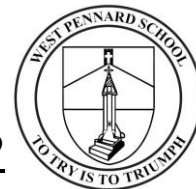




Weekly Newsletter



Written for the Week Beginning 11th November 2019



Dear Parents/Carers,

This week we welcome Orlando to Hedgehog Class and Hugo to Otter Class – it has been lovely seeing how welcoming our children are when we have children join us mid-year. We hope both boys will be very happy here.

Over the coming weeks, I would like to give reminders about attendance. Any absence affects the pattern of a child's schooling and regular absence may seriously affect their learning. We want our pupils to attend school every day, unless they are really not well enough. We believe that children who attend school regularly are more likely to feel settled in school, maintain friendships, keep up with their learning and gain the greatest benefit from their education. Parents should try to make medical or dental appointments outside of school hours wherever possible. Where appointments during school time are unavoidable, the pupil should only be out of school for the minimum amount of time necessary for the appointment. It is not acceptable for a child to miss a whole day's schooling for an appointment, unless absolutely necessary, in which case the school will need an explanation as to why this is.

Finally a plea – please ensure that children have a coat in school every day. We do try to get the children outside for fresh air and children without a coat during very cold days or drizzly days will need to remain inside. Many thanks for your support with this.

Jo Hale

Menu Week 2

Quote of the week

I will give thanks to you Lord with all my heart; I will tell of your wonderful deeds. Psalm 9 v1

Class Attendance

Please see below class attendance figures for the week before half term:

Fox:	98.4%
Dormouse:	99.3%
Mole:	91.3%
Hare:	96.8%
Squirrel:	97.6%
Otter:	95.4%
Hedgehog:	99.3%

Congratulations to **Dormouse Class** and **Hedgehog Class** for having the highest attendance that week.

The Big Question Board

This week's Big Question has been
'How do you know God is good?'

This turned out to be the most answered of all our Big Questions to date with some thoughtful responses included...

'God is good because he made US a wonderful world and he forgives us for the bad things we have done.'

'Look around, there's your answer!'

'...because he looks after us and helps us.'

'God is good because he is always there for us.'

'God is good because he helps us and has made the world a better place.'

'He always keeps his promises.'

I wonder how you would have answered this question. If you do have any responses to this (and other Big Questions in subsequent weeks) please send them into school, we would love to share the debate with you!

Tel: 01458 832866

Email: westpennardprimary@gmail.com

Headteacher Miss J. Hale

First Aid Course

Congratulations to all of the year 6 children. They have successfully passed the Student First Aid course from St John's Ambulance and can now call themselves first aiders. The course consisted of age appropriate modules covering asthma, minor bleeding and bruising, choking, communication and casualty care, fainting, primary survey, shock, head injuries, recovery position, resuscitation (adult) and severe bleeding. Year 5 and year 3 will be completing an age appropriate course on the 21st November.

Mrs Wade



Choir Concert

The school choir will be performing a concert at Wells Cathedral School on Monday 9th December.

Tickets will be available to purchase online from Monday 11th November on Eventbrite via a link on the Wells Cathedral website. Please note seats will be for a designated zone within the Cathedral but not for a specific seat.

Ticket prices will range from £5.50 - £10.50.

Charity Work

In keeping with our school vision, 'Since God so loved us, so we must love one another', we aim to ensure that all of our children have opportunities to look beyond themselves, ask 'big questions' and think globally about life, developing an understanding of the exploitation of the natural world, disadvantage and deprivation.

With this in the forefront of our minds, we have decided that (with the exception of our ongoing commitment to Ashlyn) **ALL** the charities we support will be at the instigation of the children and their passion to make a difference – be it globally, nationally or locally. A great example of this was when Macy (in Year 5) championed the Connect Centre in Wells as the recipient of our Harvest donations. This led to the school supporting her and her vision in collecting food items to donate. Mr Wheat, some members of the school council and Macy then delivered these and heard from the Centre the difference that our donations would make.

This shift-change in encouraging the children to be at the centre of charitable action and advocates of change means that we won't always support the 'more traditional' charity days unless the children themselves take the responsibility to drive these. So if your child is passionate about supporting a charity in whatever context, please encourage them to write down some information about their charity and their reasons for asking for our help in supporting it. Of course, younger children may need support with this, though it is expected that, with our help, your child and their enthusiasm will 'drive' the event.

Please do not hesitate to chat to either myself or Mrs Robinson if you have any questions regarding this.

