



## NEWSLETTER 12

01404 812599 Thursday 29th November 2018. Website [www.west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk](http://www.west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk)

Dear Parents,



### ATTENDANCE

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

### WOW MOMENTS

Congratulations to Jerry M, Sam S, Naomi B and Libbie B from Class 6. On Saturday, they entered the Wellington Primary School Maths Challenge with 44 other schools from Somerset and Devon.

There was a variety of questions across the mathematical spectrum including some school maths skills as well as some unfamiliar puzzles. We are delighted that they joint 2<sup>nd</sup> with 22 marks (only 1 point behind the winning team).

Copies of the question paper and the answers are available on the school website:

[www.wellington-school.org.uk/senior/academic/department/mathematics](http://www.wellington-school.org.uk/senior/academic/department/mathematics)

A fabulous team effort.

Congratulations to the four of them.



Congratulations also to our Teachers Rock Youth Choir

Our TRYC took part in a sold out event at Exeter Cathedral on Monday. Singing with 250 other school children from across Devon and 100 Teachers Rock Choir members they received two standing ovations.



Morning rehearsals



Back stage excitement



### WHOLE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS LUNCH - WEDNESDAY 19<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER

After a very successful Christmas lunch last year we have decided to have another one this year. We would like the whole school to join in including all the teachers. Your child brought home a special menu last Friday that needs to be completed with their choices and we are asking that their dinner accounts are in credit on the day by £2.50 if in Key Stage 2 (free for children in key stage 1 - no payment necessary) and returned by **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2018**. If you did not receive the Christmas Lunch menu, please pop in to the office to collect one. **We would also like to invite the children to come to school in non-uniform, wearing a Christmas jumper if they would like.**



### THANK YOU WAITROSE!

We were delighted to receive a cheque for £189 last week as part of the Waitrose Community Matters scheme which rewards good causes as people shop.

We have spent the money on new reading books for reception and year 3 pupils.

Thank you to Waitrose for your generosity.

### 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>

## FLU VACCINATIONS

If your child missed the vaccination on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November and you still wish them to be vaccinated, you are able to book an appointment at one of the community clinics (please see attachment for further details).

## RECORDER CLUB NEWS

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December will be the last Recorder club session for this term.

We have had a really good term, and played plenty of new pieces . There has been some lovely playing along with the CD, and we all enjoyed making up new tunes too.

Have a lovely Christmas break, and I look forward to seeing you all again on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

Many thanks, Vanessa Tyrrell.

## NEW FOREST SCHOOL FENCING

Following recent advice from our PCSO, next week we will be erecting additional closed board fencing between the end of the Mediterranean garden and the start of the Forest school area. We are hoping this will help to prevent any further acts of anti-social behaviour to our Forest School area and school field.

## DECEMBER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY -

- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December - Y1 and Y2 Killerton House Trip
- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December - last swimming lesson for Class 3
- Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 10.10am - Orchestra sharing assembly
- Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm - KS1 Christmas Nativity
- Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December 4.30pm - Y3 and Y4 Christingle Service
- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 10am - KS1 Christmas Nativity
- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December 3pm - Y2 and Y4 parents invited to watch Katie Murray dance
- Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December - Whole school Christmas lunch (Christmas jumpers)
- Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December - 3pm - Y5 and Y6 Parents carols in the Village Hall
- Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December - Trophies Assembly
- Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December - Last Day of Term

## CHRISTMAS CARDS



The Christmas post-box will be operating from Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. The children will be 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 KS1

We are looking forward to seeing parents from Reception, Class 1 and Class 2 on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm and Friday 14<sup>th</sup> 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 will be available from the school office from Monday 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 return the attached slip indicating your preference for tickets.

## 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 6<sup>th</sup> December

**WOODWIND LESSONS** - The last lesson of the term is to be confirmed.

**VIOLIN LESSONS** - These lessons have now finished.

**GUITAR LESSONS** - Last lessons will be on the 4<sup>th</sup> December



## CHILDREN IN NEED - FRIDAY 16<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER

This year for Children In Need your donations raised a fantastic £312.20. Thank you all for your generosity.



