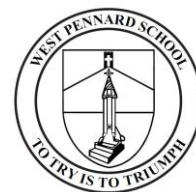




Weekly Newsletter



Written for the Week Beginning 2nd December 2019



Dear Parents/Carers,

On Wednesday, we were visited by our school education partner – Steve John. This visit we focussed on the wider curriculum and the provision the children have. We looked at the class 'Showcase Books' for RE, Science and Topic to evaluate the learning journey. We then took a deeper look at History. Mr Wheat has been working alongside the teachers in staff meetings to develop our history progressions and ensure that children's knowledge and skills are being built upon each year. Steve and I then met with some children from Year 2 to discuss their learning about Brunel – we were extremely impressed by their knowledge and the trip to the SS Great Britain had clearly enhanced this – they were bursting with facts. Well done Mole Class ☺

I have also been monitoring the reading that children do in school and at home – please can parents support us by encouraging their children to read at least 4 times a week at home and ensure that they write this in their planners. If your child is not enjoying reading then please speak to the class teacher to see if we can support. I am currently reading a book called 'Closing the Vocabulary Gap' In the book the author explores the increased demands of an academic curriculum and how closing the vocabulary gap between our 'word poor' and 'word rich' children could prove the vital difference between school failure and success. Reading is key.

I must also mention Elias from Hedgehog Class who wowed his drum teacher (and us) by gaining an extremely high distinction in his drumming exam – we were treated today with Elias playing one of his pieces in Celebration Assembly – well done Elias ☺

Menu Week 2

Jo Hale

Quote of the week

When I started counting my blessings my whole life turned around – Willie Nelson



Well done to the following children, who were chosen as the class 'Stars of the Week' for today's assembly:

- Year R: **Izzy & Phin**
- Year 1: **Oscar & Digby**
- Year 2: **Jacob W & Cherry**
- Year 3: **Chloe & Boe**
- Year 4: **Honey & Stanley**
- Year 5: **Evie D & Elliot**
- Year 6: **Ollie D & Kydon**

The children are able to wear their 'star' badge for the week.

Please can children return their badges to the school office the following Friday and give them to a member of staff so we know who has returned them.

If your child has received an award outside of school, then we would love to be able to present them with it in our weekly celebration assembly.

Class Attendance

Please see below class attendance figures for last week:

Fox:	96.1%
Dormouse:	95.9%
Mole:	89.1%
Hare:	94.8%
Squirrel:	87.4%
Offer:	97.6%
Hedgehog:	96.9%

Congratulations to **Offer Class** for having the highest attendance last week.

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Headteacher Miss J. Hale

Wrapping Party!

Please come along to the FWPS Christmas Wrapping Party on Monday 2nd December at 6.30pm in the school Library. All are welcome, mince pies provided!

FWPS Christmas Fair

Please see below the donations needed for next week. Please bring your items to the office:

W/C 2nd December - Mince pies and cakes

School Nativity – Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th December

The nativity will take place on Tuesday 10th December at 2pm and Wednesday 11th December at 9.30am. Please book your seat via the link below. Please note the booking system will close on Monday 9th December at 10pm. Please note 3 places per family which can be split over both days.

<https://westpennard.parentseveningsystem.co.uk>

Christmas Fair – Visit to Santa!

If you would like to book a slot to see Santa at the Christmas Fair please book via the link below. The booking will be open until **Thursday 5th December at 10pm**. Please note one booking per family (up to 4 children for 5 minutes), and payment should be made on the night (£2.50 per child).

<https://westpennard.parentseveningsystem.co.uk>

Advent Countdown for Ashlyn

As a school we want to take the opportunity of Advent to learn more about Ashlyn's life, raise money for her sponsorship, and pause to be grateful for the wonderful lives we have ourselves.

We will be pausing to refer to this in school every day and we hope that it will be shared at home too. To this end a copy of the calendar can be found at the back of your child's planner and attached to the Newsletter. We would be grateful for all monies collected to be returned to school the first week back after Christmas. Many thanks Mrs R.

FWPS Raffle Prizes

This years' first prize in our 2019 Christmas Grand Raffle Prize Draw is a beautiful painting of a 'Leaping Hare' created by Frederick Wimsett (picture attached to the Newsletter). This stunning piece is an acrylic original on paper in an upcycled antique frame. The work mirrors our Somerset countryside effortlessly, with its display of dashing movement of wildlife and freedom. Frederick Wimsett is a professional artist, whose work is regularly commissioned by VIP and celebrity clients. Whoever wins this prize is lucky, lucky, lucky indeed!! Please also see attached all the other prizes we have so far.

