



A small school, dreaming big Thursday 21st September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we were visited by the new vicar in Westbury, Father David Gill. He came to school on Tuesday and introduced himself in Worship. He plans to visit the school regularly from January and lead Worship once a month as well as attend our school church services. He will also be joining the Board of Governors. He told us that he had been a church minister for many years but before that he was a farmer!

We have a few new playground markings in school- a netball court, a "Mirror Me" dance station and a number snake outside my office- I love seeing the children hop along it.

There has been a lot of illness in school recently and we have re-introduced hand sanitisers and open windows in classrooms (lockdown style) to try and stop the spread. We all hope that the worst is over and look forward to a healthier few weeks.

Anna-Mai Armstrong Headteacher

Christian Values Our Value this term is CENEROSITY

We considered three real life stories of Generosity in Monday's Worship.

6 yr old Max who gave away his new scooter

> The lottery winning couple who are using the money to extend their house so that

they can become foster carers

Layla the baker, who gives 10% of her profits to homeless charities.

We wondered how we might be generous with our belongings or our time this week.

The pupils gave some examples from their life.

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CLASS NEWS



CHESTNUTS

All the children have settled into the routine of Pre-School and are making friends. They have been out to Forest School and enjoyed feeding the fish and cooking up lots of lovely recipes in the mud kitchen. They are enjoying learning new nursery rhymes and doing the actions with them.



WILLOW

We have started our English unit on Elmer in the last two weeks. Both year groups have started their Mastering Number journeys. The Reception children have been subitising the numbers 1, 2 and 3. The Year 1s have been looking at how to split 5 in

different ways. In Music we have been learning the song "Down in the Jungle". Keep a look out for this on Tapestry as we will be recording it with actions soon. The children each have an animal mask to wear for this. In Geography we have been learning about the United Kingdom and the Continents of the World. In Art we have been making Elmer Elephants out of milk bottles and we have been tie dyeing material to use in our Sophie Standing artwork.



SYCAMORE

What a great start to the new term! We have been learning about the value of digits in numbers and how to place them on a number line and really getting into our text,

Funnybones, and building up our sentence stacks. In history, we have begun to learn about Mary Seacole and in art the significance of the Dia de Los Muetos. We have started our new RE unit, What is the Trinity? and explored the importance of water. We wrote words on the playground and washed them away after compiling our top five words. We had a great time with Ian during the Growth Mindset workshop and he also spoke about the Power of Yet, something we are very familiar with in Sycamore Class. The children really threw themselves into the first French lesson of the year, where we learnt about colours in French, then in computing we learnt how to take digital photographs and how important it is to ask permission before taking someone's photo.



OAK

Oak class have started our new theme by looking at the invasion of the Scots, Saxons and many others who wanted to rule our Island after the Romans left. We have explored what Saxon village life was like and looked at King Alfred to see if he really was that 'great'. In RE we have explored what it might mean that God is Holy and Loving and have used some new theological terms 'omnipotent' and 'omniscient'. In English we have started our 'How to train your dragon' book and have started writing about the setting and characters we have met so far.

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Westbury-on-Severn

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Attendance update

School Target - 96%

From start of term- 15th September:

88.89%

We have had a lot of illness recently, coming on very suddenly in some cases. Both staff and pupils have been affected- we hope that everyone is now recovering and back to full health soon.



Staffing News

We are interviewing on Monday for the two teaching assistant positions (one in Sycamore and one in Oak) and will inform you of our decisions once they have been made. We will also let you know when we have appointed a Friday teacher- an interview date is yet to be arranged.

We will be saying good bye to Jess Henry this Friday afternoon and there won't be a dry eye in the hall, I imagine.....but we feel glad for her that she has a new and exciting role to start soon. She won't be a stranger, anyhow, since she is still a parent of pupils at the school.

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OUR BOARD OF GOVERNORS

We would like to introduce the new Chair and Vice Chair of the Governing Board;

Chair - Jen Sigournay



I have a daughter in Year 3 and have lived in Chaxhill for the last 10 years after moving up from Bristol. For the last 2 years I have been fitting in being a governor around my day job as a bookkeeper and have really enjoyed the challenge and reward of governance. My other role on the board is the Safeguarding Governor.

Vice Chair - Ed Cracknell



I have 2 children at the school and became a parent governor as it provides a great opportunity to play a part in the community and understand my life at school. I have been a governor for over a year and have found it really rewarding to see the hard work being done by staff to build a better future for our children and contribute to this fantastic team effort.

