



# The Red Squirrel



Term 2: Issue 2

23rd November 2017

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

## Dear Parents and Carers

### Children in Need

As you know, we took a number of children (38 in total) to the Aerospace Museum last Friday to sing in the Bristol Children's Choir for Children in Need. This was screened on Points West and featured in the main national show 3x that evening. We arrived at 2pm and didn't leave until 9.30 pm so it was a bit of a marathon! Throughout the rehearsals, the waiting and the broadcasting our children behaved impeccably. They were polite, patient, smiley and sang absolutely beautifully. Indeed several of the BBC organisers commented specifically on how well our children conducted themselves at all times. Thank you so much to Mrs O'Neill for preparing them so well and also to Mrs Patel and Mrs Davies who came along to help Y5 on the day.



Thank you also for your contributions towards Children in Need last Friday. So far, we have raised £405.54.. A great effort from everyone.

### Choir events

Mrs O' Neill has put together an extensive range of opportunities for different groups of children from our choir to sing in the wider community. These range from singing in Care Homes such as

Amelia House, Westbury Fields, Westbury Nursing Home and Hazelwood Gardens..

### Parent's evening meetings

It has been lovely to welcome so many parents and carers in recently to hear about your children's learning and progress over the last two weeks. We do want to be able to share this information with all parents. So if for some reasons you have not yet managed to see your child's classteacher, then please do contact them by email and they will try and accommodate a meeting with you, as soon as possible. We do want to finish these before the Christmas busy period arrives if possible.

### Academy Christmas events

Please do look at our dates schedule at the end of this newsletter for the full list of events which start on Saturday the 2nd December with the PTA xmas fayre.

### Christingle Service

Once again our Year 4 children are leading the Christingle this year on **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm**. This is always a popular event at this lovely time of year, so do come along to this friendly informal children's service at the Parish Church to raise funds for the Children's Society. Each family in school has been given a collecting candle in which to place contributions. Please bring these along to

the Christingle service on 10th, or you may return to the school office before the end of term. For further information on The Children's Society visit [www.christingle.org](http://www.christingle.org). (Any unfilled candles may be returned to the school office). If you would like any more candles, please ask in the school office.

### Author visit—S F Said coming to Westbury!

We just wanted to remind you (as stated in the newsletter on the 19th October) that S F Said (author of Varjak Paw, The Outlaw Varjak Paw and The Phoenix, is coming to work with KS2 children on 7th December. The afternoon will conclude with a 'whole school' book signing opportunity. We hope that you will be able to buy his books on the day and then get him to sign them for you. These books will make wonderful Christmas presents for family and friends. *Further details about the organisation for this event will be coming out shortly.*

Yours Truly

Cathy Milton

### NSPCC Online Safety Le Club Français Workshop

Thank you so much to the parents who were able to attend the NSPCC O2 Parents Workshop on Tuesday afternoon. We had a good turnout and many queries were addressed within the session.

It is very important to maintain regular dialogue with your child/ren as the apps and websites that they like to be able to access are ever changing.

Some top tips and key areas to help support this are:

Visit the netaware website ([net-aware.org.uk](http://net-aware.org.uk)) to use the tool to explore what sites, apps and games are right for your child.

For advice and support on setting up parental controls, adjusting privacy settings, understanding social networks and more – call the NSPCC online safety helpline:

**0808 800 5002**

Visit [www.common sense media.org](http://www.common sense media.org) where you will find reviews of books, movies, tv shows, video games, apps, music and websites. It rates them in terms of age-appropriate educational content, positive role models, violence and more.

Have regular conversations with your children about how they are using apps and the internet.

Have regular conversations with other adults and parents to keep up to date with information. **Keep talking!**

Please find below an apps quiz given by the NSPCC O2 Online Safety Workshop. How many can you identify?



Would your KS1 child like to join this fun club on Tuesday lunchtimes? We learn practical everyday French through games, songs, stories and role-play - please do email [admin@clubs4kids.com](mailto:admin@clubs4kids.com) if your child might like to try out a session. We have a few places available for the remainder of term 2 and are taking bookings for January. It's a fabulous way to give your child confidence in the spoken language learning in an informal small group. A bientôt!

### Gala news

#### Percy Smith Gala 15th November 2017

Last Wednesday the gala team took part in the 2nd gala of the Percy Smith series. It was incredibly exciting with some fantastic personal bests achieved and a great team effort to win the canon again!

We managed to win the gala and are now have a 10 point lead overall with 4 galas to go in the series. Special mention must go to Laila Hockett who swam her first Percy Smith gala and won both her individual races.

Tonight our gala team are participating in the first of three novice galas at Easton against 5 other Bristol schools and we wish them the best of luck.

### Request from Year 2

Year 2's next project will be The Great Fire of London. To help make the project 'come alive', we would like to use a smoke machine. Does anyone have, or know anyone who has a smoke machine they would be able to lend Year 2. If you can help, please see the Year 2 staff, or contact them via the school office. Many thanks.

