



# The Red Squirrel



Term 1: Issue 1

7th September 2017

[www.westburyontrym.academy](http://www.westburyontrym.academy)

## Dear Parents and Carers

### Welcome

It has been so wonderful to welcome all the children back into school this week, including a number of new children and families. The children have been telling us about their various adventures over the summer. Staff have also kindly shared their holiday pictures so do have a look at those displays in the KS2 corridor over the next few weeks.

### Staffing updates

We have been joined now by Miss Gill (Year 6), Miss Nevil (Year 4) and Miss Davies (Year 1).

Congratulations also to the newlyweds Mr Banks and Mrs Jones (formerly Miss Hufflett).

The Headteacher recruitment process is progressing well and prospective candidates will be coming into school next week on Wed 13th and 14th September when we hope to conclude this process.

### Value for the term—Trust

The Christian perspective is that trust is the basis of all stable relationships, including a person's relationship with God, if they have such a belief. Key areas of discussion and exploration with the children will include:

- How can we show children in practical ways what it means to have trust in others?
- How can we demonstrate, sensitively, what happens when trust is broken or damaged and how this trust can be repaired?
- How do we go about earning the trust of others or showing that we are 'trustworthy'?
- How can we use God's promises to help us lead better lives?
- Which role models can be presented and explored together to help us understand different kinds of trust, how these work within our school and the wider world?

### Clubs schedule information and new online booking system

We will have, once again, a variety of extra-curricular clubs for children this year. You should receive all the information on the clubs and how you can access the booking system on Monday 11th September.

### Year 6 residential camp

All parents and carers of children in Year 6 should have now received a named envelope containing important

information about the forthcoming camp. Please do come and speak to us personally if you have any queries or concerns about this camp so that you can prepare confidently with it and your child.

### A few important reminders:

**Studybugs** – report absence securely and help improve children's health

A reminder for you all about the efficient and secure system for reporting your child's absence due to illness, called Studybugs.

If you haven't already, please get the free Studybugs app, or register on the Studybugs website, and use it to tell us whenever your child's ill and unable to attend school.

Get the app or register now (<https://studybugs.com/about/parents>).

By the end of last term, just 34% of our families were using the app. The more parents using Studybugs, the more we're able to help the NHS and other public health partners improve children's health. So it's really worth a getting on board.

### Naming school uniform

Please remember to name **ALL** items of clothing your child wears or brings into school, including outdoor coats and PE kit. At the end of each term we have an

array of lost property; good quality, unnamed items of clothing and we are unable to find the owners.

## Parking

May I remind you that if you do need to drive to school, please be aware that there is limited space outside and near the school. Park safely and considerately. **Please avoid parking in the entrance to the kitchen or Hazelwood Gardens as access is essential at all times.** It would be helpful if you could park a distance away from school and walk the remainder. Westbury Hill car park is a short distance away if you use the back entrance to the school. Thank you for your co-operation.

## Potential closure of WOT library and school crossing patrol

As mentioned in the newsletter at the end of last term, Westbury-on-Trym library is under threat of closure, together with the withdrawal of the crossing patrol on Passage Road. We urge parents, carers and members of our community to complete the consultation online. The deadline is **15th September**. As all three of the options for the library service recommend closure of Westbury library, it is advised that respondents do not tick any option, but make clear in the comments box that none of the options are acceptable and that keeping it open is an important community resource.

The option on crossing patrols recommends keeping the Passage Road patrol, but this may only happen with strong parental support. Please can we ask as many parents and carers to complete the survey and respond to the crossing consultation and the library one by following this link:

<https://bristol.citizenspace.com/bristol-city-council/yourneighbourhood/consultation>

## Online Payment

We prefer parents/carers to make payments into school using the online payment system if possible. If you have lost your log in details, or have problems accessing the system, please contact Ruth

or Ann in the school office. (New families will receive log in details shortly).

## Community singing

Everyone, (parents/carers, pupils and pre-school children) is invited and welcome to come along to our community singing, which Mrs O'Neill leads on a Friday morning before school at 8.30pm. It's a great, fun way to start the end of the week.

## Asthma inhalers

If your child suffers from Asthma, please ensure we have an inhaler in school and that you have completed a new Asthma care plan for our records. (If you have not received a plan to complete, please ask in the school office).