We currently have some vacancies on the Board of Governors so if you would like to help support and shape our school please get in touch with our Clerk. clerk@westbury-on-severncofe.gloucs.sch.uk

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<u>Dates for your diary:</u>

28th September- Willow Class's trip to Wildlife Park

3rd October- Flu immunisations- you will have received paperwork on this.

5th October- World class athlete visiting the school *PE KITS to be worn* please for our fund raising event- see below for more information.

6th October- We will be celebrating National Poetry Day

13th October- Harvest Service at the church 9.15, all welcome.

23rd October- Oak Class's trip to Berkeley Castle.

25th and 26th October- Parents' evenings. Please check your emails for your appointment request form.

26th October- last day of term (27th October is an INSET day)

8th November- Tempest Individual Photos in school

Friday 24th November- Parent and Toddler session in the hall.

12th December- Whole school trip to Cheltenham Everyman Theatre to see Mother Goose.

15th December- Christmas service at the church 9.15am, all welcome







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ATHLETE IN SCHOOL

We're excited to be welcoming top athlete **Jack Rutter** to the school on **Thursday 5th October 2023** with Sports for Schools! Today we showed pupils the physical fitness exercises that they will be doing as part of their sponsored fitness event.

All pupils will take part in a **sponsored fitness circuit** led by Jack, and come home with some important and inspiring lessons learned during a **motivational assembly** and **Q&A** session. Please wear PE kits on this THURSDAY. Staff will be taking part too!

Not only will the visit connect the pupils with an extraordinary athlete role model but will also help to raise money for new PE resources that will improve levels of physical activity in our school!

You can sponsor your child by visiting the following link: <u>https://sportal.sportsforschools.org/events/landing</u> or by using the sponsorship form we will send home today.

As a thank you, pupils will receive the following gifts for meeting these fundraising milestones:

- Raise £5 or more: a blue Sports for Schools wristband
- Raise £15 or more: a blue wristband, and a red wristband with Jack's signature
- Raise £30 or more: all of the above, plus a signed Jack Rutter poster

60% of funds raised will go towards new PE equipment for our school.

REMINDERS

Due to safety, pupils with long hair need it tied back for PE lessons please and any earrings need to be taped up (or removed) for the duration of the lesson. Also, please make sure pupils bring a COAT into school since it is getting colder and we like to get everyone outdoors as often as possible at breaktimes. THANK YOU.





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How to Book

Booking your child's place in our wraparound care is quick and easy:

1. Visit our website at www.progressivesports.co.uk and navigate to the "Wraparound Care" section.

 Choose your preferred location and select the days and times that suit your needs.

 Fill in the necessary registration information, including emergency contact details.

 Complete the payment process securely through our online booking system and select whether its an ad-hoc booking or contract booking.

Receive a confirmation email with all the details.

Payment Options

When paying for your child's fees you have a number of options on how to pay. We accept the following methods of payment:

- Card Payments or Bacs
- Government Tax Free Childcare Scheme
- Childcare Vouchers

When paying via Government Tax Free Scheme please search for 'Progressive Sports @ Picknalls'

If you wish to make payment via Childcare Vouchers, please use the codes below.

Voucher Provider	Account Details
Computer Voucher Services	Search for Progressive Sports, under postcode WS7 3XH
Edenred Childcare Vouchers	P20588643
Employers for Childcare	Search for Progressive Sports, under postcode WS15 1UZ
Fideliti	Search for Progressive Sports, under postcode WS15 1UZ
Kiddivouchers	Search for Progressive Sports, under postcode WS7 3XH
Sodexo	819137
Co-op Flexible Benefits	85013789
Busy Bees Benefits	bbb036

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October 5th is Census day for the school and Caterlink have a special menu for school meals.



TAG RUGBY after school club- NEW

Everyone in school yesterday had a taster session for a Tag Rugby after school club that is starting soon. Your child came home yesterday with a small flyer with regards to this. This is an external provider and the cost per session is **£4.20**.

The booking link is here if your child is interested in starting this after school club. https://the-sports-project.class4kids.co.uk

Type of Club	Tag Rugby
Day of Club	Thursdays
Date Club starts	28 September 23
Dates Club runs	28/9/23, 5/10/23, 12/10/23, 19/10/23, 9/11/23, 16/11/23, 23/11/23, 30/11/23, 7/12/23, 14/12/23
Club start/finish time	3.10-4.10pm
Parent Collection Point	From the front gate









Join us, start your Christmas shopping?

DOM

SUNDAY 24 SEPT 12noon - 2pm

Craft Fair

And Table Top Sale

Main Hall Westbury On Severn Parish Hall

> **BUYERS** Doors open at midday

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