



Great Whelnetham Primary Newsletter



December 2019



Mrs Masson- Street Child Project

In the Summer holidays of 2020 Mrs Masson will be travelling to Sierra Leone for two weeks to participate in the "Street Child" project. Street Child is a UK Charity that aims to create educational opportunities for some of the most vulnerable children in Africa and Asia by giving them access to a quality education. Mrs Masson will be fundraising to support the charity and we will be holding fundraising events to help her. To find out more and support her directly please follow the link:

<https://streetchild.everydayhero.com/uk/please-help>



A Canadian link

We are very excited that we have established a link with a Primary School in Canada. Thank you to our Governor Mr Kirkwood for organising this. We look forward to sharing more news about this in the New Year- it is going to be a wonderful opportunity for the children to learn more about a contrasting location and widen their knowledge of the world.

Christmas is coming..... Message from Mrs Barrow

It has been a great Autumn Term with some wonderful highlights including some high quality topics and educational visits. Thank you to pupils for working hard- keep this up in the Spring Term!

As the Autumn Term comes to a close we want to take this opportunity to wish all our families a very Happy Christmas and New Year.



Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day!

10th December will be our Christmas School Lunch and on that day the children can wear Christmas jumpers. Can pupils please bring in a donation on that day (£1 suggested) to support Save the Children.



Christmas postbox

As in previous years the Christmas Postbox will be available for children to post their Christmas cards. Look out for this from 1st December!



Everyone loves a Baby!

Please join us for our Matinee and Evening performances of this year's Nativity..... Everyone Loves a Baby!

Well done to Larks and Robins who have been rehearsing their lines and songs so well- we're very proud of you!

Performances: Thursday 12th December- 2pm and 5.30pm

Please note there will be a collection after each performance for the charity "Street Child" in support of Mrs Masson!

Details of how to obtain tickets will be sent out soon.



School Clubs

We are delighted to offer **Crazy Science Club** and **Arts & Crafts Club** at Great Whelnetham School for the Spring Term 2020, taught by our DBS certified club leaders. All ages are welcome and no materials

are required, your child simply needs to turn up! Places will be allocated on a first come first serve basis. **Please sign up here:** <https://book.clubs.school/great-whelnetham/>

Crazy Science - Tuesday, 3:30-4:30pm

Crazy Science Club is a super exciting spin of science! Each week we take advantage of the opportunity to explore "off track" areas of science which enhances the science skills they learn in the classroom. Each week is different, as the club reflects the interests of the children, we explore different fun experiments every week.

Experiments include:

Super slime, explosive volcanoes, crystals, layered liquids, balloon rockets and much more

Arts & Crafts - Thursday, 3:30-4:30pm

Art Club is welcome to all ages and abilities and is a fun weekly session which involved painting, crafts, mask making, jewellery, drawing and designing.

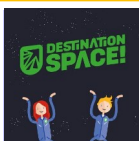
No week is the same and every session we will change the objective and style of art so that by the end of the session students would have learnt a new artistic skill and will have something to take home with them to show.

Projects Include:

clay volcano, paper mache animal kingdom, stencil and graffiti, puppet master makers...

Please visit the link below to register and pay for your child's position in the club. If you have difficulties with payment or have further questions you can contact admin on 0800 999 1013

Sign Up for clubs: <https://book.clubs.school/great-whelnetham/>



Destination Space

We are very excited that on 4th December Key Stage Two pupils will be having a special show from the Cambridge Science Centre entitled "Destination Space!"

Here is a description of the show:

Ever wondered what it's like to be an astronaut? How do you get into space, and what's it like to live and work there? Learn how the physics of Isaac Newton's laws got us into space and ride on a hover board. Experience some of the dangers of going into space with our vacuum chamber and our blowtorch – and find out how we used science to overcome these challenges.

Swans class will also be having a "Destination Space" workshop afterwards to learn more about their Space Science topic.

Website

We are regularly updating the school website with photos of visits and events. Keep checking the Learning Gallery and News sections.

Friends of School Disco

This event will take place on Friday 13th December. More details will follow from our Friends. Please be advised that children will need to be accompanied by a supervising adult.



Free School Meals

If you think you are eligible for free school meals please speak to Mrs Kimber in the office who will help you register for these. Apart from getting a free school meal for your child each day the school also receives Pupil Premium Funding which gives us money to help subsidise educational provision for your child. If you are not sure if you are eligible please talk to us– we are here to help.



Winter Wonderland Visit

On the afternoon of Wednesday 4th of December the children in Kingfishers and Owls will be visiting a local Winter Wonderland. We hope they will enjoy their visit.

Children In Need

We had a great Children in Need non-uniform day. Well done to children (and staff!) on their inventive and spotty outfits. We thought you might like to see a photo from the day. Funds raised have been sent to Children in Need.



Thank you for all the fundraising and support for events you have given the school this term.



Kingfishers' Rendlesham Forest Visit

On 12th November Kingfishers class went on an educational visit to Rendlesham Forest. As part of their topic on the Stone Age the children

built dens in the forest and had a real life experience of what it might be like to live in a Stone Age settlement! Rendlesham Forest is the perfect setting surrounded by Ancient Oaks.



Class Christmas Parties



Each class will be having a class Christmas party before the end of term. More details will follow from your child's class teacher.



We are greatly looking forward to Rocksteady's performance this term on Friday 13th December at 2.30pm. Parents/ siblings/ family of band members are welcome to attend.

School Improvement

We have been working hard on priorities from the last Ofsted Inspection and wanted to take this opportunity to share some really great feedback. We had a visit from Karen Harman the Deputy Diocesan Director of Education in the first half of term who described the school as "Calm bright and cared for. I really enjoyed looking round. The feel and atmosphere of the school have been significantly changed and you have achieved a lot in just six weeks".

We then had a visit from advisor John Atkinson who praised pupil behaviour highly commenting that "The children are a hugely positive group of people— full of optimism, ambition and desire".

Finally our Chair of Governors Caroline Robinson and Chair of Learning and Achievement Committee Paul Kirkwood undertook some pupil perception questionnaires and were really pleased to hear that the children are so highly engaged with their learning, topics and lessons. The whole school community will continue to work hard and build upon the great progress made in the Autumn Term.



Visit from someone special.....

Larks and Robins class will be receiving a visit from someone special before the end of term (if they have been very good!)

Thank you for the Christmas Tree

Thank you very much to Richard Duchesne of Christmas in Stanningfield for the kind donation of a Christmas tree for the school.



Christingle Service



A huge thank you to our Open the Book volunteers for organising the children's Christingle Services. Thank you also to Rev. Jeremy Parsons for his continuing hard work, encouragement and support of collective worship. We look forward to our Christingle Services on 3rd of December.



Diary Dates for Autumn Term 2019

December

Tuesday 3rd	TBC	Christingle Services
Wed 4th	Morning	Destination Space!- KS2 Science show Workshop for Swans class
Weds 4th	Afternoon	Kingfishers and Owls Winter Wonderland visit
Tuesday 10th	12 noon	Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
Thurs 12th	2pm and 5.30pm	Nativity Play- "Everyone Loves a Baby!"
Fri 13th	2.30pm	Rocksteady Concert
Fri 13th	TBC	Friends of School Disco at the Village Hall
Weds 18th	All day	Last day of term for pupils

January

Tuesday 7th	All day	First day of Spring term
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PLEASE NOTE: We have a PD day on Thursday 19th December and Monday 6th January