

WEST ASHTON



SCHOOL



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

31st March 2017

**Message from Mr Porter** Another two weeks has flown by and Easter is fast approaching.

I hope that you found the interim report helpful. As I have said previously, a more detailed report will go out towards the end of term 6. Thank you to those of you that attended the parents evening last week. I was however, disappointed with the turn out. Attendance was only 65% and I am used to around 85% to 90% of parents attending evenings like this. It is so important that the teachers get a chance to share information with you, expand upon the content of the report and answer any queries that you have. Please let the teachers or I know if the timings made it difficult for you attend. Any other constructive feedback will be gratefully received.



I would like to make reading a key focus for terms 5 and 6. It goes without saying that the more children read (at the appropriate level) and the more they are questioned about what they read the better their understanding becomes and the greater their progress. There is also a huge amount of research which shows the relationship between the amount children read and the improvement in the quality of their writing. Please try and find time to listen to your children and ask questions about the story they are reading. I would love to see more parents in school supporting our children with their reading. If you are interested then please email the school ([finance@westashton.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:finance@westashton.wilts.sch.uk)), or let Tracy or Judy know. All we need is which days you are able to do and the times that you are available. You will need a current DBS certificate. If you don't have one then the school can sort this for you.

The children seem to have embraced the new House System and a number have been telling me about their aspirations to achieve their Bronze Badge. It won't be long before we will be awarding our first 'Halfway to Bronze' in Celebration Assembly on a Friday. I have seen a lovely team spirit (and a bit of a competitive one) at the House Assemblies. Oak House have taken an early lead in the House Competition. All to play for though.

Many thanks to all involved in organising the Pamper Evening. It seemed to be a real success (but a very late night for some!!). Last Friday we said goodbye to one of our Teaching Assistants, Mel Good. We all wish her the best for the future. She will be missed by the children and the staff. We have the Easter Egg Hunt to look forward to on Sunday and next Thursday we are taking the whole school to the church for an Easter service. Reverend Coutts will be leading.

The Student Leadership Group have been meeting. They have been considering ideas for the new school prayer and finalising ideas for the new motto.

I hope that you all have a wonderful Easter Break. Spring is such a lovely time of year.

Many thanks for your continued support.

**Red Nose Day** The children had a non-uniform day last Friday to raise funds for Red Nose Day. We raised £62 and we would like to thank all those that contributed to this worthy cause.



**Thank you** Another very worthy cause that a lot of you contributed to was by donating gifts for the Christmas Day Lunch at the Trowbridge Fire Station – organised by Mrs Gilroy – for those that spend Christmas alone and we have received a lovely letter from the Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service thanking us for the generous donations. These contributions made a huge difference to the day and they were able to make a wonderful day for a lot of people who would have otherwise been alone.

**After School Clubs** The new clubs list will be coming out early next week and one of our clubs will be a Gardening Club run by Mrs Locke. She would like to make some wind chimes with CDs etc to keep birds of the seeds and would be grateful for any donations of items that could be used.



**Wanted!** For their new topic next term, Skylarks would like you save all your empty toilet roll holders/kitchen roll holders and any other cardboard tubes that you have -

**Book Bags** To encourage the focus on reading we would like all children to have a book bag. This keeps books in good condition whilst being transported to and from school and home. The green West Ashton book bags are available from Scholars in Trowbridge at a cost of £7.50. There are a few second hand ones available in the school too.

**Sweets etc** We have had an increasing amount of sweets and confectionary being bought into school. We promote healthy eating whilst at school and we are now going to **ban** all sweets being bought into school. Any sweets bought in will be confiscated. If your child would like to celebrate their birthday with their class, please feel free to bring in cakes on this occasion. Please bring them to the office and these will then be distributed to the appropriate class.



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

**Highest Classroom Attendance** - w/e 23/03/17 Robins      w/e 30/03/17 Robins

**Class Certificates** – w/e 24/03/17 Isabelle Foo, Tommy Wall, Eleanor Squires

w/e 31/03/17 Isabel Hinds, Tilly Lewis, Gracie Davies

**Expectations Awards** – w/e 24/03/17 Nicola Plant, Castiel Weston, Barney Rooney, Jasmine Molloy, Henry Montecute, Joshua Locke, Kinga Oalch, Summer Mounty, Kathleen Wall

w/e 31/03/17 Mia Faulkner, Abigail Squires, Isaac Shore, Oliver Chapman, Larry McCarthy, Kayla Thomas, Alexa Lux, Sasha Baldam, Toby Webster

A very big well done to all these children.

**Key Dates:**

- Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April - Easter Egg Hunt
- Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April – Skylarks Class Assembly
- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April - Easter Service at St Johns Church
- Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April – POWA EGM
- Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April – Last day of Term 4
- Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April – Term 5 starts
- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May – Bank Holiday
- Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May – TD Day
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May – School Group Photos
- Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May – Last day of Term 5

