



NEWSLETTER 27

01404 812599 [Thursday 4th April 2019](http://www.west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk). Website www.west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk

Dear Parents,



Last week the whole school's attendance was 96.6% which is slightly below our target of 97.5%.

'WOW MOMENTS'

STOCKLAND SUCCESS

Huge congratulations must be given to our superb Stockland Cross Country team who have been awarded 2nd place overall. They have run through various weather conditions this season but our final race, which was held last Wednesday, was a beautiful warm and sunny day. We are delighted with the hard work that every member of the team put in. A special mention must go to Ollie P who came first out of the four Year 3 and 4 races and to Sam S and Evan P who came 2nd and 3rd in the Year 5 and 6 races. We are also delighted that the Year 5 and 6 boys' team and the Year 3 and 4 girls' team both came first in their categories. Mrs Bennett is incredibly proud of every member of the team. Many thanks to all the parents for their continuous support and a big thank you to those parents who also have taken the role as a marshall during the races. Special thanks must go to Emma Russo for her dedication and support with the team



DEVON WINTER GAMES

On the 28th March 12 girls went to Paignton representing East Devon and West Hill Primary School at the Winter Games. We went to the opening ceremony and watched the street dance group. Then we headed to the field to watch the competition team run. Overall, we came fifth out of all Devon. We then tried out lots of new sports such as: Taiko Drumming, BMX riding, Fencing, Parachute Running and Javelin throwing.

Next we ate lunch and the Festival Team got ready to race. They did brilliantly, overall coming in third place. Aimee, a Festival Team runner, got a Determination Medal for trying her best. At the end of the day everyone was super tired but we all had a great time. Elsie W

TEACHER'S ROCK YOUTH CHOIR

On Saturday our Teacher's Rock Youth Choir children joined other children from Exeter, Plymouth Torbay and Somerset in a massed rehearsal at Willowbrook Primary School. Half way through their preparations for a concert at the Great Hall, Exeter University in July, they worked hard to perfect a wide selection of songs that they have already learnt. They also started the Makaton signs to go with 4 brand new songs.



S2 ABSENCE/MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

After Easter we will only be asking for S2 absence forms to be completed for absences due to exceptional circumstances eg. Secondary school taster days, music exams, funerals etc. You will no longer need to complete a S2 form for any medical appointments but the Educational Welfare Officer has advised us to ask to see a hospital appointment letter or appointment card from the doctor/dentist in order to be able to authorise the absence as medical. Please be reassured, that in line with the data protection legislation, we will not be retaining a copy of this information. May we remind you that routine appointments for doctors/dentists should be booked outside of school hours and only emergency appointments should be taken in term time.

HEDGEHOG VISIT



As part of our ongoing Devon Wildlife Trust project to help raise awareness of the plight of hedgehogs, Class 4 were lucky to receive a visit on Tuesday from Nigel and Judith of Plymtree Hedgehog Rescue, who brought 5 prickly friends with them!

The hands-on experience with the hedgehogs was a first for many of the pupils, and Nigel and Judith were great at answering the pupils' many questions.

Hearing how these hedgehogs have recovered thanks to Nigel and Judith's hard work really inspired us all to continue to try to make a difference for hedgehogs.

We must say a big thank you to Nigel and Judith and also to Chris Webster who helped to arrange the event.



START OF THE SCHOOL DAY

The number of pupils arriving late in the mornings is increasing - in the last 5 school days there have been 49 instances of late arrivals. Please remember that school starts at 8.55am and after this time the side gate is locked. Any pupils arriving after this time will not be able to gain access to the school in the usual way as the new Stanley Security doors are set to automatically lock. Although Mrs Boulton stands on the gate near the school field, this is only to allow Reception parents to leave the school site and is not to allow late arrivals to sneak in! Any pupils arriving after 8.55am should instead be escorted by an adult to sign in at the school office.

TISSUES

Could we kindly ask that all children bring in a pack of tissues with them to keep in their trays/book bags. Thank you.

EASTER SERVICE

It was lovely to see so many of you supporting your children yesterday at Y3 & Y4's Easter Service. We hope you enjoyed it as much as they did performing it. Thank you to Miss Kemp, Mr Pantling, Miss Spence, Mrs Morris and Mrs Harris for all their hard work in preparing the children to enable them to perform such a beautiful service.

LOST PROPERTY

We have another mountain of lost property looking to be reunited with their owners! Please take a look in the cupboard in the reception area to see if there is anything belonging to your child. Please can we take this opportunity to remind you of the importance of naming all belongings that come in to school, it is so much easier to return things if it is clearly named. Thank you for your co-operation.



SUMMER TERM - MUSIC LESSONS

Just to inform you that music lessons will begin after Easter as follows:-

Violin - To Be Confirmed.

Guitar - lessons will begin on Tuesday 30th April 2019.

Woodwind - lessons will begin the first week back on Wednesday 24th April 2019.

Recorder - lessons will begin the first week back on Wednesday 24th April 2019.

Brass - To Be Confirmed.

Please note due to SATs week there will be no lessons week beginning Monday 13th May 2019.

ONLINE SAFETY TIPS FOR PARENTS

Online safety tips for parents of pre-school children (0-5 year olds), parents of primary school children (6-10 year Olds) and parents of 11-16 are now available on our school website (in the safeguarding tab/ online safety section). These are published by Internet Matters which is a free online resource for every parent in the UK. They show ways to protect your children online as they grow up - with information, advice and support on all the big e-safety issues. We hope you find them helpful.

