

## A small school, dreaming big

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2025

### Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school! And for the new starters- a warm welcome to our lovely school. It's been great to see the new Reception children confidently striding into school this past week. At lunchtimes, their buddies come to collect them and sit with them in the hall, helping them with their school dinners or lunchboxes and taking them out to play. The relationships that are developing are so heart-warming to see.

Last year, we reviewed our approach to handwriting in school and I attach the new policy, which includes Preschool. Please have a quick read, so you can help your child as and when they are writing and know what the expectations are. This year we are reviewing our spelling and grammar teaching programme, we will update you once that has been completed. Please do talk to your class teacher if you have any worries, or questions about any aspect of school life. Finally, can I please ask that all pupils with long hair keep it tied back during the school day. This stops the spread of head lice and is more practical.

Thank you!

**Anna-Mai Armstrong**  
Headteacher

### *SCHOOL VALUES*

## *HOPE*



Pupils have been thinking about their hopes for the year ahead, in class and in Worship.

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### Class News



#### CHESTNUTS

A big warm welcome to all the new starters this term and those that are returning. All the children have settled into their new room and are enjoying having more space to play in. This week we are focusing on learning all about the number one, the focus story has been **Rapunzel** and the nursery rhyme is Twinkle, twinkle little star. Next week the children will be starting weekly PE sessions on a Monday. Please can they come in wearing suitable clothing and trainers for this.



#### WILLOW

We have had such a lovely start to the year, full of exploring our new classroom, circle time and PE. In the first week we enjoyed parachute games and the children specifically enjoyed running underneath it! We visited the School Library and everyone chose a book to take home. We have also started Phonics and Drawing club. We are looking at the book "**Bringing the rain to the Kapiti plain.**" We have been drawing new characters and settings. In PE, we developed our jumping and balance skills.



#### SYCAMORE

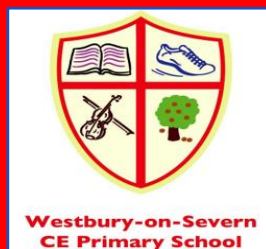
Sycamore Class have made a fantastic start to the new school year! The children are getting to know their new routines and showing great enthusiasm for their learning. In Maths, they have been exploring place value and developing their number skills. In English, the class has enjoyed reading "**Wolves**" which has sparked thoughtful discussions and creative ideas about fiction and non-fiction texts. Our Science topic on animals and humans is already inspiring lots of curiosity, and in Geography we are beginning to explore the United Kingdom. It has been a busy and exciting start, and we are so proud of how the children are settling into Year 2/3 and rising to new challenges.



#### OAK

Oak class have settled in well - we've looked at routines and how we behave in class and started to think in more depth about how we can be the best 'purple' learners in class. In English we've started to read our class book '**Rain Player**' which is about the Maya game Pok a Tok; we're excited to learn more about the game and the characters in it. We've learnt how to use a compass in geography and looked at defining states of matter in science. What a busy week we've had already!

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#### *Dates for your diary*



- 30<sup>th</sup> September**- Nasal flu vaccine for pupils.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> October**- National Poetry Day
- 3<sup>rd</sup> October**- Individual pupil photographs.
- 16<sup>th</sup> October**- HARVEST church Service 9.15am
- 22<sup>nd</sup> October**- Oak Class trip to Cadbury's World- please return slips to the office ASAP.
- 23<sup>rd</sup> October**- Term ends
- 24<sup>th</sup> October** -*INSET day*
- 3<sup>rd</sup> November**- Term 2 begins
- 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> November**- Parents evenings
- 10<sup>th</sup> December**- Nativity production at 2pm
- 11<sup>th</sup> December**- Open classrooms 8.30am- all welcome for drop in
- 17<sup>th</sup> December**- Christmas lunch
- 18<sup>th</sup> December**- Christmas Church Service 9.15am
- 19<sup>th</sup> December**- last day of term
- 5<sup>th</sup> January**- *INSET day*
- 6<sup>th</sup> January**- Term 3 begins
- 7<sup>th</sup> January**- Whole school to Cheltenham Playhouse for Pantomime
- 10<sup>th</sup> February**- Internet Safety Day
- 13<sup>th</sup> February**- End of Term 3

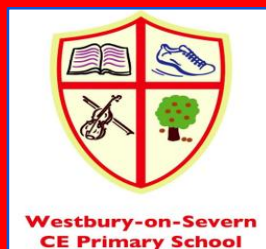
#### **Staff updates**

Mrs McKelvey has secured a new role in a KS2 class at Hartpury CE Primary school, which she started this term. We are sad to see her go but wish her the best of luck. We had a lovely leaving assembly last Friday, when we gave her the gifts we had bought her and sang her favourite Isingpop.

Miss Eccles will return to doing supply teaching for us, when needed.

Mrs Armstrong will be teaching Sycamore Class on Thursdays and Willow Class on Wednesday mornings.

