

West Pennard C of E VC Primary School



Otter Class making lanterns out of plastic milk containers to mark Armistice Day on Wednesday.



'Since God so loved us, so we must love one another' (1 John 4 v11)

Heads Up

For fear of shouts of 'He's behind you!' and 'Oh no it isn't!' I booked a virtual pantomime to replace one that we were going to have in school in December. Aladdin will be performed by the MacMillan Theatre in Bridgwater over the internet for the whole school to watch on Thursday 17th December. I had the pleasure of watching the same production company's pantomime at the MacMillan last Christmas, which was really good... so we look forward to this retelling - oh yes we will! The performance is 90 minutes with a 20 minute interval, starting at 11:00 - so it would be advisable to have a suitable snack to keep tummies from rumbling before the later lunch. All this talk gets me thinking... is it too early for Christmas hats?

This week the children have been preparing clips to send to our friends at the Cyder Barn. Prior to the pandemic children in Year 5 and 6 visited the Cyder Barn, our local care home, once a week with me to play games, to read to and talk to the residents. We really enjoyed our visits, bringing generations together and hearing some quite amazing life stories. Unfortunately, we have been unable to visit face to face since March due to the current situation. We are now facilitating this virtually. We are recording ourselves (where permissions are given) telling stories, talking through our work and also just to say hello. Watch this

space for pictures of our meetings.

Next week in school the children will be taking part in activities for anti-bullying week. On Monday 16th we are asking the children to wear odd socks to highlight the fact that we are all unique. If your household is anything like mine, I'm sure you won't have any difficulty finding pairs that do not match!

Have a fabulous weekend and see you all on Monday

Kindest Regards

Mr Wheat



Stars in Our Eyes

Well done to the following children, who were chosen as the class 'Stars of the Week' this week;

- Year R - Ivy & Layla
- Year 1 - Lizzie & Ted
- Year 2 - Amelie & Ottie S.
- Year 3 - Grace & Nyree
- Year 4 - Maddison & Orlagh
- Year 5 - Lily & George
- Year 6 - Wezley & Ethan



Tel: 01458 832866

Email: westpennardprimary@gmail.com

Headteacher Mr T. Wheat

WoW Wednesdays

(Wellbeing on Wednesdays)

Each week this year the children have taken part in wellbeing activities on Wednesday afternoons as part of our Wellbeing on Wednesdays initiative. The activities that are planned closely match objectives in the PSHE and RSE curricula and our Christian Values. Each week on the newsletter we will give you a snapshot of the goings on in different classes. This week it is Hare Class' turn.

On Wednesday, Hare class enjoyed a thankful themed day. We listened to the heartwarming story 'Thankful' by Eileen Spinelli. This rhyming and whimsy book brought about thoughtful discussions around celebrating our own everyday blessings and acts of thankfulness. We then learnt to sing and sign a song about the things we were thankful for.

Having observed the two minutes silence for Remembrance Day, we then focused our thankfulness on unsung heroes. Children chose a person (a personal hero) that they were most thankful for in their life and created a 'Love Monster' card (one of our favourite WoW characters) with a thoughtful cinquain poem attached!



Watch Hare Class performing their thankfulness song. Click on the image to the left to download it. It is a .mov file so most players will open it, but if in doubt VLC Media Player will open it successfully.

Along with felt poppy making, WoW Wednesday proved to be a jam packed, creative and reflective day, enjoyed by all.

