

West Pennard C of E VC Primary School



Children in Hare Class enjoying their mindfulness session in Tai Chi with Mrs Robertson



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

Heads Up

It has been lovely this week greeting all the smiley faces coming in to school, despite the incredibly wet weather. It has been pleasing also to see that so many children are coming in with appropriate wet weather gear. We will try to ensure the children get outside to play each day unless it is really unpleasant weather or especially cold.

As the colder weather approaches, it may be timely, especially during half term, to consider purchasing clothing to give additional warmth in class, such as a vest. We need to provide a high degree of ventilation in the classrooms to maximise air flow, following Government guidance, but of course, as winter sets in, this will create the added problem of children feeling cold. We will, of course, not have windows wide open in the dead of winter, but they may well have to be open slightly to aid ventilation and the wearing of an extra layer may ensure focus is maintained on learning, rather than the cold, during the chilly days ahead.

Unfortunately, in light of national news, schools have now been informed by the Local Authority that they should not hold face to face meetings with parents in school for any reason. This does make communication rather difficult, and will impact on our ability to hold face to face parents' evenings next half term. I am currently considering

how best we do this in order to give you the most comprehensive overview of your child's attainment whilst adhering to these guidelines and yours and teachers' working patterns. I will let you know our intentions in the coming weeks. In the meantime, please do speak to me at the gate if you have any concerns or queries and I will endeavour to address them.

Have a great weekend!

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 - Amelie & George M.
- Year 1 - Oscar & Max
- Year 2 - Faelen & Isabelle E.
- Year 3 - Spike & Arlo
- Year 4 - Megan & Martha
- Year 5 - Connor & Mia
- Year 6 - Lola & Evie D.



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Headteacher Mr T. Wheat

APPs of the Week



'Nessy ' is series of APPs to support phonics and early reading. Suitable for Yr R to Yr 2. Originally created to aid children with dyslexia, the APPs are useful for all children in developing their phonological awareness.



Codeapillar is a free APP that helps children with early coding. Create sequences of instructions to guide Codeapillar through different challenges.



'Foldify' is available on IOS. It allows you to create 3D figures on an iPad and then print and fold them on paper. 'Foldify Zoo' allows you to do the same whilst learning about animals.



Get your creative English juices flowing and write your own comic strips. 'Comic Life' is a fun application that lets you create a real life comic with your photos and images! It is £4.99 at the Apple Store.



'Koozac' is rather like Tetris, so incredibly addictive and sometimes frustrating. Add numbers of the blocks as quick as you can to make them disappear. Even though the numbers are small, it really sharpens mental mathematical ability!!!!

Free Google Classroom Training



To celebrate the launch of their brand new computing curriculum-aligned TECH:CLUB for students – Cocoon Tech Club are offering free training for students (and parents) in Google Classroom. Visit www.CocoonTech.Club and select **'Try a Free Course'** to get registered for the free training. It is free and I am assured that there is no obligation to sign up for anything further, so it is a good opportunity to up skill in the use of Google Classroom.

Mr Wheat

Here and There



Devon Railway Centre is a great day out for small children, especially those with a fascination with railways. It is located in an old station on the Tiverton to Exeter line and has quite a lot to offer, even though it covers quite a small site. There are mini trains to ride on, an outdoor playground, model village and a soft play zone in the old engine shed. <https://devonrailwaycentre.co.uk/>



At the heart of Somerset's Levels and Moors, lies a beautiful area called the "Avalon Marshes". The Avalon Marshes is a vibrant, working Landscape, celebrated for its rich wildlife, heritage and culture, valued and enjoyed by all. The Avalon Marshes Centre is sign posted from the A39 and B3151 (the Glastonbury to Wedmore road). The principal nature reserves all have car parks and there is plenty of parking in Glastonbury and Street.

Mental Health and Debt



Download a useful guide from Martin Lewis for helping with mental health issues and debt. [Click here](#)

Notice Me Logos—School Uniform

Please note our School Uniform supplier, Notice Me Logos has moved premises. The new address is 4 High Street, Shepton Mallet, BA4 5AN (opposite Lloyds Bank) and has parking directly outside.

Black History Month



Throughout the school year we will be exploring and celebrating difference within the UK and around the world. October is Black History Month. Click on the pictures below to find out more about the life and work of these great pioneers of their time.

Get Writing



Writing has so many benefits for our wellbeing. In these extraordinary times, the creative process can help us make sense of how we feel. Bupa are running a competition whereby they are encouraging everyone to get writing and to share their thoughts around the subject of 'My 2020'. They will donate £3 for each submission across their partner charities and there are individual prizes to be won. Get inspiration from award winning poets and authors and find out how to get involved by clicking [here](#).



Find out about the life and work of Pablo Fanque by clicking on the image above.



Find out about the life and work of Mary Seacole by clicking on the image above.

