

**West Pennard C of E VC Primary School**



Dormouse Class  
 enjoying a story  
 outdoors in the  
 lovely September  
 sunshine.

**'Since God so loved us, so we must love one another' (1 John 4 v11)**

**Heads Up**

We enjoyed a lovely second week back as a whole school community. It has been so pleasing to see the many happy faces coming through the gate each morning and also the fun and exciting work that has been going on across the school. On Wednesday afternoon the children got creative exploring the Christian value of friendship. See the pictures taken by the teachers later in this newsletter.

Wednesday afternoons will be quite a creative and fun time for children this term, as each week we will be holding our WOW (Wellness on Wednesday) sessions, focusing on wellbeing and mindfulness. The principle behind this is to 'be school' rather than necessarily 'do school', giving the children time to 'be', recharging batteries for the work ahead in the remainder of the week. There will be a greater focus during these sessions on the wider curriculum, with particular respect to art, music, PSHE and drama.

This week we ordered some exciting new resources to support the children's learning in all areas of the curriculum. We purchased new online tools and games for teaching Maths and bolstered greatly the reading stock in the library for each of the Accelerated Reader bands, especially the initial ones. We purchased an additional 10 Chromebooks to support learning in all subjects and all classes, and have bought an extra interactive screen and trolley for small group teaching and learning outside of the classroom. We look forward to sharing with you the impact these new resources will have on the children's progress.

Have a lovely weekend and see you all next week.

Mr Wheat



**Stars in Our Eyes**

Well done to the following children, who were chosen as the class 'Stars of the Week' this week;

- Year R - Nelly & Stanley
- Year 1 - Percy & Ayda
- Year 2 - Leo & Freddie
- Year 3 - Hollie & Mika
- Year 4 - Charlie, Lola & Lisa
- Year 5 - Rudy & Honey
- Year 6 - Jasper & Izzy



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Every Mind Matters



Having good mental health helps us relax more, achieve more and enjoy our lives more. The Every Mind Matters website has been set up to provide expert advice and practical tips to help you look after your mental health and wellbeing. Visit...

<https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters>

Here and There

In this section we ask for suggestions from our school community in order to get 'out and about' for free or for paid for experiences. Our first suggestion comes from Noah in Squirrel Class. Dunkery Beacon and Great Rowbarrow on Exmoor are about an hour away and are the two highest hills in Somerset. Park the car at the small car park accessed from Wheddon Cross. It is a comfortable 3 mile walk to Great Rowbarrow and then on to Dunkery Beacon—see picture below.



A great many thanks for the suggestion. Get on your hikes everyone!

Why not make earth move by visiting Digger Land in Cullompton, Devon. There are many rides to enjoy for all age ranges and a quad biking centre is nearby for further adventures!



See, Hear, Respond



The See, Hear, Respond Partnership has been created specifically to help children and young people in England who are experiencing harm and increased adversity during coronavirus. You can call Barnardo's for free on 0800 157 7015 or [click here](#) for further information.

Covid Information

The three main symptoms of coronavirus in children are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If your child displays these symptoms you need to self-isolate and get a test. Your child cannot return until they receive a negative test.

Further information can be found below...

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/coronavirus-in-children/>

**Children with siblings and or family members self-isolating should not be in school**

Stay at home guidance for households with possible coronavirus (COVID-19) infection.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

Guidance on coronavirus testing, including who is eligible for a test and how to get tested.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested>

# Friendship Day 2020



We had a great day as a school exploring our Christian value of friendship. We discussed giving compliments, working collaboratively, thought about the qualities we want in a friend as well as thinking about how we could be a good friend ourselves.



Writers and Mathematicians of the Week

Well done to the following children, who were chosen as the class Writer or the Mathematician of the Week this week;

- Year 1 - Avalon
- Year 2 - Ottie S. & Zackary
- Year 3 - Hollie & Lacey
- Year 4 - Maddison & Matthew
- Year 5 - Rudy
- Year 6 - William & Wezley

See a selection of their impressive work below...



Calling All Bookworms

We are currently in the process of increasing the stock of books we have in the Library for the purposes of Accelerated Reader. If you would like to suggest a particular book that you would like us to potentially purchase please fill in the form via the link below. Please provide the AR banding by logging in to AR through your child's account and searching for the book.

<https://forms.gle/Shsvmi2wpTQAVABr5>

Do you have a book that you no longer want that you would be willing to donate to our Library? Please check that the book is on Accelerated Reader and is in a good condition. We will quarantine the book before making it available to the children.

Drop Off Procedures

The start and end of the day procedures are generally working well, as is the refinement made this week. However, we have had a little issue in terms of getting up / down church lane on foot as one group leaves and another one arrives. If you are picking up at 3:00 can we ask you to depart fairly promptly after the bus has left so that there is not the possibility of 'two way traffic' on the pavement. Likewise if you are on the 3:15 pick up, please arrive as close to that as you can. I know there is sometimes a little delay caused by the bus lines, which we are trying to speed up our end.

Reception Class

It was a delight to spend time with the Reception children of Fox Class this week, as they were officially welcomed into the community of West Penward School. Each child chose a pebble and placed it in our Koinonia Bowl. Each pebble in the Bowl represents a member of our school family. Just like the pebbles, we are all unique. We bring to our school our strengths to help others and our weaknesses to be shared, so that together we flourish.



Admissions

The admissions process for school place applications went live on Monday 14th September. The closing date for applications is 15th January 2021. You will be notified of a place on 16th April 2021.

For children due to transfer to secondary school the closing date for applications is 31st October 2020. You will be notified on 1st March 2021.

A guide for the 2021 admissions process can be found at [www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions). Please read the guide thoroughly before making an online application. In previous years Admissions have written to every parent/carer of children due to start or transfer school explaining how to apply. However, this year they will no longer be writing individually to parents. Information can be found at [www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions)

Key Dates: Autumn Term 2020

\*subject to alteration due to Covid-19 measures / procedures

Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> September	IEP Surgeries
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	Carymoor 'Schools Against Waste' workshops
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> October	Tempest School Photos*
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	Class CW Year 1 - Friendship
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Year 6 Squash and Biscuits*
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	HALF TERM
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	Open Morning*
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents MHST afternoon 2:00pm-3:00pm*
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents' Evenings*
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	Whole School Values Day - Thankfulness
16 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti-Bullying Week
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 5 Squash and Biscuits*
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov – Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Prayer Space - ADVENT
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Nativity - in hall (pm)*
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Nativity - in hall (am)*
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Image Musical Theatre—Pinocchio*
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Dinner* Christmas jumper day
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Class CW Year 5 – Thankfulness*
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Class Christmas Parties*
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Class Christmas Parties*
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Carol Service @ 2pm (Year 4 to lead)* Break up for Christmas Holidays