Miss Holmes

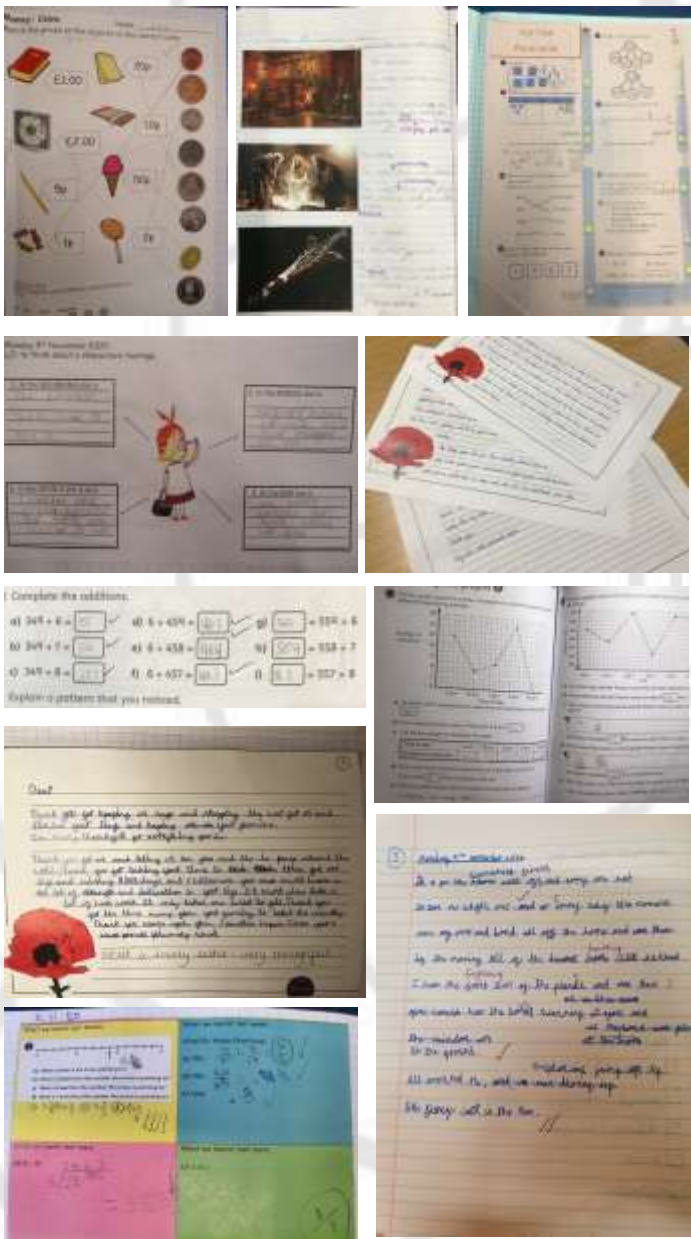
Writers and Mathematicians of the Week

Well done to the following children, who were chosen as the class Writer or the Mathematician of the Week this week;

- Year 1 -
- Year 2 - Isla & Tabitha
- Year 3 - Amaya & Thea
- Year 4 - Phoebe & Noah
- Year 5 - Kai & Sebastian
- Year 6 - Macy & Jacob



See a selection of their impressive work below.



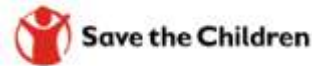
Well done to all of these children.

Here and There

Westonbirt



This month there are fewer places to visit that are open. However, Westonbirt Arboretum remains open for outdoor recreation and exercise. You will need to book ahead - tickets go fast. If you wish to get tickets for the weekend you most probably will have to book the weekend before, when the tickets are released. I have found that tickets start to get released on Saturday mornings from 8am.



Save the children have a number of lockdown activity ideas to do should you not be able to get out and about. From pom pom making to den building, it offers great ideas for doing things together and raising spirits during the dark winter months. [Click here](#)



The Strawberry Line

The Strawberry Line Path is an fantastic project aiming to create a continuous 30-mile traffic free path from Clevedon on the coast, across mid-Somerset to Shepton Mallet, and beyond. Wells, was once home to 3 railway stations and traces of the areas railway heritage can be found throughout the city and the surrounding countryside.

This is an approximately 3-mile circular walk, on largely traffic free paths, with just one modest hill. Park at Morrison's supermarket (3 hours free parking is allowed) or elsewhere in the city and follow the A371 Wells/Shepton Mallet road for a couple of hundred metres before the walk picks up the cutting of the former East Somerset Railway.

After a mile or so you'll reach the pretty village of Dulcote, carry on to the ornamental fountain before turning north and following the pavement to the foot of Constitution Hill with fantastic views all around.

Before ascending cross the road, following the Public Footpath sign, through a small gate where you'll see the town and Cathedral just half a mile or so away. Follow the path across what was once a deer park for the Bishops Palace to find yourself alongside the palace moat.

Mr Foley
www.thestrawberryline.org.uk

APPs of the Week



Duolingo. When you are looking a simple way to make your kid learn a foreign language, Duolingo comes as one of the best options. This app offers learners a variety of languages including Spanish, Dutch, Danish, French, German, Italian, Irish, and even English. Completely free to download and use, Duolingo doesn't have any hidden fees and the in-app purchases are kept optional. On the top of that, this app is incredibly effective and fun.



This is an app created by the National Science Foundation. It is exclusively built for tablet users only to showcase advanced science, engineering news images, and videos for children. All content available is authentic, high-quality, and updated every week. The content is also produced by the NSF or gathered from scientists and universities around the world. The cool 360-degree view allows kids to explore 3D images from every angle.



Currently the #1 science app for kids, Tappity covers over 100 science topics in its library—more than enough for the most curious young scientist! Plus, new content is added every week.