We have been asked by the NHS, via Bristol City Council to pass on the following advice: *"GPs are advising parents/carers of children with asthma to check and start using their inhalers before the weather changes. The advice comes at the start of the new school year when children are exposed to the usual increased risk of infection as they join other pupils after the summer break.*

*Evidence shows that using inhalers preventatively, ie before symptoms of wheezing occur, reduces the risk of becoming unwell. Using spacers, the plastic tube or cone-shaped devices, also significantly increases effectiveness".*

## Tesco Bags of Help

Westbury-on-Trym Academy is taking part in the "Bags of Help Grant Scheme". Our project will be put forward to a customer vote in Tesco stores very soon. We are hoping to build a sensory garden to share with the community.

Our project, along with the other two successful projects in the region, will go forward to a vote in Tesco stores where their customers will decide the outcome by voting for their favourite project each time they shop. We will let you know, when we have been told, which Tesco stores you can also vote in. We will be notified by the end of November 2017 confirming the amount of funding we will receive. The project with the highest number of votes across our region will

receive up to £4,000, the second placed project up to £2,000 and the third placed project £1,000.

## Piano Lessons at WOT

Fun, creative piano lessons are available at school for pupils in Years 3 - 6.

Sessions will explore piano skills, music reading, rhythm and listening activities.

For further information please contact Natasha Melia BA (Hons) Music, FISM [natasha@growingvoices.co.uk](mailto:natasha@growingvoices.co.uk)

## French Club

French club is restarting on Tuesday 19th September with a lunchtime club for KS1 children. They learn everyday practical French through songs, games, role-play, story telling and craft. To try out the first session, please email Anna-Kate on [admin@clubs4kids.com](mailto:admin@clubs4kids.com) with WOT in the subject line. The cost is £5.25 per session.

## The Travelling History Company

We provide hands-on history and astronomy designed to be great fun, to inspire and surreptitiously educate children. History club is on a Monday and Astronomy on a Wednesday after school this term. Pick up a leaflet from outside the school office or go to [www.thetravellinghistorycompany.com](http://www.thetravellinghistorycompany.com)

Yours Truly



Cathy Milton  
Headteacher



We are looking forward to another fun year of events and fund raising for the school. Hope you all had a good summer, and we look forward to catching up and getting to know new faces with a Macmillan coffee morning on Friday 29th September 9am, meeting at the PTA kiosk. Look out for posters in the playground. We will also be asking for donations of cakes for this event, all to raise money for Macmillan cancer charity.

Our AGM will be coming up in early October, do please come along to this meeting to find out more about how the PTA raises money for the school and what we have funded over the last year. We are always looking for more helpers, so whether you can help out regularly or just help with the occasional job we'd love to meet you.

**Dates for your diary**

**Term 1**

14th September	2.45pm	Yr 6 camp meeting
2nd-6th October		Yr 6 camp
9th-12th October		Book fair
10th October	9.30am	Harvest service in church

**Term 2**

1st November		Photo day (individual & siblings)
13th -17th November		Anti-Bullying Week (All different, all equal)
7th December	2pm	KS1 Carol service
10th December	5pm	Christingle service
12th December	time tbc	Trym Nativity
14th December	6.30pm	KS2 Carol service

**Term dates 2017/18**

- Term 1** Monday 4th September to Friday 20th October 17
- Term 2** Monday 30th October to Friday 15th December 17
- Term 3** Tuesday 2nd January 18 to Friday 9th February 18
- Term 4** Monday 19th February to Friday 23rd March 18
- Term 5** Monday 9th April to Friday 25th May 18  
(Monday 7th May—Bank Holiday)
- Term 6** Monday 4th June to Tuesday 24th July 18

**INSET dates 2017/18**

- Tues 2nd Jan 2018
- Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018
- Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> July and Tues 24<sup>th</sup> July 2018

**Community News**

**Westbury-on-Trym Parish Church**

If you have a pre-school child, come along to the toddler session at Westbury-on-Trym Parish Church every Tuesday afternoon 2pm—3pm. Join us for songs, socialising and refreshments. We look forward to seeing you.

**Friday Country Market Westbury-on-Trym**

This is held every Friday 10.30 –11.30am in the Methodist Church Hall, Westbury Hill. Cakes, pastries, savouries, preserves, honey, vegetables, fruit, eggs, house and garden plants, flowers and crafts. All home-made, home-grown and hand-crafted. Refreshments available and admission is free of charge.