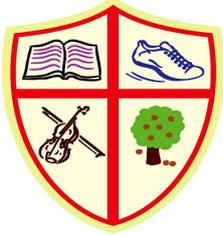


WESTBURY WHISPERS

DEAR PARENTS/CARERS

19th OCTOBER 2017



**Westbury-on-Severn
CE Primary School**

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Well, I really don't understand how time just seems to fly by. It doesn't seem like 2 minutes ago that we were welcoming everyone back to the start of another school year, and here we are breaking up for the October holiday! I'm sure we all need it though! The children have worked so hard and embraced lots of new learning and teaching.

Some of you may be aware that yesterday we interviewed some applicants for the teaching post that was left vacant when Mrs Landon left us at the end of the summer term. Unfortunately, on this occasion we did not appoint, so we will begin the process again directly after half term. It is important to us that we get the right person for the position and for the children.

Recently, we have been working on our school vision documents and trying to connect all the school's values and Christian distinctiveness into one, easy to understand, visual representation that will enable everyone in our school community to get a handle on what we stand for. We haven't changed the vision, or our values, but have created an image that will show the inter-connectedness of who we are. It is exciting and we will be sharing it with you when it is completed. Your support and suggestions are always so important to me so I can't wait to hear what you think of it when you see it... watch this space!

I really hope that you have a lovely break and look forward to seeing you all next term.

Mr C.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Free school meals are an entitlement to any child whose family is in receipt of certain state benefits. Information on eligibility can be found at the following web address:

<http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-transport-and-free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/>

I would like to encourage any parents who may be entitled to their child receiving benefits-linked free school meals (FSM), to please take advantage of this offer. Not only will this mean that an added financial pressure is lifted, but you will also be helping the school to provide additional educational provision for your child through the Pupil Premium. Pupil Premium is a specific allocation of funds that a school receives for each child entitled to benefits-linked free school meals. Currently this is £1,320 per eligible pupil, which can be used by the school to provide additional support for those children.

Are you entitled?

PRAYER GROUP IN SCHOOL

Rev. Steve Taylor and I are very keen to establish a prayer group in school, who, periodically and hopefully once a month, will be able to meet and pray for the life of the school and school community together. We will be having our first prayer meeting on Monday 6th November at 3.30pm. We would like to meet on the first Monday of each month thereafter, but this could be discussed by the group. We want to reassure people however, that the items to pray for will be strictly generic and absolutely no reference made to individuals or families other than 'We pray for the families of those who attend Westbury-on-Severn CE Primary School.' I hope that is clear, but do see me if not! It is wonderful to see how the prayer life of the school is developing. There are always children outside my office offering a prayer at the prayer station, so it would be wonderful to extend this opportunity for prayer and reflection to those of you who would like to be involved.



A reminder that our parents' meetings will be taking place on 15th and 16th November to discuss your child's progress. Appointments can still be made if you haven't already done so. We look forward to seeing you.

HARVEST SERVICE

My sincerest thanks to everyone who came and supported our school's Harvest service. The amount of food that was donated was, once again, overwhelming and will go to one of the local Food Banks. We know that your generosity, kindness and compassion will make a real difference to a family somewhere in our local and wider community.

**Important
DATE!**

BURIAL GROUND UPDATE

Governors would like to invite you to a school meeting on Wednesday November 1st at 6.30pm in the school hall, to give an update to the situation regarding the proposed extension to Westbury burial ground. It is hoped that at this meeting we will be able to give you some current information regarding the direction that this proposal is taking. Information shared with us as a school is still very sketchy. However, the Asset Management and Property Services department at Shire Hall, who deal with these matters on our behalf, have been liaising with the Parish Council, so it is hoped that we will have some details at this meeting. We look forward to seeing you if you can attend.

CLASS NEWS

This week in maths Y1's have been learning about 3D shapes and their properties and reception children have



been practising their counting skills. In literacy we have been looking at Tinga tales. Reception have labelled animals using their phonics and Y1's have planned, written and edited their own version of a Tinga tale. We also looked at the art work of Edward Tinga Tinga and created our own pictures of the animal in our story and used these to make our own class book of Tinga Tinga tales. At Welly Wednesday we looked at the changing seasons and used leaves to make hedgehogs.

Class 2 have been doing poems in literacy, we will write them up in a special way. In numeracy the Y2's have been doing shapes and the Y3's have been doing horizontal and vertical lines. We have been doing sugar skulls in art and in science we've been learning all about teeth.



By Mia & Sophia

On Monday Y6 children started some tests while Y4 and Y5 children did literacy. The Y6 children have had two challenging maths tests that were the SATs tests for last year's Y6 children. Thursday was a fun day doing workshops. Y 6's were doing art with Mrs Noad, Y5's doing computing with Mrs McCartney and Y4's doing Forest School with Mrs Sim. We did some very exciting PE on Friday, we did tag rugby and other fun lesson during the day! PE reminder—Please make sure you have your kit on a Wednesday and Friday.



By Caitlin & Talia

CAN YOU HELP?

Class 1 are developing the use of open ended loose part resources to support children's imagination, creativity and problem solving skills. If you have any of the following you could donate to Class 1 they'd be greatly appreciated. Baskets, buttons fabric, wallpaper, crates, ribbon, flower pots, guttering, keys, logs, pebbles, shells, pine cones, wooden pegs, wooden utensils, twigs, tubes, planks, pallets, wooden curtain rings, feathers logs, cable reels. Thank you

Key dates for term 2

30.10.17	Start of term for Children
15.11.17	Parents' Evening 3.30 – 7pm
16.11.17	Parents' Evening 3.30 – 7pm
07.12.17	Theme celebration 9.15
11.12.17	Experience Christmas Week
15.12.17	Christingle service in Church 2pm
15.12.17	End of Term



TEAMS4U SHOEBOX APPEAL

As last year, we will be supporting the organisation 'Teams4U'. This charity works on the same principle as Operation Christmas Child, who send shoeboxes to children in poor areas of Eastern Europe and further afield. We will be supporting this charity this year in their shoebox appeal and would invite you all to take part

in this. Therefore, on Wednesday 1st of November we will be having a non-school uniform day with a difference. The difference is that instead of money we would like the children to bring in items that could be placed in a shoebox. Below is a list of suitable items. Our aim is that we will be able to fill lots of shoeboxes at school and get all the children involved rather than ask for individual shoeboxes to be filled at home. However, if you wanted to contribute that way we would be very grateful. In addition to this, you will notice that a suggested donation of £2.50 is asked for to go into the boxes to help with travel costs. This is optional but if you would like to send that in as well on the 1st November we would be very grateful.

We really do hope that this will be a great event, which will bring joy to many children this Christmas. Thank you for your support.

Items for boys or girls

What these children need most are practical supplies, e.g.

- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Hairbrush/comb
- Facecloth and soap
- Stationery/pens/pencils/paper
- Gloves/hats/scarves/socks

The children would also like to receive a small gift, e.g.

- a soft toy
- ball
- game
- puzzle
- bubbles
- small musical instrument i.e. harmonica/recorder



Please do not send: Food (only exception is sweets), medicines, war related items, fragile items (such as glass/ceramics), aerosols or anything highly flammable, sharp items, novels.

***Remember items donated should fit in a standard sized shoebox.**