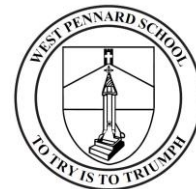




Weekly Newsletter

Written for the Week Beginning 4th March 2019



twitter

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a super week in school. We were spoilt at the start of the week with unseasonal February weather – the children enjoyed 3 days on the school field and it was lovely to see the children explore their outdoor environment – they are very lucky to have so much space.

There have been lots of activities to support our innovative and diverse curriculum this week. On Monday, Hilary Austin (one of our governors) led a Fair Trade assembly for all children – thank you Hilary. On Tuesday, Carymoor Environmental Centre delivered a whole school assembly followed by workshops for Years 1 and 3 focusing on waste. On Wednesday Year 2 visited the Wild Place in Bristol as part of their topic on habitats. Finally on Thursday Mr Wheat and Miss Holmes attended an exciting engineering event which will lead to a school based project. More details to follow ...

The outdoor area for our Reception Class is really starting to take shape – groundwork has been done to level the area and a new shelter has been erected. A new safety surface will be laid in the coming week and we cannot wait for the children to be able to use this area.

Lastly, a huge thank you to our parent volunteers – Mrs Potter, Mrs Mirfin and Mrs Gilroy who helped with the Year 6 Bikeability course this week – your support is very much appreciated. The 12 children in Year 6 who took the course were praised by the instructors as being 'an extremely well-mannered and very well-behaved group of children'. They were described as a credit to the school. Well done to our fabulous children!

Warmest wishes

Jo Hale

Menu Week 3

Quote of the week

Forgiveness is unlocking the door to set someone free and realising you were the prisoner. Unknown

Attendance and Lateness

Please see figures below for late marks this week:

15 children recorded as late (between 8.50am-9am)

3 children recorded as unauthorised late (after 9am)

If a child has had 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in the last 12 school weeks parents may be subject to a penalty notice. Please visit:

<https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/education/Miss%20School%20%3D%20Miss%20Out%20ENGLISH.pdf>

Count Your Blessings

As a school we are going to mark Lent, which starts on Wednesday, by being grateful and counting our blessings. For each of the 40 days of Lent the children will be asked to think about something they are grateful for, for example 'The sound I am grateful for today is...', 'The place I am grateful for today is...' etc. These will be found at the back of the planners so that you are able to share your ideas together. It's good to make Lent a time to feel blessed rather than making it negative, so I hope you enjoy!

Thank you
Mrs R

Parents' Evenings

Parents' Evenings will be taking place on Tuesday 19th March and Wednesday 20th March from 3.30pm-6.30pm.

The booking system will go live on **Tuesday 5th March**.

Please go to <https://westpennard.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/> to book an appointment.

Tel: 01458 832866

Email: westpennardprimary@gmail.com

Headteacher Miss J. Hale

Staffing News

At the end of this term, we will very sadly be saying goodbye to our lovely Lynn Ferriday. Mrs Ferriday (who currently works as a teaching assistant in Year 1) has worked at West Pennard for over 20 years and has made a huge difference to hundreds of children in the classes that she has worked in. Her nurturing, smiley personality will be missed by all members of our school community. We would like to take this opportunity to thank her for her huge contribution to West Pennard and to wish her well in the future.



West Pennard School has been a part of my life for several years (I'm not revealing how many!), as a parent and also as a member of staff, working in a nurturing and rewarding environment, seeing the children flourish as they move up through the school. It is so heart-warming to now see children coming into school that have parents who also walked up Church Lane as pupils of West Pennard School.

Significant events and celebrations have been enjoyed over the years whilst being involved with the school – the Queen's Golden and Diamond Jubilee, royal weddings, millennium celebrations to name but a few. As a parent I have loved all the events that my children enjoyed and experienced here at West Pennard – Christmas and Summer fayres, leavers' assemblies, sports day (always avoiding the 'mums' race!), supporting the FWPS and helping with fundraising events, not to mention squash & biscuits, discos, muffin days, school photographs, trips, school clubs and music lessons – proudly listening to keyboard, flute and trombone performances in summer concerts. We even had a dads' football tournament! For one year almost a full complement of family members were here at school daily (apart from Mr Ferriday!)

By my reckoning I have probably taught over six thousand children throughout my years at school – that's a lot of names to remember, let alone the amount of times 'Mrs Ferriday' has been called out!

Just as my own children hold lovely memories of West Pennard School, I too have lots of wonderful and happy times to remember and look back on with great fondness and affection.

West Pennard School is a special place and I will truly miss the everyday moments that make it so unforgettable.

