



A small school, dreaming big

Thursday 28th November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are starting to feel festive here at Westbury. Nativity rehearsals are in full swing and we are looking forward to the Lights switch on tomorrow night at 6pm. I have heard that Santa will be visiting and there will be lots of festive activities in the hall. Do come along if you can, it will be a lovely occasion. Thanks to the Friends of Westbury for organising it.

In this wintry weather, we require that every child has a coat in school- ideally waterproof so we can go out on rainy days too, part of our OPAL approach.

If you have any spare coats you could donate, we could build up a "coat bank" for pupils who may have forgotten that day. This means they can go out to play in all weathers.

Anna-Mai Armstrong
Headteacher

WORSHIP

Our value this term is TRUST



Matthew 6, v 26-27

"Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?"

We explored this verse from the Bible, in relation to climate change on Monday. How we need not worry, but how we could also "do our bit" as guardians of our beautiful planet.



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Class News



CHESTNUTS

Chestnuts have been busy practising for the Nativity, they have joined with Willow class to rehearse every day. The children have enjoyed exploring the different sensory trays that have been appearing in class, the most popular one being the farm with lentils, pasta and cereal! The children have been focusing on the number 8 and the letter 't'. They are enjoying finding out what items are in the box for that week's sound.



WILLOW

In Willow class, the children have been exploring dance and movement in PE, creating their own routines to a pirate song! In English, we've started a new book, I Am Henry Finch, and the class are enjoying the adventures of Henry, the curious little bird. In Maths, Year 1 have been busy working on place value, exploring numbers up to 100 whilst reception have been beginning to recognise numerals up to 5 and looking at shapes with 4 sides. In Geography, the children have been making their own maps of the school, learning about map keys and symbols. Alongside all of this, we are also continuing to practice for the Nativity performance, which we are all super excited about!



SYCAMORE

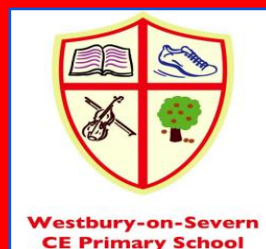
Sycamore Class have been finding out about plants and animals and how they are adapted to their habitats in Science.

In English we have been writing speeches about how to help look after the earth ready for our Dream Big worship next Tuesday. You will hopefully have received our invitation for this. In Maths Year 3 have started their addition unit but adding three digit numbers to 1 digit numbers. The Year 2s have been continuing their addition journey, adding 2 two-digit numbers.



OAK

Oak class have completed their unit in English by writing their own Iron Man inspired stories. We have described the adventures of tarmac dragons, glass owls, plastic spiders and many more. In DT we have looked at the history of space travel and have tested and tweaked our own rocket designs. In our RE we have started by looking at the disciples and how their roles were difficult to take on.



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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: Hattie and Marnie
Sycamore Class Academic Excellence Awards: Eliza and Max KD
Oak Class Academic Excellence Awards: Liz and Noah

Attendance update

Sept 1st – November 27th 2024 = 96.3%



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

29th November: Baby and Toddler group in the school hall **10-11.30am** and Christmas light switch on- mulled wine, mince pies, grotto, raffle **6pm** onwards- organised by Friends- see poster later in newsletter

10th December: Open Classrooms from 8.30-9.15am- drop in for Parents and carers to see children's work in all subjects this term. Siblings welcome!

11th December: 9.30am: Oak pupils Guitar Concert, Parents and carers welcome
2.15pm: Willow and Chestnut class Nativity show "On a Starry Night ". Parents and Carers welcome.

12th December: Christmas Jumper Day

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

17th December: Christmas Church service 9.15am- Everyone welcome.

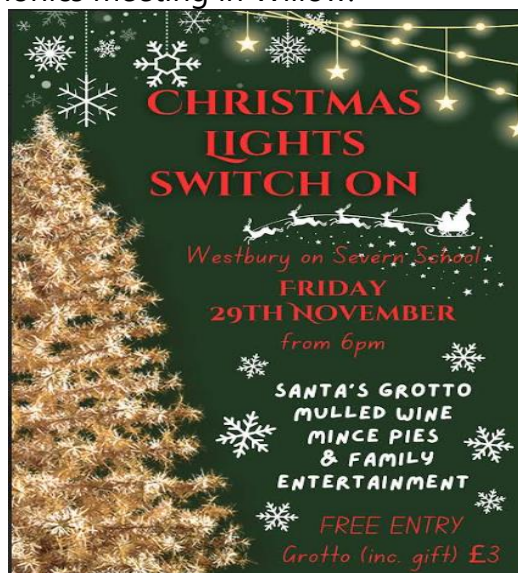
18th December: Christmas Lunch in the hall

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

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.

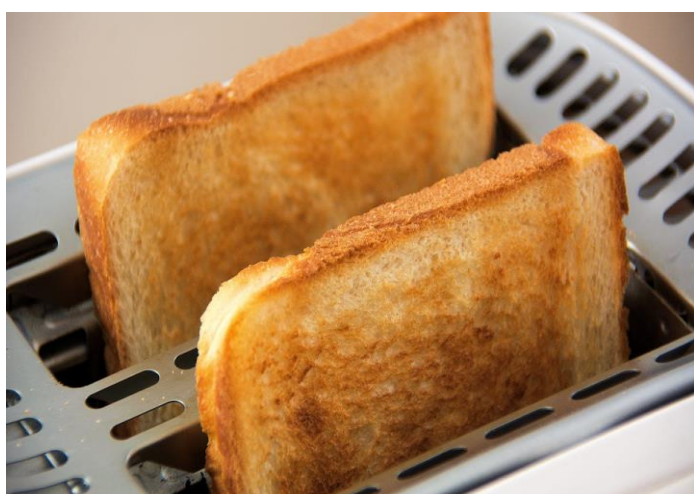




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Toast and Snack Time



Every morning between 10 and 10.30, before break time, the toasting starts and a lovely smell permeates the classrooms. We offer a hot piece of buttered toast to every child that asks because we don't want anyone to go hungry. We ask for a donation of **£1 a week or 20p per day** to help with costs.

Any profit from this goes into school funds.

If children do not want toast, they can have a healthy snack at break time. Reception, Y1 and Y2 get free fruit, which is a government funded scheme. If we have too much fruit, we do offer it to the older children. If you do pack a snack for your child, please make sure it is healthy and, ideally, with minimum packaging so that the playground is not littered.



Do you have any play cars, or superhero/dolls characters that you could donate for our playtimes?

Also dolls prams, or old strollers. (full size or toy)

Thanks



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School Council's letter of thanks to everyone- Fab effort!



Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for supporting our fundraising for Children in Need. We all had a great time rolling round the playground on our wheels and managed over 1000 laps in total.

We have counted all the monies donated in cash and online and have raised a fantastic £513 pounds! What an amazing amount for a small school!

Thank you.

Sidney, Hatty, Eliza, Seb, Alex, Nia and Bethany



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Christmas Lunch will be served on **Wednesday 18th December**. The kitchen would like to know an approximate number of meals required, so if your child would like to order a lunch please let Mrs Keidel-Doggrell know by **Monday 2nd December**. Thank you!





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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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Both Mrs Walls and Mrs Roseblade will be starring in this show at the Parish Hall!

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