

**WESTERN ROAD C.P.SCHOOL**

Southover High Street
Lewes, East Sussex BN7 1JB
Telephone: 01273 473013
Headteacher: Irèna Wooler

<http://www.westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk>

Fax: 01273 470233

Newsletter No 8 – Friday, 14th February 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your support this term – it has certainly been busy with open afternoons, fixtures, trips, focus weeks and fundraising opportunities. We hope you all have a relaxing half-term and look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, 25th February.

Online Safety Focus

The school welcomed Andrew Gunn, a leading Computing Consultant for ESCC, on Thursday, 13th February. He led workshops with parents and children in each Key Stage, highlighting the benefits to online use and how to stay safe.

In January, the Local Authority hosted a Safeguarding Conference which included key speakers on the importance of online safety. One particular resource is now on our school website (News, February 2020) and features Goldilocks who realises the hidden dangers of posting photographs online which may be useful for you to share at home.

In the afternoon Catherine McAllister, Head of Editorial Standards and Safeguarding at Children's BBC presented on the recently launched **BBC Own it App**. This innovative app is downloaded on to a child's phone and will actively monitor the content of their social media interactions. This is not an app which allows parents to spy on their children, instead it will prompt children to reconsider the use of harmful language in messages or provide signposting to support if a child indicates they are distressed. It's a really clever piece of software: have a look at the link for more information <https://www.bbc.com/ownit>

Within the presentation Catherine spoke about the following three concepts:

- Digital Natives
- Digital Footprint
- Independent Digital Citizens

Children do not know a world without the internet and smart phones (unlike us old folk) so in that respect they are digital natives. This may give the impression that they know what they're doing with technology but demonstrably they do not! Digital footprint speaks for itself. The app is aimed at supporting children to become independent digital citizens.

At the moment the app only picks up on harmful language, such as children saying they hate someone or that wish they were dead etc. In time the BBC want to develop the app to identify the 'language of resistance' to identify when children may be being coerced or pressured into things, so that the app can then signpost towards speaking with an adult or seeking support elsewhere.

Visit to Kent Life

Year 3 had a great time during their trip to Kent Life on Thursday, 6th February. We took part in a Viking workshop, had a train ride round the park, had fun playing in the playground and saw some pigs!



Visit to Brooklands Motor Museum

“Year 2 had a school trip to Brooklands Motor Museum on Tuesday, 4th February 2020...We went to look in the King of Oman’s plane. It was amazing, it even had beds! After lunch we went to look inside the clean Concorde. The Concorde was fantastic. After that John showed us some modern bikes and shiny old racing cars...I was exhausted and very excited to get home with my mummy and daddy.” (Martha, Year 2)



World Book Day

This year World Book Day is on Thursday, 5th March 2020 and our theme for the day is ‘We love reading’. Your child is welcome to dress up to show the theme, or come as their favourite book character, or to dress in school uniform and bring their favourite book to share with their class. More details about the day’s events will follow next term but we wanted to give you enough notice in case you needed time to prepare props/costumes etc.

Staffing Update

Miss Chloe Sheppard, the long-term cover teacher, will continue to teach Year Four until further notice. Mrs Bracher will be taking over the PPA role (planning, preparation and assessment time) for each class teacher for Term 4, working Mondays to Thursdays.

Safe-Guarding Children at Western Road Community Primary School: At Western Road Community Primary, all staff take safeguarding children very seriously. All staff have been trained in Safeguarding and Child Protection. If you have any concerns about a child’s well-being, bullying or e-safety, please contact the Designated Teachers for Child Protection: **Mrs Wooler**.

Chartwells Visit

Chartwells are inviting all parents and carers to an open session on Wednesday, 26th February at 9.15am in the School Hall. Please do let Mrs Winter know if you are able to attend to allow for numbers for food tasting.

Enrichment

We now have a number of enrichment activities at lunchtimes and after school to encourage a variety of experiences. However, the girls' football, run by Albion in the Community, only had three girls attend this week. Please do see Miss Doone or Mrs Wooler if you would like your daughter to attend this free lunchtime club.

SENCo

In Mrs Bradshaw's absence (whilst on sabbatical in New Zealand) Mrs Suzy Bennett has taken on the role and works as SENCO on Tuesdays. If you have any queries or would like make an appointment to see her, please do email senco@westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk Thank you.

News from FWR

Quiz Night

Our quiz, curry and auction raised over **£3,000** on Monday night. Thank you to everyone who bought a ticket and bid on an auction lot, the money will go towards our plans for a new all-weather shelter in the Key Stage Two playground. A big thank you to the generous parents and carers for donating some amazing prizes.

Funding

This term we have funded £660 for Year 6 for Patina (the full amount requested by Patina).

Our Committee

Our AGM is at the end of March and several members are stepping down and we are looking for new committee members. Come and join us and find out more about what we do. Speak to Sarah in the playground or contact us. We need people to plan and run several events including our Summer Fair, Ice Cream Fridays and Halloween Disco. Could you or with a friend plan one event this year? You would have the full support of the committee. If no one steps forward these events won't happen this year, so please consider if you can help.

We would like to say a huge thank you to Charlie Hasan, Michelle Hockey and Lucy Foss who are stepping down from the committee after helping raise a huge amount of money over the years and running many successful events.

Events 2020

FWR AGM and Committee meeting (all welcome) – Monday, 23rd March at 2.30pm.

Easter Disco in the school hall – Thursday, 2nd April

FWR Committee meeting (all welcome) – Monday, 18th May at 2.30pm

Summer Fair – Saturday, 13th June TBC

FWR Committee meeting (all welcome) – Monday, 6th July at 2.30pm

Contact Us

A reminder you can follow us on Instagram @friendswesternrd and Facebook @FriendsofWesternRoad for news about our events. Or email us on westernroad.friends@outlook.com or leave a message at the school office for us.

Many thanks

FWR

Key Dates

Celebration Assemblies:

Friday, 28th February 2020, 9.15am

Friday, 13th March 2020, 9.15am

Friday, 27th March 2020, 9.15am

Events:

INSET Day

Term 4 begins

Chartwells open session for parents and carers

Parents' Evening

Parents' Evening

World Book Day

STEM Week

Sport Relief Week

Voice In A Million (School Choir)

FWR Easter Disco

End of Term 4

Term 5 begins

Bank Holiday - VE Day Celebrations

Year 6 SATS

Term 5 ends

Final INSET Day for this academic year

Term 6 begins

Monday, 24th February 2020

Tuesday, 25th February 2020

Wednesday, 26th February 2020, 9.15am

Tuesday, 3rd March 2020, 3.40pm – 6.30pm

Thursday, 5th March 2020, 4.30pm – 7.30pm

Thursday, 5th March 2020 (see above)

Week beginning 9th March 2020

Week beginning 9th March 2020

Wednesday, 18th March 2020

Thursday, 2nd April 2020

Friday, 3rd April 2020

Monday, 20th April 2020

Friday, 8th May 2020

Week beginning 11th May 2020

Thursday, 21st May 2020

Friday, 22nd May 2020

Monday, 1st June 2020