



## NEWSLETTER 32

01404 812599 Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 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 99.4 %. This is above our attendance target of 97.5% so well done everyone.

### WOW - WHAT A SPORTS DAY

Thank you to everyone who came and supported the children with our Sports Day this year. We were extremely blessed by lovely sunny weather and the event was enjoyed by everyone who took part. Special thanks must be given to the parents who helped set up the equipment, gave out position cards, held the finishing tape and helped to take everything down again at the end.

Your help was very much appreciated.

Well done to Warren who came in 1st place and won the Sports Day House Trophy and to the children who all gave 100% to their races.

KS1 round the field race winners were Chloe and Jacob and KS2 winners were Bronte and Sam.

### NON-PUPIL DAY

Please remember that tomorrow (Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May) is a non-pupil day and school is closed to pupils.

### COMPUTER GAMES

We are aware that some pupils at our school are playing computer games at home with a 12, 15 or 18 rating which contain inappropriate violent content and language e.g. Fortnite (rated 12) which has frequent scenes of mild violence and Grand Theft Auto (rated 18) with sequences of strong violence throughout, persuasive, non-stop strong language, strong sexual content, graphic nudity and drug use. These games are then being replicated in children's play and pupils are getting hurt as a result. Please can you ensure the content and age rating of your child's games are appropriate in order to keep your children safe online. Many thanks.

### LIGHTING COLUMN ON THE FIELD (DAAT)

Over half term a lighting column will be erected on the school playing field in preparation for its use as a night landing site for Devon Air Ambulance. This will take place on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May and should not inconvenience anyone attending the Village Hall car park. The children will have a special assembly on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June where Toby Russell from DAAT will explain about the night landing site and then take them to the field to see the lighting column. We will also have a member of West Hill Parish Council and Otter Vale Probus who between them have raised enough money for this project to take place.

## **NEW CAR PARKING SIGNS**

With the increasing number of vehicles entering the turning area for dropping off and picking up children from West Hill Primary School/Pre-School and also those using the Village Hall car park, we have been working with the Village Hall to consider ways to improve safety and minimise risk, particularly to children attending both Primary school and Pre -School. For example, a variety of routes are often taken by drivers exiting the car park, but after careful consideration, we decided to trial a one way system which obliged drivers to operate one way around the roundabouts. This has improved the traffic flow and we informed parents that we were now looking at erecting additional signs to make the new system clearer to everyone using the car park.

'No Entry' signs will be erected to the immediate right of the Village Hall car park exit point, to avoid drivers from taking a right turn from the car park into oncoming traffic. This is of particular concern at busy periods.

'Keep Left' arrows will be erected on the small circle and on the main roundabout to direct all outgoing vehicles round the roundabout, thus avoiding oncoming traffic.

Drivers are also requested not to park on Beech Park at school time as it causes congestion by restricting the road to single car only and reduces visibility for pedestrians trying to cross the road. The installation date of these signs will be Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May and we ask for the co-operation of drivers and pedestrians who enter the area in ensuring that the new system operates for everyone's benefit and safety. Thank you.

## **SUMMER FETE KS2 STALLS**

This year the Key Stage 2 classes (Classes 3,4,5 and 6) are organising their own class stall at the summer fete and need your support to help 'man' the stall (in half hourly slots). If you and your child are able to help out for half an hour, please sign your name on the sheets which will be available under the canopy in the small playground from Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June. The PTFA have decided that there will be a prize for the class which raises the largest amount of money. Thank you for your support for our fantastic PTFA.

## **WASPS / SCHOOL FIELD**

There appears to be some rumours around the village that West Hill Wasps are no longer allowed to use the school field. We are unsure who started this rumour but would like to confirm that this is not the case. West Hill Primary School have always had a very good relationship with West Hill Wasps for many years and allowed them to play on the school field. This relationship has not changed and they continue to use the school field on approval by the SMILE Learning Trust and Governing Board.

## **CONCERNS ABOUT YOUR CHILD**

Whilst we are very proud of our school, we know that no one gets things right all of the time. We are committed to working with you to provide the absolute best for all of our children and this includes responding quickly and proportionately to any concerns that you raise. If you have any concerns regarding your child, the correct procedure is to speak to your child's teacher in the first instance. If you subsequently feel your concern has not been resolved you will then be directed to see the Deputy Head Mr Pantling or the Head Teacher Mrs Boulton.

Thank you for your cooperation with this.

## CLASS PHOTOS - THURSDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

The photographer will be taking class photos on Thursday 6th June. Please can you make sure your child arrives at school with a school jumper or cardigan. Thank you.



## SUN CREAM & SUN HATS

Due to the recent spell of sunny weather we are advising all children to bring a named sun hat to school with them. Water bottles are a must as well and children are free to replenish these throughout the day and access water at all times. **With regards to sun cream please make sure your child/ren come to school with this applied, we are unable to allow sun cream to be kept in the children's trays and we are unable to apply it for them due to children who may have allergies within the school.** We appreciate your support with this. Thank you.

