



NEWSLETTER 23

01404 812599 Thursday 12th March 2020. Website www.west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk

Dear Parents,



ATTENDANCE

Last week the whole school's attendance was **95.8%**. This is below our target attendance of **97.5%**

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

1. Department For Education Helpline

The Department for Education have launched a new helpline to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. Staff, parents and young people can contact the helpline as follows:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

We have been informed that no school should close in response to a suspected (or confirmed) COVID-19 case unless directed to do so by Public Health England.

2. The importance of hygiene

Personal hygiene is the most important way we can tackle COVID-19, especially washing hands more; and the catch it, bin it, kill it strategy for those with coughs and sneezes.

Please help us in sharing simple and effective hand hygiene messages.

Public Health England has a dedicated webpage with a range of posters and digital materials at:

<https://campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/resources/campaigns/101-coronavirus-/resources>

Sign up is quick, free and means you will be alerted as more resources are made available.

3. Tissues

Please can we ask that all children bring a small pack of tissues to school to keep in their tray. As the advice regarding Coronavirus is to throw away each tissue as it has been used, we are unable to keep up with demand! Many thanks

4. Water Bottles

Please can you ensure that your child has a named water bottle in school with them at all times to ensure they do not share with others.

5. Updates/Travel advice

As of 10 March, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) has updated advice about travel to Italy. The FCO is currently advising:

- against all but essential travel to Italy
- against all travel to Hubei Province, in China

- against all but essential travel to the rest of mainland China
- against all travel to the cities of Daegu, Cheongdo and Gyeongsan in South Korea

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office is not currently advising against travel to any other country/territory as a result of COVID-19.

The latest travel advice can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus>

6. Symptoms of Coronavirus

The 3 symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a cough
- a high temperature
- shortness of breath

Having one of these symptoms does not necessarily mean you have the illness.

The symptoms are similar to other illnesses that are much more common, such as cold and flu.

CHECK IF YOU NEED MEDICAL HELP

NHS 111 has an online coronavirus service that can tell you if you need medical help and advise you what to do. Use this service if:

- you think you might have coronavirus
- in the last 14 days you've been to a country or area with a high risk of coronavirus - see the [coronavirus advice for travellers](#)
- you've been in close contact with someone with coronavirus

Use the 111 coronavirus service

Do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital. Call **111** if you need to speak to someone

7. Resources to support pupils

- BBC Newsround have produced a great video 'Why it might not be as scary as it sounds' which explains the coronavirus without frightening children.
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/51342366>
- Please also see the attached information sheets regarding discussing this topic with your children.

TO ALL PARENTS - NEXT WEEK, 16th - 20th MARCH

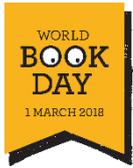
Class 6 are off on their residential week at Beam House next week, we hope the weather is kind to them and that they all have a fabulous time. There will be a large coach parked on the roundabout for them on Monday morning and on Friday afternoon from 3pm onwards. Class 5 also have day trips and a coach will also be parked for them on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of next week. In addition, Class 4 are out at a sporting activity on Monday so will also have a coach. The roundabout will be extremely busy at these times (especially Monday morning with 3 coaches) so please can you avoid the roundabout where possible. Thank you.



ORCHESTRA

As most of the orchestra are out on trips next week, we have made the decision to cancel practice on Tuesday 17th March 2020.

WORLD BOOK DAY - THURSDAY 5th MARCH



Thank you to parents for supporting World Book Day last week and helping your children with their fantastic costumes for the day.

We had a fabulous day in school and enjoyed sharing books with other children throughout the school.

AFTER SCHOOL ARTS & CRAFTS CLUB

After Easter I will be running an Arts and Crafts Afterschool Club with the children in Years 1 and 2. We will be doing all things arty and promises to be a lot of fun. It will run to at least half term, with the possibility of running again after. It will be every Monday, starting Monday 20th April, 3.30pm - 4.30pm. The cost for each session will be £1.00 to cover the cost of materials. If your child is interested in coming please can you let the office know by Wednesday 15th April - this will enable me to sort out resources. I can take up to 12 children. Thank you.

Graham Harry, TheO6 Youth Pastor

SCHOOL MEAL TIME ASSISTANT VACANCY

We have a vacancy for a Meal Time Assistant to work Monday to Friday inclusive from 12 - 1.15pm to ensure our children have a positive lunchtime.

Flexibility on the numbers of days per week would be considered with the option of 2 people sharing the role. If you think you may be interested in the post (even on a part-time basis) and would like to talk to someone about the role please contact our school office on 01404 812599.

CLASS 1 SHARING ASSEMBLY FRIDAY 13TH MARCH

We would like to invite parents of children in Class 1 to their sharing assembly on Friday 13th March at 10.10am in the Village Hall. We hope you will be able to join us.

OFSTED UPDATE

Last year the National Audit Office found that hundreds of schools have not been inspected in the past eight years, and nearly 300 had not been inspected for a decade. As you know West Hill Primary school was last inspected in 2007 and received an 'Outstanding' status.

Since then the Ofsted inspection schedule has changed considerably and upon re-inspection, many schools previously graded as outstanding have lost their outstanding status.

During the 2018-2029 academic year, Ofsted upped its inspections of outstanding schools, after a request from ministers. Of the 382 outstanding schools inspected, only 63 (16%) retained their outstanding rating. 211 (55%) were judged to be good while 89 (23%) were classed as requiring improvement and 19 (5%) were inadequate.

We are very mindful that we could be inspected at any point and want to ensure parents are aware of the difficulty in maintaining an outstanding status with the new framework introduced in Sept 2019, which is considerably different from 2007 when we were last inspected.

For further information on Ofsted please see 'School Inspections- A Guide for Parents (September 2019)

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/828451/School_inspections_-_a_guide_for_parents.pdf

PTFA NEWS

EASTER COMPETITION

The PTFA will be presenting a non-fundraiser competition for all the children to get involved with to get them ready for Easter. All entries must be in by the morning of 27th March and there will be a sweet prize for everyone who enters. Please see the attached poster for more information.

We have contacted our local newspaper in the hope that they may cover it in the lead up to Easter, so keep your eyes out over the holidays.

SECOND HAND UNIFORM

On Friday 20th March the PTFA will be holding a second hand uniform sale after school, with donations to the PTFA. It will be for one afternoon only. Once finished the remaining uniform will be donated, and we kindly ask for no more bags of donated uniform but suggest if people want to pass on uniform they offer it on the class WhatsApp groups instead.

COMMUNITY NEWS

DAD'S NIGHT OUT

Calling all fathers! Come and join other like minded individuals for some fun and a curry at the British Legion West Hill on the second Friday of each month. Always good fun and we want as many new dads to come and meet the regulars and get to know each other. Events through the year include card night, the Great British Legion Curry Off, Darts tournament and Rolling of the Barrel. Come and join us this time, you will for sure enjoy yourself.

CRICKET COACHING

Alex Clements is offering two cricket coaching days in the Easter school holidays. One day is for softball cricket and the other is for hardball cricket. All the details are on the attached flyers.

MESSY CHURCH

Fun activities, informal worship and share food.

Fridays - 3.45pm-6.00pm.

March 20th

April 17th

May 15th

June 19th



St Michael's Church, West Hill.

Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult

With my best wishes for a lovely weekend

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cheryl Boulton".

Mrs. Cheryl Boulton

Headteacher