

Community News for White Waltham and Woodlands Park

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

In each edition we hope to bring you news from the local area and what's going on at White Waltham Church; this issue there are updates from White Waltham Academy and White Waltham Cricket Club. In amongst all of that you may find a puzzle to keep you going during lockdown, along with advertising for local businesses - please do support them at this challenging time.

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

News from White Waltham Academy



It has been a challenging time at White Waltham Academy this term and I would like to start by thanking all the school staff, parents and children for all their hard work and support. During lockdown our teachers have been providing online work with a daily timetable for parents to follow to support them in home-schooling. We have also been phoning the children on a weekly basis to keep in touch. I have been so very proud of the resilience and maturity our children have displayed in these trying times. Our message throughout lockdown is to prioritise happiness of the children and not to put pressure on themselves to do everything perfectly. Every home looks different and parents have jobs, so it is important to get the right balance that works for each family.



The teachers have been so pleased to receive pictures and videos of all the wonderful activities children have been doing at home. It has been lovely to see children cooking, gardening, exercising, learning something new, helping around the house, etc. Two of our children created their own Easter service and sent us the video to enjoy. One of our teaching assistants edited together the children singing along to one of our worship songs which we then sent out to families to enjoy. Our Christian value this term has been 'Service' and we feel

strongly that even though children had a long time away from school, we still wanted to reach out to them and let them know that we are here and thinking of them.

We were fortunate enough to enable our Year 6 class to come back to school so they could say goodbye. I have been incredibly proud of how they have come into school with a positive attitude, excited to be with us. Unfortunately, due to lock down, the Year 6 class have missed so much, such as their residential in Norfolk, Summer production, visit to Pizza Express (after their SATs), and the opportunity to be in school together on the last day to say a proper goodbye. Taking all this into account, they have been absolutely amazing, and we wish them all the best and much joy and happiness as they move onto secondary school.



On 6th July we are looking forward to welcoming the rest of the school back so that they have two weeks of schooling before they break up for the summer holidays. We feel it is very important to have the opportunity to return to some normality before the six-week break.

I would also like to thank Reverend Dave for the wonderful on-line services that have been released, and it was a pleasure to make a small cameo in a couple of them.

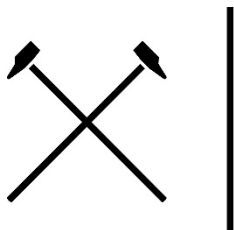
Matt Thompson
Head of School

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**



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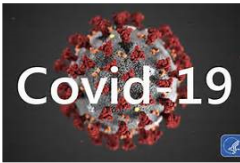
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What can I write about? *(written early May 2020)*

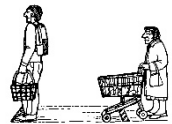
Much as I'd love to write as though everything in the world is normal, it isn't and so first of all I shall tell you how things are with us at the moment... so for once, this will really be a newsletter from New Zealand!



Our government operates on four Alert Levels and each one sets limits on what people can do based on their age and health etc. We have just come out of Level 4 after some 5 weeks of total lockdown and are now at Level 3 which does allow some freedoms.

Under Level 4 the only places Liz and I were permitted to visit were the GP, the pharmacy the petrol station and the vet; that last meant that barring an emergency, we could only have our wee dog's monthly jab done in the street!! We were allowed to take short walks for exercise and so Lily and I have indeed been walking the streets two or three times a week. Much of what we were not allowed to do was because of my age (yes, my 80th birthday, which was to have been a big church and family celebration. was a big wash out!).

Now (Level 3) I am permitted to go to the Supermarket and buy what we need. But just like you, only a limited number of people are admitted at a time and physical distancing has to be maintained.



I am not sure if this magazine will be able to be distributed to every home this issue since here we are beginning to get bits and pieces delivered to our letter boxes; by the time of issue I do hope you will also be enjoying more freedoms.

What does it all mean? OK, I am not about to start preaching but I do have to remind myself that in recent years we have seen quite an explosion of viruses and physical phenomena which have brought huge problems to many and taken many lives. Ebola, Bird 'flu, Dengue fever and SARS to name a few. It is also true that over the centuries there have been many others of plague proportions most of which have died out or been controlled by vaccination. In the South Pacific, several islands have been hammered by Cyclone Harold since the start of Covid-19 and there have been others too. Add to this increasing earthquake activity and you do start to wonder just what is going on.

I will end with one verse which records something Jesus said when those around him asked what would happen "at the end". He said (*Luke 21:11*) "There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven." But do you know what? The people did not believe him then and, for the greater part, people still fail to realise that Jesus always spoke the truth.

Do you expect things to get better... or worse? Are you ready for His return?

Eric Green

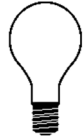
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Faith and Literacy



At her Coronation Service in June 1953, the Queen was presented with a Bible with the words ‘...Our gracious Queen, we present you with this Book, the most valuable thing this world affords.’ The truth of this cannot be denied – it is our link with the Almighty. On reflection, with this

Divine gift must be connected the ability to read – a further gift, and thereby we will be enabled to absorb and follow its message. It is an intermediary, an interlocuter between the individual and his maker. God exists outside the Bible as time exists outside the clock. We refer to it, and in so doing, we acquire knowledge of his will, his plan for mankind. The prophets and theologians whose writings have been set down, disclose this for us. But above all, we find recorded the words and deeds of Jesus himself – the one who was to come.

Jesus’ disciples asked him how to pray as John taught his disciples. It’s reasonable to assume he responded in Aramaic, his native tongue. We have since seen the prayer he gave them translated into at least 2000 languages. What has been handed down to us and what we now call ‘The Lord’s Prayer’ we know by heart. It has been instilled and inwardly digested, enabling us to live by its precepts. Comprehending what we read, is an essential adjunct to what is on the page.

Bob Packer

Online Services at White Waltham Church

All our services are pre-recorded and can be watched via our website:

www.stmaryswhitewaltham.org.uk.

On the home page scroll down and click on ‘This Sunday’s Service’.

You can also catch up on previous services from this page.

Puzzle Corner

Easy Su Doku

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

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Medium Su Doku

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

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Returning to Training

We are very pleased to say that our junior cricketers have recently started training again after months of frustration in lockdown. Following advice from the English Cricket Board we have established effective hygiene and social distancing measures which have been adopted by all our fully qualified volunteer coaches.

This meant that by early June we were able to start coaching individual players on a one to one basis; after further guidance from the ECB, we are now forming 'bubbles' of five players plus one coach for small group sessions.

Our parents have been very supportive throughout, especially welcoming the opportunity for their children to play some cricket with friends in a carefully controlled and safe environment.



U9's from 2019

So far we have seen over 40 enthusiastic young cricketers return to the game and judging by the smiles on their faces they have had lots of fun.

This careful yet positive response from White Waltham Cricket Club means we can help bring sport back to the village in a safe and enjoyable way and ensure cricket will thrive in the village for many years to come.



Website: www.whitewaltham.play-cricket.com

Facebook: @WhiteWalthamCC

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All our services, children's sessions and other content are pre-recorded and can be watched via our website:

www.stmaryswhitewaltham.org.uk

Just scroll down the home page:

For our Services click on 'This Sunday's Service'
(you can also catch up previous services from this page)

For our Children's Sessions click on 'Families and Kids'
and then choose 'Watch our Sunday Children's Sessions'

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, and 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