



West Ashton Church of England  
Voluntary Aided Primary School  
29 Bratton Road  
West Ashton  
BA14 6AZ

Telephone: 01225 754354

Email: [admin@westashton.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@westashton.wilts.sch.uk)

## Newsletter

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2017

**Message from Mr Porter:** I would like to start by thanking all the pupils, staff and parents/carers for making me feel so welcome at West Ashton. I fully appreciate that everyone has had to get used to yet another change, but I am very confident that as a team we will move the school forward at a rapid rate. The children will begin to make more progress and we will strive to get every single one of them prepared for the next stage of their lives. I thoroughly enjoyed the last three years at The Avenue and I knew that I would miss the staff and most importantly the children. However, I have thoroughly enjoyed the last two weeks here. There is a lovely ethos about West Ashton and I already feel at home.

In my first assembly I shared the 'West Ashton Golden Rules' and the 'West Ashton Six Expectations'. These will frequently be referred to in class/assemblies and they will be displayed

### GOLDEN RULES

- Try to attend school every day
- Bring everything you need for school
- Arrive at school on time
- Always wear full school uniform
- Try to eat a good breakfast
- Never talk over anyone else
- Always work hard and try our best
- Always show respect
- Complete homework on time
- Enter and leave the classroom sensibly
- Set yourself some goals and targets

around school. We will regularly focus on one of the expectations and have it as a theme across the school. We have started with **Aspiration**. I have shared my goals and targets for the week (to know every child's name by today) and the pupils and teachers have been asked to do the same. They have been placing their aspirations in a box in their classroom. I will be selecting a few to read out in assembly. I would really appreciate it if you could talk to your children about their goals and targets.

Whilst there are undoubtedly many positive things going on at West Ashton I have identified a number of priorities for moving

### EXPECTATIONS

- Pride
- Positive
- Respect
- Resilience
- Responsibility
- Aspiration

the school forward. I am hoping that we can introduce all the following before Easter:

- A new, exciting House System (Dumbledore and his sorting hat might even make an appearance). The Houses will be **Birch**, **Willow** and **Oak**. We are looking to launch this on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March. (More information to follow).
- A new rewards system that is closely linked to the House system. This will include Special Class Awards, Bronze, Silver and Gold badges, VIP lunches etc.
- We are planning to send parents/carers an interim report in the week ending 24<sup>th</sup> March. There will be a full report at the end of the academic year. The first report will have some snappy targets and will show you how much progress your son/daughter has made in the key areas of reading, writing and maths. The end of year report will provide more detail.
- Next week we will be launching a new behaviour system. Standards of behaviour and attendance must improve. The current system is not being used consistently and I have received a number of complaints from parents/carers. It will be easily understood by the pupils and there will be immediate consequences for pupils who make poor choices (they will miss some of that particular lunchtime).
- The pupils, in classes will be working on a new school prayer. All children will contribute, we will pool the ideas and come up with something that will be special to West Ashton and will raise the identity further.
- We will soon be launching our new website. I am sure that you will find it more professional and user friendly. We aim to make it as informative and interactive as possible.

- I would like to set up a new student leadership group. They will meet regularly and they will have a key role in suggesting ways in which the school can move forward. They will start by considering a change to the school motto.
- Wake and Shake will be back next week. It will take place at the start of the school day in class. Further to this I need to reinforce the importance of attendance and the impact that this has on your child's learning. They need to be punctual and ready to start the day in good time and attend school regularly. I will be addressing non-attendance and late attendance.

These are really exciting times and I fully believe that West Ashton can become a truly outstanding school. We will have achieved that aspiration when every child is making rapid academic progress, they are well balanced, resilient, confident and ready to take on the challenges of secondary school. If we work together this dream can be achieved.



**Pancake Day:** Robins and Skylarks celebrated Shrove Tuesday by being very busy in the kitchen and making pancakes. They followed their recipes and came out all shapes and sizes.

**World Book Day:** The staff and children participated in the countrywide event by dressing up as their favourite book characters. There were princesses, characters from Marvel, Harry Potters, Peter Pans and many many more. The children circulated around the classes and took part in varying classroom activities and shared their favourite stories.



**Active Kids 2017:** Active Kids is back and with your support now is the time to help our children to eat well, move well and live well. There are 3 ways to collect: Sainsbury's Local - you'll get one voucher for every £5 you spend, Sainsbury's Supermarkets - you'll be given one voucher for every £10 you spend at the till, Online at [sainsbury.co.uk](http://sainsbury.co.uk) - you will receive the equivalent of one voucher for every £10 you spend but they will be printed on one piece of paper up to a maximum of 50 vouchers - so keep this safe!

We have a collecting box in reception - so spread the word and ask your friends and family to collect as well.

**Certificates and Awards:** The certificates and awards given in last week's Celebration Assembly were as follows:

***Highest Classroom Attendance*** - Skylarks

***Class Certificates*** - Kathleen Rooney, Evie Morris, Clarissa Webster and Felix Rooney

***Expectations Awards*** – Rory Townsend, Riley Pope-Ward, Barney Rooney, Toby Webster, Hollie Carney, Alexa Lux, Abigail Squires, Logan Bell, Jack Taylor, Alexander Foo, Kayla Thomas and Thomas Bath

A very big well done to all these children.

**Key Dates:**

- Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March 5.30 to 7.30pm - POWA School Disco
- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March - Launch of the new Houses
- Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March – POWA Pamper Evening
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March – Red Nose Day
- W/E Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March – Interim reports

Other dates will be added as events are organised