

Westbury-on-Severn C of E Primary School Newsletter



A small school, dreaming big

Thursday 9th October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

On Thursday 2nd October the whole school took part in **National Poetry Day**. This is a yearly event now in our calendar when each class follows the National theme and listens to, enjoys and writes poetry for most of the day. We started with an Assembly, introducing the theme of **Play** and listened to a John Agard poem about skipping. Oak Class explored the poetic form of an Ode and wrote Odes to their favourite play, Sycamore wrote about what laughter looks like when they play and Willow explored bouncy ball play- they learnt a poem off by heart and wrote their own too. At the end of the day we all came together for performances and readings. There was a real buzz of enthusiasm in school all day, it was lovely.

Soon we will be sending a letter out for clubs after half term, as well as times to sign up for **Parents evening** so please look out for them in your inboxes!

We are trying to create a **coat bank** for children to use as and when they forget their coat and it rains. If you have any unwanted coats aged 3-11, we would welcome them. Thank you!

Anna-Mai Armstrong
Headteacher

SCHOOL VALUES **GENEROSITY**

<https://www.worldhappiness.report/>

We talked about the findings of the World Happiness report and the top ten happy countries in the world. What made their populations happy was simple things like eating together as a family and feeling a sense of trust within your community.

They did a "dropped wallet" experiment and most people returned it to their owner. One of the survey conclusions was that people are more **generous and kind** than we think!

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Class News



CHESTNUTS

Chestnuts celebrated National Poetry Day by reading "My Magic Telescope" by Sean Taylor and making their own magical telescopes, which they explored Forest school with. In Forest School, they created fairy wands and danced to woodland music. They've been learning about the numbers 4 and 5, and made spiders for our nursery rhyme of the week, Incy Wincy Spider. During PE with Progressive Sports, the children practised balancing and colour matching through fun activities. A magical week full of creativity and learning!



WILLOW Over the past couple of weeks, we've had a fantastic time in class. In Drawing Club, we've been reading *Anansi the Spider* and creating some brilliant pictures inspired by the story. In maths, Year 1 have been learning all about place value and finding one more and one less than a given number. Reception have been working on subitising

numbers to 5. We also had a go at weighing objects using scales and comparing which were heavier and lighter. In science, we've been thinking about how we grow and change by comparing pictures of ourselves as babies to how we look now. We've also been working hard in PE, focusing on jumping, coordination, and even practising our skipping skills - well done, Willow Class!



SYCAMORE This week, Sycamore Class have been busy with lots of exciting learning! In maths, Year 2 have been ordering 2-digit numbers while Year 3 have tackled 3-digit numbers, exploring place value through fun games like Snakes and Ladders and partner dice challenges. It would be great to encourage the children to keep practising at home with board games or Top Trumps to spot higher and lower numbers. In English, the children have written beautiful poems inspired by *Grandad's Camper*, using expanded noun phrases to bring their writing to life. In science, we've been thinking about what it means to live a healthy lifestyle. The children discussed the importance of hand washing and exercise, then had great fun finding their pulse and comparing heart rates before and after running!



OAK Over the past two weeks, we've had an engaging and busy time here in Oak Class! In Maths, Year 4 students have been mastering rounding. Meanwhile, Year 5 has been tackling six-digit numbers, understanding place value and number

comparisons. In Year 6, we took on division with remainders expressed as decimals, and they have risen to the challenge brilliantly. We also delved into various Jewish celebrations, where the class shared and learned about traditions and customs for some Jews during Rosh Hashanah, we linked this to our own values and celebrations we know from other religions. In Geography, we've looked at how we can represent biomes on a map of Central America, and our History has explored Maya Gods and foods. Furthermore, we were excited to introduce a new English book, 'Tar Beach', exploring the theme of freedom.

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Dates for your diary



2025

16th October- HARVEST church Service 9.15am

21st October- Willow Class Trip to Dean Heritage Centre

22nd October- Oak Class trip to Cadbury's World- please make payments via Parentpay.

23rd October- Term ends

24th October -*INSET day*

3rd November- Term 2 begins

4th & 5th November- Parents evenings

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 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

26th- 30th January-STEM week

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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Poppy display in school

Chestnuts would like to make a Poppy display for school to help celebrate Remembrance Day this November. Please could you help by saving and sending in your empty water/fizzy bottles, both large and small. Chestnuts can't wait to start painting them!

Please hand them into the office or to Mrs Trigg

Many thanks for your help.





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KS2 Cross Country runners

Last week Mrs Kift and a grandparent volunteer kindly took the children to Five Acres school for a Team cross country competition for primaries in the region. The pupils ran as a team and unfortunately weren't placed but we must applaud **Bethany** for coming **FIRST PLACE** in the girls' cross country race, out of over 100 runners. Such an impressive achievement!

We are super proud of all the children who showed courage, resilience and determination in running on the day. Thank you for representing our school and for doing your best!





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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

A vertical collage of four photographs on the right side of the flyer. The top photo shows a toddler looking at a stuffed animal. The second photo shows two children sitting at a table with toys. The third photo shows hands stacking colorful blocks. The bottom photo shows a close-up of a baby's face. The collage is decorated with yellow stars and a pink heart.

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

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Wraparound Update

We are writing to inform you of some upcoming changes to our **Wraparound Care provision**, which will take effect from the beginning of **Autumn Term 2**, starting on **Tuesday 4th November 2025**.

After carefully reviewing the demand for Wraparound Care across the week, we have found that **attendance on Thursdays and Fridays has been extremely low** over a sustained period. In order to ensure the long-term **sustainability** of this provision — both financially and logistically, we have made the decision to **reduce Wraparound Care to three days per week**.

What's Changing:

- From **Tuesday 4th November 2025**, Wraparound Care will only be available on:
 - **Mondays**
 - **Tuesdays**
 - **Wednesdays**
- **There will no longer be Wraparound Care on Thursdays and Fridays.**

What's Staying the Same:

- **Times and pricing** for Wraparound on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays **will remain unchanged**. Short session 3.15pm-4.15pm, Extended session 3.15pm-5.30pm.

We understand that this may cause inconvenience for some families, and this decision has not been taken lightly. However, running the provision on days with consistently low uptake is not financially sustainable moving forward, and this change will help us to maintain the quality and reliability of the service on the days it is most needed at school.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss how this change may affect your family, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

Thank you for your continued support as we strive to provide the best for our children at Westbury on Seven C of E Primary School.

Kind regards,

Jamie Knight

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Our school is once again taking part in the **T4U Shoebox Appeal**. A heartwarming project that helps bring smiles to children and families across Eastern Europe.

Taking part is simple, meaningful, and a whole lot of fun. Over the next few days, a flyer will be making its way home in your child's school bag, please keep an eye out for it. It includes all the details you need, along with helpful ideas of what you can pop into your shoebox.

This is a lovely activity to do as a family over the school holidays and is a wonderful way to show kindness and generosity to others.

If you happen to have any **spare empty shoeboxes** at home, we'd love it if you could drop them into school so others can use them too. Or, if you'd prefer, you can buy a specially branded T4U shoebox from the school office for just **50p**.

We kindly ask that all filled shoeboxes are returned to us by **Tuesday 11th November**, so we can pass them on to the T4U team in time for their journey abroad.

As always, there's no pressure to take part, but if you are able to get involved, we'd love your support.

<https://teams4u.com/shoebbox-appeal/>