

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

28<sup>th</sup> April 2017

**Message from Mr Porter** I hope you all had a lovely Easter break.

Many thanks to those parents that attended the Easter service at St Johns Church. The sun was shining and it was a lovely way to end a very busy term. The Easter Egg Hunt Day was a success. We were once again blessed with glorious weather and there was a steady stream of people throughout the day. Once again, many thanks to 'Friends of West Ashton' for their fantastic support.

I have included our new school prayer in this newsletter. All the pupils and staff in the school contributed to the words and actions. The student leadership team had the final say. The children have been practicing the new prayer this week. They are getting there, but it will be a few weeks before everyone knows it off by heart.

We held our first Academy Council Meeting (This was the Governing Body). I was delighted with the number of applications we received and we have managed to recruit a very experienced Chair in Steve Farndale. He is currently at Beckington School which has an Ofsted Judgement of Outstanding. I feel very confident that we have a strong group of members that will challenge, support and contribute greatly to the progress of the school over the next few years. I have included the names of the members in this newsletter.

### West Ashton Academy Council

Steve Farndale – Chair  
Catherine Holland – Deputy Chair  
Stuart Porter – Interim Headteacher  
Rev. Allan Coutts  
Amanda Bridewell  
Jean Covington  
Mari Webster  
Sarah Morris  
Richard Foo  
Marlene Pike  
Neil Turnbull  
Judy Jones - Clerk

We will strive to improve our communication with you. I would like to get a full electronic calendar in place for 2017/2018 by the end of the summer term. This will have all key dates for the whole year.

### School Prayer

*Dear Lord*

*Thank you for the homes we live in* (Hands together in a roof shape), *the food we are given* (hand to mouth) *for all our family and friends* (arms out and around).

*Thank you for creating our lovely school* (hand to brow and looking around).

*Bless all the children and please keep them safe* (cross arms across chest).

*Please help us to do our best at all times and to show love and respect to one another.* (Draw hands from the heart)

*We offer our love and friendship* (shake own hands) *and wish for peace amongst us all.*

*Amen*

We have already started to plan dates for next year e.g. we have two joint TD Days across all the primary schools in the MAT – 18<sup>th</sup> October and 29<sup>th</sup> March. We are planning to launch our new website on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May (possibly sooner). We are going to start again and it will be work in progress for a while. More detail will be added as we move towards the summer holidays.

You will see within this newsletter the results from the vote on our new school motto. All pupils and parents had the chance to vote and you can see that we had a great response and that we have a clear winner.

**'Believe, Aspire, Achieve'**

This will be on the new signs and all letters going out from the school.

I have a few requests for holidays during term time. Can I please urge parents not to do this. I fully appreciate that it can be much cheaper to go on holiday outside of the school holidays, but the evidence of the negative impact this can have on a child's progress is overwhelming. It is highly unlikely that I will authorise these requests and I am required to inform the Local Authority when a child has a certain number of unauthorised days. The Local Authority will then issue a fine and this will amount to £60 per parent, per child.

#### School Motto Results:

Believe, aspire, achieve (85)  
Never stop trying (24)  
Be the best that you can be (47)  
Step by step, but always forward (16)  
Explore, excite, excel (25)  
Together aspire, together achieve (27)

As you are aware we use 'Active Trowbridge' for breakfast, after School clubs, wrap around care and curriculum sessions. I have been impressed by their enthusiasm and attitude and I have now asked them to run sports activities every lunch time. This is proving to be a big hit with the children.

That's all for now

Mr Porter

**Reading Record** We will be returning to using reading records for children and adults to record reading in. We understand that this was a helpful way for communication and we would still be encouraging any comments, questions, or queries to be noted inside the reading records. We will continue to check these on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday but if you do have anything of an urgent or sensitive nature that you would like to discuss, please pop into the classroom before 8.55am.

**Fizz Pop Science** Fizz Pop Science came in on Thursday to give an assembly to the children. Their aim is to inspire children into gaining an interest in the Sciences. They provide after school workshops with thought provoking hands on experiments and tasks. You can sign up to a 5 week programme for £36.00 and letters were given out to the children regarding this.

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

***Highest Classroom Attendance*** - w/e 06/04/17 Robins w/e 27/04/17 Skylarks

**100% attendance** – Evie Morris, Isabelle Foo, Sasha Baldam, Isabel Heywood, Henry Montecute, Beth Williams

**99% Attendance** – Abigail Squires, Clarissa Webster, Castiel Weston, Alexander Foo, Jack Le Gry, Thomas Metcalf, Logan Bell, Gracie Davies, Marshal Hyndman, Finley Lewis, Eleanor Squires, Toby Webster, Alisha Welch

***Class Certificates*** – w/e 07/04/17 Kathleen Rooney, Jasmine Molloy, Larry Rooney

w/e 28/04/17 Tilly Lewis, Thomas Bath, Sasha Kamunga

***Expectations Awards*** – w/e 07/04/17 Rose Stower-Draper, Owen Squires, Harry Pritchard, Lily Gooderson, Evie Morris, Joshua Locke, Alisha Welch, Finley Lewis, Logan Bell

w/e 28/04/17 Jaime Noad, Jack Taylor, Jimmy Gammell, Brook Beeson-Shore, Larry McCarthy, Justin Chen, Finley Lewis, Tom Roberts, Gracie Davies

A very big well done to all these children.

#### **Key Dates:**

- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May – BANK HOLIDAY
- Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May – TD Day
- Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May – People String Foundation visiting
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May – Group Photos
- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – Skylarks & Robins Trip to Farley Castle
- Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June – Bikeability
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July – TD Day

