



NEWSLETTER 13

01404 812599 Thursday 6th December 2018. Website www.west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk

Dear Parents,



ATTENDANCE

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



WHOLE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS LUNCH - WEDNESDAY 19th DECEMBER

Please can we ask that all children in Key Stage 2 having the Christmas lunch have sufficient funds of £2.50 on their dinner accounts by the 19th December (free for children in key stage 1 - *no payment necessary*). **We would also like to invite the children to come to school in non-uniform, wearing a Christmas jumper if they would like.**



STAR FOR CHRISTMAS-RADIO DEVON

We hope you heard our school choir sing 'Love Shone Down' on BBC Radio Devon this morning? If not, you can hear it on Gordon Sparkes Breakfast programme via

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p06qc8rp> (Please scroll to 1:51:35 where our clip begins)

The vote opens at 8am on Friday 1st December and closes at 4pm on Thursday 7th December.

Please encourage your friends and family to vote for us at

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/22t7K3Ct3g1C2hsZXdJdpGk/star-for-christmas-2018-best-large-school-category>

DECEMBER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY -

- Friday 7th December at 10.10am - Orchestra sharing assembly
- Wednesday 12th December at 2pm - Reception/KS1 Nativity
- Thursday 13th December 4.30pm - Y3 and Y4 Christingle Service
- Friday 14th December at 10am - Reception/KS1 Nativity
- Friday 14th December 3pm - Y2 and Y4 parents invited to watch Katie Murray end of term dance

- Wednesday 19th December - Whole school Christmas lunch (Christmas jumpers)
- Wednesday 19th December - 3pm - Y5 and Y6 Parents carols in the Village Hall
- Wednesday 19th December - Trophies Assembly
- Thursday 20th December - Last Day of Term

CHRISTMAS CARDS



The Christmas post-box is now operating. The children are able to post their cards to each other and to any adults who work in school (no cards please to friends outside the school as they won't get delivered!) The Year 6 elves will deliver daily for the last 3 weeks of term. Please make sure that all cards have the name and class of child on the envelope. Any with no class will have to be opened to try to track down who they are for.

CHRISTMAS NATIVITY FOR RECEPTION/KS1

We are looking forward to seeing parents from Reception, Class 1 and Class 2 on Wednesday 12th December at 2pm and Friday 14th December at 10am for the Christmas Nativity. The children have been working very hard to learn the songs and are looking forward to seeing you in the audience. Tickets are available from the school office at a cost of £1.00 each. 2 tickets will be allocated per family initially. Additional tickets may be requested which will be allocated if sufficient tickets remain available. Please ensure you return the attached slip indicating your preference for tickets by Friday and additional tickets will be allocated on Monday.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

As you may recall, our school photographer unfortunately left in July and since September we have been researching other photographers to take over this very important role. As you can imagine, this has not been a quick job as we wanted to make sure we met with each photographer, assessed the quality of their work and their prices in order to find the right person for the job. We are pleased to confirm that we have now found a replacement photographer but unfortunately cannot get photos taken and returned before Christmas. Therefore this year, we have arranged for school photos to be taken on Tuesday 5th February and then we will revert back to September 2019 thereafter. We thank you for your time and patience during this time and look forward to working with our new photographer David Hooton

DIGITAL PARENTING MAGAZINE

Digital Parenting Magazine has advice from teachers, parents and online safety experts on subjects ranging from Virtual Reality, to body image in the social media age, to live streaming. You can find tips from online safety experts, parents and children and young people themselves.

There is an updated guide to setting parental controls on apps and devices, and information on gaming and keeping kids safe while they play. The online version of the magazine includes live links in the Tools section to make finding out about parental controls even easier.

<https://parentzone.org.uk/digital-parenting-online-safety-magazine-archive>

DOG MESS

This week we have been alerted by 3 parents to dog mess left in the Mediterranean garden and on the pavement outside the village hall. If you choose to bring your dog to school with you, please can we remind you to clear up any dog mess. Thank you.

TROPHIES

If your child was presented with a trophy at the end of last half term please can we ask that they return them to Wendy or Jo in the office by Wednesday 12th December at the latest. Thank you.



PARENTS OF CLASS 2 AND CLASS 4

We would like to invite all parents of children in Class 2 and Class 4 to watch their children perform their dances that they have been working on with Katie Murray in the village hall on **Friday 14th December at 3pm.**

MUSIC TUITION

BRASS LESSONS - Last lessons will be on 6th December and will restart on Thursday 10th January

WOODWIND LESSONS - Last lessons of the term will be Wednesday 12th December and they will restart on 9th January.

VIOLIN LESSONS - These lessons have now finished and will restart on Monday 14th January.

