



The Red Squirrel



Term 1: Issue 3

5th October 2017

www.westburyontrym.academy

Dear Parents and Carers

Mrs Milton is away this week at Abernant Camp in Powys, Wales, with our Year 6 children on a residential camp. They are all having a wonderful time. If you want to see some of our pictures do look on our website and follow us on twitter, (especially if you have a child in Year 6 or even Year 5 and want to see what is involved). They return tomorrow afternoon, so will have the weekend to recover before we welcome them back to school on Monday.

Harvest Service and Appeal Tuesday 10th October

A reminder that our Annual Harvest Service in Holy Trinity Church will be taking place this year on **Tuesday 10th October at 9.30am**. As always, we would be delighted to have some parents/carers help us walk the children down to the Church and stay for the Service. **Please contact your class teacher if you can help.** There is a minimal amount of room for parent/carers if you wish to attend. Please remember to send your child into school with a coat that day!

Every year, we ask for children and their families to make a donation, which younger children need to bring in a plastic bag so they can carry it down to the Church easily. These are then placed along the altar during the Service and

collected afterwards to be taken to a local Christian charity based in Ashley Road, called the Community of the Sisters of the Church. These precious donations will form part of their 'Loaves and Fishes Harvest Ministry' and are then passed on to the most needy people who approach them for help. They hand out nearly 6000 food parcels a year. The Sisters also provide valuable advice to people and families through a volunteer lawyer and a whole range of other volunteers who offer their services to the Sisters.

Please support this Harvest collection with donations of the following:

- **TINS** (all in date still please) – tuna, tinned meat, rice pudding, fruit, custard, baked beans, soup and vegetables
- **PACKETS** – cereals, pasta, rice, instant cuppa soup, biscuits, tea bags and jars of coffee
- **SUNDRIES** – toiletries, packets of nappies of all sizes
- **BOOKS FOR CHILDREN** – pre-school and toddler ones as well as primary aged books.
- **MONEY**- in a sealed envelope, labelled 'Harvest Donation'. (Cash preferred please). The Sisters are currently spending over £1000 per week from resources. Most goes on basic goods to supplement the food donations. A small amount goes on topping up utility keys

for those struggling to pay for gas and electricity, as well as small miscellaneous household items.

Year 5 Space Workshop

The Year 5 children were lucky enough to have a Space Workshop this week, led by Paul Hill from Sirius Astronomy. It was a fascinating hour and a bit. Class 5RS were even willing to give up some of their lunch hour to learn more. Both classes created water and air-powered rockets, as well as simulating the effect on humans of being in a vacuum, using syringes and marshmallows! Not a pretty sight. Two children were even given the chance to wear an authentic space suit as worn by an astronaut who had been to space. All the children learned so much and their enthusiasm for the wonders of space and space exploration has rocketed! The next Tim Peake may be amongst them. Paul told us that it was likely that the first person to land on Mars in the future is likely to be a primary-aged child currently. Who knows it could be your child?

Richard Sloper
Deputy Head Teacher

Book fair

We are delighted to be hosting the Travelling Books book fair next week. The event will run daily, 3.15pm - 3.45pm, beginning on **Monday 9th October** and ending on **Thursday 12th October**. The fair provides an excellent opportunity to purchase Christmas presents early, and also helps the school, as a percentage of the profit is given back to us. The fair will be based in the KS2 corridor. We hope to see you there. Look out for the promotional leaflets in book bags.

Pre - school group

Thank you so much to those who have volunteered to help run the pre-school group for children hoping to join us in Reception in September 2018. If there is anyone else who would like to help out, please contact Mrs Thomas in Trym Unit. The group will run monthly from January to July 2018.

School entry September 2018

If you have a child already at this school with a sibling due to start in Trym Unit in September 2018, could you please inform the school office, so we have an idea how many siblings may be starting next year? Thank you.

Welcome to WASC - After School Club

Welcome back to the new school year for all existing members of Westbury After School Club (WASC) and for our newest members using the club for the first time this year.

A new school year presents a great opportunity to introduce the team and the work of the WASC. The sessions are run by a fantastic group of playleaders and playworkers who offer fun, interactive and interesting activities for children in all primary school years, with the emphasis very firmly on PLAY! We are not an extension of the school's working day, but aim to offer multicultural activities which promote fun, harmony and understanding between children of all ethnic and cultural backgrounds while being a safe environment for children needing after school care.

The club meets on the school premises after school every week day until 6pm, offering a range of interesting and fun

activities for children including arts, crafts, cookery, circus skills, soft football, board and electronic games, films and reading, as well as use of the outdoor school play areas in good weather.

Responsibility for running the club rests firmly with parents and carers and is overseen by a very dedicated voluntary parent committee, who are working parents with children at the school. They work tirelessly to support the good work done by the play team and the viable and regulated running of the club, which is Ofsted accredited.

Our charges as of 1 October 2017 are:

£4.50 per session for BFC (Breakfast Club) and £9.50 per session for WASC with reduced rates at WASC for 3 children or more and there is a £10 annual administration charge for all users of the club.

This year, as a committee, we have seen a considerable rise in the increasing levels of demand for the services of the club and are very conscious of availability of space and staffing levels not being able to meet that demand from the start.

