



# The Red Squirrel



Term 3: Issue 1

4th January 2018

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

## Dear Parents and Carers

A very warm welcome back to school for a new term and, indeed, 2018. I hope you have all had an enjoyable and holy Christmas and even had the chance to enjoy some snow!

I am delighted to join you here as the new Headteacher of Westbury-on-Trym CE Academy and I have already felt very welcomed by staff, parents and governors. I am looking forward to getting to know the children and to meeting you all over the coming weeks, as I settle in. Please bear with me as I get to know all your names and faces!

To give you a little information about myself, my previous role was as a local authority school improvement officer across primary schools in the city and before that I was the headteacher of St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School for seven years until August 2016.

As a school, we pride ourselves on providing a learning environment and a

wealth of opportunities for your children so that every one of them may be helped to reach their full potential and make the most of their gifts and talents. The care and well-being of every child is integral to the Christian ethos of our school and we are blessed with a dedicated and committed team of staff who work hard to ensure this. I feel privileged to now be part of this team.

I see Westbury-on-Trym CE Academy as more than a school, it is a school family and I know that as parents/carers you are very proud of our community and all that it has achieved. As your new headteacher, it is certainly my intention to work closely with you and the staff to preserve all that is good about our school family and at the same time look ahead and continue to develop the provision and opportunities we provide for our children.

In keeping with the open door policy of the school, should you have anything you wish to discuss with either your child's

class teacher or myself, please do not hesitate to contact us. In the meantime, I look forward to working in partnership with you for the benefit of the children we serve.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Amanda Pritchard

### A Message from Mrs Milton

I would like to offer my sincere thanks for the incredible kindness and compassion so many of you showed me at the time of my leaving the community of Westbury-on-Trim CE Academy. I expressed my thanks and appreciation for your support in my last newsletter but was then overwhelmed by your extraordinary generosity through the collective and wonderful presents I was given during the KS2 Carol concert on the Thursday night, as well as the many individual cards and presents I received in those last 2 days of term from many of you. I was so overwhelmed by the collection so many parents contributed to and have not yet decided how to spend such a generous gift but please know that it will include some kind of 'keepsake' as well as perhaps an experience to share with my husband Nick, who has shown such patience with me over the last 5 1/2 years and been a huge support to me in that time.

I have taken most of the Christmas holidays to open, enjoy and be touched by the very carefully chosen and/or handmade presents. I have read each of your (and the children's) various messages which left me smiling and filled me with such joy and gratitude.

Words cannot sufficiently express my thanks but please be assured that each card and present has been received gratefully and thankfully.

Nick and I are collecting our new puppy (a duck tolling retriever) on Saturday and so that will pre-occupy my time over the next few months, along with being a new granny, lots of reading and some creative projects that I have lined up for myself.

I wish you all every happiness and fulfilment in 2018.

Many thanks, Cathy Milton

### A huge thank you

Very many thanks to all those who contributed to the retiring collections at the Christmas celebrations last term. The following was collected:

KS 1 Carol service	£257.30
KS 2 Carol Service	£315.23
Trym unit Production	£160.64

We will be sending a cheque to Bristol

Children's Hospital. Thank you.

### Christingle: thank you

We have been asked by the co-ordinator of the Children's Society at Holy Trinity Church to say 'Many thanks' for your contributions at the Christingle service. Together we raised £524. A fantastic amount to go to a very worthy cause. If anyone still has collecting candles at home; full or empty, please bring them to the school office and we will make sure they are passed on.

### Reporting absences from school

A reminder that if you are required to report any absences from school by 9.30am on each day of absence. The easiest way to do this is via the free Studybugs app or registering on the studybug website.

The app is in association with an NHS public health project called 'Inspire', which specifically aims to improve treatment of asthma in children, but it also helps track what illnesses are going around and is a convenient, efficient and secure method for reporting absence – so it should make life a little bit easier all around.

