

West Pennard C of E VC Primary School

Prospectus 2018-19



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Headteacher's Welcome

West Pennard Church of England Primary School is a 7 class school set in beautiful grounds, nestled between the Somerset countryside, Glastonbury Tor and St Nicholas' Church.

Despite being in existence since 1843, we are a forward thinking school with forward thinking staff and governors. We pride ourselves on our quality of care, high aspirations and a creative curriculum invigorated through a wide range of enriching activities.

Our inclusive Christian ethos enables all of our learners to develop and grow to be life-long learners and reach their full potential – both academically and personally. Our children are kind, polite and can be relied upon to try their best. Our children are the stars!

Browse through our prospectus to familiarise yourselves with our school a little better. If you would like any of further information, just let us know – we'll be happy to provide it for you.

We warmly encourage visits to our beautiful school and we urge you to come and visit us when the children are working, so that you can see first-hand the rich learning environment that our staff work so hard to create. Please contact the school office and we will be delighted to take the time to show you and your child around our beautiful school.

Welcome!

Miss Hale

Headteacher



Truthfulness Compassion Friendship Thankfulness Respect Forgiveness

1 Welcome

Our Vision & Values

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

*Valuing our Christian foundation, we care for each other and our world.
We develop resilience, confidence, creativity and independence through our innovative and diverse curriculum; inspiring and motivating everyone to thrive.
Our motto, 'To Try is to Triumph' and growing Christian Values, are central to all that we do.*

Our school values are :

Truthfulness
Compassion
Friendship
Thankfulness
Respect
Forgiveness

We are fully committed to each day a fresh start in the sp



The Early Years

Starting School 2

Our skilled staff provide a rich learning environment to enable children to develop a natural curiosity about the world around them. Every child is developed as a unique individual who is constantly learning and can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured. Our children learn to be strong and independent through building positive relationships.

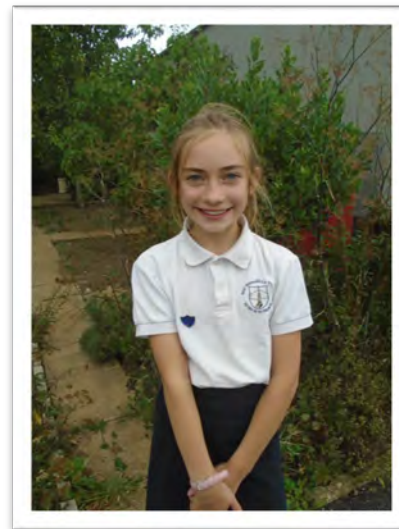


Responsibilities

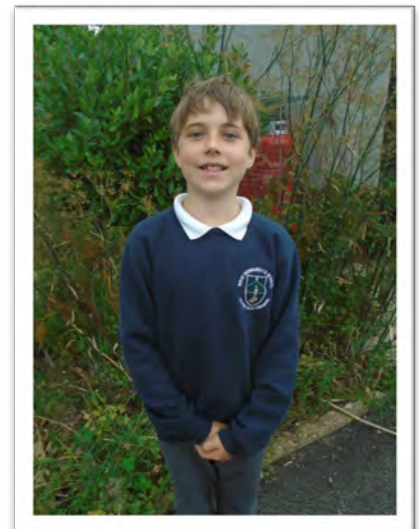
We encourage children to take on additional responsibilities to develop confidence, communication, teamwork and leadership skills. The children at West Pennard are proud of their school and take their responsibilities very seriously. Every class has 'greeters' that welcome visitors to their class and explain their learning and the learning environment. We also have opportunities for children to become peer mentors, part of an active school council, a member of the IT support team or even a House Captain. We also have a Head Boy and Head Girl who will take pleasure in showing you around our forward thinking school.



Our House Captains



Our Head Girl



Our Head Boy



Learning

At West Pennard we believe that a child's primary education is the foundation for life-long learning and success. We endeavour to provide an innovative, diverse and creative curriculum that inspires and motivates all learners to do their very best. We aim to create an environment in which children are resilient, feel able to express themselves confidently and with an increasing sense of independence. Our motto, 'To Try is to Triumph' is at the core of all that we do. Learning goes beyond the classroom and children are given opportunities to learn both inside and outside. Visits out and visitors in enrich learning and provide real hands on experiences.



A large group of approximately 25 school children, mostly in dark blue uniforms, are posing for a group photo on a cobblestone path. They are standing in front of the massive, yellow and black hull of the HMS Victory, a historic sailing ship. The ship's ornate wooden upper decks and windows are visible. The children are of various ages, some holding backpacks or bags, and many are smiling or shouting happily. The scene is set outdoors in a historic dockyard area.

Our teachers make learning fun and interesting.

School trip to Portsmouth Historic Dockyard

5 Sports

At West Pennard we encourage children to have a healthy and active lifestyle.

Sports

Children take part in a range of sporting activities both competitively and just for fun to ensure that they develop an understanding of what their body and mind needs to keep healthy and active. Each week every child receives dedicated time with a specialist sports coach. In addition to this, children from Years 1 to 6 go swimming on a rolling programme through the year.

Children also take part in 'The Daily Mile' which is where they run for 10 – 15 minutes each day. This is a social activity and we believe that it improves the mental, physical and emotional health of our children and staff.

Through taking part in competitive sports, the children at West Pennard develop their skills in communication, teamwork, leadership, social skills and respect.



