



## NEWSLETTER 13

01404 812599 [Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020](mailto:Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020). Website [www.west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk](http://www.west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk)

Dear Parents,

**\*\*LAST DAY OF TERM - FRIDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER\*\***



### ATTENDANCE

Last week, our whole school's attendance was **98.6%** which is above our target of **97.5%**. Well done everyone.

### CHRISTMAS LUNCH - WEDNESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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 have one). If not please come as festive as possible in Christmas colours (red/green/gold). This is not a mufti day and we do not want to see children wearing football kits!

### REMINDER- BIRTHDAY TREATS

As per Newsletter 1 on 11th September, please can we remind you of the following:

We appreciate that some of you like to send in sweets for the class when your child has their birthday. Unfortunately, at the moment our COVID risk assessment states 'Pupils to limit the amount of equipment they bring into school each day, to essentials (the guidance states 'such as lunch boxes, hats, coats, books, stationery and mobile phones. Bags are allowed'.) We would therefore politely ask that you do not send sweets, cakes or any other birthday gifts into school until further notice. Thank you.

### CHRISTMAS CARDS

This year, children will be restricted to sending Christmas cards to pupils and staff in their own class bubble. Unfortunately we are not able to send home class list for parents.

Children will be allowed to bring cards into school on:

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> Dec.

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> Dec.

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> Dec.

Cards will be quarantined for 48 hrs and then given out in class on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December to bring home. Please do not send any cards into school on Thursdays or Fridays.

## **REPORTING POSITIVE COVID CASES AFTER 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

Public Health England has agreed a 6 day window after the final day of teaching in which schools and further education providers are asked to remain contactable so they can assist with contact tracing where necessary. This will allow enough time for positive coronavirus (COVID-19) cases to be identified and confirmed by a test and for relevant contacts in the education setting to be traced. They are clear that beyond 6 days after the final day of teaching, school and further education staff are not asked to play a role in any contact tracing. It is also likely that the need to support the tracing process will reduce dramatically over the course of the 6 days as the majority of cases should be identified earlier in the week.

Please be aware of the following information and relevant arrangements regarding positive cases in the holidays:

- Where a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, the school should not be contacted. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.
- For the first 6 days after teaching ends, if a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, the school is asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school. If you need to notify the school, please e-mail [admin@west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk) with the subject POSITIVE COVID CASE. Staff will designate a limited period in the day to check notification of positive cases and advise close contacts to self-isolate. Where necessary, the school will then make contact with you. Please do not telephone as the phone lines will not be manned after Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December.
- School staff are not asked to remain on-call or conduct any contact tracing more than 6 days after the final day of teaching. As our last teaching day is on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December, there should be no pupil contact tracing asks beyond Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December.
- Where pupils are required to self-isolate due to contact with a positive case after 24<sup>th</sup> December, schools do not need to be informed about their absence until the first day of the new term.

## **CHRISTMAS ABROAD/QUARANTINE**

If any of you plan to spend time abroad over the Christmas holiday, please ensure you check the list of Coronavirus travel corridors (countries, territories and regions from where you can travel to England and may not have to self-isolate.)

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-travel-corridors>

## **CONSULTATION ON OUR ADMISSIONS POLICY FOR 2022-2023**

Below you will see a link to our proposed admissions policy for 2022-23.

<https://www.west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/2022-West-Hill-admissions-policy.pdf>

We are consulting on this between 1 November and 8 January and invite any parent or other person with an interest in our admission arrangements to read the policy and make any comments you wish. You will see where there are changes, the text is in red - either something we propose to add or, if it has a line through it, something we propose to remove.

One of the proposals is to add children who have been adopted from state care outside of England to our oversubscription criterion 1. This is in anticipation that the Department for Education will require this change for all schools as it has just consulted on changes to the School Admissions Code. It is possible that the Department's timescales may mean that the Code is not amended before the end of February, when we have to formally set our policy. If that is the case, we may have to determine our policy without that change and then alter it later in spring or summer. We are bringing it to your attention though as a change in policy that we expect to have to introduce.