Wet Gear Appeal



Do you have any wet weather gear that your child has grown out of and no longer needs? In anticipation of the deluge to come this winter, we would like to try to ensure that children can enjoy their Forest School sessions to the max, even if they have forgotten their clothing or do not have certain items that are required. Waterproof trousers and wellies are the items we are most in need of. Many thanks.

Quotes of the Week

'Many people will walk in and out of your life, but only true friends leave footprints in your heart.'

Eleanor Roosevelt

'The pessimist complains about the wind; the optimist expects it to change; the realist adjusts the sails.'

William Arthur Ward

Virtual Open Day

Please follow the link below for St Dunstan's Virtual Open Day; <https://youtu.be/um5Jl6zGFcA>

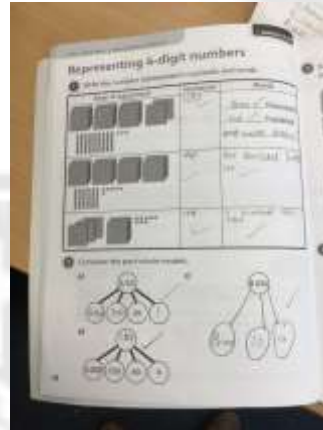
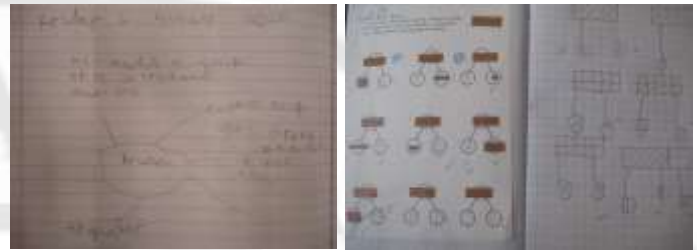
Writers and Mathematicians of the Week

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

- Year 1 - Wilber
- Year 2 - Henry & Jacob
- Year 3 - Ida and Spike
- Year 4 - Megan & Harriet
- Year 5 - Max & Honey
- Year 6 - Saffron & Tigris



See a selection of their impressive work below and to the side.



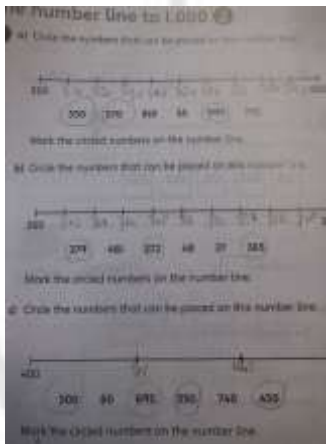
Well done to all these hard working children!



Flu Vaccination Reminder

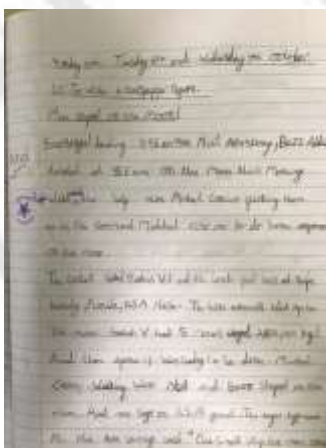
Please complete the flu vaccination form online by Wednesday 14th October. IT IS IMPORTANT that you complete this form, WHETHER YOU CONSENT OR DO NOT CONSENT to the vaccination being given.

<https://saint.sompar.nhs.uk/flu/2020/east>



A Trip Back in Time

A year ago or so I was given this very interesting video clip (well cinefilm) of our school in 1963. I thought some of you might like to see how much the school has changed, particularly in terms of the location and safety procedures for sports day!!!! Quite a sizable file but well worth it. Click the picture to start the download. Your computer may alert you that it can not scan for viruses. I can assure you there are none. Mr Wheat



Key Dates: Autumn Term 2020

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

Wednesday 21 st October	Class Collective Worship Year 1 - Friendship
Friday 23 rd October	Flu Vaccinations Year 6 raffle prize to be drawn
Monday 26 th to Friday 30 th October	HALF TERM
Monday 9 th November	Parents MHST afternoon 2:00pm-3:00pm*
Wednesday 11 th November	Whole School Values Day - Thankfulness
16 th – 20 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Friday 27 th November	Year 5 Squash and Biscuits*
Monday 30 th Nov – Tuesday 1 st December	Prayer Space - ADVENT
Tuesday 8 th December	KS1 Nativity - in hall (pm)*
Wednesday 9 th December	KS1 Nativity - in hall (am)*
Tuesday 15 th December	Christmas Dinner* Christmas jumper day
Wednesday 16 th December	Class Collective Worship Year 5 – Thankfulness*
Wednesday 16 th December	Class Christmas Parties*
Thursday 17 th December	Class Christmas Parties*
Friday 18 th December	Carol Service @ 2pm (Year 4 to lead)* Break up for Christmas Holidays