



## NEWSLETTER 12

01404 812599 Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December. 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 98.1%. Well done to all.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR TEACHERS ROCK YOUTH CHOIR.

Our 21 TRYC members took part in a sold out event at Exeter Cathedral on Thursday. Singing to a packed Cathedral with 300 other school children from across Devon and 60 Teachers Rock Choir members they received rapturous applause. They also performed Merry Christmas Everybody by Slade as part of the Exeter Satellite choir and sang Love Shone Down as the West Hill choir.



Backstage Excitement



Mrs Sycamore and Hattie Haynes kindly accompanied us

### NON-UNIFORM DAY TOMORROW

Tomorrow is a non-uniform day in exchange for chocolate for the Pre-School Christmas Bazaar. As per our previous message to KS2 parents, we are aware that this is on the same day as the trip to BSO but in order to ensure that pupils can take part in both events, we would like them to come to school in their school uniform for the BSO and bring mufti clothes in a bag to change into on their return to school.

## CAROLS UNDER THE CANOPY-WEDNESDAY 18<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER - CANCELLED

As we now have 21 members of Y5/6 and both Mrs Bennett and Mrs Bedford out of school on the afternoon of Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>, we are very sorry but we will have to cancel the carols under the canopy at 3pm on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

## LEARNING TO BE THE BEST WE CAN BE

### Our Learning Behaviour CHAMPIONS - Autumn 2019:

At West Hill Primary School, we truly believe that 'learning' is the first step to success. All children have the potential to learn, but 'learning to learn' equips our pupils with the skills to be effective, lifelong learners.

We aim for our pupils to acquire the skills necessary to be:

- Independent
- Motivated
- Resilient
- Cooperative
- Problem-solvers

This term's Learning Behaviour Champions are:

Autumn Term 2019	Reception	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	Class 6
Independent	Thomas	Molly	Thomas	Romilly	Georgie	Bronte	Harry
Cooperative	Oliver D	Tiffany	Rose	Lizzie	Lawrence	Maddie	Martha
Resilient	Loki	Tyneham	Riley	D'Angelo	Otto	Christiana	Georgia
Motivated	Abbie M	Zara	Elizabeth	Dotti	Ben	Nathan	Henry
Problem Solver	Samuel	Rupert	Loula	George	Lucie	Elsie	Oliver

They each receive 25 house points for their teams. CONGRATULATIONS to them all.



## THANK YOU FROM THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

A big thank you to the staff and children for a lovely Christingle service on Friday afternoon. It really was a joy to see the children taking part.

You will be pleased to know the total amount from the envelopes and collection plate came to a grand total of **£315.70**. A wonderful achievement.

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Hazel Wheeler

The Children's Society.

## **VISIT FROM DEVON FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE**

Last week Classes 2 and 5 had a visit from the Devon Fire and Rescue Service who talked to them about Home Fire Safety. As part of this initiative, the service is offering free Home Fire Safety Checks to any families that have children under the age of 18 living at home. Whilst at your home, as well as giving a general fire safety talk, they can also check fire alarms and replace them if needed. If this is something that you would be interested in, please call 0800 05 02 999.



## **CHANGES TO THE SCHOOL MEALS MENU**

Please note the following changes to the school lunch menu which will be effective from next week until the end of the Spring Term:

### **Week 1**

Monday - change of dessert to Apple Shortcake served with custard

Tuesday - Pizza Muffin instead of Pizza Baguette

Thursday - change of dessert to Fruit Muffin

### **Week 2**

Tuesday - change of Main Meal to Pasta Bolognese Bake instead of Meatloaf

### **Week 3**

No Changes

## **A HUGE THANK YOU TO THE PTFA**

We are very grateful for our amazing PTFA raising funds and this term we have been able to purchase the following:

New interactive boards for the Class R and 1

Forest school equipment

National Trust school membership

First News newspaper for Class 5 & 6

Visualisers for all classes

Some science equipment including microscopes and torches

Christingle candles for Class 3/4 Christingle service

Nativity licence

A set of reading books for each class as recommended at Parents Evening

We couldn't purchase these without all your generous time and money. Thank you

## VILLAGE HALL DISABLED PARKING SPACES

As you know, there are three parking spaces in West Hill Village Hall's car park which are designated for the use of disabled visitors (as a driver or a passenger) so they can park close to the hall. Recently, we have noticed that on a number of occasions, cars have been parked in these bays without showing the required 'Blue Badge' to confirm eligibility to park there.