Forthcoming Christmas Services at St Nicholas' Church

Please see below the services at St Nicholas' Church. All welcome to attend.

Sunday 1st December at 4pm - Christingle service

Sunday 22nd December at 4pm - Carol service

Tuesday 24th Dec 3.30pm - Crib Service

Wednesday 25th Dec 10.00am - Christmas day communion

Christmas Dinner

A letter went out this week with details of the Christmas Dinner on Tuesday 17th December. Please note Tuesday's normal menu (week 1) will be served on Wednesday 18th December instead. **Please can all reply slips be returned by Tuesday 3rd December.**

Football Updates

It's been a busy couple of weeks for our football teams with 4 fixtures in total. Our girls' team have competed in two closely fought matches - losing 3-1 to Elmhurst (our goal being scored by Meghan) and 3-0 against a strong Ashcott side. West Pennard Rovers were extremely unlucky to lose against Elmhurst 3-0. Despite being the stronger team throughout the game we were thwarted by an excellent goalkeeping display by the Elmhurst shot-stopper. Another fantastic goal-keeping display, this time by our own Zander, combined with an outstanding defensive display from Leyton meant our United team earned themselves a 1-1 draw against Ashcott.

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Christmas Information

We have provided an overview of the important days in December as we appreciate the diary gets busy!

Christmas Card Post Box: If children want to send cards, they can put them in our special Christmas post box which will be in the corridor by the Reception Class. The cards will be delivered to classes by our Year 6 children. (Please make sure they write the name of the child and their year group clearly on the envelope.)

Monday 2nd December – Christmas Tree goes up

Please can the children in the Reception Class bring in a bauble to add to the Christmas tree

Tuesday 3rd December Year 6 to Street Baptist Church – Christmas Unwrapped

Friday 6th December – Year 5 and 6 to Strobe Theatre to see 'Grease' performed by Wells Cathedral School (later return to school)

Friday 6th December 6 – 8pm – FWPS Christmas Fair

This is one of our biggest fundraisers and we welcome your support

Monday 9th December 9:30am – Nativity Dress Rehearsal for school, governors and invited members of the community

Tuesday 10th December – KS1 Nativity – performance to parents 2pm

Please book your tickets online – more details on the Newsletter

Wednesday 11th December – KS1 Nativity – performance to parents 9:30am

Please book your tickets online – more details on the Newsletter

Friday 13th December – Image Musical Theatre 'Robin Hood' (All Year groups)

A huge thank you to the FWPS for funding this – FWPS committee members welcome to attend

Friday 13th December – School Disco (in school hall)

6:30 – 7:25pm Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

7:30 – 8:45pm Year 3, 4, 5 and 6

Children are supervised by school staff and DBS cleared volunteers. Once children have been signed in parents should leave the site.

Tuesday 17th December – Christmas Dinner Day

Children can wear a Christmas jumper with their school uniform (No donations)

Wednesday 18th & Thursday 19th December – Class Christmas Parties

Your child's class teachers will give out more information

Children can wear sensible mufti – no high heels please! Also ensure children are dressed appropriately for the weather.

Friday 20th December 2pm – Carol Service & Last day of term

All of the staff at West Pennard CE Primary School wish our families a wonderful Christmas.



Key Dates Autumn Term 2019 (please note any new dates/changes will be marked with an *)

Monday 3 rd December	FWPS 'Wrapping Party' – 6.30pm in the Library*
Tuesday 3 rd December	Year 6 Christmas Unwrapped at Street Baptist Church - 12.30pm-2.50pm WP Rovers Football Match v Brookside at Strode
Thursday 5 th December	Futsal Competition selected Yr 5 & 6 children – Taunton WP United Football Match v Butleigh at Strode
Friday 6 th December	Years 5 & 6 to Strode Theatre for 'Grease' (performed by Wells Cathedral School students) - collection from school 4.30/4.45pm FWPS Christmas Fair 6pm-8pm
Monday 9 th December	Somerset Schools' Music Concert at Wells Cathedral School (Rehearsal 12pm, Evening Concert arrive 6.30pm)
Tuesday 10 th December	KS1 Nativity - in hall (2pm) WP United Football Match v Meare at Strode
Wednesday 11 th December	KS1 Nativity - in hall (9.30am)
Friday 13 th December	All Year groups Flu Vaccinations (Yrs R-6) Year 3 Victorian Workshop Image Musical Theatre 'Robin Hood' PM FWPS School Disco
Tuesday 17 th December	Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day
Wednesday 18 th & Thursday 19 th December	Class Christmas Parties
Friday 20 th December	Carol Service @ 2pm (Year 4 to lead) Break up for Christmas Holidays

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