

A small school, dreaming big

Thursday 13th November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Who would have thought that it has been less than two weeks back at school- so much is happening! This is a BUMPER edition that only partially captures all of the varied activities and learning that has been taking place since we started back after half term. It's always busy here at Westbury.

Thank you for your generosity in donating **shoeboxes** for our Appeal- they were collected today. You might have noticed that our **Recycle with Michael** clothes bank has been collected. There will be no more collections unfortunately, we won't be getting a replacement. This is a shame because it was always full.

Clubs have started back and we are now asking that you sign up for just one free club a week to ensure everyone has an opportunity. All clubs except for Karate are free. We are asking for parents to refresh club memberships at half term since there are always some changes.

It has been very wet recently. Please remember that we are out at play in all weathers! **Over trousers** at this time of year in our play areas are advised since somehow even the playground is muddy. We are still building up a bank of coats and over trousers if you have any to donate! Thank you.

Anna-Mai Armstrong
Headteacher

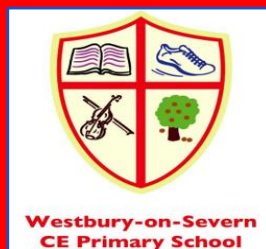
SCHOOL VALUES **COMPASSION**

We have been remembering the war dead during this Remembrance week.

We came together on Tuesday 11/11 at the eleventh hour and observed the 2-minute silence. Classes have been engaging in creative and reflective activities to show their respect.



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Class News



CHESTNUTS

Chestnuts have loved making poppies for our beautiful Remembrance Day display in the entrance hall. In phonics, the children have been busy exploring new sounds — last week they focused on "S" and this week it's "A." If your son or daughter would like to bring in an item for our "What's in the Box?" activity, that would be wonderful! Keep an eye on the weekly emails for updates about the focus letter for the coming week. It's also that special time of year again — Nativity season! The children have started learning the words to the songs, and we're already feeling the festive excitement building.



WILLOW

What a lovely couple of weeks in Willow Class. In English we have been writing sentences and captions about the story Little Rabbit Foo Foo. The children have loved this story! In Maths the receptions have been exploring parts and wholes and repeating patterns while our Year 1s practised partitioning 5 and 6. In PE the class worked on team building skills through fun parachute games. In PSHE we learned what makes us different and how amazing this is. In RE we have been learning why Christians celebrate the Nativity and have started our Nativity rehearsals. We look forward to the next few weeks of Nativity practice.



SYCAMORE

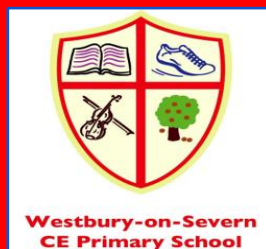
Sycamore have had a fantastic start to the half term. Everyone has come back full of energy and ready to learn. In **Maths**, Year 3 have been learning their **4 and 8 times** tables, they can keep practising at home on TTRS. Year 2 have been adding two-digit numbers and could also keep practising at home by adding numbers they spot around the house. In English, we've been reading '**Tadpole's Promise**' and writing our own promises, as well as lovely descriptions of pond scenes. This week, we have also been thinking about **Remembrance** and have written thoughtful acrostic poems, which are proudly displayed in the school foyer. What a brilliant start to the new half term.



OAK This week in **English**, we've started an exciting new book — *High Rise Mystery!* We're becoming investigators, just like the characters in the story, as we look for clues and solve puzzles through our reading. In **Maths**, Year 4 are practising **mental**

addition, Year 5 are working on **written methods for addition and subtraction**, and Year 6 are **comparing fractions**. Our **History** topic is the **Aztecs**, and we're learning all about **Aztec villages** and how people lived long ago. In **Science**, we've been exploring **reversible and irreversible changes**. We carried out a fun investigation using bicarbonate of soda and vinegar to see how a gas is made, and we even made our own plastic from milk by creating a chemical change! It's been fascinating to see science in action through our hands-on experiments.

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Dates for your diary

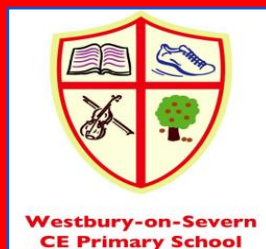


2025

- 18th November**- Girls indoor football event at Newent secondary school
- 5th December**- Singing Christmas carols to the residents of Chaxhill Residential home
- 10th December**- Nativity production at 2pm
- 11th December**- Open classrooms 8.30am- all welcome for drop in
- 12th December**- Reading in PJs afternoon- *bring your PJs and a favourite book into school*
- 17th December**- Christmas lunch
- 18th December**- Christmas Church Service 9.15am
- 19th December**- Last day of term

2026

- 5th January**- *INSET day*
- 6th January**- Term 3 begins
- 7th January**- Whole school to Cheltenham Playhouse for Pantomime
- 10th February**- Internet Safety Day
- 13th February**- End of Term 3
- 25th February**- Oak start weekly afternoon swimming lessons
- 5th March**- WORLD BOOK DAY
- 19th March**- The "Life" tent in the hall : PSHE for each class with Harold the giraffe.
- 27th March**- End of Term 4



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Celebration Awards

Every *Friday* we celebrate pupils' achievements during our Celebration Assembly.

