



# The Red Squirrel



Term 4: Issue 3

22nd March 2018

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

## Dear Parents and Carers

This may have been a short term, but it has been a very busy one. Let's hope we have seen the last of the snow and we can start to enjoy warmer weather. Whatever you are up to over the Easter break, I hope you enjoy it with family and friends and that you will all feel refreshed when we return for term 5 on 9th April.

This is a very special and Holy time in our year. Please see the Service times at Holy Trinity church in the 'Community news' section of this newsletter.

## STEM Week (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths)

Once again, STEM week was a huge success. The children enjoyed the workshops run by various visitors which included: an Arctic Explorer's whole school assembly and follow up workshops, UK Space Agency workshop, Bee workshop, Programming microbits workshop and polar workshops. We are also very thankful to the many parents who came in to talk to the children about their STEM related professions. A pi competition was also held on National Pi Day- children had to calculate the circumference and the area of a cherry pie. Well done to Corinne in 6SK who gave the most accurate answer. Finally, at the end of the week, children enjoyed the WOT annual Puzzle Day. Children worked with other classes across the school solving a

range of puzzles and problems. Year 5 and 6 were also fortunate to do outdoor problem solving with Sue from Wessex Water. We have been very impressed by the quality of entries for the STEM home challenge: the 'Primary Engineer Programmes competition.'

## RE Week

This week, in our last week of term before Easter we are exploring all faiths. We had visits to the Hindu Temple, the Sikh Gurdwara, the Muslim Mosque, the Parish church, the Cathedral and the Jewish Synagogue. The week, and the term, will culminate in our Academy Easter service in the Parish church on Friday morning. If any parents/carers would like to join us for this service, and accompany the children to and from the church, please let your child's class teacher know.

## Maths News

After careful consideration, we have decided to end the maths badges scheme at Westbury-On-Trym. Our rationale for this decision is based on a number of factors. Firstly, the demands of the new curriculum requires pupils to be able tackle a variety of arithmetic calculations therefore we will focus children's learning on using and embedding a range of arithmetic skills weekly, rather than just focusing on one objective. Children will build on the arithmetic skills they have learnt across the year and apply this to a

range of question types. It is important that children become more flexible with their knowledge and application of calculations rather than just learning certain concepts by rote.

As you may, or may not be aware, the government will be introducing a times-tables check (test) in 2019 for Year 4. As times-tables is such an important skill, which allows children to access a range of other arithmetic skills, we will continue to work on these as a priority throughout the school. We will make learning these fun and engaging by using a range of activities in classes. As well as this, we will continue to look for other ways parents and carers can support times-tables learning at home.

Children can practise times-tables and the related division facts at home on a range of websites including:

- [Mathletics](#)
- [mathsframe.co.uk](http://mathsframe.co.uk) (user name: Westbury123 and password: Westbury123)
- [mathplayground](#) – click on games
- [Squeebles](#) – a small paid subscription fee – very popular with children.

Teachers will be discussing this change with the children in their own classes over the coming week. We hope that you will support us with this new approach to arithmetic and understand our rationale for these changes.

## Maths Challenge

Well done to Sam H in Year 6 who achieved a gold certificate in the first round of the Primary Mathematics Challenge. Due to his high score in the first round, he then took part in the bonus round in which he achieved a bronze award. If you would like to have a go at some of the challenges, previous papers can be found on the website:

<http://www.primarymathschallenge.org.uk/downloads> Happy problem solving.

## Quiz

On Wednesday 14th March Westbury-on-Trym Academy entered two teams in the National General Knowledge Quiz Championship.

After a tense afternoon, Westbury came both 1st and 2nd, with a landside victory of over 100 points in front!

Well done to both teams who took it in turns during the afternoon to be 1st or 2nd. In the end Westbury team 2 won! Well done to Daniel S Yr 6, Olivia C Yr 5, Nicholas P Yr 4 and Grace H Yr 3.

Congratulations also to team Westbury team 1 who came a well deserved 2nd: Rory D Yr 6, Issie L Yr 5, Jenny H Yr 4 and Ruhi K Yr 3.

## Gala News

### Percy Smith Gala - 14th March

On 14th March, Westbury-on-Trym Academy swam amazingly in the Percy Smith gala at Horfield Leisure Centre. Caitlin and Noemi replaced Lily B in her absence and they were superb. Hannah Y swam in her first individual race and her backstroke was brilliant! Well done to Jemima B who swam in her first Percy Smith gala in the freestyle team. The very last race was the Cannon, where we were second until the last leg, when Ted came through and won to gain 10 points. We came second place on the night; only one point away from the winning school. We are leading overall in the league by 31 points with 2 galas to go. Well done to everyone who swam.

### Novice Gala - 15th March

Congratulations to all the swimmers who participated in the Penguins Novice gala at Easton Leisure Centre on 15th March. Competing against 5 other schools, each swimmer in the Westbury team showed a marked improvement in fitness and technique. Highlights included individual wins for George P, Grace F, Jemima B and Mae W. Team captain, Caitlin B closed the gap on the last leg to secure first place in the 10/11yrs mixed medley for the team. Well done everyone!

*Thank you to Caitlin and Zara for the gala reports.*

### Bristol Schools gala - 20th March

A team of swimmers represented the Academy at the Bristol Primary School gala this week. Results are not in yet, but the top 8 swimmers across 4 different heats will go through to the finals later in the year. Hopefully we won't need to wait too long for the results. Well done to all the swimmers.

