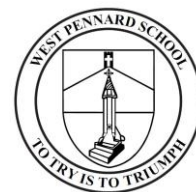




Weekly Newsletter

Written for the Week Beginning 15th June 2020



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Dear Parents/Carers,

It was lovely to see more familiar faces this week with the welcoming back of some of the Year 1 children into their respective bubbles, joining the children from Year 6 that started with us last week. The weather was largely kind to us, so there was a lot of opportunities for outside play, as well as learning directed within the classrooms by Mrs Robinson and Miss Holmes. A great many thanks to both of them and the TAs that have supported the bubbles throughout the day and worked so tirelessly to make it as familiar and as welcoming as possible. It has been quite an undertaking, ensuring the younger children understand the need for social distancing whilst also ensuring an air of normality.

As Miss Hale stated in her letter yesterday, can we now ask that you provide a week's notice, should you wish your child to return. Next week we start to welcome back Year R children. Mrs Free and Mrs Fowler have been working ever so hard to prepare the Reception classroom and the outside area for the children to return. They have put together a video for the Year R children to watch so that they can familiarise themselves with the new routines of school and how the classroom looks now.

As always, look after yourselves and stay safe.

Tony Wheat

A message from the Governors

At our recent governors meeting and after making the decision to bring reception children back, it caused us to reflect on how we have been able to get to where we are.

Firstly, once again thank you all, as parents you have been wonderful in the support and understanding you have given the Headteacher and staff during this extremely difficult time.

Secondly thank you to Miss Hale and all her staff. Their commitment and dedication has been absolutely amazing. You will, understandably, not be aware of the work that has been going on throughout this difficult time. It is why we have been able to get to where we are now.

There has been little, and for some staff no holiday, not even Easter or half term.

Thankfully the school has been open to key workers' children and the staff managing this have also been looking after their own class with regard to home learning.

At all times the well-being of our children has been paramount.

The governors are aware that it is very easy to take people for granted and wanted to share our thoughts on how grateful we are to everyone.

We will continue to rigorously monitor the safety and well-being of our pupils and staff.

Keep safe and well.

With very best wishes

Sylvia Smith

Tel: 01458 832866

Email: westpennardprimary@gmail.com

Headteacher Miss J. Hale

Quote of the week

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.
Galatians 5 v22

Story Dice

Beanstalk Charity have produced some lovely templates for making story dice, along with a video for children showing how to use it! Click on the link below.

https://www.beanstalkcharity.org.uk/make-your-own-story-dice-illustrated-by-nick-sharratt?dm_i=H4B,6WB99,T8L98B,RPF42,1

Absence Reminder

If your child is expected to be in school (returning Year R, Year 1 and Year 6) but they are unwell, please contact the office to report their absence before 9.30am. Thank you.

Lunch Menu

Reminder school packed lunches will start from next week (Monday 15th June) for those who have returned a form.

Year 6 Farewells

As we approach mid-June we have started to think about how we can give our fabulous Year 6 children the best send off before they start Secondary School in September. It is really regretful that we cannot, potentially, fulfil some of the firm West Pennard traditions, but we will endeavour to do our very best to mark their time with us as best we can, whether they are back in school or remaining at home during this period. One thing we would like to do, not just for this year's cohort, but moving forward is to create a pebble path in the grounds to which each child contributes a painted pebble, as will future leavers, showing that although they have left us, there remains memories within us and them of our time together and that a little bit of them will stay with us at West Pennard forever.



Please could Year 6 parents be on the lookout for a smooth pebble, no wider than 8cm and preferably round, that they can paint in a design of their child's choosing to mark their time at West Pennard. Acrylic paint and varnish is advisable for longevity. If they are not attending school currently, please ring the office for an appropriate time to drop off the completed pebble.

In addition to this, we wish to create a year long reminder of our Year 6 children with a 'gone but not forgotten' board. We wish to add photos and a message / quote about them with highlights of their time in school and perhaps words of wisdom for those that follow in their footsteps next year. Please email these contributions to the school email account and address them to Mr Wheat.

Mr Wheat

Tel: 01458 832866

Email: westpennardprimary@gmail.com

Headteacher Miss J. Hale

Learning in Dormouse Class

With the online help of Emily Gravett Dormouse Class have been drawing Little Mouse from 'Little Mouse's Big Book of Fears'. We amazed ourselves, what do you think?

Also in our learning this week we have been out measuring the length of some animals. We were shocked that a Giant Squid is a colossal 18 metres long! That's almost as long as the Link!

Mrs Robinson



Story Writing

During lockdown Mrs Robinson challenged Dormouse Class to write their own story in the style of Emily Gravett's 'Dogs'. We are very proud of Rudy as he not only wrote a wonderful story, but he then word processed it, added illustrations and sold copies of it. To date he has raised £75 for the Shepton Mallet Salvation Army - well done Rudy!



Year 6

Year 6 bubbles have had another lovely week in school. We have begun our new topic of Ancient Greece and this week made our own Greek vases. Also Mr North brought in the 3D printer so we could start printing our designs - which was very exciting!

Miss Morris



INSET days for the rest of this academic year

Friday 26th June is no longer an INSET day - this was changed to Monday 1st June. Therefore, there will be key worker childcare provision on this date

Monday 29th June - this remains an INSET day and school is closed to ALL children

There will be NO keyworker provision on this date

Monday 20th July - this remains an INSET day and school is close to ALL children

Tel: 01458 832866

Email: westpennardprimary@gmail.com

Headteacher Miss J. Hale

FWPS Fundraising

With fundraising events being cancelled it is really important that we continue to support our school, so we have set up an Easyfundraising page for West Pennard School. Easyfundraising is an easy way to raise money for your school whilst shopping online.

All you need to do is follow the link below to register with Easyfundraising, choose West Pennard School as your chosen charity, and then start shopping. Every purchase you make online through the Easyfundraising page gives the school a FREE donation with no extra cost to you. It is with shops such as Argos, Amazon, eBay, Debenhams, TicketMaster, Apple, Groupon and that's just a few, there are over 4000 shops to choose from. It doesn't cost you anything but it will make a difference to the school!

These donations really mount up and will make a BIG difference to the school, so we'd really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. It's completely FREE and only takes a moment. You can find our Easyfundraising page at

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/westpennardprim/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=en-e1

Many thanks

Julia Dunwell – FWPS Treasurer

Nest Building!

Some of our Key Worker children built and decorated a nest for the Forest School area. Thanks to Miss Harding and Husker for helping ☺



School Transport – Face Coverings (information from the Local Authority)

Although the use of face coverings has become mandatory when using public transport, there is no similar guidance for those travelling on contracted school transport vehicles.

As a result, and until further guidance is issued, whilst we strongly recommend that children travelling on contracted school transport vehicles wear a face covering, it is not a requirement and will not prevent children from travelling.

However, for children who travel to school using the public network, face coverings are a mandatory requirement.

Guidance on making / wearing face coverings can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/how-to-wear-and-make-a-cloth-face-covering/how-to-wear-and-make-a-cloth-face-covering>

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