Due to these limitations, unfortunately, there will always be a limit on the number of children that we can accept in the club, primarily for health and safety reasons and the safeguarding of our children and staff which is our absolute priority.

We would like to reassure you that we are doing all we can on this and are trialling some additional space for the club, which has been kindly offered by the school, and by increasing our staff levels and will review how and when this can help us to increase our numbers. We continue to work closely with Mrs Milton and her team at the school, who are extremely supportive and will update interested parents and carers with progress on this. It is a real priority for us.

We do still have availability at the club on Fridays and there are waiting lists available on some days that are in active operation so please do get in touch with our administrator, Kate Plessier, at wasc400@gmail.com for more information.

In the meantime, we look forward to welcoming you and your children to the WASC family.

*Ali Woodhead,
Chair WASC Committee*

Extra-Curricular activities in sport

If your child participates in any sporting clubs outside of school and they have received awards, trophies or certificates, please could you email Mr Banks via the school office with a brief description of their achievement with a photograph? With your permission, this will then be displayed on the School Sports Noticeboard for the whole school to see.

Online subscriptions available to your child.

We have two online subscriptions available to support children's learning at home.

Espresso is packed with activities, videos and age appropriate news articles and quizzes for your children to explore at home now as well as at school. To access the site (which can be accessed either by tablet or computer), please visit

<http://www.discoveryeducation.co.uk/>

then click login and espresso then enter the username and password which you will find stuck on a sticker in your child's planner.

Mathletics is used throughout the school to support children's maths lessons and children are set weekly homework tasks through the site. Every child has been issued with a username and password and a reminder of their username only is stuck into their planner. If for any reason your child is unsure of their password then please see your child's class teacher or our office staff who can remind you. To access the site, please visit

<http://uk.mathletics.com/>

If you intend for your child to access Mathletics via a tablet, then you can either use the website or download the app which will allow you to download activities to then play offline at a later date. The app is available for ipad [here](#) or android [here](#) or windows [here](#).

Online safety buttons.

We use a friendly swimming dolphin called Hector who is ever present on our school computers so that if pupils accidentally see something that they don't like on screen, then they can click on Hector and he will cover their screen. Many of our KS1 pupils have reported that they would very much like to have Hector on their screens at

home too. So if your family would like to download your own Hector Protector dolphin for your home computers, then please click on [this link](#).

Parents prayer group

Parents prayer group. Monday 16th October - Community Church building, Alberts Place. 8pm - 9pm. We would love to see anyone who is interested in being involved in praying for our school and community. There will be tea and cake and chat about how you can get involved.

Please contact Nicola Baynton (andyandnic@googlemail.com)

Flags

As you know, we like to value and celebrate

the diversity of our school community. One way we do this is to fly the flag of the countries our families have connections with on their relevant National days.

So, if your family celebrates any specific national days then please contact the school office within the next couple of weeks to let us know. Thank you.

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.

PTA News



It was lovely to meet so many new faces last night at our AGM, thank you all for coming along.

The new line-up for the executive positions is as follows:

Chair - Kath Smith

Vice-Chair - Lee Botterill

Secretary - Lucy Malt

Treasurer - Rosie Cornish

Teacher Representative - Verity Thomas

We have a host of exciting events planned, starting with a Disco after half term and our Christmas Fair on **Saturday 2nd December**. Look out for more information on posters in the playground, or on our PTA facebook page. We are also looking into online ticket sales for some events, as well as the usual kiosk sales.

Our next planning meeting for both the disco and Christmas Fair is on **Tuesday 17th October**. Please come along if you would like to find out how these events are run, or if you would like to help with any aspect. We are always interested in new ideas for stalls, as well as Christmas craft ideas.

Dates for your diary

Term 1

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)
9th November		Flu vaccines (Rec-Yr 4)
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 Break up 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 th May 2018
Mon 23 rd July and Tues 24 th July 2018

Bristol Family Arts Festival

Bristol Family Arts Festival is a month long citywide celebration of family creativity, with a packed programme of events for all ages. Join in at venues across the city for music, theatre, storytelling, drawing, making and much more. Pick up a leaflet from outside the school office or visit bristolfamilyarts.org.uk for information on the festival events

Autumn Fair

Windmill Hill City Farm is holding an Autumn Fair on **Saturday 7th October 11am-5pm**. Attractions include a market, nature activities, music, woodland crafts, a bar and BBQ. Windmill Hill is in Bedminster, BS3 4EA.



BRISTOL'S BIGGEST & BEST HOLIDAY CLUB

- ★ DISCO FREESTYLE WORKSHOP
- ★ FOREST ADVENTURE
- ★ GYMNASTICS
- ★ STREET DANCE
- ★ FOOTBALL ACADEMY
- ★ MINI-SPORTS
- ★ SHINE CREATIVE
- ★ MULTI-SPORTS
- ★ NETBALL
- ★ HARBALL CRICKET
- ★ INSET FUNDAY



INCLUDING OUR
NEW VENUE AT
ELMLEA JUNIOR
SCHOOL

**Sporting & Creative
Activities for children
aged 4-13**

**Running from 10:00-16:00 with extended
hours from 08:00-18:00 for working families**

**Fri 20th Oct - Mon 30th Oct
in BS9, BS8 & BS4**



Childcare Vouchers

shinesportscoaching.com

