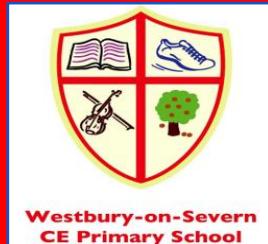


# Westbury-on-Severn C of E Primary School Newsletter



## A small school, dreaming big

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2025

### Dear Parents and Carers,

Christmas is nearly upon us and we have been marking it's coming with lots of Christmassy themed activities in school, as well as continuing with the routines of daily learning in English and Maths. It was lovely to see so many families in the church this morning, singing Carols and watching the children's confident performances. Father David is retiring at the end of this year, we wish him all the best in his retirement.

Please do supply children with a bag on the last day of term so they can take home cards/waterproofs and wellies if need be. The elves are doing their rounds every day, delivering cards to each class from our main post-box.

Also, check your inboxes for the list of clubs for next term- you can sign up for as many as you choose, providing there are spaces.

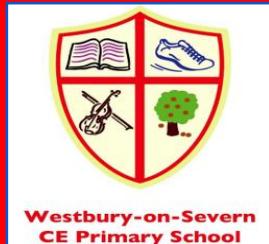
Let me take this opportunity to wish you much joy and peace this Christmas with family and friends and I hope you have time to rest and enjoy time together. And a Happy New Year for 2026! We will see you again on 6<sup>th</sup> January.

**Anna-Mai Armstrong**  
Headteacher

### *SCHOOL VALUES* **COMPASSION**



In Worship we have been looking at charity work that happens in certain communities over Christmas to support the lonely and vulnerable.



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### Class News



#### CHESTNUTS

All the children performed brilliantly in the Nativity last week. What a lovely way to end the term! We are so proud of how confident and enthusiastic they were. The children have also been busy making Christmas crafts to bring home and share with you — please look out for the bags coming home. In learning time, our focus letters have been **I** and **N**, and the children have enjoyed learning all about the number **10**. I would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and look forward to seeing everyone again in the New Year.



#### WILLOW

We hope you all enjoyed our Nativity performance, "Shine Star Shine," as the children truly shone and were brilliant. The last few weeks have been full of Christmas fun; we have created Christmas cards and the Reception children have been practising writing their names. In Year 1 maths, we have been ordering and comparing numbers, and in DT we created moving posters using sliders and levers. What a fabulous end to the year for Willow Class – I am going to miss you all and thank you for being such a wonderful class to teach.



#### SYCAMORE

Sycamore class have had a busy and very festive end to the term. Over the past couple of weeks, we have been enjoying our DT learning. The children designed and sewed their own Christmas stockings and had great fun with festive baking. We read and followed a biscuit recipe together then we had great fun decorating our biscuits – and of course, sampling them too! We have loved reading and writing about *The Polar Express*. On our PJ day, we enjoyed a lovely afternoon of reading for pleasure before settling down to watch the film with a cosy hot chocolate. I am incredibly proud of how hard the children have worked this term and the enthusiasm they bring to everything they do. Wishing all our families a happy and relaxing holiday and looking forward to seeing everyone in the new year.



#### OAK

In **English**, the children have been immersed in *The Polar Express*. They explored the story through reading, discussion, and creative writing, focusing on atmosphere, descriptive language, and the themes of belief, wonder, and imagination. In **Art**, pupils studied the work of **Giuseppe Arcimboldo** and created their own imaginative portraits inspired by his unique style. The class also explored how the meaning of Christmas has changed over time, comparing its religious origins with how it is celebrated today. We've loved our topic on **Chocolate and the Maya**, learning about the origins of chocolate and its importance in Maya civilisation. This learning was brought together in a fun cross-curricular project inspired by *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*.

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### Dates for your diary



**19<sup>th</sup> December**- Last day of term- 3.10 pm finish.

Hall open at 2.45pm for parents to say good bye to Leanne Roseblade if they wish.

