



NEWSLETTER 5

01404 812599 Friday 9th October 2020. Website www.west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk

Dear Parents,



ATTENDANCE

Last week (week 4) the whole school's attendance was still 98.6% which is above our target of 97.5%. Well done everyone.

PARENTS' EVENING

Last Friday parents were all e-mailed a letter with a hyperlink to book a telephone consultation for Parents' Evening. Please note that the appointment system will close at 5pm today. After then, you will no longer be able to book an appointment. Teachers begin their phone consultations on Monday 12th October so will need the weekend to prepare their appointment list.

May we please remind you that appointments are restricted to 10 minutes per child.

OFFICE OPENING HOURS (WEEK BEGINNING 12th AND 19th OCTOBER)

Due to parent consultation phone calls, the school office will be closed promptly at 3.45pm each day for the next 2 weeks so that teachers can use the telephones. If you need to contact the school after 3.45pm please email: admin@west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk

Please be mindful that the message may not be actioned until the next day.

READER HELPERS NEEDED

Would you like to be a Reader Helper at West Hill? The following classes need help:

Reception - Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday (preferably morning)

Class 3 - mornings

Class 4 - alternate Monday afternoons

Class 5 - Wednesday afternoons



With current Safeguarding regulations, a Volunteer Application Form will need to be completed, references taken and a DBS check undertaken before you are able to start. We also ask you to undertake some basic safeguarding training and read 4 safeguarding policies. It is vital that children read in school every day and we really value the volunteers that generously give up their time. All that we ask is that you give a half-termly commitment.

QUEUING

When you are queuing on the pavements before school we would ask that you do not take up the entire width of the pavement, even though we appreciate that they are very narrow. In doing so, it is forcing other pedestrians (who are trying to walk past) into the road, which is obviously a serious

hazard. If you do have to step into the road to avoid other pedestrians, please ensure it is safe to do so and wait until cars have passed. Drivers could also be more courteous of pedestrians who are crossing and those stepping past the queues.

PARKING IN BEECH PARK

Parents are still complaining to us that cars are parking all along Beech Park. When this happens it reduces the road to the width of one car only so causes congestion for cars arriving and other cars departing from school as well as reducing visibility for pedestrians who are trying to cross the road. Please can we ask you to use the Village Hall car park, McColls car park or park in local streets in order to keep Beech Park free of parked cars. Thank you for your support with this.

IS YOUR CHILD READY FOR SCHOOL ON MONDAY MORNING?

Tips for avoiding the Monday scramble:-

1. Plan for some 'down time' over the weekend particularly on a Sunday in preparation for school on Monday.
2. Make sure all reading and homework books are packed before bedtime on Sunday and their school clothes are ready.
3. Make sure their water bottle and healthy snack(s) are ready.
4. Ensure lights are off early in their bedroom and I pads/Nintendos are removed on Sunday night ready for a good night's sleep.



DATA COLLECTION SHEETS, ANNUAL CONSENT FORMS AND HOME SCHOOL AGREEMENTS

These forms were sent home last Friday together with a letter about term time holidays, this is a new procedure which has been recommended by our Educational Welfare Officer, and has been sent to all families.

Thank you to everyone who has completed and returned the forms. Could we kindly ask that any parent/carer that has not yet returned the forms to check, amend as necessary and return the form to the school as soon as possible. If you have not received your child's forms, please give the office a call on 01404 812599. Please return these forms by posting them in the letter box of the front door. PLEASE DO NOT RETURN THESE IN BOOK BAGS as they may not be checked daily and could go astray.

REMOTE LEARNING

The DFE Guidance for full opening of schools states:

'Where a class, group or small number of pupils need to self-isolate, or there is a local lockdown requiring pupils to remain at home, we expect schools to have the capacity to offer immediate remote education. Schools are expected to consider how to continue to improve the quality of their existing offer and have a strong contingency plan in place for remote education provision by the end of September. This planning will be particularly important to support a scenario in which the logistical challenges of remote provision are greatest, for example where large numbers of pupils are required to remain at home.'

