



A small school, dreaming big

Thursday 30th November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's starting to feel a tiny bit Christmassy here at Westbury, with Nativity rehearsals starting this week, singing club practising their Carols and Christmas songs and Craft Club's decorations drying around school. We are all looking forward to the Christmas Fayre at Westbury Parish Hall this Saturday. Please see more information about this later on in this newsletter.

We are also looking forward to our visit to the Pantomime on the 12th and The Everyman Theatre will be coming into school to run a workshop on the Friday before, all about Mother Goose.

Please note- we have set the date of **Wednesday 13th December** as our End of Theme Drop in at 8.30-9.15am. All family members are welcome into school to marvel at the pupils' work this term. We hope to see you then. Please can you make sure pupils have a coat in school during this cold spell. Thank you,

Anna-Mai Armstrong
Headteacher

Christian Values Our Value this term is ❖ **COMPASSION**



We have been thinking about the role of this value during Anti Bullying Week.

How can we help if we see bullying in school?



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CLASS NEWS



CHESTNUTS

The children have had a busy couple of weeks - they have started practicing for the Nativity. They have been focusing on learning all about number 4 and the 'p' sound this week. Last week they finished the week off with a successful Forest School session where Parents and Carers were invited to come and take part and the children whittled the sticks to toast the marshmallows.



WILLOW

In English, we have been using the book, *The Smeds and the Smoos*, as our inspiration. We have created and described our own planets and aliens in preparation for writing our own space story. In Maths, we have been learning about the different 3D shapes and we have just started our unit on position and direction. The y1's have also been learning about the numbers up to 100 and counting and forward and backwards. In DT, we have been learning how to make levers and sliders as we are going to be making a moving space picture. In Science, we have been identifying objects and naming the material they are made from. In R.E, we have been learning about why Christians celebrate the Christmas story. We have been hard at work practising our own Nativity show.



SYCAMORE

We are looking at the skeletal system and using the technical terms for our bones. We are planning an investigation to answer the question, 'Do people with longer femurs jump further?' We have spent time looking at the meaning of bullying and banter as part of Anti-bullying week and looking at how we show kindness. In Outdoor learning, we created a kindness tree. We have drafted, edited and published our versions of a chapter of *The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark*, which read really well. In Maths, Y2 are now learning to subtract, whilst Y3 have been mastering the 3, 4 and 8 times table.



OAK

Oak class have continued their History by looking at some Horrible jobs from the past including 'Groom of the Stool', who had the great job of wiping the King's bottom! In music we've explored royal fanfares and how these are written. We then had a go at composing our own using rhythm notation. We've come to the end of our 'Highway Man' unit in English and the children have written some incredible alternative endings; they've used all of their skills to create complex sentences, setting descriptions and punctuate speech correctly.



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Celebration Awards

Every Friday we celebrate pupil's effort, attitude and achievement during our Celebration Assembly. One child per year group is awarded a certificate. We will list those pupils here fortnightly to further celebrate their success with the school community.

Reception: Olive, Ayrton

Year One: Layla, Mckenzie

Year Two: Gregory, Leah

Year Three: Alex, Ollie

Year Four: Lily, Drizzt

Year Five: Nia, Pearl

Year Six: Adam, Reuben

The Westbury Way Award

for a pupil who consistently demonstrates *The Westbury Way*

- Safe at all times
- Respectful to Everyone
- Ready to Learn

This week's award went to *Olive* in Year 4.



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Staffing News

- Mr Dave Rush has started as interim TA in Oak Class and has settled in very well. He will be working with us until we find a permanent TA for Oak.

Dates for your diary:

2nd December- Christmas Craft Fayre at Westbury Parish Hall

7th December- Christmas Jumper Day in aid of *Children in Need*.

12th December- Whole school trip to Cheltenham Everyman Theatre to see Mother Goose.

13th December- End of Theme Drop in from 8.30- 9.15 all Parents and Carers welcome- drop by and have a look at all the work your child has been doing this term!

14th December- Nativity performances at 1.30pm and 5pm.

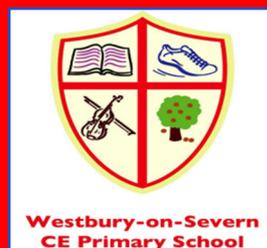
17th December (Sunday) Family Christmas Service at Northwood Green Church 10am.

20th December- Term Ends.

