

# WESTBURY WHISPERS

DEAR PARENTS/CARERS

21st September 2017



**Westbury-on-Severn  
CE Primary School**

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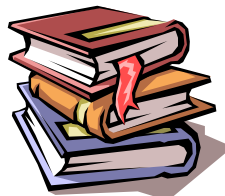
It seems strange to be thinking about Christmas so early on in the term but once again we are looking ahead in order to support the annual Shoebox appeal.

As last year, we will be supporting the organisation 'Teams for U'. This charity works on the same principle as Operation Christmas child, who send shoeboxes to children in poor areas of Eastern Europe and further afield. We will be supporting this charity this year in their shoebox appeal and would invite you all to take part in this. Therefore, on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> of November we will be having a non-school uniform day with a difference. The difference is that instead of money we would like the children to bring in items that could be placed in a shoebox. A list will come home with the children so you can see the sorts of things that would be appropriate. Our aim is that we will be able to fill lots of shoeboxes at school and get all the children involved rather than ask for individual shoeboxes to be filled at home. However, if you wanted to contribute that way we would be very grateful.

In addition to this, you will notice that a suggested donation of £2.50 is asked for to go into the boxes to help with travel costs. This is optional but if you would like to send that in as well on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November we would be very grateful.

We really do hope that this will be a great event, which will bring joy to many children this Christmas. Thank you for your support.

Mr C.



## **BOOK FAIR**

There is still time to purchase books from the book fair. My thanks go to everyone who has already bought books as the school gets a good commission on any that are sold. We will be using the money raised to continue updating our library. The last day to purchase books from the fair is next Tuesday.

## BOOK FAIR OPENING TIMES

Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> September	3.15pm - 4.30pm
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September	8.30am - 9.00pm
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	3.15pm - 4.30pm
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	3.15pm - 4.30pm

### Y6 SECONDARY TRANSFER MEETING:

Parents of children currently in Y6 will have received letters regarding the process for Secondary school transfer. I will be holding meeting in the school hall on **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 6pm**, for parents to talk through the procedures for transferring your child to secondary school. The meeting is optional and you are very welcome to come along. The procedures are the same as in previous years with, with the most important date being **31<sup>st</sup> October for returning the application form to Shire Hall**. I look forward to meeting you if you wish to attend the meeting.



### MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

We will be holding a 'Big Coffee Morning' event in the school hall next Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September from 10am until 11.30am. Once again, this will be in support of MacMillan Cancer Support. We hope that you will be able to come along with friends and neighbours to support this important event. You will be served by our delightful children! **If you have any cakes that you would be willing to donate for a cake sale on that day, they would be most gratefully received.** We are holding it on a Thursday this year as we have other events taking place in school on the Friday and did not want to miss the opportunity to support this worthwhile cause.



This week in literacy we have been focussing on the story 'Oliver's Fruit Salad'. Reception have been matching sounds to fruit and Y1's have been writing character descriptions. In maths reception have been practising their counting skills with conkers and Y1's have been writing number words and using < > signs to compare numbers. We had our first Welly Wednesday session this week and the children all had a wonderful time exploring the Forest School area.



In numeracy Class 2 have been ordering numbers starting with the smallest and comparing numbers using the more than (>) symbol. In literacy we have been writing about our homes using adjectives. We have been thinking of sentences using 'because' and 4\*s have been using other conjunctions. In theme this week we have been building skeletons using art

straws and learning all the names of the bones in our bodies.

Class 3 have been reading Beowulf in literacy and writing an invitation to people to the Great Mead Hall. In theme, we have been observing drawings of artefacts from the Anglo Saxon period. We are using the artefacts that we borrowed from our trip to the Corinium Museum last week. In art, the Y6's have been designing their own wonderful Westbury Pigs! Our class book that we are reading is Wonder by R. J. Palacio.



Written by Archie S & Lottie.



Thank you to everyone who returned their club letters on time. Please note, that from Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September, we will not be accepting any additional children to the autumn school-run clubs. The deadline for returning the club form was Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September. However, if your child wishes to join Karate or Dance, then you will need to speak to the organisers of these clubs directly.