## Cross Country 15th March

Well done to our cross country runners who took part in the Colston's inter-school event last week. 13 schools took part in this competitive event and Westbury-on-Trym Academy achieved some great results:

Yr 3 & 4 girls - second - (only 1 point behind the winners)

Yr 5 & 6 boys - second

Yr 5 & 6 girls - third

We had some amazing top ten results individually too, see in brackets. Congratulations to:

Isaac (4th), Sam H (10th), Jake, George F, Edward S, Eddie H, Corinne (10th), Bea, Jasmine S, Lauren, Zara, Caitlin, Max, Barney, Edward B (6th), Fred, Ben H, Ruhi, Laila (4th), Lilia (9th), Sadie (10th) Jemima, Amelie, & Hannah.

## Football News

### Yr 4 tournament 9th March

Congratulations to the Yr 4 football team who played extremely well in the tournament on 9th March. Having won all their league games in style, they narrowly lost in the final to Clifton High School, 1-0.

### Yr 3 Football festival 12th March

Well done to the Yr 3 footballers, who took part in a tournament on 12th March. They played 6 matches, won 3 and drew 3. They scored an amazing 14 goals and only let in 2! An excellent effort. Well done boys.

**You can read a full report and all sports news on our facebook page and on twitter.**

## Flamingo fiesta Trail

The children in Trym Unit have decorated a flamingo, which will be displayed as part of the Flamboyant Flamingo Trail throughout Broadmead and Cabot Circus from Saturday 24th March until Saturday 7th April. There are 52 flamingos to find. Pick up a trail map from outside the school office if you haven't already been given one. Happy hunting!

## Shine After School Clubs

Shine after school clubs begin w/c 16th April. Book at [shinesportscoaching.com](http://shinesportscoaching.com). A reminder of what is on offer:

Mon	Football	Yr 3—5
Wed	Mini football club	Rec-Yr 2
Fri	Cricket	Rec—yr 4
Fri	Gymnastics	Rec-3

## Staff News

We are delighted to announce that Miss Cavender recently married her partner of 25 years! She is now Mrs Hamer. Congratulations to her and her husband.



## Great Westbury Bake-off

Thank you so much to all who supported part 1 of the great Westbury bake off! It was a great success, and we shall announce all the totals at the end.

**Part two will be coming up after Easter if you are in Years 3 or 4 on Friday 20th April.** Shop bought and home made donations are equally warmly received. Don't forget, this is a competition to see which group can raise the most money for the PTA. If you or your child are in other year groups, your turn will be coming up soon. The group that raises the most money will be awarded the Golden Whisk in assembly.

We are currently raising money to go towards new books for the reading scheme.

Friday 20th April - Years 3 & 4

Friday 4th May - KS1

### Dates for your diary

Spring Disco - Friday 18th May

Red Squirrel Day - Saturday 30th June

Are you in a band? Do you know anyone who is in a band? We are looking for a house band to play on Red Squirrel day by the Pimms tent. Please let us know if you can help!

## Dates for your diary

### Term dates 2018

**Term 4** Mon 19th Feb to Fri 23rd Mar 18

**Term 5** Mon 9th Apr to Fri 25th May 18 (Mon 7th May - BH)

**Term 6** Mon 4th Jun to Tues 24th Jul 18

### Remaining INSET dates 2018

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

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

### Term dates 2018/19

**Term 1** Monday 3 September 2018 to Friday 26 October 2018

**Term 2** Monday 5 November 2018 to Friday 21 December 2018

**Term 3** Monday 7 January 2019 to Friday 15 February 2019

**Term 4** Monday 25 February 2019 to Friday 5 April 2019

**Term 5** Tuesday 23 April 2019 to Friday 24 May 2019

**Term 6** Monday 3 June 2019 to Tuesday 23 July 2019

INSET days : To be confirmed.

## Community News

### Shine Sports

Shine is working with the FA to launch a brand new initiative to encourage girls aged 5-11 to try playing football for the first time.

In partnership with the FA, the brand new SSE Wildcats Girls' Football sessions take place on a weekly basis in Henleaze and provide a safe environment where girls can try football. SSE and the FA hope the initiative will inspire girls to engage with football, meet new friends, develop fundamental skills, learn new things and create the foundation for a lifelong love of football.

The sessions at the Shine Community Sports Hall start with a **FREE SESSION ON WEDNESDAY 11<sup>th</sup> APRIL** from 5.00-6.00pm and then the sessions are just £3 per week.

Sign up here: <https://www.shinesportscoaching.com/activity/sse-wildcats-girls-football-fa>

### Easter at Holy Trinity Church

- ◆ **Palm Sunday** (this Sunday) Family Eucharist 10am
- ◆ **Maundy Thursday** (29th March) Last supper & watch 7.30pm
- ◆ **Good Friday (30th March) Children's Craft Activities & Easter Service** All children are welcome to come along to The College in College Road on Good Friday at **9.30am** for a fun Craft Activities morning, followed by a Children's Easter Service in Church at 10.30am. Hot cross buns and drinks will be served afterwards.

◆ **Saturday 31st March Easter Garden** Children are invited to come along to Holy Trinity Church at **10am** to help decorate an Easter Garden.

◆ **Saturday 31st March** Paschal Vigil & first Eucharist of Easter 8pm

◆ **Easter Day** Family service on Easter morning at 10am to celebrate Easter Day.



### Community Fair 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2018

The Community fair this year is again action packed with stalls and entertainment. More information will be given nearer the time, but here's something to plan over the Easter holiday:

Decorate your wheelbarrow/pushchair – Carnival Procession. Meet in Canford Park and process up Canford Lane, High Street and Church Road. Meet at 10:15, set off at 10:25 and arrive at Church 11 for the opening of the fair.