



Newsletter

April 2019

A place to
SMILE

Dear Parents/Carers,

After a long and glorious Easter break, it's good to be back as there is a lot to cram in to quite a short term! Y4 have started the term on their Stubbington residential, (fingers crossed that the weather will continue to be kind to them this week), Y5 bikeability runs this half term, and we have the usual summer term trips and events planned for the children. The diary dates will follow early next week.

May I take this opportunity to wish Dan Hughes the very best of luck as he runs the London marathon this weekend for FOWPS. We will all be cheering you on! Look out, as well, for Mrs Yeo who is running as an official pacer for the marathon. I'm in awe of you both—5K is far enough for me!

Lesley Pennington—Headteacher

Caretaker Update

After 9 years as our school caretaker, we were sad to say good bye to Mr Wells at the end of the Spring term, but wish him lots of luck with his new job. The children made him cards which were presented to him at our KS2 celebration assembly, and he was awarded a special 'headteacher award'!

During the Easter holiday, we were fortunate to be able to recruit an experienced replacement and so we will be welcoming Mr Pleasants to the site team next month.

Achievement Board

We have such a lot of children here who dedicate time outside of school to develop their skills and talents. It is always lovely to celebrate their achievements and so please do remember that the achievement board in the school entrance is set aside to share news of certificates, medals, awards and achievements from outside of school. Mrs Yeo, our school library manager, oversees this display, but she'd love to see more children represented here. You can let us know by sending an email to the admin office/through the website, or your child can come and see Mrs Yeo in the library with their certificate/award and she will take their picture for the board.

Rotary Music Competition

Congratulations to all the children who competed at the Rotary Music competition last term. It is always a great experience for the children to perform for an unfamiliar audience which takes great courage. A particular well done must go the junior and senior choirs, who won their sections, and to Thomas and Viktoria Webel Do Carmo who were runners up in the ensemble section with a super guitar and vocal duet.



INSET Days 2019/20 Update

We have now set 4 of the 5 INSET days for the next academic year as follows:

Weds 4th September
Thurs 3rd/Fri 4th October
Friday 14th February

The final day will likely be a Friday in July 2020.



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Job Vacancies

If you are looking for a part-time role that fits in with school hours, please consider checking out the www.careers.newjob.org.uk website which includes vacancies with HC3S. Our school kitchen will shortly be advertising for a catering assistant, but other local schools also have vacancies.

We are also currently recruiting for experienced teaching assistants for KS2. Information will appear on the Hantsnet job website by Monday.

Whiteley Citizenship Award

Congratulations to Evie Giles who was awarded the Citizenship Cup for the Spring term.

Eco Bricks

Some of you may know that in the Spring term, the eco team in school have been encouraging classes to create 'eco bricks' with their plastic rubbish, rather than throwing it in the bin. This has helped to highlight the importance of recycling and trying to reduce our use of single use plastic. If you haven't come across eco-bricks, they are made by tightly stuffing plastic bottles with smaller plastic packaging to a certain weight, which enables them to be recycled and used for building projects. As a school, we managed to produce 70 eco bricks which have gone to a local project to build a retaining wall, instead of using new materials. This term, we are moving on to a different eco project and have joined the Walkers crisp packet recycling scheme which will enable us to recycle and also raise some money for the school. More information about how the children can get involved will follow. We have a 'mix-up' morning planned early next month to continue to raise children's awareness of sustainability.

You may also like to know that FOWPS have already made plans to change the cup competition for next year's Bunny Run to avoid using single-use plastic. They used up the old stock of cups this year for the competition and have alternative plans for next year. Every little helps!

Tick Advice

Just a reminder that during May and June, the whole of the Whiteley area is prone to ticks. Parents may like to familiarise themselves with the advice on our school website regarding prevention, identification and treatment. You'll find this in the parents/health advice section.

FOWPS Quiz Night—Friday 14th June

We are delighted to invite teams to join our quiz masters for another evening of questions, fun and games on Friday 14th June, in support of FOWPS. Please contact the school office if you'd like to reserve a table (£16 per team—up to 8 people).

Sporting Success

Well done to all our cross country runners. The boys team won the championship race at the end of the season, coming 2nd place overall in the league, with the girls taking 3rd place in the league and an individual 2nd place position in the championship race for Chloe Jones.

We've also had a number of children representing the school at local sports festivals—well done to all those who took part in the tag-rugby, netball and girls football festivals, and also our football team who have had regular matches. As ever, Whiteley pupils showed excellent perseverance and co-operation—excellent ambassadors for our school.

Reading Challenges

Please do encourage and support your child to persevere with the reading challenges. I have now started to see Y1-3 children who have completed the Super Sonic Rocket Award for reading 200 times since September—a fantastic achievement! If your child hasn't yet got their bronze, silver or gold badges, it's not too late to get reading together, and will really help your child to grow in confidence and stamina with reading.

Bunny Run Total

Thank you to everyone who supported the Bunny Run—and especially to those who helped to organise and run the day. It was a lovely event and raised £2029 for FOWPS.