*We encourage
each other and
celebrate our
successes.*

*Pupils scaling new heights during
Sports' Week*



6

Christian Ethos

*'Since God so loved us, so we must love one another'
(1 John 4 V11)*

At West Pennard we care for each other and our World

Collective Worship

The Christian ethos underpins all that we do at West Pennard. The children start every day with an act of Collective Worship, which gives the children an opportunity to explore and reflect. St Nicholas' Church is situated next to the school and we gather together once every two weeks to take part in worship led by the local clergy and 'Open the Book' Team. As a school we also celebrate events in the Christian calendar such as: Easter, Harvest and Christmas. Parents are invited to join us in these celebrations. Whole school 'Value Days' provide opportunities for the whole school community to reflect and articulate their values with greater clarity and openness.



We like to celebrate with each other



*Our pupils singing the National Anthem to
celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday*

Enrichment

The curriculum is enhanced through weekly enrichment days and regular enrichment weeks. Enrichment days provide the children with opportunities to take part in a range of practical activities such as cookery, gardening and forest school. There are also activities such as dance, music and craft to develop creativity. Modern foreign languages are taught from Year 1. Recent Enrichment Weeks have included: Shang Dynasty, Healthy Lifestyles, Sports week and Book Week to name but a few.



*We enjoy many different activities on
enrichment days and after school*



Cheerleading Activities – Sports' Week



We care for each other and
appreciate our beautiful
surroundings. We are kind
and gentle.

8 The Arts

Creativity at West Pennard plays a central part in all children's education.

The Creative Arts

Here at West Pennard School we have fantastic opportunities for children to develop a love of music and the arts. There are opportunities for your child to have one to one tuition with a specialist music teacher from a wide choice of instruments including: piano, drums, violin, recorder or guitar. During enrichment days, children get specialist whole class music from a music teacher. Some classes also learn instruments through Somerset Music. We also have an active choir who perform at regular whole school events. The school put on regular musical performances to give children the opportunities to perform and develop confidence.

Drama and dance opportunities include Tai chi, African dance, hip hop, school productions and theatre club.





We believe in developing a love of the creative arts through providing a wide range of musical, drama, dance and art opportunities.

Our Year 2 class performing pieces of music on the recorder



Friends of West Pennard School (FWPS)

At West Pennard, we have a very active body of parents and staff who work very hard to raise funds for the school and promote home/school links. They meet regularly to plan fundraising events such as the annual Christmas and Summer fairs, school discos, fish and chip suppers and fun swim to name but a few. Everyone is most welcome at all our events and you will be kept informed about meetings and events by regular newsletters. All parents and families are automatically members of the FWPS, a registered charity. You may feel you can only support events by attending, or you may like to help by making cakes or running a stall. However, some like to become more actively involved by attending meetings and/or becoming a committee member. The committee is reconstituted every Autumn term. For more information, please contact the Chair via the school. We appreciate having such support and commitment from all our parents.



Home/School links

We value parents as a child's first educator and therefore aim to develop and strengthen relationships between home and school to ensure that children are well supported by parents and school staff. Children make the best progress when home and school support each other for the benefit of the child. Parents are actively encouraged to become involved in their children's education through supporting homework and reading at home. Please refer to our home/school agreement on our website.

Every Friday we celebrate the children's achievements in a special 'Star of the Week' assembly. Parents of the chosen children are invited to come along to the assembly to share in their child's successes. We are also interested to hear of any special talents or interests children may be following out of school. We like to celebrate a child's special achievements and any additional information is most welcome.

Parents' evenings are arranged in the Autumn and Spring terms and written reports are sent home at the end of the Summer term. Should any problem with a child's work arise, parents are advised to contact the child's teacher directly. Class teachers are also always happy to see parents with more personal problems. An appointment, arranged by telephone or letter, will ensure that staff are available.

Parents are invited to join us at several functions throughout the year, for example Christmas productions, concerts, Harvest Festival and Friday Celebration assemblies. Parents' information events are arranged regularly. The aim of these events is to keep parents informed about the school's approaches to various areas of the curriculum and to provide a forum for discussion. Recent meetings have included: Accelerated Reader, Phonics and emotion coaching.

Parents' views are also canvassed via tea and chat sessions, parental surveys and feedback gathered is used to further develop the school.

Many parents help in school with activities such as art, cooking, trips, etc. for which we are most grateful. If you feel you would like to volunteer to do this please contact the school office to set in place procedures for DBS clearance as you will understand that this is required before being able to help in school.

Breakfast Club and After School Club

We have a thriving Breakfast Club that runs from 7:30 to 8:30 each morning. Children enjoy eating a nutritious breakfast with their friends and also enjoy taking part in a number of fun activities before school.

We also run an after school club from 3:15 to 6:00 each day. This takes place in our new building and is led by fully trained and qualified staff members who plan a number of activities to interest the children as well as giving them opportunities for free time to chill out after a busy day at school. Children are provided with a snack tea.

How to apply

Come and see our school

You and your children are welcome to visit our school so that you can look around and have plenty of opportunity to ask us any questions. These tours are normally conducted by our Head Teacher or representatives from Year 6 and can easily be arranged by telephoning the school office. You will be asked for a little information about your children as we would like them to enjoy their visit. We would be happy to arrange a follow-up visit if needed.

Take a look at our Website

At www.westpennardschool.co.uk you can get a great insight into daily life at our school. The site also features the latest Ofsted Report and SIAM Report

How to apply

To join our school please contact Somerset Direct on 0300 123 2224. We are a popular village Primary school and take many children from out of our catchment area. Due to the mobility of families within the village and surrounding area we often have places at the school that become available through the year, throughout the school. If you would like to enquire about a place at our school, do arrange to come and see us, or approach the Somerset Admissions Team.

Safeguarding Statement

West Pennard C of E Primary School is committed to Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. To achieve our commitment, we will ensure continuous development and improvement of robust Safeguarding processes and procedures that promote a culture of Safeguarding amongst our staff and volunteers.



Miss Hale
Designated
safeguarding Lead



Mrs Clarke
Deputy Designated
safeguarding Lead



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