GUITAR LESSONS - These lessons have now finished and will restart on Tuesday 15th January.



SAFEGUARDING- NEW CHILDLINE WEBSITE FOR UNDER 12s

Childline has launched a website aimed at children under 12 which provides age appropriate content on topics including bullying, family, friends, feelings, school, abuse and staying safe. It also includes games and therapeutic tools for young visitors to play and express how they are feeling.

It will be promoted through the NSPCC's Speak out Stay safe programme.

<https://www.childline.org.uk/kids>

BAD WEATHER

As the winter weather can be changeable please see attached our bad weather procedures. Please also feel free to sign up to the below alerts from Devon County Council. Once registered you will receive an email if the school has been closed due to winter weather. To sign up click here https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKDEVONCC/subscriber/new?qsp=UKDEVONCC_4 then enter your preferred email address and then click on the drop down, ticking the schools you want information on, then submit. The service is just one way Devon County Council is keeping the public up to date this winter. To find the latest information and travel advice from Devon County Council click here www.devon.gov.uk/winter_travel. For updates on Twitter follow @DevonAlert.

PTFA NEWS

SUMMER FETE

This is constantly in our thoughts and we need to start the planning soon. We will shortly provide a list of the different activities that we organise and we will then look to see if we can have support for each of them - rather than burdening one person to do it all (as in recent years' - thanks Amanda). Without this assistance and parents, grandparents and friends volunteering this will not work and we will be left without a fete.

IDEAS AND EVENTS

We are always open to more ideas for fund raising. Craigie has again volunteered to make a ginger bread house for a pre-Christmas raffle. Do we have any volunteers to organise the selling of raffle tickets in the playground at the close of school?

GINGERBREAD HOUSE RAFFLE

Craigie has again volunteered to make a ginger bread house for a pre-Christmas raffle. We really need someone to organise the selling of raffle tickets - it is an easy job, standing in the playground and selling tickets at the end of school. Would anyone be willing to volunteer?

BAG2SCHOOL

We are having another Bag2School collection on Tuesday 15th January. Empty bags will be sent home in the first week after Christmas so please save any items from any New Year Spring cleans you may be having!!

COMMUNITY NEWS

WEST HILL VILLAGE HALL PANTO

Friday 4th January 2019 at 6.30pm and Saturday, 5th January 2019 at 1.00pm

Wonder Productions join us for their 9th year to entertain us with their performance of **JACK AND THE BEANSTALK**, a fun filled pantomime for the whole family!

Bar, tea/coffee and soft drinks, ice creams, sweets and raffle prizes.

Children's area on mats right in front of the stage.

Tickets £10 per adult and £7 per child under 16 available from West Hill Post Office or Sarah Woolfries at Reception. All proceeds will go to Village Hall improvements

AFTER SCHOOL CHILDREN'S YOGA CLUB TUESDAYS 3.30-4.30PM

Bookings are going well for Flourish after school yoga club in the village hall on Tuesdays starting on 8th January, 3.30-4.30pm for KS2 children. The club runs straight after school in the village hall. You can collect your child and bring them to the club yourself or alternatively I have arranged with Mrs Boulton to collect children from the playground at the end of the school day if you would prefer.

Classes are fun, informative and exercise both mind and body. Practising yoga has so many benefits for children including increased flexibility, fitness and focus. Parents of children who have attended my classes tell me that their children really enjoyed the yoga and are calmer, more relaxed and purposeful after coming along. Each class is themed and includes topics such as the rainforest, the seasons, the solar system, countries and languages of the world and much more!

Classes cost just £5.50 per session if booked in advance and I am DBS checked, hold Public Liability Insurance and have up to date First Aid and Safeguarding training. As well as being a qualified children's yoga teacher I am also a primary school teacher (MAEd) - in fact I worked at West Hill Primary when I first qualified! To find out more and book a place please go to www.flourish-yoga.co.uk or contact me by email at hello@flourish-yoga.co.uk. I really look forward to hearing from you.

Namaste from Claire Gunningham at Flourish Children's Yoga!

MESSY CHURCH

Fun activities, informal worship and share food. Fun activities, informal worship and share food

December 14th - Christmas Story

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



Have a lovely weekend.

With my best wishes

Cheryl Boulton

Mrs. Cheryl Boulton
Headteacher

KS1 NATIVITY TICKETS REQUEST SLIP

Name _____ Class _____

Please may we have tickets for The Nativity as follows and enclose payment of £1 per ticket:

Wednesday 12th December at 2pm _____ tickets

Friday 14th December at 10am _____ tickets

Additional ticket requests once 2 tickets per family have been allocated:
