and loving school because of the pupils who attend. On a daily basis the children display our core values of love, respect and courage. They treat each other with kindness and actively look after one another. They take on roles and responsibilities with enthusiasm and they display resilience and perseverance in their learning. So, thank you children for making our jobs so enjoyable, we look forward to seeing you back on **Tuesday 2nd January**.

As we are well into the festive season, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very merry Christmas. May this joyous time be filled with love, laughter, and cherished moments with your loved ones. May it bring warmth to your hearts and remind you of the true spirit of Christmas.

Wishing you all a peaceful and joyous Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Warmest regards,

S Moore

Mr Steve Moore
Executive Head of School