

Community News for White Waltham and Woodlands Park

Welcome to this new electronic edition of Community News for our local area of White Waltham and Woodlands Park.

In each edition we hope to bring you news from our local area and what's going on at White Waltham Church. You'll find other features and advertising for local businesses too - please do support them.

If you have an article or advert you would like included, please get in touch. Details are on the final page.

Woodlands Park Primary and Nursery School



The autumn weather has well and truly set in and Christmas is in our sights!

This term our whole school PSHE theme is 'Celebrating Difference'. This term we will be working across the school to develop our understanding of how we, as individuals, our families and our communities are both similar yet different. We will be working to recognise that we all have a right to be ourselves and that difference is a positive thing, something to be valued, respected and celebrated.

Year 1 enjoyed an exciting trip to Windsor Castle. The children were so well behaved, they were all such a credit to the school. They spent the morning looking around the castle, including the State Apartments and St George's Chapel. After lunch the children enjoyed a session in the Learning Centre where they got to find out a little bit more about Windsor Castle and castles in general. They were very lucky with the weather and a great time was had by all!



We celebrated Remembrance Day with a short service and minutes silence outside in the playground. All the children made individual poppies and laid them in our memorial garden. Our year 3/4 class joined over 17,000 other children across the UK on zoom for a commemorative event with Mr Dilly where they learnt all about Armistice Day, watched video clips, heard poems and watched an interview with Tom Palmer, the author.

Do you have a child ready to start Nursery? We have recently changed our policy for Nursery and are now taking children from 2 years 9 months either with two year old funding or as a paid place. Our Nursery is filled with children who feel nurtured, confident and ready to learn. We offer caring and knowledgeable adults, a wonderful outside classroom and forest school area and much more. We have spaces available at our lovely Nursery and are taking applications. Call or email to enquire or ask about an application pack or a tour.

Our Year 3/4 class have been enjoying learning the ukulele this term. A music teacher from Berkshire Maestros has come in each week and the children are enjoying learning their new instruments and have also got them at home to practise what they have been learning in school.



Our 5/6 class went to Norden Farm to perform their play for the Shakespeare 'As You Like It' Festival. The children worked so hard practising their version of Henry V for the Shakespeare Celebration which is run with other local schools. The children performed their play on the theatre stage and did us proud, they were fantastic. It was a wonderful opportunity for the children to perform in a real theatre alongside lighting and staging engineers. It also gave them the opportunity to find out a little bit about how the theatre works.

Our Christmas plans will be a little different again this year due to rising numbers of Covid cases in the borough, but we will still ensure that the children have a special time celebrating. Mrs Copeland and Ms Wanless are already planning our Christmas Lunch.

We are still doing personalised school tours so if you would like to come and have a look around our lovely school, please call the office to book a tour. If you know anyone who is looking for a school place for September 2022, please let them know. We also have spaces in our other year groups and we always welcome in-year admissions.

Alison Penny, Jo Butcher, Laura Hopper

Headteacher Team



Christingle All Age Service

White Waltham Church
Sunday 28 November at 10.30am

Everyone is welcome!

***To join us in person please book via
www.stmaryswhitewaltham.org.uk/booking***



Children are always welcome at White Waltham Church!

Children are invited to join our services with their parents and to join our children's groups. To come to one of our services in person please book via [this link](http://www.stmaryswhitewaltham.org.uk/booking).

You and your family are very welcome to join us!

You can catch up on previous Sunday morning children's activities by visiting our website: www.stmaryswhitewaltham.org.uk

Just scroll down the home page, click on 'Families Area'
and choose 'Watch our Sunday Children's Sessions'





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Longing for Light

I don't know about you but as Christmas draws near I have mixed thoughts. Excitement, as I love all the decorations and lights and presents, and a sense of panic as I think about all the things I have to get done and whether I will get through them all in time and in one piece. There are financial worries for many as well as the worry about family relationships, whether that is dread of having to spend time with those we don't always get on with, or sadness that we can't be with those we love and miss.



In all this jumble of thoughts, I imagine the story of the first Christmas is forgotten and for many just doesn't seem relevant in 2021.

There was a man called John who knew Jesus and he took pains to write an eyewitness account of what he saw and heard so that we could read it and know who Jesus really was. He described Jesus as “the Word” and he tells us: *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God”*.

What a claim! That the Jesus who walked on earth was there at the beginning of time and not only that, John was absolutely convinced that Jesus is God.

John goes on to tell us that Jesus is the “*true light*” and is “*full of grace and truth*”. I don't know about you, but in today's world I see much darkness - the shadow of Covid, of climate change and wars, food shortages and unemployment. All these things darken our world, and we have a sense that this isn't how things are meant to be. We long for light.

When we see lying politicians and people who twist things to serve themselves whilst the powerless struggle to make ends meet, we too long for grace and truth.



Jesus isn't just a nice idea, a good man that lived once and showed us a better way.

John is telling us that Jesus is God and that Jesus can bring light and grace and truth to our lives today. What an amazing claim and what an exciting thought worth investigating!