If your child achieves something spectacular out of school, they are welcome to bring in medals, trophies or certificates on a Friday and we will share their success with the whole school.

Willow Class Academic Excellence Award: Fern

Sycamore Class Academic Excellence Award: Ayrton

Oak Class Academic Excellence Award: Max K-D

Whole school Attendance update

Sept 1st – November 10th

96.7%

National average for UK primary schools- 95.4%

We are 1.3% above the national average 😊



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WESTBURY-ON-SEVERN BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

Newborn to Pre School

COME AND JOIN US!

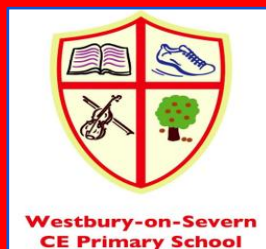
FRIDAYS DURING SCHOOL TERMS
10AM - 11:30AM
WESTBURY PARISH HALL
£2 FOR UNDER 1S, OR £3 FOR OVER 1S.
(£1 PER ADDITIONAL CHILD).

FRIENDSHIP & COMMUNITY
CHILDREN'S SNACKS
ADULT REFRESHMENTS
CREATIVE ACTIVITIES
DROP IN- NO BOOKING NECESSARY



14th November- it will be in the school hall 😊

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OPAL play has grown bigger and better over the half term break with the installation of a 5m x 2.5m sand pit. Big enough for plenty of children to enjoy sand play. The children have had a great time filling it up from the sand 'mountain' that was delivered to the playground - and Mrs Betty and Mrs Cracknell have very much appreciated the help!

The children (and some of the staff!) are also very much enjoying the addition of three new go karts to whizz down the woggle track on.

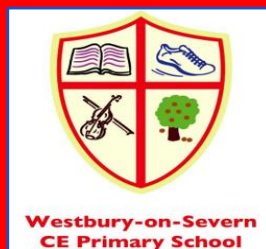


Don't forget to send children in with coats and waterproof over trousers so they can have full access to the site and OPAL play as the weather gets wetter and muddier!

We're working on installing extra hanging and drying areas in the corridors so the children can enjoy every play suitably dressed and in comfort.

Thanks for your cooperation :)





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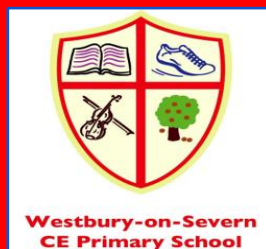
Sports Hall Athletics at Dene Magna on Thursday 6th November

Year 5 and 6 students did extremely well at the indoor athletics competition held at Dene Magna last week. They competed in a number of sports including relay, high jump, obstacle course and javelin. They achieved some impressive scores and overall came 5th in the afternoon's competition - which was a significant achievement. Above all though they were impeccably behaved and conducted themselves in the manner that has come to be expected from Westbury students.

Well done everyone - you did us proud!

Big thanks to Mrs Henry, Mrs Cracknell and Kelly for being taxis and giving moral support.





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SCHOOL DISCO

We had a great time at the school disco last Friday, the candy floss machine was a BIG hit!! We saw some excellent dancing, superb disco outfits and happy children enjoying the company of their friends.

Thank you to the Friends of Westbury for your support and efforts especially your willingness to get covered in candy floss sugar, nail varnish, tattoos and face paints!

All funds raised from the disco will be invested straight back into the school to enhance the children's experience and education.



Thank you for your support.

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SAFEGUARDING and WELLBEING

At Westbury, educating pupils about the potential dangers of spending time online is part of our PSHE curriculum. If you do have concerns about anything your child experiences online, we can support you, just talk to us. <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/online-safety/preventing-online-abuse-and-harm>

Technology is an integral part of children's and young people's lives. It has transformed the way they learn, play, connect and communicate.

But these opportunities don't come without risk. Children and young people may [experience abuse online](#) and they may be [exposed to harmful content](#). And this can have a long-lasting impact on their wellbeing.

Every child deserves to be, and to feel, safe online. And we can all play a role in helping make online spaces safer for children and young people by:

- talking to children and young people about anything worrying they experience online
- recognising how important the online world is to children and young people, and talk to them about it
- making sure online safety is an ongoing part of your work with children and young people, not just a one-off session
- setting rules for the use of online platforms in your organisation. Involve children and young people in setting these and make sure they're well understood
- using technical solutions to manage access to online platforms and make sure everyone knows about and understands why you've put them in place
- helping children and young people understand and manage their privacy settings online.



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Sycamore Class's trip to the War memorial for Remembrance Day

We walked to the war memorial in the churchyard and read our acrostic poems.

We laid down the wreath we had made and looked at the names on the plaque of the people who had served in the First and Second World War.

