



**\*\*\* Ground Force Day here on Saturday – please help if you can \*\*\***

Dear Parents/Carers,

I always enjoy seeing the children's enthusiasm for learning and this week I was pleased to sit in on a Year 6 lesson. They were reading the novel "The Giant's Necklace" by Michael Morpurgo and at the end of the chapter some shocking information was revealed. The children were so excited to say that they had already guessed this or if they hadn't, that they could track back and see how the author gave the readers clues. The classroom was buzzing! We value reading highly at Whitchurch CE Primary and are so pleased that the children are well supported by you, the parents, by the teachers, LSAs and our librarian, Mrs Clarke.

I was pleased to discover that Mrs Clarke has won an award for her blog – UKYABA Champion Adult Blogger, from a field of 15 nominations! The award is voted for by publishers and authors. This was well deserved, as I know that not only the children at Whitchurch but also children from other schools have benefited from her book recommendations. If you have not discovered Mrs Clarke's blog there is a link from the school website.

Whilst on the subject of awards, Chloe from Year 6 entered the Radio 2 500 word story and has gone through to the second round. This is wonderful news, well done to Chloe.

Other wonderful news is that Mrs Fuller has had her baby. Her daughter was born during the holidays.

Scooters and bicycles

We have had some reports of children riding scooters and bicycles within the school grounds, with one incident slightly injuring a parent. Please can we ask again if you can speak to your children, including pre-school children, about the importance of walking, not riding, on the busy school paths. We will reinforce the message within school.

Wocks

Please can we ask that no 'wocks' are brought into school or hidden in the school grounds. We know that the children thoroughly enjoy the activity, but if any are found on the way to school please can they go home with a parent, if at all possible, to be hidden later in the day. Thank you.

I do hope many of you will be able to spare an hour or two to help at the Ground Force Day. We are incredibly lucky to have such wonderful grounds and we really do want to make the most of them.

Yours sincerely

Mrs K Steven  
Head Teacher

**Tidy Classroom Award:** Kingfishers  
**Best Lunchtime Award:** Seals

### Next week in:

**Year R** we will be reading the story 'Titch' and thinking about what we would like to be when we grow up.

**Year 1** we will be going on our trip to Marwell Zoo as part of our topic 'Around the World in 30 Days'.

**Year 2** we will be planting seeds and working in groups to create our own science experiments.

**Year 3** Panthers will be learning about the artist Mondrian and starting to experiment with his techniques. Jaguars will be learning about plants and planning scientific investigations.

**Year 4** many of the children will be enjoying life as a Viking on our residential to Ufton Court. Others will be enjoying Viking activities at school.

Ufton Court children to arrive at school at 8.30am on Wednesday.

**Year 5** we will be continuing our work on 'The Highwayman'.

A huge thank you to parents who came to our restaurant and donated money to The Pink Place. We raised £118 in total!

**Year 6** we will be writing a newspaper report about the disappearance of Cherry in the 'Giant's Necklace'.

### Leading Learners

Pelicans	Spencer	Panthers	Jean-Claude
Penguins	Ruby	Lions	Molly
Seahorses	Sofia	Tigers	Brooke
Turtles	McKinley	Doves	Elsie
Otters	Luke	Kingfishers	Alice
Seals	Dexter	Eagles	Evan
Dolphins	Gregory	Kestrels	Isaac
Jaguars	Jaimi-Lea		

### Roll of Honour

- Zach of Seals for being so welcoming to Sam who is new to Whitchurch.
- Teagan of Otters for his positive attitude and hard work in class.
- Christopher of Otters for his great motivation and positive attitude in class.
- Piper Goodyear of for her super encouragement of a teammate in games.
- Levi Roche of for settling into his new class so well.
- Archie of Kestrels for his excellent attitude and behaviour.

### Attendance

The best classes last week in **KS1** were Seals with 98.96% and in **KS2** were Doves with 98.28%.



House Points winners this week are Discovery. Well done children!

### Library News

The library is open on Mondays after school until 4.00pm for parents and children.

### FOWPS News



#### Easter eggstravagnza

A big thank you to everyone that attended our eggcellent event, despite the weather the event was a great success with over 200 eggs found by the children and a great £302 raised.

#### Ground Force Day – 21st April

A call for help for our Ground Force Day on Saturday 21 April. Mr Blake will be leading a day of general maintenance of the school and grounds from 9am to 12.00pm and from 1.00pm to 4.00pm. Any offers of help will be welcome – please bring your own tools and work gloves.

As part of the Ground Force Day we will be expanding the Forest School site by planting 80 new trees in the area between the current Forest School site and the chicken run. FOWPS are funding the purchase of the trees and are asking for families to sponsor a tree at £10 each.

#### Quiz Night and Bake-Off – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April

Due to the snow the quiz has been postponed. If you had a ticket please contact FOWPS if you are still able to make the new date, so that we can release any spare tickets for sale. The quiz is a great night to come and test your brain or cooking, with prizes for the best pudding and to the winner of the quiz. Tickets are £5, which includes as many puddings as you can manage! Please no puddings with nuts (due to school allergies).

#### Bag2School – Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May

#### Primary Pedal - Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May

Primary pedal is back for the fourth year. If you would like to enter the 20, 40 or 60 mile cycle route then please visit the website and sign up. Free cake along the route to give you that extra boost to the finish line. Last year we had over 200 entrants and would love to see you all again this year. Entry is £15 and free for under 16s.

[www.primarypedal.org.uk](http://www.primarypedal.org.uk)

#### Ceilidh featuring Belshazzar's Feast - Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May

FOWPS in association with the Whitchurch Folk Club will be holding an evening of folk music and traditional dancing featuring Belshazzar's Feast. Tickets are available from FOWPS or from Whitchurch Folk Club <https://billetto.co.uk/users/whitchurch-folk-club> Tickets are £20 and £18 concession, doors open at 7pm with music starting from 7:30pm at the parish hall. We only have 100 tickets, so grab them while you can!

#### Bingo Brian - 15<sup>th</sup> June, more details to follow

#### Summer fair - Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> June, more details to follow

FOWPS@whitchurch.hants.sch.uk, Facebook: FOWPS, Whitchurch, Hampshire

#### **Future School Dates (added or amended this week are in bold)**

Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	Ground Force Day helpers needed
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 1 trip to Marwell Zoo
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Doves Class Worship – 9.10-9.30am – all family members welcome
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup> -Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 4 Residential to Ufton Court
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Kingfishers Class Worship – 9.10-9.30am – all family members welcome
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Year R Fit Camp
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	Seahorses Class Worship – 9.10-9.30am – all family members welcome
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Bag2School
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	Primary Pedal
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Turtles Class Worship – 9.10-9.30am – all family members welcome
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Ceilidh featuring Belshazzar's Feast
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Penguins Class Worship – 9.10-9.30am – all family members welcome
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	FOWPS Bingo Brian
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 1 Visit from Jungle Jonathan
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day all day (details to follow)
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	Pelicans Class Worship – 9.10-9.30am – all family members welcome
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	FOWPS Summer Fair
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 2 trip to Marwell Zoo
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Testbourne Induction Day
** Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Inset Day (change of date – no longer Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> June) **
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> October	Individual and in-school sibling photographs

Details of term dates for 2017/18 can be found at <https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schoolholidays>