Thank you for your on-going support

Warmest wishes
Miss Hale

Forest School

Please could all children have wellies/walking boots and waterproof trousers (or at least a change of clothes you don't mind getting wet/dirty) with them every Thursday. Thank you.

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PARENTS



In May we are organising a special day to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the end of World War 2 in Europe (VE Day). We are also going to take the opportunity to celebrate the cessation of fighting in the East (VJ Day) – often the forgotten war. As part of the celebrations we hope to have the children dressing up, having a street party with WW2 style food and a good sing song.

For the event, we would like to put together a working party to gather ideas and also to drive the organisation of the event. If you are interested in taking part and can meet on a Friday afternoon, please contact Mr Wheat.

Author Visit

Yesterday Year 2 went to St John's School in Glastonbury to meet Tracy Corderoy, author of the Shifty McGifty series of books. They had a great time finding out about her books and what inspired her to be an author. A huge thanks to the Wells Festival of Literature for organising the event.



Parking

It has been reported that parents are parking on the junction of Southtown Lane and even further up that lane. Please refrain from parking here; there is not enough space for other vehicles to pass and making it very dangerous for all users. The preferred area to park is at the Village Hall.

School Cleaner

Required for December 2019 start or as soon thereafter

We have a permanent vacancy for someone reliable to join our team.
Monday – Friday Term time (plus 2 weeks holiday cleaning)
10 Hours per week 15:30 - 17:30 Grade 16 point 2 £9.18 per hour

The ideal candidate must be able to work quickly and efficiently and to a high standard of cleanliness. You will be required to use cleaning chemicals to clean a variety of areas such as toilets, communal areas, classrooms and the school hall. We are looking for a committed and dedicated person who can work within the team to maintain the cleanliness of the school to a high standard.

West Pennard School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and has a culture of vigilance to support this. Any offer of employment will be subject to a disclosure check with the Disclosure and Barring Service and all relevant pre-employment checks.

To apply or express your interest in this position please call West Pennard Primary School 01458 832866, email westpennardprimary@gmail.com or pop into the school office.

Deadline for applications: Monday 25th November 2019

Interview date: Friday 29th November 2019

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One of our activities was to celebrate our school's 'unsung heroes', the people who contribute much, but maybe do not get thanked as much as is due to them.



The thankful coat - a great story, look it up - <https://karenharveycox.wordpress.com/2008/04/04/the-thankful-coat/> was acted out and discussed then the children made their own coats to remind them to be thankful.



On Wednesday as a school we spent the day exploring our new half term's theme of 'Thankfulness'.



One of the biggest joys of the day was the sharing as a school family as the children were vertically grouped for the day.



Children created Thankfulness trees for our prayer corners. They each decorated a leaf and wrote a prayer saying thank you to God, then hung their leaf on the tree.

Fox Class spent time being thankful for those who died in war, making a poppy field amongst other activities.



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

Monday 11 th – Friday 15 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Monday 11 th November	Wells Literature Festival Event – Waterstones, Wells* FWPS Christmas Fair Meeting – 6.30pm in the library
Wednesday 13 th November	Year R Vision Screening
Wednesday 20 th November	Year 2 to SS Great Britain Year 4 to Museum of Somerset Rural Life Workshop with Yr 6*
Thursday 21 st November	WP Girls Football Match v Elmhurst at Strode WP Rovers Football Match v Elmhurst at Strode
Friday 22 nd November	Author Visit - Andrew Powell Thomas – whole school assembly and workshops for Yrs 5 and 6 Year 5 Squash and Biscuits
Tuesday 26 th November	Bag2School collection WP Girls Football Match v Ashcott at Strode WP United Football Match v Baltonsborough at Strode
Thursday 28 th & Friday 29 th November	Prayer Space - ADVENT
Tuesday 3 rd December	WP Rovers Football Match v Brookside at Strode
Thursday 5 th December	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) FWPS Christmas Fair
Monday 9 th December`	Somerset School's Music Concert at Wells Cathedral School
Tuesday 10 th December	KS1 Nativity - in hall (pm) WP United Football Match v Meare at Strode
Wednesday 11 th December	KS1 Nativity - in hall (am)
Friday 13 th December	Image Musical Theatre 'Robin Hood' PM All Year groups Flu Vaccinations (Yrs R-6) FWPS School Disco Year 3 Victorian Workshop
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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