Other than changes in red and dates moving forward a year, the way our policy will work is the same as in the previous year, 2021-22 which you can also see on our website in the parents/Policies area.

If you have any comments, you can make them to Devon County Council which is co-ordinating the consultation. Further information is at [www.devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangements](http://www.devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangements). You will be able to view the proposed policies for all state-funded schools in Devon and the Local Authorities policies there too.

The consultation ends on 8 January and all policies must be determined by 28 February and published in the same places by 15 March.

### CONNECTING THE DOTS - BRINGING TOGETHER SCHOOLS AND A BBC MUSICIAN



This half term Class 5 and 6 have taken part in a workshop with the Co-Principal percussionist Alex Neal from the BBC Symphony Orchestra. Themed around the piece of music called 'Short Ride in a Fast Machine' by John Adams the children had the unique chance to meet Alex, hear him perform an array of percussion instruments, ask questions and take part in musical activities together. The workshops lasted for 40 minutes and took place by using video-conferencing technology.



### YEAR 3 ARTS AND CRAFTS AFTERSCHOOL CLUB

Following our Christmas Craft Club this time I am very happy to let you know that after Christmas I will be running an Arts and Crafts afterschool club with children in Year 3. We will be doing all things arty and it promises to be a lot of fun. It will be every Thursday, starting Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January at 3.20 pm. It will run up until February Half Term. The cost for each session will be £1.00 and will cover materials. If your child is interested in coming please can you let the office know by Friday 8th January - this will enable me to sort out resources. I can take up to 10 children. Thank you.

Graham Harry  
TheO6 Youth Pastor

### PTFA NEWS

#### ROCKETFUND FUNDRAISING

Following the cancellation of our two large fundraisers that support the PTFA a huge amount financially, and the need to fund 32 new chromebooks, we have launched an online fundraising website. <https://www.rocketfund.org/tech-enabled-education>

We have an initial fundraising target of £4,500k to reach to allow us to part fund the invoice for this order, so **please share this with family, friends and businesses as you see fit** to support the

education of our children at the school.

As of Wednesday morning, we have raised a wonderful £1,555. Thank you to everyone that has donated so far. Any amount, small or large, is greatly appreciated.

### **CHRISTMAS TRAIL**

Thank you to everyone that has supported the "West Hill's Gone Crackers" village Christmas trail, late entries are available at the display in McColls, but be very quick if you'd like to be included in the map which shall be created this weekend!! Have fun spotting the crackers over the next 2 weeks!

### **BAGS 2 SCHOOL**

A collection is booked for Thursday 14th January, so please hold onto any clothing items you plan to clear out over the Christmas period. Collection bags will be sent home in book bags this half term.

### **SCHOOL MUFTI DAY**

Non-uniform day is next Friday - 18th December, please bring in a donation to fundraise for your class(es).

This will form part of 3 mufti days for the whole school, with funds raised going directly to the children's relevant class. (This is in lieu of cake sales which are currently not possible). Proceeds raised to be agreed by the children and the teacher whether to save up throughout the year, or spend after each mufti day.

### **EMAIL ADDRESS**

Please email [PTFAWH@west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:PTFAWH@west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk) with any queries, fundraising ideas or offering of time.

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

### **SANTA AT MCCOLLS**

The local Rotary Club will be collecting for local charities at McColls on **Saturday 19th December 2020** from 9am to 1pm. All donations will be used to support the local community.

### **WEST HILL VILLAGE CALENDAR AND CARDS**

A full colour, 13 page, A4 calendar and packs of 10 notelet cards, with pictures taken by village photographers of the village are being sold in aid of St Michael's Church  
<http://www.stmichaelatwesthill.weebly.com>

Have a lovely weekend and stay safe.

With my best wishes



Mrs. Cheryl Boulton  
Headteacher