Attendance update

School Target - 96%

From start of term- 26th Nov – 92.6 %



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Anti-Bullying Week

This week, in every class, we have been exploring how to identify bullying, what to do if you feel you are being bullied and how to support someone in your class who is being bullied. We have spoken about the importance of telling a trusted adult about what is happening.

We are redesigning our **Zones of Regulation*** and children have been invited to draw characters for each zone in our school wide competition. We will choose the new Zones of Regulation characters in Friday's Celebration Assembly and also appoint **Kindness Ambassadors**, based on staff and pupils' nominations.

In our next newsletter we will let you know who they are and share our new Zones of Regulation characters.

*The Zones of Regulation help pupils identify how they are feeling and how to work their way back to the **GREEN ZONE**, which is the zone where we feel relaxed, happy and ready to learn. We use these zones around school to help children self-regulate.

For more information follow this link:

<https://zonesofregulation.com/how-it-works/>



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Notices and Requests

KS2 Girls Football Team



Our very own Lionesses played indoor football against other Forest of Dean schools at Newent. They did not win but played brilliantly as a team and had a lot of fun. Thanks to Miss Wills for organising this fixture and cheering them on.

Proposed Admissions Policy Consultation for Sept 2025:

Please see the policy section on our website to read this new policy, which is under consultation until January 11th 2024. Please email admin@westbury-on-severncofe.gloucs.sch.uk with any relevant comments.

SNOW If the school is closed due to snow, we will inform you ASAP via Instagram and on the Gloucestershire County Council Closed Schools website.



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Friends of Westbury

Through our PTA membership package the Friends have access to 'Parentkind' **FREE** parenting webinars and, as a parent of the school, that means you do too! If you would like to join any of the upcoming webinars all you need to do is go to the website below and book your place.

You will need the school's postcode to register which is **GL14 1PA**. Places do book up so register in advance.

Upcoming webinars are:

Demystifying Maths for Parents: Key Stage 1

Inspiring Reading - Developing the habit and love of reading

Motivation Matters: How to talk so kids will listen

Demystifying Maths for Parents: Key Stage 2

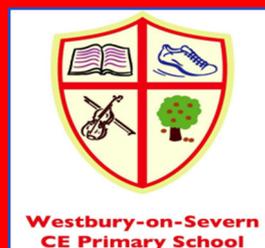
A Nutritionist's Guide to Fussy Eaters

Conflict Styles and Difficult Conversations

Developing your Child's Thinking Ability

Time Management for Parent's Juggling Work and Family Life

Further information and a link to register can be found online at <https://www.parentkind.org.uk/your-pta-expert/parent-webinars>



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OPAL



Our first wave of playtime improvements will be starting in January and we have a working party of staff and parents meeting regularly to improve our playground and play areas. The plan is to have zones with quieter play/active play/ creative play/dressing up etc. We are collecting scooters to use on the path to the field and any dressing up/dinosaurs/cars or old saucepans would be welcome donations.

One issue we have identified is that in the winter there is not enough space on the playground for everyone to play the different games they want, but mud is walked into school if children play on the grassy areas. Our plan from January onwards is for play to happen outdoors whatever the weather (serious conditions will be the exception). For this to happen everyone will need a waterproof coat to wear on wet days and to wear wellies when it is muddy.

We have built welly storage for every class so it is now ready to be filled with **NAMED WELLIES for every child.**

Please send a pair of named wellies in for your child(ren) as soon as possible- ideally before the end of term.

We will keep some spares for emergency welly wearing. THANK YOU

If you would like to see what we are aiming for, watch this clip

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7UCex3K 0j4>



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WESTBURY ON SEVERN
CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

**PLEASE
SUPPORT
OUR
SCHOOL!**

CRAFTS
FOOD & DRINK
SANTAS GROTTO
GAMES
CAROLS
& MORE!

ENTRY
ADULTS £2
CHILDREN
FREE

**SATURDAY
2nd
DECEMBER
10 AM - 2 PM**

WESTBURY ON SEVERN
PARISH HALL

Singing starts at 12! Friends of Westbury TEA TOWELS will be on sale!



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Friends of Westbury School Presents

Christmas Jumper Swap & Sale

Swap a Christmas Jumper or buy one
(Suggested donations of £1, all proceeds go to our school fund)

**Location: Christmas Craft Fayre
2nd December
Westbury Parish Hall**

You can bring your swaps on the day, or hand to a member of our committee before

Thank you for your continued support