A pupil may need remote learning for the following reasons:

1. they are waiting to book a COVID test for themselves or a family member
2. they are waiting for the results of a COVID test
3. they are self-isolating for 10 days (if they were unable to get a COVID test after a 5-day period)

In any of the above cases, please ensure your child continues with their education by accessing the daily lessons on **Oak Academy**: <https://classroom.thenationalacademy/schedule-by-year>

There are three daily lessons for each year group which are an hour-long. They are delivered by a teacher, with a pre-recorded video as well as quizzes, worksheets and creative activities. Lessons related to other topics are easy to find if your child wishes to do more than the allocated three lessons. It's all easy to use, there's no login or password, you can access the lessons on any device, and pupils only need materials they can find at home.

We are obviously able to provide printed resources, such as textbooks and workbooks, for any pupils who do not have suitable online access- just let us know.

We are currently in the process of setting up new classes on Google Classroom and will update you in due course.

ELLIE'S FUND UPDATE

A big thank you to everyone who brought in crisp packets and dental hygiene products to be recycled. We did not start this scheme long before lockdown but have still managed to fill our boxes to the brim! Sadly, Ellie's Fund have announced that they will no longer be collecting these products. Here is a message from the charity:

'Please accept our grateful thanks for all your efforts; we've really appreciated your participation and couldn't have raised the money we have, for research into brain tumours, without the help of each and every one of you.'

All of the products collected at West Hill will be sent off this week to be recycled. However, please do not send any more items into school until further notice. We will keep our eyes peeled for further schemes in the future to support our Plastic Free Schools project.

WEST HILL EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AUTUMN TERM 2020

With COVID restrictions of keeping bubbles (classes) separate, we are more limited in the number of after school clubs we can offer this term.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
BEFORE SCHOOL					
LUNCHTIME CLUBS	French Club Year 1 12pm-12.30pm				
AFTER SCHOOL	French Club Year 2 3.45pm-4.15pm Mme Shackleton	Forest School Year 3 3.45pm-4.45pm Mrs Broad Mrs Townsend	Forest School Year 4 3.45pm-4.45pm Mrs Broad Mrs Townsend	Forest School Year 2 3.45pm-4.45pm Mrs Broad Mrs Townsend	

After October half term - Graham Harry will be leading a Craft Club for Year 2 pupils on Tuesdays - further details to follow in next week's newsletter.

TRANSFER TO SECONDARY EDUCATION 2020 - ATTENTION YEAR 6 PARENTS

The application system for Secondary places in September 2020 is now open and will close at midnight on 31st October 2019. Please apply on-line at:

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place>

PTFA NEWS

The PTFA are currently planning a couple of exciting fundraisers. We understand that this is currently a very difficult time for everyone and everything we do is on a voluntary basis.

We are hoping to raise funds to spend on increasing the options for an additional outdoor covered area within the school grounds and a gravel pathway on the field to allow access to the outdoor class room in all weathers. Please see attached two posters that provide details of two PTFA events that shall be occurring this month.

COMMUNITY NEWS

SIDMOUTH SCIENCE FESTIVAL

Sidmouth Science Festival is a wonderful event run by volunteers who have, and will continue to, come into school to enrich the children's science curriculum. There are lots of opportunities for children and families to attend online sessions using the link below. These are aimed at all ages and abilities and most events are free.

The link is <https://www.sidmouthsciencefestival.org/>

WRITING COMPETITION HOMEWORK

We are very lucky to work closely with the organisers of Sidmouth Science Festival who are promoting a 'Think Footprint - creative writing competition' in liaison with Jo Earlam, children's author of 'Rosa's Footprint'. We would like to encourage all children to take part in the competition and all entries will be awarded 15 house points. Please see the attached pdf document for further competition details.

All entries to be returned to Miss Kemp (Class 3) with your child's name and class on the entry by **Friday 6th November**. Good luck!

Have a lovely weekend.

With my best wishes



Mrs. Cheryl Boulton
Headteacher