Lynn Ferriday

The Wild Place Trip

On Wednesday Year 2 visited the Wild Place at Severn Beach to learn more about animals and their habitats, as they had been studying this in their Science topic this term. They had the opportunity to see animals such as cheetahs, okapi, Eastern European wolves and giraffes up close and to learn about their classification and adaptation to their natural habitats as part of a teaching session with one of the keepers. A great many thanks to all of the helpers that accompanied the children on the day and also to the FWPS for making such an enjoyable and educational experience possible by funding most of the coach travel.

Mr Wheat



Tel: 01458 832866

Email: westpennardprimary@gmail.com

Headteacher Miss J. Hale

New Lunch Trolleys

We are starting a new system on Monday for children in Years 3 - 6, which has been explained to the children in Collective Worship today.

From Monday - two lunch trolleys will be on the playground first thing in the morning. Children should put their lunchboxes on the trolley when they arrive at school. The lunch trolleys will be moved to the hall by a member of staff shortly after the bell. The lunch trolleys will then be put on the playground at the end of the day so that children can collect their boxes. The reason for this is that children often leave their lunchboxes around the playground after lunch and this leads to unnecessary waste and lost boxes. Lunchboxes without names are then put into lost property and often remained unclaimed. Keeping lunchboxes on trolleys should reduce this issue.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this.

Carymoor Visit

On Tuesday Karen from Carymoor Environmental Trust came to school to inspire and challenge us about waste. We were astonished by facts such as '70 lorries a day deliver rubbish to the Carymoor landfill site, and this is only one of 500 such centres in the UK' - that's an awful lot of rubbish!

After a 'Schools Against Waste' assembly Karen turned Class 1 into eco-pirates, learning about the '3Rs' (recycling, reusing and reducing) with silly fishy songs thrown in for good measure. Afterwards Class 3 were treated to a 'Fantastic Plastic' workshop where the impact of plastic on our environment was explored in a challenging, but fun way. We all had a great time with Karen, whose enthusiasm and passion in caring for our beautiful world were very infectious.



Fish & Chip Bingo

Please return your order form and payment to the school office by **Friday 8th March**.

If you are able to volunteer at this event on 15th March please contact the office to put your name down.

Thank you

FWPS School Disco

The disco will take place on Friday 29th March.

If you are able to help on the night please contact the office.

Thank you

Instruments Available

Our Music Teacher Becky has some Drums and a keyboard for sale - £200 for both. Please contact Becky if interested - 07498 633866



Pancake Day!

For those who normally have a school lunch on Tuesday 5th March (week 3) the kitchen will be serving pancakes for pudding with lemon to celebrate Shrove Tuesday.



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Email: westpennardprimary@gmail.com

Headteacher Miss J. Hale

Bikeability

This week twelve children from Year 6 took part in bikeability (a scheme for gaining practical skills and understanding how to cycle on today's roads).

They were exemplary role models for our school in a variety of ways including their impeccable behaviour, their ability to handle criticism and make changes accordingly. There was an overwhelming sense of teamwork and I cannot wait to take them on residential to see these skills develop further.

Well done Year 6!

World Down Syndrome Awareness day - 21st March

As a headteacher, one of the most rewarding things is when children come with an idea to do something positive and make a difference. Sydney in Year 4 has asked whether as a school community we can support World Down Syndrome Day by wearing odd socks or brightly coloured socks.

Her reason for this is that her family has a close friend who has Down Syndrome and she would like to raise some money for the charity 'Ups and Downs'. If you would like to support this event, then just come to school wearing odd or brightly coloured socks for a suggested donation of £1.

Many thanks



SEND Update:

As part of the Local Area SEND provision all councils must arrange for children with Special Education Needs or Disabilities to get the information and advice they need. Somerset SENDIAS offers just that, working in partnership with the local authority, health agencies and other services. It provides information, advice and support about SEND for parent carers, children and young people. The service is free and confidential. It can offer:

- General support by phone or email
- An independent supporter to help you through the EHC Needs assessment (Education, Health and Care) and offer advice on EHC Plans
- One to one support and help to understand information, write letters and prepare for meetings

SENDIAS can also provide information on resolving disagreements, legal advice and complaints and it can offer valuable support for young people in the transition process (16-25). There are a whole raft of other areas it can help with, please visit www.somersetsend.org.uk

*SENDIAS is carrying out an important survey on how parent carers want to receive information and it needs your views! Visit

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/2V8LFH7

Reception Class

As Reception Class have now settled in we would appreciate it if parents could exit the classroom promptly to enable the children to develop their independence and to get them ready for collective worship.

If you arrive at school after 8.50am please report to Reception to sign your child in and a member of the office staff will take them to the classroom.

Dates for the week ahead

Monday 4 th March	Year 6 Life Skills Visit
Tuesday 5 th March	Year R & 1 Dental Checks (not all children) Cross Country – Tor Leisure, Glastonbury 4pm
Friday 8 th March- Wednesday 13 th March	Book Week

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