

WEST ASHTON



SCHOOL



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Voluntary Aided Primary School
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Newsletter

17th March 2017

Message from Mr Porter The last two weeks have flown by and it has been busy! During this period we have introduced a new behaviour system, launched a House system, established our student leadership team and created a new rewards system. The next few weeks could prove to be just as eventful.

- We are looking to establish a new Academy Council. A few members of the old Governing Body will continue, but we are seeking new members to strengthen the leadership capacity of the school. We have had a number of applications from parents and staff. If you are interested please would you let Judy know by Wednesday 22nd March.
- We are getting closer to the launch of the new website. We are in the process of finalising the design and making changes to some of the content. We should be going live this side of Easter.
- Miss Buckley and I will meet the Student Leadership Team for the first time, next week. The nine members (including the six House Captains) will be discussing a new school prayer, a new school motto, a House display and the website.
- I met with representatives from 'Parents of West Ashton' and members of staff in the school to consider how we can enhance resources for the children and the school environment. Suggestions included some work to improve the 'quiet area', some football goals, replacing the school signs and adding to the play equipment.
- Parents will receive a new style interim report at the end of next week. Please look carefully at the progress made from the start of the year, the attendance and the targets set. There will be a chance to discuss this at the parents evening on Tuesday 28th March. You will also receive some useful booklets. These provide information on year related Maths, spelling and writing targets.
- I will be holding attendance meetings with parents where attendance is below 90%. Although attendance has improved it is still below the national average and raising this level will become a major target for the year.
- We will hold our first of three class assemblies before Easter. Parents will be invited in to listen to what the children have been working on recently.
- Following a meeting with Reverend Coutts we have planned in a service at St Johns church (6th April at 2.30pm). Reverend Coutts will deliver an assembly next Tuesday to all pupils. Other events to look forward to include Mother's Day Pamper Evening on Thursday 23rd March and The Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday 2nd April.
- We are having to say a temporary goodbye to Mrs Alice Bristowe as she leaves us today to go on maternity leave. We wish her all the best for her new baby and expanding family.

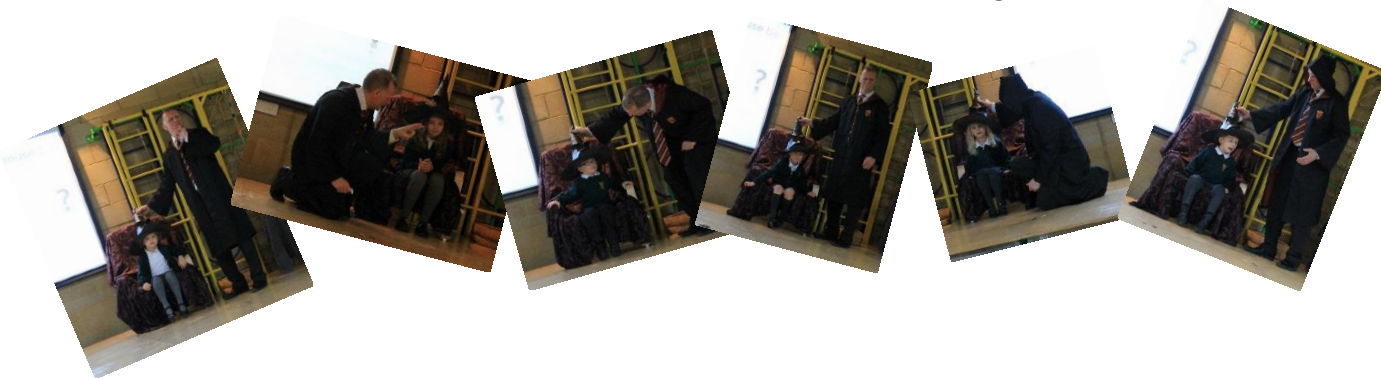


We are also sadly having to say goodbye to Miss Mel Good at the end of next week as she moves on to pastures new. Mel has been with the school for almost 6 years and we would like to thank her for all her input and contributions that she has made over the years. Good luck with the new job Mel!

- Finally, many thanks to 'The Parents of West Ashton' and the staff who stayed late on a Friday evening for organising a very successful disco.

Many thanks for your continued support

House Launch On Monday the school was transported into a Harry Potter atmosphere as Mr Porter dressed up as the character Dumbledore and brought his Sorting Hat into the school to sort the children into their new houses of **Oak Willow** and **Birch**. Each child's name was drawn and they sat on the chair and the Sorting Hat decided the choice of House. Here is a selection of the children and their encounters with the Sorting Hat!



Once the children had all been selected they congregated together in their respected Houses and took part in various activities to get to know each other.



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 09/03/17 Skylarks w/e 16/03/17 Eagles

Class Certificates – w/e 10/03/17 Jacob Squires, Joshua Locke, Maia Hobbs, Tom Roberts

w/e 17/03/17 Samuel Windel, Cherry Cao, Marshal Hyndman

Expectations Awards – w/e 10/03/17 Isabel Hinds, Harvey Devenney, Castiel Weston, Isabel Heywood, Lily Gooderson, Jonathan Cruikshank, Eleanor Squires, Gracie Davies, Kinga Olach, Jack Le Grys, Beth Williams and Jamie Noad.

w/e 17/03/17 Max Roberts, Jacob Squires, Hollie Carney, Lily Gooderson, Lewis Cordon, Oakley Noad, Phoenix Kenyon, Sasha Kamunga, Brendon Williams, Paddy Rooney, Barney Rooney and Jasmine Molloy.

A very big well done to all these children.

Key Dates:

- Tuesday 21st March – House Celebration Assembly
- Thursday 23rd March – POWA Pamper Evening
- Friday 24th March – Red Nose Day
- W/E Friday 24th March – Interim reports
- Tuesday 28th March - Parents Evening
- Sunday 2nd April - Easter Egg Hunt
- Thursday 6th April - Easter Service at St Johns Church
- Friday 7th April – POWA EGM
- Friday 19th May – School Group Photos

