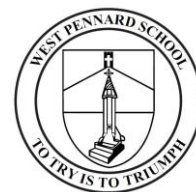




Weekly Newsletter



Written for the Week Beginning 5th November 2018



Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, I very genuinely want to say a huge thank you for all of your support this half term; especially with some of our new initiatives such as Accelerated Reader and the introduction of school planners to name a couple. We have so much to be proud of this half-term and it was lovely to 'catch up' and discuss all things learning and school with parents at our recent parents' evenings.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a wonderful half-term break with your families and I very much look forward to seeing the children back in school on Monday 5th November. Please remember to remind your child to bring in a coat every day.

With kindness

Jo Hale

**Menu Week 1
of revised menu**

Quote of the week

You don't choose your family. You are God's gift to them as they are to you.

Desmond Tutu



Stars

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

- Year 1: **Amaya & Nyree**
- Year 2: **Kailyn & Hugo**
- Year 3: **Finlay & Brooke**
- Year 4: **Hunter & Archie**
- Year 5: **Edward & Jack**
- Year 6: **Willow & Beatrice**

The children are able to wear their 'star' badge for the week. Please can children return their badges to the school office after this time.

Writer of the Week: Isaac (Year 5)

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.

School Photos – Monday 5th November

Bring your best smile and your smartest uniform!

During the school day, all pupils will have an individual photograph taken and all siblings will have a photograph taken together. There is however no pressure to buy these photographs from Tempest.

If you would like a **family** photograph taken (ie: with pre-school siblings and/or mum and dad) please arrive between 8.15am-8.45am. 'Early bird' arrivals from 8.15am please buzz the 'wrap around care' button and you'll be guided to the photographer.

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Headteacher Miss J. Hale

'One Step Out of Time' Enrichment Week

This week in school we have been learning about the past through a study of the school through the ages – not past Eurovision entries, as the title eludes to. The school is 175 years old this year and we thought it right and proper to find out about the past and also the tradition of schooling in West Pennard during that time. Each class has learned about events in history and about the school in periods of 25 years, going all the way back to 1843.

We started our week looking at a cinefilm of a journey to school during particularly harsh weather in 1963, which apparently was the first day back after weeks off as the toilets had frozen. It was amazing to see the old vehicles on the roads through Launcherley and Redlake and the school site as it was, with just two classrooms and even a flagpole! More amazing, was that the clip also featured a sports day taking place with running races going down Church Lane. Cuts and bruises were clearly not a worry back then! On Tuesday we were visited by two of our Governors, Georgi Holley and Sylvia Smith, both of whom have a long association with the school. Georgi and Sylvia told the children about aspects of school life from a pupil's perspective in the late 1950s and early 1960s. The children were told how the pupils of North Wootton School were put out when their school closed and they had to come to West Pennard where they were still using quills and ink, rather than the bios they were used to. On Thursday, Mrs Austin, another Governor with a long association with the school, visited us and told us about school in the 1980s from a teacher perspective. The children learned about the school during that time, including the fact that we even had a swimming pool – where the office is now. You can still see some of the sides of the pool if you look closely enough outside Year R.

In class, children have learned about school life by looking at the school punishment book, old photographs and pupil records. The punishment book details the misdemeanours of certain children in the past (from 1903 until 1980) and the way their behaviour was 'corrected'. One child, early on in the century, got in trouble for having gone into the school buildings during lunchtime and having made marks on the floor with a poker. Others were reprimanded for stealing apples on the way to school from resident's gardens and for being impertinent towards the teachers. At the end of the week, as well as being treated to some of the iconic 'peppermint crunch' by the kitchen staff, the children started to think about the messages they would like to leave for future generations about life at school these days and have contributed to a time capsule to be buried in the school grounds. We hope that this will stay in the ground for many years and be discovered by a future generation of pupils with a 'To Try is to Triumph' attitude and an interest in the past. You can view some of the work that this week generated and also some of the images of the school at different points during the last 175 years on the display in the school hall.

Mr Wheat



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FWPS Christmas Wrapping Evening

Please come along to our 'Wrapping Evening' on Wednesday 21st November at 7.30pm in the school library. Mince pies and refreshments will be provided. All welcome.

Clubs

Please note clubs start back the week after half term and finish week commencing 10th December.

Growing Christian Values

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the 'Growing Christian Values' consultation. We had a great response! Choosing certainly wasn't easy and it was lovely to hear of families discussing their response to this together. As one person succinctly put it ...'difficult!' As the wider school community we have collectively chosen the following as our 6 core values, truthfulness, compassion, friendship, thankfulness, respect and forgiveness. Each of these will be explored in turn, a different one per half term.

Author Visit

Year 6 have been very lucky this term. They met another amazing author Abi Elphinstone. On Wednesday afternoon, Year 6 travelled to St Benedict's school to meet up with other local schools in a huge author 'talk'. Children even got to purchase one of her books for £2 and have it signed. What an amazing afternoon!



Road Safety

Recently, I have been made aware that there are lots of cars parked along the bend by the war memorial. There are concerns that this is a blind bend and cars are having to go around this on the wrong side of the road. Please can I urge as many parents as possible to park at the village hall - it really does help to keep the children safe.

Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Athletics

On Thursday, 18 of our year 5s and 6s took part in a sports hall athletics competition being held at Wells Cathedral School. The events included, hurdle, relay and endurance races as well as some field events including standing triple jump and a vertical jump. The children who took part gave their all and proudly flew the flag for West Pennard School. Moreover the support and encouragement they showed to each other was lovely to see. A huge well done to all involved!
Participants: Alexandra, Maiya, Elias, Isaac, Martha, Ella, Ollie D, Archie, Beatrice, Katharine, Sam, William, Lily, Ruby, Simon, Toby H, Erin and Toby B.

Dates for the week ahead

Monday 29 th October - Friday 2 nd November	HALF TERM
Monday 5 th November	Individual school photos Year 5 Cyclo-Cross Training
Week Commencing 5 th November	FWPS donations for Christmas Fayre (Teddy's for tombola, Present Room Gifts etc, Pocket Money for games room prizes)
Tuesday 6 th November	Cross Country, Collett Park, Shepton Mallet 3.45pm Year 6 Cyclo-Cross Training
Wednesday 7 th November	Year 2 Trip to SS Great Britain
Thursday 8 th November	Reception & Year 1 Phonics Workshop for parents 6pm

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