SCHOOL PUPIL TRACKER/REPORTS

Please be aware that School Pupil Tracker is closing down on 31st December 2019 and our school subscription expires on 4th September 2019. After 4th September parents from Class 1-Class 6 will no longer be able to log in and view your child's assessments or access any of their school reports. If you wish to keep copies of their school reports, please think about either downloading and saving them as Word documents or alternatively printing them.

ORCHESTRA - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

There will be no orchestra on 30th April and 7th May.

Y3 & Y4 DANCE PERFORMANCE

We would like to invite the parents of children in Y3 and Y4 to watch their end of half term dance performance in the village hall at 3pm tomorrow, Friday 5th April 2019. This is a unit of dance that the children have been working on with Katie Murray throughout this half term and I know they would love to show their hard work to you.



SPORTY STARS AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Both the Multi-Sports Club (Year 1 -6) and the Football Club (Year 2-4), run by Sporty Stars, will continue after Easter starting on Thursday 25th April. Please see the attached leaflets for further information and details of how to sign up and pay. Both clubs would welcome new and old members.

AFTER SCHOOL CRICKET CLUB

Alex Clements will be returning with a Cricket Club for the summer term for Year 3-6 on Tuesdays from 30th April at a cost of £30 for 10 sessions. Please see the attached leaflet for booking form.

DATE REMINDERS

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| Friday 5 th April | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Trophies Assembly (please ensure all trophies are returned)- Y3 & Y4 Katie Murray dance performance to their parents - 3pm- Last Day of Term |
| EASTER HOLIDAY 8 th - 22 nd April Tuesday 23 rd April-Teacher training Day Children return to school on Wednesday 24 th April 2019 | |

PTFA NEWS

Congratulations to the winners of the PTFA 100 Club draw for this term:

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|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| January - 1st place: Tracey Sparks | - 2nd place: Jane Ferguson |
| February - 1st place: Steve Wray | - 2nd place: Hannah Power |
| March - 1st place: David Andrews | - 2nd place: Kate Conway Davies |
| April - 1st place: Polly Whitfield | - 2nd place: David Andrews |

Upcoming events:

Cake Sale - the next cake sale is TODAY- Thursday 4th April. This time it is the turn of Year 3 and 4 to bake and delight. All cakes welcome especially Easter themed ones. Please remember to bring your pennies after school!

Film Night - Thank you to all who attended and to the parents and Mrs Boulton who helped tidy up. An excellent night of laughter, popcorn and sweets to delight all 31 children who made it along.

General fundraising - Can anyone assist in looking to collect old printer cartridges? The task is not particularly onerous, we just need someone to spend an hour or two.

Family Camping on School Field - Camp on the school field to raise money for the PTFA/school. Saturday 15th June until 16th. Games and activities for the kids. Bring your own food and drink. Tents or campers. School families only! Toilets available. Subject to weather/field conditions. £25 a pitch. Contact Mat matehelm@yahoo.com or speak to Mat or Amy Helm at school.

COMMUNITY NEWS

CALLING CURRENT YEAR 1 CHILDREN AND PARENTS

West Hill Wasps want to continue the under 7s next season with interested boys and girls. We will need parents keen to lead and coach the team. It is very rewarding and more fun than just watching

from the side lines. No experience necessary and fully funded FA training will be given and supervision/ support/ guidance from the clubs other volunteer coaches.

Please contact Doug: dferguson@doctors.org.uk or 07815 070899 for any further information. We'd love to have you involved in our community mixed club.

We are also trying to recruit a goalkeeper for our Year 5 team. We are a thriving, well-supported team with children from 7 schools across East Devon forming the side which play and train in West Hill. We play in the Exeter Youth League but are searching for a goalkeeper to complete our team as we head into next season when we will be playing 9 a side football. If there is any player that is interested in joining a really friendly team with a great team spirit and a talented bunch of players I would love to hear from them. If your child is interested please contact Allen by email at allen.morgan2@btinternet.com or 07725 915380.

GIRLS CRICKET AT OTTERY ST MARY CRICKET CLUB

Starting on Monday 29th April 6-7pm for girls aged & 7 and over. For more information see the attached flyer or contact Alex Clements at aclementscoaching@hotmail.com or 07813 338312.

YOGA CLUB WITH CLAIRE GUNNINGHAM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Please see the attached flyer for the Summer Term.

'HOW TO DRUG PROOF YOUR KIDS'

Parenting course starting Wednesday 1st May at The Station in Ottery St Mary. It is a fantastic course aimed at enabling parents to equip themselves with the skills now to help their children make good choices when it comes to drugs and alcohol in the future. The course is aimed at parents of children in Year 4 to Year 9. See attached flyer for details on how to book.

WEST HILL PARISH COUNCIL

West Hill Parish Council has been working with Traffic Consultants, PJA, to explore ways in which to make the village roads safer for pedestrians, cyclists, horse riders and motorists. Over recent months the consultants have carried out workshops with local residents, measured car speeds and collected data on traffic travelling through the village. A summary of proposals is available on the WHPC website together with a questionnaire. WHPC are encouraging residents to take a few minutes to read the proposals and then submit their comments to the Parish Clerk at clerk@westhillparishcopuncil.gov.uk

Children walking safely to school is a key concern of the study. We hope many of the parents will visit the session and let us have their feedback on the proposals.

MESSY CHURCH

Fun activities, informal worship and share food. Friday 3.45pm-6.00pm.

April 26th - Pets and Peace

May 17th - At the seaside

June 28th - Summer BBQ and party

St Michael's Church, West Hill. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.



Have a lovely weekend

With my best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cheryl Boulton".

Mrs. Cheryl Boulton
Headteacher