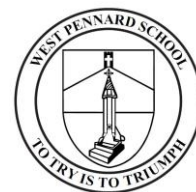




Weekly Newsletter

Written for the Week Beginning 18th May 2020



Dear parents,

Firstly, thank you for your ongoing support and understanding during these challenging times. This is certainly a worrying and a very different sort of 'new normal' for us all. Thank you also for supporting your children so well with their home learning. The teachers have been really impressed with all of the high quality learning that has been happening in homes. We are also completely understanding of situations which have meant that children have not been able to complete very much 'school work' and again I just want to reassure you that you must not worry. Teachers have phoned every household and the vast majority of families have been contacted. For those families where the teachers could not get through, then email or Class Dojo correspondence has been sent.

As you will be aware, we have been providing childcare for the children of key workers and for our most vulnerable families. I must inform you that since the slight easing of the lockdown our numbers in this provision are rising on a daily basis. In order to keep this safe for both the staff and the children, we can only take children where BOTH parents in the household are key workers. The government have said that employers should be sympathetic to anyone unable to work due to a lack of childcare. Please do not contact us regarding a place unless both parents in the household are key workers. In addition to this, only book your child in for the shortest amount of time you need. We thank you in advance for your understanding.

Further to my letter on Monday regarding the possible re-opening of some classes from June 1st, I have sent a survey to parents of children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 – thank you to parents for completing this as it has given us as a school a better understanding of our local context. Views are very mixed but the overwhelming comment was that parents want to know what the school will put in place to ensure the safety of both the children and the staff. I can assure you that senior leaders and governors have been thinking hard and planning every element of school life to lessen the risks. The governing body had a virtual planning meeting yesterday and we will be in a position to share our plan with you next week.

With my very best wishes

Jo Hale

Quote of the week

"We will not go back to normal. Normal never was. Our pre-corona existence was not normal other than we normalized greed, inequity, exhaustion, depletion, extraction, disconnection, confusion, rage, hoarding, hate and lack. We should not long to return, my friends. We are being given the opportunity to stitch a new garment. One that fits all of humanity and nature".

Brene Brown

Paper Plane Challenge

Many children will remember from being in Year 1 that I am a paper plane whizz! In fact, the only person I can think of who has ever flown a paper plane further than mine is Aldo! As you all have a little time at the moment to perfect your creative skills, I am challenging you to make a paper plane using ONLY an A4 sheet of paper which has to stay whole! Instructions are being sent with this newsletter if you need them. Go on give it a go! Let us know how far your plane travels. Photographic evidence may be required for the more ambitious of claims!

Happy flying!
Mrs Robinson

Tel: 01458 832866

Email: westpennardprimary@gmail.com

Headteacher Miss J. Hale

Thank you to our wider community



We would like to say a special thank you to **Alice Harfield**, at **MaskForce Shepton**, for kindly providing the staff currently in school with 20 beautifully, handmade masks. We are extremely grateful for her generous donation! Thank you.

Artwork

Please see below some lovely pieces of work the children in our childcare provision have produced.



You will need:

- ❖ lemons
- ❖ lollypop stick
- ❖ baking soda
- ❖ food colouring
- ❖ washing-up liquid

ADULT - Prep your lemon by slicing the bottom off to make it sit flat. Flip the lemon over and slice out the core.

The Science behind lemon volcanoes

Lemon juice contains citric acid which when mixed with baking soda (*sodium bicarbonate*) reacts to form a gas called carbon dioxide and sodium citrate, which causes the liquid to fizz and bubble. Citric acid is a common food additive used in soft drinks as a preservative and flavouring.
Why not try using different citrus fruit?

Volcano Lemon

1. Prepare extra lemon juice by slicing a second lemon in half and juicing it (Ask for adult help! SHARPI!). Pour juice into a cup and set aside for later.
2. Place your cored lemon on a tray. Use your craft stick to mush the center of the lemon and bring out the juices. Be sure to keep the juice in the lemon!
3. Place a few drops of food colouring in the center of the lemon.
4. Add in a good squeeze of washing-up liquid to the lemon. This is not necessary but causes the bubbles to ooze and froth more and for longer.
5. Add a spoonful of baking soda into the lemon. It should start to fizz. Take your craft stick and stir the lemon and lemon juice. It should start foaming really well as you stir it!
6. Step back and watch your lemon volcano erupt! (To keep the reaction going alternatively add more baking soda, colouring, dish soap and the reserved lemon juice to the reaction. Squeezing the lemon to release the juices also enhances the reaction.)



Hope you enjoy! Miss Holmes

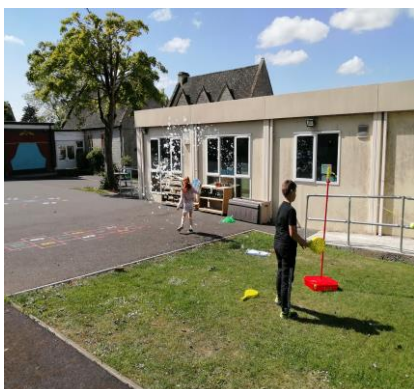
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Bubble Fun in the Sun

Great to see some fun activities keeping the children (and staff) entertained at school!



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