



Dear Parents,

We are finding it very hard to believe that we are now at the end of the fourth week back! There is lots happening in school, at this time of year and, as I write, nativity songs and enterprise preparation can be heard. Although a very festive time of year, it marks the end of a long Autumn Term. There has been quite a bit of sickness but spirits are high with staff and children working hard to make as much progress as possible before the holiday break.

I would like to thank you for your parent survey responses, which the Trust have now passed on to each of the schools. There was a large take-up so thank you very much for your engagement. I am very pleased with the positive responses and grateful for the kind comments about our provision. As a reflective practitioner, I am mulling over the 'Even Better Ifs...' and will work with the Senior Leadership Team and demonstrate progress against these as the next two terms develop. Once we have analysed the results of the survey, I aim to publish the results for parents, in the new year, with an explanation of how your feedback will have an impact our School Development Plan. As I have always said: we are making progress as a school but we know we can be better and we want to work hard to make West Monkton as fantastic a school as possible. Have a festive fortnight and I look forward to writing again before we break up.

Best wishes

James Blackmore

Headteacher

Children in Need

What a fantastic day we had, with lots of children in pyjamas/onesies and a visit from Pudsey Bear himself! We raised a huge £341.23!!! A big thank you to all our school community and children.

Year 3

Year 3 had the great pleasure to have 3 performing art specialists visit from Taunton School. They learnt a song and a dance in an afternoon, where they worked together as a group and in pairs. By the end of the session, Year 3 had a fabulous performance about The Great Fire of London and performed it to Year 4 and Mr Blackmore. This was a fantastic opportunity for Year 3 and they created something amazing together. Well done Year 3!

Forest School

We are very excited to have received a number of saplings from the Woodland Trust as part of their "Free trees for schools" program and our ongoing establishment and development of our Forest School and outdoor learning provision. With a mixtures of trees and hedging shrubs including silver birch, rowan, wild cherry and crab apple, we will be planting and nurturing these new additions before the Christmas holidays.

Opal

Thank you to ...

Mr and Mrs Warren for the tractor tyres. Oli from Southwest Gas Services for the amazing donation of an outside speaker. Mr Manley for the delivery of 70 tyres! Mrs Woolcott for the gift of many fancy dress costumes that she purchased for the school.

Trash to treasure – If you have any of the following we would be extremely grateful: Unused bicycle helmets, balls of any shape or size, wooden kitchen (although we have the mud kitchen it would be great to have a non-mud kitchen on KS1), skipping ropes and plastic see-saws. The big wish is to have a wooden boat on site – does anyone have any connections that may help us get one?

PTA Christmas Disco – Friday 6th December

KS1 – 6-7pm (parents to stay) and KS2 7:15-8:30pm. Forms available in reception. Cost £2.50.

Events for December

1st Christingle Service - St Augustine's Church 4pm.

5th Living Nativity for Year 2's

9th Nursery Nativity

11th and 12th EYFS Nativity - 2pm in school.

12th Worship Council and School Council Year 5/6 -

singing carols at West Monkton Village Hall at 10:30am.

13th Year 3 and 4 Christmas Fayre - After school.

15th Outdoor Lantern Service – Bathpool Chapel at 3:30pm.

16th, 17th and 18th KS1 Nativity - 2pm in school.

17th Year 6 Enterprise - After school.

19th Candlelight Carol Service in School - 3.30pm (Mrs Martin's last service)

West Monkton's Girls' Under-11s Futsal Players are the County Champions.

They came through undefeated when they took on five other teams in the county finals at Bridgwater & Taunton College. Their achievement means they go through to represent Somerset in the South West Regional Finals at Torquay in the New Year. The victorious Team Monkton are pictured with the county trophy and their medals. They are, back row, left to right: Sasha P, Addison D, Lia P. Front: Mollie S, Maisy S, Heidi R-W. Well done girls!



What's happening this fortnight?

