



A small school, dreaming big

Thursday 12th December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

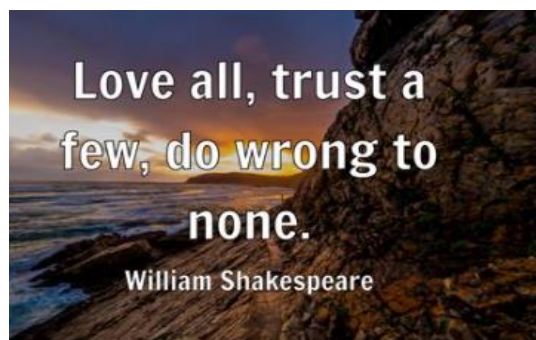
The past few weeks have felt very festive, following our wonderfully successful Christmas lights switch on - Santa did such a great job. Very kind of him to drop by at this time of year when he must be so busy. I hope that those of you who came to our Christmas Fayre enjoyed the fun activities and delicious treats. Big thanks to the Friends of Westbury, it was a lovely evening.

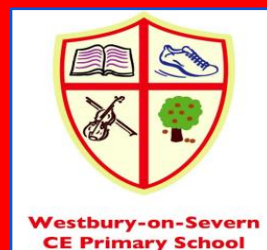
There has been lots of music in school this week, with the Oak Class guitar concert in the hall yesterday and in the afternoon, Willow class sang their hearts out in the heart-warming Nativity. Big thanks to parents and carers who attended. We also had a fantastic show of families for our Tuesday morning drop in. The children love to show you their work, whether in books, or on stage. It really builds their confidence- you are their favourite audience. I hope you enjoyed seeing the wide range of interesting learning in school this Autumn. If I don't see you in person before the end of term, have a wonderful Christmas, enjoy time with family, friends and your children.

Anna-Mai Armstrong
Headteacher

WORSHIP

Our value this term is TRUST





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Class News



CHESTNUTS

It was so wonderful performing the Nativity for everyone on Wednesday. The children have loved the singing and working with pupils in Willow class these past few weeks. The children have also been very creative and are taking part in lots of different Christmas craft activities which they can't wait to bring home at the end of the week! They have enjoyed learning all about the different traditional fairy tales this term. Happy Christmas everyone!



WILLOW

In Willow class, the children are still enjoying *I Am Henry Finch* in English. We have created mindfulness books, which include pictures of things that make us feel calm and ways to focus our thoughts. In Maths, Year 1 have been working on partitioning the number 7, while the Reception children have been ordering numerals up to 6. In PE, the children have been continuing with their dance routines. Our classroom is starting to look very festive, and Willow class have been practicing their present-wrapping skills. We also hope you enjoyed watching our Nativity as much as we have enjoyed practicing it!



SYCAMORE

The children did a fantastic job in their dream big worship and all enjoyed sharing a section of their speeches with the whole school and their families. We have now begun planning a letter to write to earth like Tessa does in the book **Dear Earth**. In DT we have been planning our own hummus to make next week and the children have been choosing a different ingredient to add to the main recipe to make theirs unique. In Science we have been learning about animals and their habitats as well as about food chains. We are all enjoying our Christmas advent of books that we read each day unwrapped by a different child each day. The countdown has definitely begun in Sycamore Class and we wish you all a wonderful Christmas.



OAK

Oak class have started looking at the poem '**The Night Mail**' and we've used our analysis to plan our own Christmas version 'The Sleigh Mail'. It was lovely to see so many of you at our open morning and the children loved sharing their work with family and friends. Our guitar concert was a roaring success; this term has been brilliant fun learning our new skill, and we loved sharing it with everyone who came. In our RE we have been looking at how teaching from the Bible shows us what kind of a world Jesus wanted, and how Christians try to show this in how they live their life.



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Celebration Awards

Every *Friday* we celebrate pupils' achievements during our Celebration Assembly.

This year our Awards and Certificates as follows:

Weekly Academic Excellence Award -per class

Termly Westbury Way Award- whole school

Termly Purple Learner Award- per class

If your child achieves something spectacular out of school, they are welcome to bring in medals, trophies or certificates on a Friday and we will share their success with the whole school.

Willow Class Academic Excellence Awards: Millie and George

Sycamore Class Academic Excellence Awards: Ellis and Greg

Oak Class Academic Excellence Awards: Pearl and Lily

We will announce this term's Purple Learners and Westbury Way award winner in the first newsletter of next term in January.

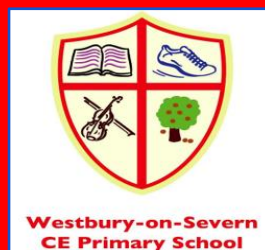
Attendance update

Sept 1st – December 10th 2024 = **96.6%**



We have maintained above the national attendance levels all term, so far- brilliant news!

Whole School Target - **98%**



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Dates for your diary

12th December: Christmas Jumper Day

13th December: Aladdin Pantomime Workshop in school by Cheltenham Playhouse

17th December: Christmas Church service 9.15am- Everyone welcome. Bring your singing voice for Christmas carols.

18th December: Christmas Lunch in the hall

19th December: Pyjama Day in school! Come to school in pyjamas! We will have cosy reading time and Friends will be serving hot chocolate. See below!

20th December: There are rumours that Father Christmas might be making a visit to Westbury today.....the last day of term.

8th January: Whole school to Cheltenham Everyman to see Aladdin.

29th January: Y1 Parents phonics meeting in Willow.

3rd February: National Storytelling Week- we are inviting a Storyteller in to tell the school stories and work with each class.

11th February: Internet Safety Day

13th February: Last day of term 3

14th February: INSET DAY for staff training.

19th December- Pyjama Day



On the penultimate day of term, the Friends have organised a Pyjama Day to raise funds for school. We ask that children bring a pair of pjs, or other nightwear, into school in a named bag, (slippers and dressing gown optional) for a Reading for Pleasure with hot chocolate session in the afternoon. We are asking for £1 donations for the day to support Friends. Children can bring a favourite book in from home to read if they like or choose a book from the library/reading corner.



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PANTO TIME

Our whole school trip to the Everyman Theatre Cheltenham is just around the corner on **Wednesday 8th January 2025** to see the pantomime Aladdin.

Payment for the pantomime needs to be through ParentPay. Could we kindly ask you to ensure we have received payment by **18th December 2024**, thank you to those who have already paid.

A reminder that there will be **no hot lunches** on the day. Parents of Free School Meal children and Universal Infant Free School meal children (R-Y2) are able to order a free packed lunch from the kitchen if they would like to. Please let the school office know as soon as possible if your child would like one ordered. There is a choice of ham or cheese sandwiches.





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Miss Walls and Mrs Roseblade are stars in this show!

Thumbelina
A PANTOMIME
WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY
MARK LANDON
WESTBURY
PARISH HALL

PERFORMANCES:
MEAL NIGHTS 7:00 for 7:30pm start
Saturday 25th January
Friday 31st January
Saturday 1st February
MATINÉE 3:00 for 3:30pm start
Sunday 26th January

TICKETS:
Meal Night: £17.50
Matinée: £5
£2 child under 16

BOX OFFICE: NOVEMBER 17TH 11.00AM



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Books for Christmas

Children might like to put these on their lists to Santa, or borrow from the library for a cosy, festive bedtime read, or pyjama day!

