



A small school, dreaming big

Thursday 26th September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children are now fully back in the swing of their learning and settled into their new classes. Oak Class had their first guitar lesson last week, I am very much looking forward to their concert.

Our **Wraparound** care with Progressive Sports is also up and running every day. We have both a daily Breakfast Club, which opens at 7.30am and a daily After School Club, which is open until 5.30pm. If you are interested in booking, please email Info@Progressive-Sports.co.uk.

On Tuesday evening **Friends of Westbury School** held their AGM and we discussed some exciting fund raising activities for the coming year. If you are interested in helping out with Friends in any way, please talk to Helen Cracknell, Lou Freed or Jen Sigournay.

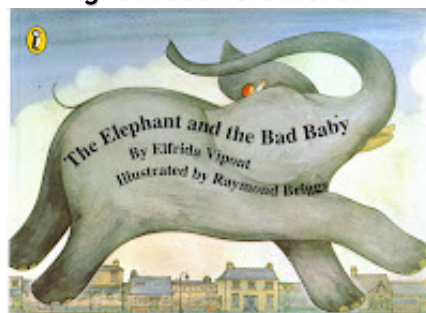
OPAL playtime update- Forest School is now **fully open** every playtime. The children are very good at putting on wellies and playing happily out there.

Anna-Mai Armstrong
Headteacher

WORSHIP

THANKFULNESS

We read this book and discussed the importance of *Please* and *Thank you* to show our gratitude to others.





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Class News



CHESTNUTS

In Chestnuts, the children have been learning all about the number 2 and 3. The focus story is Three **Billy Goats Gruff**. The children have loved joining in with the story and re-enacting out when role playing. In Forest School they have helped with weeding the raised beds and digging compost into them. This week it's all about shelter building!



WILLOW

In Willow Class, we have been reading the book **Where the Wild Things are**. We were very surprised to see giant white footprints in our Forest School and explored who might have left them behind. We enjoyed performing a wild rumpus dance, retelling a poem using music and getting stuck in utilising Play Doh and paint to create our very own Wild Things. In Maths, the Year 1s have been looking at representing numbers to 20. Reception have been exploring and counting numbers to 5. In History, we were very lucky to have a guest speaker David D'Ambrogio visit us to talk about life growing up in Westbury. We have been looking at different jobs that people have had in the past and we went on a trip to Hopewell Colliery to investigate what it would have been like working down a mine in the Forest of Dean.



SYCAMORE

Sycamore Class have settled in well. We have continued to read our Class book **Jim and the Beanstalk** and the children have retold the story in their own words. We are now starting to get ready to create our own sequel for the book. In Maths the children have been partitioning numbers in different ways and have been placing them on number lines. In History we have been learning about The Gunpowder Plot and the children have written storyboards to retell the story and have drawn pictures for this. In Computing we have been creating pictograms on the computer and learning about how much quicker it is to create them on the computer than on paper.



OAK

We have nearly finished our unit in English all about the mars rover Curiosity. We've created our own plans for a new rover and have used our new skills to write a report on its features. In maths we've all looked at place value and the Year 6s have learnt how to multiply a decimal by a whole number. In RE we've explored some of the gospel stories to try and understand how they help Christians live a better life. In Art we've completed our project on Peter Thorpe and have created some great artwork inspired by his rockets.



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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: *George and Ellie*

Sycamore Class Academic Excellence Awards: *Olivia and Annabelle*

Oak Class Academic Excellence Awards: *Ollie and Gethyn*

Attendance update

95.4%

Whole School Target - 96%



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Dates for your diary:

3rd October: National Poetry Day in school

10th October: Flu immunisations in school

15th October: Maths Focus Day-more information to come!

17th October: HARVEST in church 9.15-Everyone welcome

22nd and 23rd October: Parents' meetings

25th October: Last day of Term 1

4th November: First Day of Term 2

7th November: Individual School photos

11th November: Anti Bullying week starts

13th November: World Kindness Day

12th December: Christmas Jumper Day

8th January: Whole School visit to see Aladdin at the Everyman Theatre



Staffing Update

We are currently advertising in Gloucestershire Schools Vacancies for a full time School and Finance Administrator to replace Anna Cox. The details of this vacancy are also on our website. We will be interviewing early October and inform you as soon as the vacancy is filled.

BOBBY

If you would like to look after Bobby in the half term, please contact Anna in the office. Thank you!



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Is your child eligible to Benefit Based Free School Meals?

The school receives additional funding if your child is.

This helps towards additional school provision plus children will be entitled to free school milk and a chance to enrol in holiday activities. Even if your child is in KS1 and already receives KS1 Universal Free School Meals please apply if you think you are eligible.

If you think you are eligible please apply as soon as possible using this link:

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/>

The school census is on **Thursday 3rd October** so if you can apply and get confirmation before then funding will be given from next April. If you need help, we can support you in school with completing the form,

Why should I apply?

For every child that is entitled to free school meals the school receives extra funding to enhance provision and improve progress and outcomes for children. So please apply even if you do not wish to take up your free school meal.

What are the qualifying criteria for Free School Meals?

Your child might be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- **Income Support**
- **Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance**
- **Income-related Employment and Support Allowance**
- **Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999**
- **The guaranteed element of Pension Credit**
- **Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)**
- **Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit**
- **Universal Credit** - your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- **How long will it take to get a response?** You will receive an instant response once you have submitted your claim. All you need is your **National Insurance Number** and an email address.



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‘Understanding your child’

A Solihull group for parents and carers

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD



S O L I H U L L A P P R O A C H

FREE

Targeted family support service is running a 10-week programme (excluding the half term) which looks at child development and behaviour.

Starts on the 23rd of September 2024.

Runs Monday Mornings 10am until 12pm at

Hilltop Children and Family Centre

Latimer Road

Cinderford

GL14 2QA



If you are interested in attending, please register your interest at
rebecca.carpenter@barnardos.org.uk



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prostars
Football Sports Education

PROSTARS HALF-TERM FOOTBALL CAMP

FREEFORM LEISURE-
Lydney/Newent/Cinderford

9:00AM-3:00PM
MONDAY-FRIDAY

ACTIVITIES

- Tournaments
- Technical/ Tactical Sessions
- Inflatable football pitch and dartbaord

WHO CAN JOIN?

Boys and girls
Age 5 - 11
All skill levels welcome

Newent- Monday / Lydney- Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday / Cinderford- Friday

CONTACT MARK ON
07444436637/mark.prostars@gmail.com
Prostars.ipalbookings.com