



## NEWSLETTER 20

01404 812599 Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2019. Website [www.west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk](http://www.west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk)

Dear Parents,



Last week the whole school's attendance was 97.7% which is slightly above our target of 97.5% so well done everyone.

### WOW MOMENTS

#### ORCHESTRAL CELEBRATION

On Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January, 21 pupils from our KS2 children joined members of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra for a massed ensemble of a 150 children from across Devon as part of the Devon Music Education Hub's Orchestral Celebration Together. The event took place at the Great Hall at Exeter University. The evening concert was conducted by Maxime Tortelier (BSO conductor) and the children played pieces by Grieg, Mozart and Bizet.



#### BOURNEMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CELEBRATION 1-2-5

On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February, the whole of KS2 braved the snowy weather to travel to the Great Hall at Exeter University to listen to and take part in the concert that celebrated the 125<sup>th</sup> birthday of the BSO.

The children listened to music composed by Shostakovich, Beethoven, Bernstein and Errollyn Wallen as well as performed Body Percussion 1-2-5, and Makaton to especially composed pieces by James Redwood. At the end of the concert we were extremely lucky to meet the composer James.

#### CLASS 1 - SCHOOL'S OUT SHOUT OUT - BBC RADIO DEVON

On Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February, Class 1 were nominated by one of their parents to lead the School's Out Shout Out to end the Devon school day. If you wish to hear this, please visit: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p06y3kjr> (from 30:00 in the programme) and you will hear some of Class 1 talking as well as their chosen song. We hope you enjoy it.

## CLASS 4 ON TV

Class 4 and Mr Pantling featured on BBC Spotlight last night (Wednesday 6th February) after their letter writing about hedgehogs. If you haven't had chance to see it, please visit: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b0c1w1jr/spotlight-evening-news-06022019> (at approximately 20:52 in the programme). Hopefully Class 4 have inspired you to do your bit to help the 'hog!

## TROPHIES

Please can we ask that all trophies are returned to school by **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February** in preparation for next week's trophies assembly. Thank you.



## PARENTS' EVENING APPOINTMENTS

Parent appointment lists have been available for you to sign up all week; these will now be kept in the office so please speak to Wendy or Jo if you still need to book a slot.

We have had a few parents enquiring about the possibility of an online booking system. We have investigated this, however, the cost to do so would be in the region of £400 per year which we feel would be better spent on the pupils considering our tight budget.

## LETTER FROM DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION

Please see the attached letter from the DFE stating that we are in the top 1% of primary schools in England as 100% of our pupils achieved or exceeded the expected standard in Key Stage 2 Maths in July 2018. Well done everyone!

## PARKING IN THE VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK

Please can we ask that you do not double park between the first two rows of spaces on the left as other users of the Village Hall are then unable to exit the car park (such as badminton users on Tuesdays who finish at 3.15pm). Thank you for your support with this.

## CAR PARK PILOT

Thank you to everyone for your cooperation this week with our car park trial. We have experienced many positive comments from parents stating that the new system is working well so thank you for supporting this. Please can we ask pedestrians to use the footpaths rather than cutting across the roads and walking through the traffic. We will e-mail you at the end of the week with further information.

## SNOW DAY

On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February we experienced our first snow fall and I would like to personally thank the staff for their commitment in getting to school in order to remain open with some travelling from Exeter, Honiton, Sidmoth and Talaton. We have attached the bad weather procedures again for your reference but please can we remind you that we are always open unless you are informed otherwise. Please do not phone the school office as we walked into 38 messages on Friday when we were needed to clear paths, open up the school and ensure the safety of your children. A big thank you to Miss Dart and Mr Pantling who volunteered to stand at the entrance to Beech Park advising parents to avoid driving up the hill and instead to walk. Another big thank you to Mr Pantling who helped me to grit Beech Park (road and pavements) from 9-10.30am in order that these would be safe to use by 3.30pm.

## PERSONAL BELONGINGS & LOST PROPERTY

Please can we ask that you make sure your children come to school prepared with all their belongings eg. water bottle, book bag, PE kit, coat etc. We are getting more and more parents dropping things off during the school day than ever before. **Can we also**



ask that you label your children's belongings with their name so that returning lost items is quick and easy. We have a pile of lost property in our cupboard which is situated in the foyer outside the office; please take a look if you think your child has lost something this half term.

## NUMBER DAY

Thank you for your support in providing wonderful number costumes yesterday. The children (and staff) all looked great. A total of **£360.51** was collected for NSPCC. Our Chair of Governors (Rowan Ross) enjoyed visiting us for the morning and joined us for Mr Pantling's Number Day assembly. She also spent time in classes across the school and was very positive about the children's enthusiasm for Maths and their aptitude for the subject.

## WORLD BOOK DAY - THURSDAY 7<sup>th</sup> MARCH



We would like to invite the children to come dressed as their favourite **book character** (be prepared to tell your class a little about who you are and why). We will spend the day off timetable celebrating books with some exciting events and activities planned for the children to enjoy.