If you'd like to know more, do come along to White Waltham Church this Christmas, or drop us a line via the website - www.stmaryswhitewaltham.org.uk

Katie Croft

(Children's Work Coordinator, White Waltham Church)



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Little Roots Baby & Toddler Group

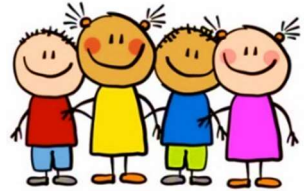
For babies and toddlers with their parents/carers

We meet between 9.00 & 11.15am on Mondays during school term time. Come when you can, go when you must – we have a range of toys out for free play, Bible story time and music, and for the time being please bring a snack - we plan to provide snacks again in due course, once Covid regulations are relaxed further.

We meet in The Tree House, which is located in the churchyard at White Waltham Church. Some parking is possible at the bottom of Church Hill, and more spaces are available in the yard of Bury Court Antiques (Alistair Price).

We would love to see you!

 Little Roots Toddler Group
www.stmaryswhitewaltham.org.uk



Want some financial help with your education?

Have you left school?

**Are you thinking of full-time training or education?
(apprenticeship/College, university etc.)**

or are you already there?

If you are under 25 and live in the civil parishes of Shottesbrooke or White Waltham, or the south ward of Hurley ... then the Duell and Hawes Educational Trust may be able to help you with a grant.

Write to: Clerk to the Trustees, Carolyn Thompson,
Spire View, Waltham Road, White Waltham, SL6 3SG
or email: carolynt52@icloud.com
for an application form



White Waltham C of E Academy

At White Waltham Academy we have had an eventful return to school since September. The children have enjoyed the fun and exciting topics we have been studying. Our topic of 'Why We Remember' is even more poignant with November's remembrance services. Our Year 5 and 6 children recently embarked on a two-night stay in Devon learning all about World War 1. This involved cooking, campfire singing, trench re-enactment and building on independence, being away from home with their friends.

COVID still remains a thorn in our side as we are try to keep the cases confined to classes to avoid spread. However, we remain positive and aim to make school as normal as possible. As we approach Christmas we hope that our safety measures we have put in place mean we can have as many fun and essential Christmas events as possible.

Matt Thompson



Your local churchyard needs your help!

If you regularly visit White Waltham Churchyard you know what a great job our churchyard team does to maintain it. This year, with the wet weather and ill health of some team members, our regular churchyard team is now just two people – so we need your help more than ever!

***Could you help to mow or strim in our churchyard
– either on a regular basis or as a one off?***

Call Bob on 01628 676117 or email bobcrittenden@aol.com

We would like to welcome the
local village community to our

**White Waltham C of E
Academy Christmas Market**

Saturday 11 December

Starts 4.30pm- 7.30pm

Adult £2 (cash only) entry with mulled wine &
mince pies and glow sticks for kids

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The Other Eight Ninths

Our earthly/fleshly existence represents only a brief sojourn – a fragment taken out of our time in eternity. There is so much that is unseen - like the iceberg where only the lesser part of eight ninths, is visible. We wait in anticipation of that which is unseen – unknown to us. Those ‘eight ninths’ are beyond our vision – and comprehension.

We turn to the Bible, as a reliable source. There are references which tell of what awaits us. In his Sermon on the Mount (Matthew chapter 5) Jesus promises a reward in heaven comparable to that which the prophets will receive. In Peter’s first letter (1 Peter 1:4) we are assured of an inheritance in heaven – ‘that cannot perish, spoil or fade’. Throughout the Bible’s text we find references to ‘heaven’. Of its true nature we can only speculate. Can it be considered a ‘place’? In the parables, Jesus uses the familiar to define the unfamiliar – the inconceivable, an allegory.

Towards the end of the Bible we encounter an elusive definition. ‘No eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man conceived what God has prepared for those who love him’ ...the New Jerusalem (Revelation 21:2).

Bob Packer



Su Doku - easy

2		1		8		7		
8	4	7	2			6		
				7	5	2		
7	3			2	6	4	5	
			5		8			
	6	4	1	3			2	9
		6	7	5				
		2			1	5	3	6
		5		6		1		2

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Su Doku - medium

			8	2				
						3		7
	4				3	8	5	
		6	3	5		7		2
5				1				3
1		3		7	9	5		
	2	9	5				6	
6		5						
				9	2			

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From the Registers



Burial

5th November 21 Margaret Esther McDonald aged 64 years

Funeral Service & Burial

9th November 21 Isabel Annie May Neighbour aged 88 years

Funeral Service

10th November 21 Paul Gregory Lucas aged 73 years



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Services at White Waltham Church

Services are live in Church.

To join us, please book via the website at [this link](#).

Services are also available via Zoom for those who need to stay at home: <http://www.stmaryswhitewaltham.org.uk/zoom>

They can also be watched via our website:

www.stmaryswhitewaltham.org.uk

Scroll down the home page and click on 'This Sunday's Service'
(you can also catch up on previous services from this page)

Some other content is available on our Facebook page

 **White Waltham Church**

We hope you can join us!



Community News for White Waltham & Woodlands Park

Published every 3 weeks or so,
with each bi-month's advertising shared across 3 mini-issues.
Available on White Waltham Church's Facebook page and website:

 **White Waltham Church**
www.stmaryswhitewaltham.org.uk

*If you have news about something going in our local community
that you would like to be included please email:*

waltham.vicar@btinternet.com