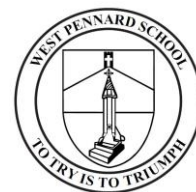




Weekly Newsletter

Written for the Week Beginning 27th January 2020



Dear Parents/Carers,

This week, we had a spot-check visit from Environment Health and I am pleased to inform you that we maintain our top food hygiene rating of 5! Well done to Mandy and Sue in the kitchen ☺

At our teacher staff meeting this week we talked about the importance that vocabulary plays in academic success. The teachers discussed strategies they use in class to develop children's existing vocabulary and shared good practice. With this in mind, when hearing your child read, please can you discuss the meanings of unknown words as well as helping them decode – please make a note in your child's planner of any new vocabulary discussed. Thanks for your support with this.

For any budding authors out there – BBC Radio 2 have launched their 500 words children's short story competition. Click on the link for more info <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/4n1HqL2GFCWDMctq9Sx5kKB/500-words-2020>

On Friday 31st January – children can come into school wearing the colours of the flag of the Philippines (blue, red, white and yellow). This is to celebrate Ashlyn's birthday.



Best wishes
Jo Hale

Menu Week 2

Quote of the week

Honesty is the first chapter
in the book of wisdom. –
Thomas Jefferson

Class Attendance

Please see below class attendance figures for last week:

Fox:	98.4%
Dormouse:	96.6%
Mole:	94.1%
Hare:	98.7%
Squirrel:	96.2%
Otter:	99.0%
Hedgehog:	98.6%

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



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

- Year R: **Rupert, Freddie & Frankie**
- Year 1: **Tabitha & Paige**
- Year 2: **Grace & George M**
- Year 3: **Nikita & Martha**
- Year 4: **Willow & George**
- Year 5: **Jasper & Jacob**
- Year 6: **Gabrielle & Joshua**

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.

Tel: 01458 832866

Email: westpennardprimary@gmail.com

Headteacher Miss J. Hale

Online safety: TikTok Family Safety Mode

TikTok is a social media platform for creating, sharing and discovering short music videos, think Karaoke for the digital age. We are aware that this is popular with many of our children.

As with all social networks, users need to be aware of the risks as well as the opportunities and it's vital that parents monitor their children's use. To support parents in this, a new Family Safety mode has been launched. It allows parents to link their own account to their children's and set restrictions on content, contact and manage screentime.

Common sense have a useful guide to TikTok for parents at:

<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/blog/parents-ultimate-guide-to-tiktok>

After School Club

There is a dedicated phone line for After School Club - **01458 833224 from 3.15pm**. If you have any messages or entry/exit problems at the gate please call this number. Thank you.

Year 3 & 4 Production of 'Dragon Days'

The Year 3 & 4 production will take place on Wednesday 5th February at 2pm and 6.30pm. Please book your seat via the link below. The booking system will open on **Friday 24th January at 7pm** and will close on **Sunday 2nd February at 10pm**. Please note 3 places per family which can be split over both performances. <https://westpennard.parentseveningsystem.co.uk>

Class Dojo

Teachers in Years 2-6 use a system called Class Dojo. This is a messaging service that aids communication between parents and teachers. The system should be used for general enquiries or to pass on messages. It could also be used to arrange a quick meeting or telephone call to discuss more complex concerns or issues. Teachers at West Pennard are not expected to respond to messages outside of their normal working hours 8:30-16:00 hrs. In addition to this teachers are not expected to respond to concerns highlighted during weekends or school holidays. Thank you for your support.

Year 5 Trip

Offer Class had a brilliant time on Wednesday exploring Anglo-Saxon Somerset at the Museum of Somerset in Taunton. Not only did we re-enact some of King Alfred's most famous battles, we explored our local history and how important a role Somerset and Wessex played during Anglo-Saxon times. We were even able to create our own rune stones and Alfred Jewel.



Fox Class

Well done to members of Fox Class this week for their creativity during playtimes this week. They fashioned this amazing seafaring vessel from the play crates and went on imaginary journeys no doubt too!



Tel: 01458 832866

Email: westpennardprimary@gmail.com

Headteacher Miss J. Hale

VACANCY - Teaching Assistant and Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant

Permanent Vacancy (3 days a week – one of which must be a Friday. The other 2 days to be agreed on appointment)

1 x 15 hours per week (Teaching Assistant Role)

Grade 15 point 3 - 4 (£9.36 - £9.55 per hour)

1 x 3 hours per week (Lunchtime Supervisory Role)

Grade 16 point 2 (£9.18 per hour)

Required to start as soon as possible

The Children, Staff and Governors of this forward-thinking village primary school are seeking to appoint a reliable, conscientious and enthusiastic teaching assistant to join their team. The role comes with an additional lunchtime supervisory contract.