## ORCHESTRA

The school orchestra is going to play in the Rotary music competition on 4th June. There will be no rehearsal that day, we will just all meet at the church in Ottery (time to be confirmed but likely 5.00 ish). If any children would separately like to play a solo piece they are welcome. Please email Jackie at [ridgeway1tt@btinternet.com](mailto:ridgeway1tt@btinternet.com) with your child's name, age, instrument and piece they would like to play. (If anyone would like me to play the piano accompaniment for them I will happily do so - just make sure you bring the music on the day).

This competition is really just a big concert where children get the opportunity to play to an audience. It doesn't matter how short or easy the piece is, if your child would like to play it then it's a great experience. Fiona Martin

## ART COMPETITION

You may have seen notices about a village 'Art and Craft' festival that is being held at Michael's Church between 21st and 23rd June.

**EXCITING NEWS!!!** West Hill pupils have been asked to take part in a competition that they will be running. The competition is to create a picture, in any media or material, on the subject of 'creation' - a very broad title! All entries must be A4 sized and capable of being hung on a display board.

Teachers will be sending your child home with a sheet of A4 paper - we would ask you to ensure your child's name and class are clearly displayed on the back. Then get creating!!!

Please return your finished works of art back to your class teacher by Wednesday 5th June. The teachers will then have the difficult decision of selecting the top 3 from each class! These will then be displayed in the church for everyone to see.

Voting - Every visitor to the festival over the weekend of 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> June will be invited to vote for their favourite pictures and the results will be announced and prizes awarded at 11.30am on Sunday morning in the Narthex at the back of the church.

Good luck to everyone and enjoy creating some fabulous art!

Mrs Bedford and Mrs Powley

## GUITAR LESSONS

Due to unforeseen circumstances there were no guitar lessons on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May. Mr Wall will hold lessons on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June in lieu of the missed lessons. Please can you ensure that your child brings their guitar and music to school with them that day. This will be in addition to the regular lessons on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June.

## **THE KING'S SCHOOL TRANSITION CHOIR - YEAR 5 and 6**

The King's School have now started a choir on for pupils in Year 5 and 6 attending schools that feed into King's. Their aim is to provide an opportunity for your son/daughter to extend their vocal skills, sing in a large ensemble and meet with pupils from different schools, whilst also enabling them to become more familiar with The King's School itself.

The choir is free of charge and takes place on Thursdays in the Music Department at the King's School from 3.45pm-4.45pm. The children will be met at the gate in the coach park by a member of staff and taken to the Music Room. They will be returned to this gate at the end of the session. Refreshments will be available for pupils during a break in the singing.

If you are interested, please complete the attached consent form and take along with you to your first session. There is no need to pre-register or book a place.

## **PTFA UPDATE**

### **WINTER BALL, SATURDAY 9TH NOVEMBER 2019 - SAVE THE DATE!**

Plans are once again underway for our annual fundraising ball. It promises to be a beautiful evening in our magically transformed village hall with top notch caterers The Pickle Shack providing three delicious courses. We'd love to see as many parents there as possible so please save the date and book your baby sitters.

As always we are looking for some interesting auction prizes for the evening. If you have any ideas, contacts or time to spare helping us with this, the ball committee would love to hear from you -

[westhillball@gmail.com](mailto:westhillball@gmail.com)

### **THE FETE**

The small band of merry volunteers are starting more regular meetings to ensure that we have everything sorted out for our Fete. Volunteers are still needed for a variety of small tasks on the day - please shout, if you can help? The more helpers, the less everyone has to do and the more fun it will be for everyone. To quote Donny Osmond "Help us, help us, please..."!!!

Remember the Facebook page where details of everything going on will be posted.

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

### **OPERATION BRAMBLE CHRISTMAS 2018 - THANK YOU!**

Although Christmas now seems like a distant memory we are still working through our thank yous! A very important one is to share our grateful thanks to everyone who was involved in Operation Bramble Christmas this year. We had the best response ever and were able to deliver an amazing 79 boxes of goodies, kindness and love - this was enough for the whole of Bramble children's ward and the neonatal unit for those in hospital on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and most of Christmas week. It was lovely both to see new people participating this year and those who have taken part before, many of whom we notice did an extra box this year, or co-opted a friend or neighbour. From little acorns our initiative has grown - of course, we hope that this will continue into next Christmas and beyond.

Thank you so much from the very bottom of our hearts,

Alison, Bill, Harry and Isabel Pearson xxx

### **AFTER SCHOOL YOGA CLUB**

Please see attached information regarding Yoga Club after school on Tuesdays in the Village Hall.

## **MESSY CHURCH**

Fun activities, informal worship and share food.

June 28<sup>th</sup> - Summer BBQ and party

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



Have a lovely weekend and a great half term week.

With my best wishes

*Cheryl Boulton*

Mrs. Cheryl Boulton

Headteacher