## **THE FOREST HIGH SCHOOL**

There will be an open event at Forest High School on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September from 5pm-8pm. The evening will consist of presentations from the Headteacher and tours of the school. In addition, every Wednesday from 9am to 10am, until 18<sup>th</sup> October, there will be opportunities for you to tour the school with the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher.

## **HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS**

There will be an open day for parents and current Year 5 pupils at High School for Girls on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2017. The school will be open to visitors at 8.45am-10.45am and 5.15pm-8pm. During this event, there will be a talk by the Headteacher Mrs Sawicka.

**THINK  
BEFORE YOU  
PARK!**

### **SCHOOL PARKING**

I would once again like to urge parents who bring their children to school in cars, to be respectful of how you are parking your vehicle. We have had a few complaints from people who attend the dentist's surgery about parents who have blocked patients in when collecting or dropping of children to school. I do appreciate that parking is difficult and thank everyone who does not drive up the school lane to collect children, as this is dangerous when parents and children are coming to and from the school gate. We try very hard to maintain good relationships with our neighbours and value your support with this.

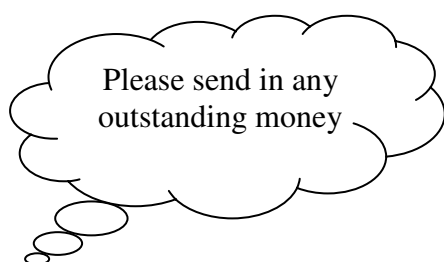
### **NASAL FLU VACCINE**

This year, the nasal flu vaccination programme will be offered to all children in Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4. The purpose of this vaccination is to protect against the illness and the potential serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia. It also helps to stop the spread of the illness amongst children, families and wider community. The vaccination will be delivered by a healthcare team who will visit school. Parents will receive an information leaflet and consent form to fill in, which will give authorisation for your child to receive the vaccination. The vaccination is not mandatory and parents have the right to refuse their child being vaccinated.

## **FREE SCHOOL MEALS**

Free school meals are an entitlement to any child whose family is in receipt of state benefits. Information on eligibility can be found at the following web address: <http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-transport-and-free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/>

I would like to encourage any parents who may be entitled to their child receiving benefits-linked free school meals (FSM), to please take advantage of this offer. Not only will this mean that an added financial pressure is lifted, but you will also be helping the school to provide additional educational provision for your child through the Pupil Premium. Pupil Premium is a specific allocation of funds that a school receives for each child entitled to benefits-linked free school meals. Currently this is £1,320 per eligible pupil, which can be used by the school to provide additional support for those children.



### ***SUMMER SPONSORED READING CHALLENGE***

Our grateful thanks to everyone who supported the summer book challenge to raise money for our school library. We have seen that some children have read enormous amounts of books over the summer. We would now like to ask that any sponsor money collected, could be sent to school by Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September, as we would like to work with the children to select the books for the library. Many thanks for your support with this.

### **HARVEST SERVICE**

This is a reminder that our school Harvest service will take place on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October at 2pm in Westbury Church. Everyone is welcome to attend.



We would like children to bring in a donation of tinned food for the display in the church, which will then be distributed to local charities and those in need. We look forward to celebrating this time with you all.

### **Term dates**

Here is a reminder of the key dates for this term for your diaries: Please note the corrected date for the theme celebration. We thought you wouldn't really want to come in on a Sunday!

27.09.17	Secondary Transfer Meeting
06.10.17	Harvest Assembly at Church 2pm
20.10.17	End of Term
30.10.17	Start of term for Children
15.11.17	Parents' Evening 3.30 – 7pm
16.11.17	Parents' Evening 3.30 – 7pm
<b>07.12.17</b>	<b>Theme celebration 9.15</b>
11.12.17	Experience Christmas Week
05.12.17	YR1 Nativity
15.12.17	Christingle service in Church 2pm
15.12.17	End of Term