The successful candidate will:

- Have the flexibility to work across Key stage 2 classes supporting the teaching and learning of all children including those with special educational needs
- Work effectively as part of a team
- Provide nurture and support the well-being of our children by; monitoring play, mediating with disagreements and upholding the school values
- Be willing to contribute to the wider life of the school supporting with other duties when needs arise
- Carry out interventions and booster groups to accelerate learning
- Be a reflective person, who shows initiative to support all of our children to achieve their full potential
- Have relevant and recent experience of working within a Primary school setting
- Firmly believe that every child can be successful in learning
- Have a good level of English and Mathematics (GCSE grade C or equivalent). Other qualifications such as a NVQ level 3 would be an advantage

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.

Please visit our website at www.westpennardschool.co.uk Visits to the school are warmly welcomed.

Please ring 01458 832866 to arrange a suitable time.

Deadline for applications: Monday 3rd February 2020 12 noon

Interview date: Monday 10th February 2020

Application forms should be sent to the school office by post or email the School Administration Officer
nsweet@educ.somerset.gov.uk

Tel: 01458 832866

Email: westpennardprimary@gmail.com

Headteacher Miss J. Hale

The Big Question Board

This week's Big Question has been

Is it better to be honest or kind? Can you be both?

This was a tricky question to answer and, in some ways, became more difficult to answer the more we thought about it!

The many thoughtful answers included

'It's better to be honest because you make friends when you are honest. Yes – you can be kind while you are being honest.'

'It is good to be both because everyone deserves to be happy.'

'It is best to be both because they are both important.'

'It is better to be kind because if you are honest and unkind that is not good. You can be both and that will make you a better person.'

'It is important to be both because if someone asks you "Do you like my dress?" you can say "I don't, but others might."'

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!

Christmas Present Tombola

Thank you so much – with your kindness and generosity Dormouse Class raised £138.40 for Ashlyn. Thank you so much for your support Mrs Robinson



SEND update

Item from the SEND Newsletter (<https://choices.somerset.gov.uk/025/send-news/>): Virtual Library Somerset Parent Carer Forum holds a library of resource books it can loan to parent carers, their families and practitioners. This includes a wide range of topics and disabilities. All loans are free of charge to forum members and the forum is free to join. Thanks to the support of Somerset County Council these include some really useful titles on autism, Dyslexia, anxiety, OCD and many more. If you are interested in accessing any of the books, please contact the team on 01458 259384. <https://somersetparentcarerforum.org.uk/spcf-library/>

Key Dates Spring Term 2020 (please note any new dates/changes will be marked with an *)

Tuesday 28 th January	Cross-Country – Millfield School, Street*
Friday 31 st January	Year 1 Toys Workshop*
Wednesday 5 th February	Year R & 6 – Heights and Weights Year 3 and 4 production (2pm and 6:30pm)
Friday 7 th February	Year 4 Quicksticks Hockey Festival, Wells Cathedral School*
Monday 10 th February	SATs information evening for Year 6 parents – 5.30pm in Year 6 class FWPS May Fayre Planning Meeting – 6.30pm in Library
Friday 14 th February	Year 2 Squash & Biscuits
Monday 17 th – Friday 21 st February	Half term week
Monday 2 nd and Tuesday 3 rd March	Bikeability (12x Year 6 children)
Tuesday 3 rd March	Cross-Country – Downside School
Wednesday 4 th March	Year 2 trip to The Wild Place, Bristol
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day
Friday 6 th – Wednesday 11 th March	Book Fair*
Friday 20 th March	Mothers' Day Tea in the Hall @ 2pm Year 6 to serve tea and cake
Monday 23 rd March	Year 6 to Easter Unscrambled, Street
Tuesday 24 th March	Cross-Country – Tor Leisure
Thursday 26 th and Friday 27 th March	Easter Prayer Space
Friday 27 th March	Year 3 Squash and Biscuits
Wednesday 1 st April	Parents' Evening 3.30-6.30
Thursday 2 nd April	Parents' Evening 3.30-6.30
Friday 3 rd April	Easter Service in Church - 2pm (Year 5 to Lead) Last Day of term

Tel: 01458 832866

Email: westpennardprimary@gmail.com

Headteacher Miss J. Hale