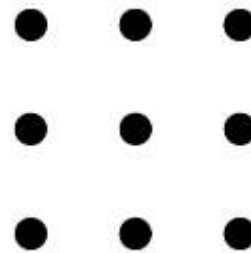
Maths Monkey. Beat the evil rogue, Mean Monkey, to Banana Cradle and return the stolen ancient treasures to their rightful place. Travel to the enchanted islands of arithmetics and test your skills in addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, with multiple levels on each island. Every equation you solve brings you closer to victory.

Maths Puzzle of the Week

Solution to last week's puzzle

The fastest solution takes 17 minutes for all of the friends to get back to the mainland. The second fastest solution takes 21 minutes for all of the friends to get back to the mainland.

New puzzle of the week. Can you link all of the dots below by drawing 4 straight lines?



You may need to think a bit 'outside' of the box.

Share and Share Alike

Do you set aside time to chat through your child's day? It is very valuable for a child to go over or re-explain what they have learnt. If you can teach something to others or tell them about it, it affirms that you really know it and makes connections in your mind. Perhaps start with 'Tell me about the best part of your day'.

Somerset Health and Wellbeing



Really useful guidance and support on how to stay happy, healthy and safe.

<https://www.healthysomerset.co.uk/covid-19/>

Safeguarding



Mr T Wheat
Designated
Safeguarding Lead
DSL



Mrs Lorraine Clarke
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead
DDSL

The safety and welfare of all children is everybody's responsibility. As the nights draw in, please be aware of the associated dangers of diminished light when walking home or when in public places.

Our School's Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mr Tony Wheat. The Deputy Safeguarding Lead is Mrs Lorraine Clarke. If you have any concerns regarding a child's welfare or safety please speak to them immediately.

Alternatively if you are worried about a child or young person who could be in danger out of school please contact Children's Social Care on 0300 123 2224, by email at childrens@somerset.gov.uk or the police.

Blue Peter Award



A big well done to Zoe in Year 2 for being awarded a Blue Peter badge for the poem that she wrote during lockdown.

Quote of the Week

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

FWPS Fundraising

With fundraising events being cancelled it is really important that we continue to support our school, so we have set up a easyfundraising page for West Pennard School.

Easyfundraising is an easy way to raise money for your school whilst shopping online and with Christmas fast approaching, what better time to start!

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.

You can even download the app to make it easier!

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.

Once you have registered, all you then have to do is go to the app or login to easyfundraising, then choose which shop you want to use to start shopping (for example Amazon) then once you have purchased your items a donation will be sent to the school.

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

Thankfulness Day

On Wednesday we spent the day celebrating this term's value of Thankfulness. Although we were unable to be together this did not stop us from having a fun filled day finding different ways to be thankful and express our thanks. These included celebrating our school's 'Unsung Heroes'. We made cards to say thank you to people who work, often unseen to make our school the amazing place it is. Other highlights of our day included Year 5 writing letters of thanks to our 'Service' families, Year 1 'pegging' (ninja thank yous) and Year 3 learning a thankfulness poem which was sent home for their families to share. Of course, one of the most important aspects of our school day was Class Worship when we stood in silent remembrance and thanks for those who have died in wars and those who continue to struggle with the memories of war. A poignant and still moment in an otherwise action packed day.



Picture from Year 6



Key Dates: Autumn Term 2020

*subject to alteration due to Covid-19 measures / procedures

16 th – 20 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Monday 16 th November	Year 4 Parents' Evening (9am-3pm) Odd Socks Day
Tuesday 17 th November	Year 4 Parents' Evening (3.30pm-6.30pm) Year 5 Parents' Evening (3.30pm-6.30pm)
Wednesday 18 th November	Year 5 Parents' Evening (9am-3pm)
Tuesday 24 th November	Year 3 Parents' Evening (3.30pm-6.30pm)
Wednesday 25 th November	Year 3 Parents' Evening (9am-3pm)
Friday 27 th November	Year 5 Squash and Biscuits*
Monday 30 th Nov – Tuesday 1 st Dec	Prayer Space - ADVENT
Tuesday 15 th December	Christmas Dinner* and Christmas jumper day
Wednesday 16 th December	Class Collective Worship Year 5 – Thankfulness*
Wednesday 16 th December	Class Christmas Parties*
Thursday 17 th December	Aladdin—Virtual Pantomime—The MacMillan Theatre
Friday 18 th December	Carol Service @ 2pm (Year 4 to lead)* Break up for Christmas Holidays