*A gentle reminder to please make payment for the upcoming panto trip\* via your ParentPay account. This really helps us streamline the process when confirming tickets and transport. Thank you very much to those who have already paid.*

### 2026

**5<sup>th</sup> January**- INSET day **School closed for pupils.**

**6<sup>th</sup> January**- Term 3 begins

**7<sup>th</sup> January**- Whole school to Cheltenham Playhouse for Pantomime\*

**10<sup>th</sup> February**- Internet Safety Day

**13<sup>th</sup> February**- End of Term 3

**25<sup>th</sup> February**- Oak start weekly afternoon swimming lessons

**5<sup>th</sup> March**- WORLD BOOK DAY

**19<sup>th</sup> March**- The "Life" tent in the hall : PSHE for each class with Harold the giraffe.

**27<sup>th</sup> March**- End of Term 4

### Staffing updates

#### Oak

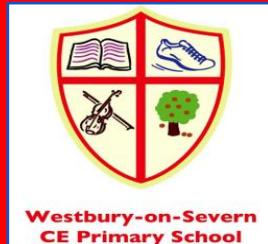
Mrs Roseblade is leaving after over 15 years at Westbury, from NQT to Senior Teacher/SENCO.

Claire May (who taught Sycamore this year) will be teaching Oak as supply until our new Assistant Headteacher/SENCO **Tom Boyle** starts on **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**.

#### Willow

Grace George is leaving to travel the world and **Abby Reeks** will be starting as Willow Class teacher in January.

Both teachers have met with the new teachers to talk through a comprehensive handover.



**A small school, dreaming big**

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2025

## Celebration Awards

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

**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 Award: Lyra

Sycamore Class Academic Excellence Award: Ruby-Mae

Oak Class Academic Excellence Award: Max P

**We will be awarding Purple Learner of the Term in each class and the Westbury Way Award on Friday, details of these awards will be in our next newsletter.**

### Whole school Attendance update

**Sept 1<sup>st</sup> – December 16<sup>th</sup>**

**96.7%**

National average for UK primary schools- 95.3%

**Sycamore class have worn the attendance award ALL TERM, averaging at 97.3% this term!**

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## The Christmas Angels



**These singers sang for the residents of Chaxhill Care Home for the Elderly on the 5<sup>th</sup> December- they were very well received! Spreading Christmas cheer!  
Well done girls, you sang beautifully.**



## A small school, dreaming big

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2025



*Shine, Star, Shine!*

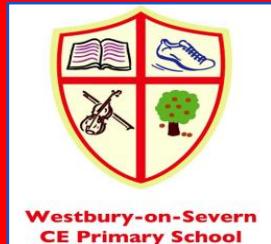


The Nativity show this year was an absolute joy, with pupils from Chestnuts and Willow working together to produce a charming performance of the Christmas story. The hall has never been so full! **Thank you** to everyone who came and applauded the children. We were so proud of their confidence and it was clear they enjoyed every minute, with the smiles on their faces. Big congratulations to Miss George and her team for patiently rehearsing and preparing with the children. We all enjoyed it so very much.

**We do not charge for tickets for our Nativity but if you enjoyed the show, please make a donation to the Friends of Westbury fund. Thank you!**



<https://superkind.org/campaign/friends-of-westbury-on-severn-primary-school-westbury-on-severn-ce-primary-school-fundraising>



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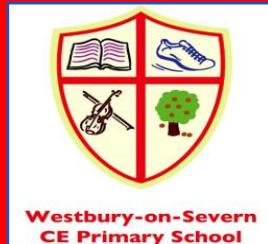
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## **Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Dinner day**

We had a delicious Christmas dinner today with all the trimmings in the hall together, wearing our Christmas jumpers. We had tablecloths and crackers and had a bit of a singalong to Jingle Bells. The teachers served gravy and cranberry sauce and sat and ate with us!

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**2026 ADMISSIONS OPENS  
3 NOVEMBER!**



Was your child born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022?

Children born between these dates can start school in the school year starting from 1 September 2026.

Gloucestershire County Council co-ordinates the admission of children to primary or infant school, therefore please ensure you submit a school application to us by the closing date, 15 January 2026.

Apply online at [www.goucestershire.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.goucestershire.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

**Don't be late!**  
Applications must be submitted by 15 January 2026

## Key Dates

November 2025 - You should receive a letter advising how to apply  
15 January 2026 - Deadline for applications  
16 April 2026 - Allocation Day (find out which school your child has been offered)