[Get the app now](#)

You can read more about the Inspire project [here](#).

### Wye Unit swimming

A reminder that swimming for Yr 3 and 4CB begins again this Friday, 5th January. The cost for the term is £15.00. Preferred payment is via the online payment system, but cheques are accepted, made payable to Westbury-on-Trym CE Academy.

### Pre school sessions

If you have, or know someone who has a child due to start school in September 2018, we would like to invite you and your child to a series of activity afternoons in the school dining hall.

These meetings, organised and run by volunteer parents, have been very successful in helping children and parents feel comfortable about starting school. The sessions are fun and informal and also a great opportunity to chat to other parents and meet the teachers, (if and

when your place at the school is confirmed.)

**Dates for 2018**

**Monday 8th January**

**Monday 5th January**

**Monday 5th March**

**Monday 9th April**

**Monday 14th May**

**Monday 4th June (teddy bears' picnic, weather permitting)**

All sessions run from 1.30pm – 2.30pm. Please come to the main reception of the school on Channells Hill.

*We must stress that attendance at these sessions does not guarantee a place at Westbury-on-Trym CE Academy.*

If you plan to attend some or all of the sessions we would be very grateful if you could let us know by e-mailing or texting the number below and stating your name and your child's name.

Younger children are welcome to come along too but we do have to ask you to leave any buggies outside so they do not obstruct the exits from the school in case of emergency.

We look forward to seeing you.

Best wishes

Rebecca Sewell 07813838347  
[becca\\_sewell@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:becca_sewell@yahoo.co.uk)

*On behalf of Westbury-on-Trym CE Academy Parent Teacher Association*

### School lunches

A reminder that school lunches for KS2 must be paid for in advance. The cost of a school lunch is £2.25. Again, preferred payment is via the online payment system. If you have mislaid your access code, please contact the school office. Many thanks.

### Menu

Please note that the dates on the printed menu are incorrect. Below are the correct dates:

Week 1: w/c 15th Jan, 5th Feb, 26th Feb, 19th March, 9th April

Week 2: w/c 1st Jan, 22nd Jan, 12th Feb, 5th March

Week 3: w/c 8th Jan, 29th Jan, 19th Feb, 12th March, 2nd April.

Apologies for the confusion.

The caterers have organised two 'Theme Days' coming up: On '**Jammie January**', **26th January**, they will be offering an extra choice of pudding -Strawberry Jambo Biscuits. (Apple Crumble will still be on the menu too).

On '**Pizza Party Day**', **23rd February**, the pupils selecting the existing Pizza choice will have the opportunity to add extra toppings at the servery. The Salad Bar that day will also have new choices on

offer.

All other items that are advertised on the menus will be available.

### Vacancy for playworker

WASC – Westbury After School Club – is looking for a playworker to join their team. WASC is a well-established up to 50 place club for 4 – 11 year olds run from Westbury-on -Trym Primary Academy School. Hours of work are: Mon, Tues, Weds, Thurs, Fri 2.45pm to 6.15pm, Term

Time only. Pay is dependent on Qualifications: NVQ 2 £8.65 ph and below NVQ 2 £8.08 ph. The post is to start as soon as possible, and all posts are subject to a DBS check and references. Email the WASC Administrator, Kate Plessier for more information and an application form at [wasc400@gmail.com](mailto:wasc400@gmail.com)

## Dates for your diary

### Term 3

Mon 8th Jan	1.30pm	Pre-school group
Wed 17th Jan	7pm	Percy Smith gala, Horfield Leisure Centre
Thurs 18th Jan	2.45pm	Yr 5 parents camp presentation
Tues 30th Jan	9.30am	Candlemas
Monday 5th Feb	1.30pm	Pre school group

### Term dates 2017/18

**Term 3** Break up Friday 9th February

**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

### Remaining INSET dates 2018

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018

Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> July and Tues 24<sup>th</sup> July 2018