## CAKE SALE

We would like to invite everyone to attend our Cake Sale on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February in the KS2 playground at 3.30pm. After listening to an assembly by Miss Kemp, we have set ourselves a small goal and we would like to raise money for the Alzheimer's Society which is a charity very close to one of us. If you would like to donate cakes to help then we would be extremely grateful as this would help us raise as much money as possible. Please bring any cake donations into the school office on the morning of 15<sup>th</sup> February. From Libbie, Anna and Evie in Class 6.

## KATIE MURRAY DANCE PERFORMANCE BY YEAR 5 AND YEAR 6

We would like to invite parents of children in Class 5 and Class 6 to watch the dance they have been practicing with Katie Murray on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February at 3pm in the Village Hall. We hope you will be able to join us.

## WE ARE A NUT AND SESAME SEED FREE SCHOOL

Please can we remind you that we have students in school with an allergy to peanuts and sesame seeds. These foods, even in trace amounts, may cause a severe reaction (anaphylaxis).

Please can we ask for your co-operation with this:

1. If your child has eaten peanuts/sesame seeds before coming to school, please be sure your child's hands and face have been thoroughly washed before entering the school.
2. Please do not allow your child to bring any food items containing peanuts/sesame seeds into the school.
3. When planning your child's lunch and snacks, we ask that no foods containing peanuts/sesame seeds be brought into the school under any circumstances.

For example:

Peanut butter sandwiches

Chocolate spreads

Cereal bars

Some granola bars

Cakes that contain nuts

Biscuits/Cookies that contain nuts

Peanut butter cakes

Some Asian food, including satay sauces that contain nuts

Hummus

This list is not exhaustive, so please check the packaging of products closely. We appreciate that this is an additional thing to check and we know that you recognise the importance of it. I know if this was your child you would expect that we all help, especially as it is a life-threatening condition.

## READER HELPERS



Class 4 are looking for reader helpers on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. If you are interested, please see Mr Pantling or Miss Spence. With current Safeguarding regulations a Volunteer Information Form will need to be completed, references taken and a DBS check undertaken before you would be able to start. We also provide some basic safeguarding training before you commence. It is vital that children read in school every day and we really value the volunteers that generously give up their time. All that we ask is that you give a half termly commitment.

## PTFA NEWS

### NEXT MEETING - TONIGHT AT 7.15 PM AT THE BRITISH LEGION

All welcome. Matters to be discussed include future plans, events and more importantly, the Summer Fete. If you can't make it and would like to offer support or provide ideas or generally give any feedback please get in touch ([massiejs@btinternet.com](mailto:massiejs@btinternet.com)) and we can look to take it forward.

## FUNDRAISING

If you have any ideas for fundraising, please shout!

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### POPTASTIC DANCE & MUSIC DAY

Our next fabulous music/dance collaboration Poptastic will run at Withycombe Raleigh Primary School on Monday 18th February 2019 from 9.30am-5.00pm. Katie Murray (Step Up & Dance) and Fay Nelmes (Primary Music & Education) have a wealth of experience of working as a professional dancer/musician as well as many years of teaching children. Children are guaranteed to have a fabulous experience and learn plenty of great new skills in both dance and music arts whilst enjoying our pop music theme. At the end of the day we will give a performance to parents/carers. The cost of the day is £26, which is payable in advance. See attached flyer for booking information.

### DEVON AIR AMBULANCE

Devon Air Ambulance (DAA) have been working with West Hill Primary School and West Hill Parish Council to see if a Community Landing Site could be established in our community. DAA and West Hill Parish Council will be holding an information session at West Hill Village Hall on 15th February 2019 from 3.00pm - 6.00pm



Please come along to find out what's involved with members of DAA and West Hill Parish Council. For more information please contact Anne Oliver, Parish Clerk [clerk@westhillparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@westhillparishcouncil.gov.uk)

### HOW TO DRUG PROOF YOUR KIDS PARENTAL COURSE

6 week course run by The O6 for parents and carers of 8-14 year olds to steer children away from the harmful use of drugs. Starts Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 7pm-9pm. See attached flyer for booking information.

### SUNDAY SCIENCE CLUB - PAPER CAPERS

2 hours hands-on fun & learning February 17th 1-3 at Exeter Library

- Paper secrets - chromatography
- Paper magic - magic flowers activity

•Paper engineer - build toys from paper (take home)  
•Strong paper - an engineering challenge to build with (only) paper  
Booking is essential - <https://sciencedipity.co.uk/exeter-science-workshops/> or call/text 07847006048. Suitable for all primary school-aged children, drop off workshop (but adults are welcome to stay). Under 5s are welcome but must be accompanied by their grown-up. £20 per child which includes all resources, take homes & refreshments. Paper Capers is worth 2 points towards the British Science Association's Superstar CREST Award

### **MESSY CHURCH**

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

February 15<sup>th</sup> - Peak Challenge

March 22<sup>nd</sup> - Fit for Life

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



Have a lovely weekend and if you happen to be in Exeter on Sunday morning you may see me running the Exeter half marathon!

With my best wishes

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cheryl Boulton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mrs. Cheryl Boulton  
Headteacher