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### Pupil Leadership



In school, we offer many varied roles for pupils to assume responsibility and to lead key areas of school. This is part of our programme to encourage and develop responsible citizenship in pupils. During the first three days back in school, elections were held for **School councillors**, **Kindness Ambassadors** and **House Captains**.

Pupils in Year 6 volunteered for **Worship Team** and pupils in Oak put themselves forward as **Play Champions**. The **Librarians** will continue as last year.

Badges will be awarded in Friday's Celebration Assembly!

#### School council

**YR- Azzie Y1- Marnie Y2- Ayrton Y3- Ellis Y4- Beren Y5- Liz Y6- Elliot**

#### Kindness Ambassadors

**Willow- Millie Sycamore- Finley Oak - Max KD & Jack**

#### House Captains

**Wild Boar- Freddie**

**Hedgehogs- Olive**

**Badgers- Bethany**

**Deer- Koen**

#### Worship Team

Olive, Bethany, Gethyn, Freddie, Lily

#### Play Champions

**Bethany, Olive, Koen, Delia, Gethyn**

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My name is Jane Baird and as many of you will already know I am the Schools' Coordinator for The Forest Foodbank. I know that at this time of year many of you will be considering how to celebrate **Harvest** at your school.

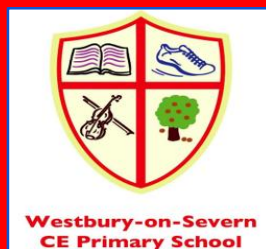
Lots of schools choose to donate the food that is collected during their Harvest celebrations to The Forest Foodbank and we really appreciate all the support that you give us. It makes a huge difference to the assistance that we are able to offer people in our local community.

Here is a list of foods that would be particularly useful:

- tinned tomatoes
- UHT fruit juice,
- Smash,
- sponge puddings
- jelly
- Angel Delight
- Jam
- packet soup
- instant noodles
- multipack crisps
- UHT milk
- tinned spaghetti
- pasta sauce.
- Toiletries and household products such as washing powder, toilet rolls and washing up liquid are also useful.

*If you are in need of a food voucher to support your family, please speak to Mrs Armstrong- she can issue you one via email or phone according to your needs. This can be as a one off, or on a regular basis.*





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### Healthy School, Healthy Pupils

We are a healthy school. Our Curriculum supports children to be active and make healthy choices, for both their physical and mental health. With this in mind, we need to remind parents and children of our expectations of both snacks and lunchboxes in school.

#### **Snacks in school – mid morning**

Pupils in YR/Y1 and Y2 are entitled to *FREE fruit*, which is regularly delivered to school.

All pupils can order a *slice of wholemeal toast* daily (we ask for a donation of 20p a day or £1 a week for this snack via Parentpay) or pupils can bring in a snack from home to eat at break.

#### **Suggestions:**

- Fruit or vegetables
- Low sugar energy/fruit bar
- Rice cakes or crackers
- ***NO CRISPS/CHOCOLATE/highly processed food please.***

#### **Lunchboxes**

Please ensure that your child has a good range of healthy foods in their lunchbox.

#### **Suggestions:**

- Sandwiches or wraps
- Rice cakes/crackers
- Fresh fruit and vegetables/salads
- Low sugar yoghurt/fromage frais
- Thermos flask of hot food/soup
- ***Please keep crisps/biscuits/ chocolate/highly processed foods to a minimum.***

Thank you!





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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 showing children in a play area. The top photo shows a child looking at a stuffed animal. The second photo shows a child sitting at a table. The third photo shows a child's hands playing with colorful blocks. The bottom photo shows a child's face. The collage is decorated with yellow stars and a pink heart.

14<sup>th</sup> November- it will be in the school hall ☺

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## Westbury Wraparound Themed Clubs!

THESE CLUBS ARE PART OF PROGRESSIVE AFTER SCHOOL WRAPAROUND CARE AT WESTBURY SCHOOL, SO CHILDREN MUST BE BOOKED ON TO WRAPAROUND VIA THE ENOLMY SYSTEM TO ATTEND THE CLUBS!



**ART/PAINTING CLUB  
EVERY TUESDAY**



**GYMNASTICS CLUB  
EVERY WEDNESDAY**



**OUTDOOR EDUCATION CLUB  
EVERY THURSDAY**



**DEN BUILDING AND MOVIE  
CLUB EVERY FRIDAY**



**All clubs begin w/c 8<sup>th</sup> September!**

**BOOK HERE - [ENOLMY.COM/PROGRESSIVE-SPORTS-NORTH-GLOUCESTERSHIRE/ACTIVITY](https://enrolmy.com/progressive-sports-north-gloucestershire/activity)**

**FOR MORE INFO EMAIL US ON - [J.KNIGHT@PROGRESSIVE-SPORTS.CO.UK](mailto:j.knight@progressive-sports.co.uk)**

**All clubs  
3.15pm - 4.15pm  
\*Includes a snack!**