### Christmas competition

There is still time to hand in your entries for the Christmas star competition from Ocean Estate Agents. The closing date is Monday 27th November.

### Pre school group

The pre-school sessions begin on January

8th 1.30-2.30pm. If you have a child who is due to start school in September 2018, you and your child are invited to the sessions which take place monthly in the Trym Diner.

The sessions are informal, fun and a great way to meet other parents and children, helping them feel comfortable about starting school.

If you plan to attend all, or some of the sessions, please contact Rebecca: [becca\\_sewell@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:becca_sewell@yahoo.co.uk) Thank you to Rebecca for volunteering to organise this group again.

(Please note that attendance at these sessions does not guarantee your child a place at Westbury-on-Trym Academy).

#### Dates for 2018

Monday 8th January 2018

Monday 5th February 2018

Monday 5th March 2018

Monday 9th April 2018

Monday 14th May 2018

Monday 4th June 2018 (Teddy Bears' Picnic - weather permitting)

### Site update from Mr Pat

We just wanted to let you know that we have recently completed some tree maintenance (branches that needed to be trimmed) and also removed some nettles along a path edge. At this time of year, the pathways and steps are cleared of fallen leaves every other day. However, we are aware of some concerns about how slippery some of the steps and pathways have become in the wet weather. We will be doing a full path and steps 'power wash' in the xmas holidays. Thank you so much for your support in this matter.

## Dates for your diary

### Term 2

24th November	6.30-7.30pm	KS1 disco
	7.45-8.45pm	KS2 disco
2nd December	2-4pm	Christmas Fayre
7th December	2pm	KS1 Carol service
7th December	afternoon	KS2 workshops with author SF Said followed by whole school book signing & purchasing opportunity
10th December	4pm	Christingle service
12th December	1.45pm	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<sup>th</sup> May 2018  
Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> July and Tues 24<sup>th</sup> July 2018

## Community News

### Nativity Cribs

A collection of 180 nativity cribs, which have been collected from around the world, will be on display in Holy Trinity Church on **Saturday 25th November, 11.00 - 3.00pm**. All welcome to come along and have a look at this wonderful exhibition. Refreshments available.

### Christmas tree sale 9th December

This year's Christmas tree sale by the Bellringers of Holy Trinity church will take place in the churchyard on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December between 9am and 2pm** in aid of the new Bookstall project.

There will be the usual selection of cut Nordman Firs, (reduced needle drop), and Norway Spruce trees. Each tree will be netted for your convenience.

The prices will largely be the same as last year.

### Advent Carol service

Come and join us at Holy Trinity church for the Advent Carol service on Sunday 3rd December, 6.30pm. This is a wonderful start to the Christmas period with Advent music. All welcome.

### Mojo Active Christmas Holiday Club

**14<sup>th</sup> December – 22<sup>nd</sup> December, and 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> January**

We have loads of varied days planned in addition to all the well-loved on-site activities at Mojo.

Mojo and Airhop: 14<sup>th</sup> December and 3<sup>rd</sup> January

Mojo and Ice skating: 15<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> December

Multisport days at BGS: 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> December

Mojo and Hollywood Bowling: 2<sup>nd</sup> January

Mojo and Laser Combat: 20<sup>th</sup> December

Minibus pick up from the Downs and BGS available. To book, please go to <http://bookings.mojoactive.co.uk/> or call 01454 660075.

### Helen O'Grady Drama Academy

Affordable drama classes held locally at Elmlea Junior School on Wednesday evenings. For information go to [www.helenogradey.co.uk](http://www.helenogradey.co.uk) or phone 0117 900 1602.

### Shine Festive Holiday Clubs

As we move closer and closer to the Festive season, now is the time to look at the range of Holiday Clubs for your children. Whether you need childcare whilst you work, or need to finish off your Christmas shopping, Shine Holiday Clubs are running from Monday 18th - Friday 22nd December for Primary School aged children at 3 great venues.

Shine Community Sports Hall in Henleaze, BS9

Christ Church Primary in Clifton BS8

Football Workshops taking place at Brentry School in BS10 @ only £10 per day.

Running from 10:00-16:00, with wraparound care from 08:00-18:00 for parents who need additional childcare, (at an extra charge), do have a look and see what your child would love!

### T-Shirt design competition for children

I Love My PC Limited is a local independent computer shop on Gloucester Road. They are running a T-shirt design competition this Xmas with a brand new fully-featured laptop being given to the winner. The T-shirt design will be worn by staff in-store, and so should be a design that is appropriate for that use. The winning entry will be announced on the 18th December, and the prize-giving will be photographed in-store on the 19th December, and will be used as promotional material. To enter contact I Love My PC Ltd., 0117 9248755, [www.i-love-my-pc.com](http://www.i-love-my-pc.com), 207 Gloucester Road, Bristol, BS7 8NN