Sunday 1 st December	Christingle Service
Tuesday 3 rd December	Community Cafe
Thursday 5 th December	Living Nativity – Yr 2

Friday 6 th December	Pta School Disco
Monday 9 th December	Nursery Nativity
Wednesday 11 th and Thursday 12 th December	EYFS Nativity

Headteacher: Mr James Blackmore

Chair of Governors: Mr Paul Spencer

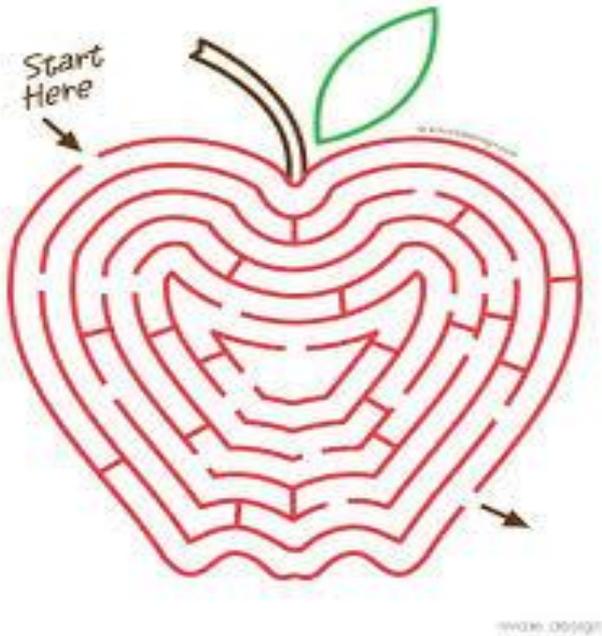
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West Monkton C.E. Primary School Newsletter

Where everyone has the courage and confidence to fly.

Puzzle Corner



Dates for the Diary

Friday 20th December – Last Day of Term (Party Day)

Monday 6th January – Start of Term

Phrase of the Fortnight

miStAkEs
are proof
that you are
TRYING

Trampoline Success

Congratulations to Ellie-Mai who represented the school at a recent trampolining championships. Well done Ellie-Mai, we are very proud of you!



Books for Schools

Thanks to one of our parents, our school has registered for The Sun newspaper's campaign, 'Books for Schools'. We need to collect 3,500 tokens between Saturday 23rd November and Saturday 18th January in order to receive new books for our school library. 20,000 schools will get the chance to get a free pack of books worth more than £600. Please send any tokens into your child's teacher. Many thanks, Mrs Ward

Community Links in the BACH and at School

Mondays

Yogalates 9.15am

Pure Pilates 6.30pm-7.30pm

Yogalates 6.15pm

Taunton Table Tennis 7.30pm-9.30pm

Rachel Fortnum Glow Club 7.30pm

Tuesdays

Community Café in the BACH with Paul Elliston 2-4pm

Pound Fitness 6.15pm

Yogalates 7.30pm

Wednesdays

Bounce and Burn 5.45pm – 8pm

Thursdays

Yogalates 9.15am

Sewing 10am-12pm except 2nd week 11am-1pm

Ballet Beatz 6.30pm-7.30pm (Dance Studio)

Pure Pilates 6.30pm -7.30pm

Rachel Fortnum Fitness 7.30pm

Fridays

Miranda Boom, Hartbeeps 9.30am-12pm

Saturdays

Taunton Table Tennis 10am-12pm

Christmas Community Get Together

The Parish Council is organising a Christmas Community Get Together on Wednesday 4th December at the BACH from 5:30pm until 7:30pm. Meet other Parish residents, hirers and users of the BACH, Parish, District and County Councillors, Neighbourhood Plan Volunteers and share festive treats and good cheer. Suitable for all ages.

Leaflets

Mrs Gilby, an Usborne Book representative, will leave some leaflets at the school office. If you are interested in ordering some books from Usborne, then please visit our school office to pick up your leaflet from Monday.

Mr Standerwick is offering family photo shoots in the BACH – again leaflets are available in reception.