If you are entitled to park in a disabled bay, please ensure that your Blue Badge is on display. Out of consideration for our disabled visitors, we respectfully ask that everyone else parks in one of the other spaces provided. We will be monitoring the situation closely over the coming weeks.

Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Cheryl Boulton (Head Teacher) and Ian Heard (Chair of the Village Hall)

## 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 ORCHESTRA

We are hoping to restart the school orchestra in January, possibly on a Tuesday morning before school in the village hall. Before we make a booking for the hall, please could you let the office know if your child would be interested in coming to rehearsals from 8am until the start of school so we can make sure we have enough numbers to play music.

Please could you reply to the office with your child's name, age, instrument and how long they have played for / exam grade. We will let you know before Christmas if there is enough interest to start running orchestra again. Danny Murphy

## CHRISTMAS CARDS



The Christmas post-box is now operating. The children are 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 until the end of term. Please make sure that all cards have the name and class of the child on the envelope. Any with no class will have to be opened to try to track down who they are for.

## 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 Friday 13 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 13th December at 3pm**.



## **MUSIC TUITION**

**BRASS LESSONS** - Restart on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January.

**WOODWIND LESSONS** - Restart on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January.

**GUITAR LESSONS** - Restart on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January.

**RECORDER LESSONS** - Restart on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January



## **RUN A MILE CLUB**

The school field is unfortunately still water logged so there will be NO Run a Mile club on Friday mornings until further notice.

## **ADMISSION TO PRIMARY SCHOOLS 2020/2021**

The application facility for places in Primary Schools for the 2020/2021 academic year will open on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2019 and close at midnight on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020. Parents are invited to apply between those dates and express three preferences via the online application facility at [www.devon.gov.uk/admissiononline](http://www.devon.gov.uk/admissiononline) Applications cannot be made online after the closing date, hard copy forms will have to be requested via the Helpline 0345 1551019. Late applications will not be considered before timely ones where schools are oversubscribed.

## **PROPOSED CHANGES TO SCHOOL ADMISSIONS POLICY**

You can view the proposed admissions policy for the 2021-22 academic year on the school website by clicking on this link: <http://www.west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/2021-West-Hill-admissions-policy.pdf>

Your views are invited on the policy. We propose to:

- amend the catchment area. The proposed changes are to the northern boundary with Fenton primary school and to the eastern boundary with Ottery St Mary primary school and are shown in the proposed policy document
- consider all in-year applications received by 6pm on the same day together instead of up to 2pm
- confirm that all members of staff are considered to be a part of the school community for admissions purposes, including those employed by a third party where their duties are solely at the school
- confirm that all multiple birth siblings will be admitted where at least one can be admitted to a vacancy
- confirm that where a child from a service family provides a unit address, this will be deemed to be 1 metre from the school for admissions purposes
- confirm that where a sibling is offered a place to start in the following September, he or she will be considered to be on roll for the purposes of priority for the normal round of admissions
- update wording regarding the school uniform

The consultation is open from 1 November to 3 January 2020 and responses can be made either to the school (by email or letter) or to Devon County Council via [www.devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangements](http://www.devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangements)

We will consider any responses we receive in determining the final version of the policy at a Governing Board meeting before the end of February 2020. Any person who believes the determined policy is unlawful may object to the Office of the Schools' Adjudicator by 15 May 2020.

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

### **HOMELESS SHOEBOX APPEAL FOR THE SOUTHWEST**

I am collecting shoe boxes for the homeless again this year. If you would like to donate a box, please could you drop it to St Michael's Church in West Hill, clearly labelled for a lady or gent (no

razors, sharp objects or hand sanitiser). I am also taking clean, good condition warm coats, blankets and sleeping bags. (Sorry, no duvets). The deadline is 11th December.

Thank you. Michaela Chown

### **WEST HILL PRE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAIR - THIS SUNDAY**

Come along this Sunday to the West Hill Pre School Christmas Fair 2-4.30pm: Meet Father Christmas and Olaf, Christmas gifts, pre-loved toys, face painting, bouncy castles, and many more Christmas festivities including a performance from the West Hill Primary School choir.

### **MESSY CHURCH**

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

December 20<sup>th</sup> - Joy

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