## 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>

## COLLECTION OF CHILDREN AT HOMETIME

Can we please remind you to ensure that your child's teacher is informed of home time arrangements. If anyone other than a parent is collecting your child, you must ensure that your child's teacher or the office have been informed. If we have not been informed, we will have to make a telephone call to ensure that the information we have been given is correct. Please remember that this is for the safeguarding of your children. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

## ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

If your child is going to be absent from school for any reason, could we kindly ask that you complete an S2 Absence Request Form in advance. These forms are kept in the office for you to collect, or can be sent home with your child and a copy is attached to this newsletter should you wish to print yourself.

Parents need to know if the absence will be authorised or unauthorised **before** the intended absence occurs. Devon County Council recommends the completed form is submitted to school **three weeks** before the date of the intended absence to allow time for the request to be appropriately considered. We do appreciate, however, that some circumstances will prevent this such as funerals etc. but where possible we do require more notice.

Please can we also request that routine medical appointments with the dentist or GP are made outside of school hours wherever possible.

## 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](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](http://www.devon.gov.uk/winter_travel). For updates on Twitter follow @DevonAlert.

## SCHOOL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS AND EDUCATION TRANSPORT POLICY 2020-2021

You are invited to review the proposed admission arrangements for state-funded schools in Devon and the home-to-school transport policy for Devon county Council for the academic year 2020-21. To view the policies please visit <https://new.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/apply-for-a-school-place/arrangements-and-policies> or call My Devon on 0345 155 1019 for a paper copy.

## PLAYGROUND TOYS

In the last few weeks we have had several incidents of children's toys being damaged, broken or lost at break/lunch times. If your child/ren decides to bring in a small toy (small enough to keep in their trays) can you please make sure it is not their favourite one as we cannot be held responsible for them getting damaged or lost.

## PTFA NEWS

We have had a fantastic support to our latest ventures:

The cake sale at the end of last term was, again, very well supported and we raised approximately **£150**.

On Friday, 48 children attended the latest film night in the Legion, munched their way through popcorn, sweets and juice and watched Incredibles 2.

On Sunday, we joined the Pre-School at their Christmas Fete, selling mulled wine, mince pies and hosting the chocolate tombola. Fun was had by all, not least the children who queued continually for a chance to win some chocolate that they had previously donated! None of these events are huge money generators, but they are huge fun for the children (which is a main driver for the PTFA). Film night grossed **£168** (but expenses to come off), we sold approximately 55 cups of mulled wine at £1 each (again expenses to be deducted) and then the tombola raised £135. Thank you to all who attended and to those who helped - we can't do without you. Also huge thanks to Mrs Boulton (and mother in law) for taking their turn on the tombola!

## WINTER BALL

The ball committee are delighted to announce that, thanks to all the wonderful contributors and guests, the Winter Ball raised a fantastic **£4,225.34** for the PTFA.

We have put together a quick survey that will be sent out by the table organisers to get peoples thoughts on the event so we can incorporate the feedback into plans for next years.

Thanks again to everyone who supported the ball this year.

## 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.

## **MEETINGS**

The latest meeting of the PTFA was cancelled, due to lack of attendees. To those few who did attend, thank you very much and I am sorry your time was wasted. Any ideas for making the meetings more attractive please do shout.

## **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?

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

### **MUMS NIGHT OUT - LAST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH - 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2018**

All ladies welcome to join us at the British Legion at 8pm, the more the merrier!

### **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

### **SIDMOUTH NETBALL CLUB**

Sidmouth Netball Club meet on Tuesday evenings at St Johns School in Sidmouth. They are hoping to start an U11 group after Christmas for Y5 and Y6 girls and are keen to know what interest there is. To enquire or register your interest please email [sidmouthnetball@gmail.com](mailto:sidmouthnetball@gmail.com)

### **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](http://www.flourish-yoga.co.uk) or contact me by email at [hello@flourish-yoga.co.uk](mailto: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 14<sup>th</sup> - 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

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**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 12<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm \_\_\_\_\_ tickets

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 10am \_\_\_\_\_ tickets

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

\_\_\_\_\_