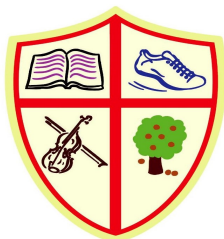


WESTBURY WHISPERS

DEAR PARENTS/CARERS

23rd September 2019



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

CONTENTS

HEALTHY SCHOOL
AWARD

UNIFORM

PANTOMIME

SECONDARY SCHOOL
OPEN DAYS

Y6 SECONDARY
TRANSFER MEETING

BOOK FAIR

MACMILLAN COFFEE
MORNING

CLASS INFORMATION
SESSIONS

SCHOOL CENSUS
LUNCHES

HARVEST SERVICE

ALDI STICKERS

TERM DATES

SCHOOL PARKING

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

SCHOOL VISION

FLU VACCINATION

Welcome Back

What a wonderful week we have had with amazing sunshine! The mornings are getting a little chillier now and I know that the dreaded colds and coughs have already started! If you would like to make sure that your children come to school with tissues, we would all be very grateful. Colds are very much part of school life, so please don't feel your child has to stay at home because of sniffles! Obviously, flu is very different and quite debilitating, but if it is just a cold, then a healthy supply of tissues is all that is needed!

It has been super to welcome our new Reception children to our school family. They are a wonderful group of children and have settled well into school life. We welcome too, the children's parents. We are delighted to have you with us and really look forward to seeing you at our school events as you are able to come along. The 'Friends of Westbury School' are a very active and hugely supportive team of parents that help to support many aspects of school life, so if you want to get involved in any of the events, or want to find out more, then please come in and speak to us and we can put you in touch with the committee.

We would like to continue to invite you to attend our weekly Family Worship services in the school hall every Friday at 2.30pm. During these worship times, we will be presenting the children with their weekly awards and celebrating their achievements. These times are always wonderful and remind us all just how hard our children work at school. Attached to this newsletter is the Prayer Card for the school. If you are a family that prays together, then you might like to use it in your daily devotions as a focus for prayer.

Alternatively, you may like to use it in your personal prayer times. We have also attached the Values home-school sheets. This term we are exploring and encouraging generosity. Please use the sheets to work with your children at home on this value.

I trust and pray you have a wonderful week.

Mr C.

HEALTHY SCHOOL AWARD

We are delighted to let you know that we have been awarded The Healthy School award by Gloucestershire Healthy Living and Learning committee.

This award is in recognition of the work that we have been doing to encourage healthy lifestyles and mental health. I want to personally thank Mrs Noad for all the work she has done to implement so much of the emotional and social aspects learning that the school undertakes. The reflection/nurture room has been used considerably in school to support all the children. We know that it will continue to be used very effectively during this year. Mrs Noad will explain her work during the class information sessions that are taking place over the next two weeks. If you want to know more about this aspect of our school's work, please do make an appointment to come and talk about it.

BOOK PEOPLE **BOOK FAIR**

Thank you to all those who have supported our previous book fairs. Our next fair will take place in school from Tuesday 15th October to Monday 21st October. There will be some amazing books to buy with incredible reductions on prices. Further information will be sent home at the beginning of October.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

We will be holding a 'Big Coffee Morning' event in the school hall on **Friday 27th 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 LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU

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 a meeting in the school hall on Monday 30th 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 **31st October for returning the application form to Shire Hall**. I look forward to meeting you if you wish to attend the meeting. In the meantime, should you want any additional information, then please contact the Co-ordinated Admissions team on 01452 425407, or drop in to see them at Shire Hall.

Y6 MEETING

SECONDARY SCHOOL **OPEN DAYS**

We are at that time yet again, when the local secondary schools will be inviting pupils to look around their schools. We are always happy to accommodate this but ask that you let us know before taking your child to either a morning or afternoon session. This enables us to record your child's absence correctly on our register and ensures that it does not count against them in their attendance record.



PANTOMIME VISIT TO THE **EVERYMAN THEATRE**

Once again, we have booked our annual visit to the pantomime at The Everyman Theatre in Cheltenham to see Cinderella. The visit will take place on Tuesday January 7th. More details will come to you as we approach the time. We are sure that the children will enjoy this visit, which is always a wonderful time for the whole school.

UNIFORM

A BIG thank you to everyone who has ensured that their children have started school with the correct uniform. Full details of the uniform policy are on the school website.

Also, a reminder that the **only** jewellery that is acceptable in school are ear-ring studs in pierced ears. Studs **must** be covered by microporous tape when your child is engaged in PE. Please make sure your child arrives at school with the tape ready to put on before their PE lesson begins. Also hair that is longer than shoulder length **must** be tied back for PE. Thank you.

CLASS INFORMATION SESSIONS

Our Thanks to everyone who was able to attend the Class 2 information session on Wednesday 18th September. Mrs Sim and Miss Wills will be sending home a copy of the presentation for you and for anyone who was not able to attend.

Class 1 and Class 3 have their sessions on the following dates:

Class 1 - Wednesday 2nd October 5pm to 6pm

Class 3 - Wednesday 25th September 5pm to 6pm

During these meetings, the class teachers will present the expectations around the school year and outline the learning that will take place. I would like to encourage you to attend these meeting so that you can get the information you want about all the learning that will take place during the school year, including home-learning and how you can support your child at home.



ALDI SPORTS STICKERS

If you shop at the Aldi store, you will be aware of the stickers for schools that are currently being distributed. Please do send them into school with your children so we can add them to our posters in the school hall. Thank you for supporting this initiative.



HARVEST SERVICE

This is a reminder that our school Harvest service will take place on **Friday 4th 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 list of some key dates for autumn terms for your diary

SCHOOL CENSUS - LUNCHES

Thursday 3rd October is School Census day and we would like to encourage as many children as possible to have a hot school lunch on this day. The number of KS1 children and Free School Meal children who take a meal on census day is reported on and these numbers go towards deciding how much funding the school receives in our budget. If your child would like a meal on the 3rd October please order in the usual way at registration.

27.09.19	MacMillan Coffee Morning in the school hall 10-11.30am
30.09.19	Secondary Transfer Meeting 6pm in the school hall
04.10.19	Harvest Assembly at Church 2pm
25.10.19	End of Term 1
04.11.19	Start of term 2 for Children
20.11.19	Parents' Evening 3.30 – 7pm
27.11.19	Parents' Evening 3.30 – 7pm
13.12.19	Theme celebration 9.15am
20.12.19	Experience Christmas
20.12.19	Christingle service in Church 2pm
20.12.19	End of Term 2

SCHOOL VISION

I am delighted to share our new school vision with you. As you will be aware, at the end of last year we asked for your comments and additions on the proposed vision, so that it was shaped and owned by the whole-school community. The children played a very important role in creating it and shaping the core Christian values. Underpinned by scripture and theology, our school vision is the heartbeat of the school and the starting point for all our decision making. It has been shared with the children, who have already been working in class on several activities to understand what it is and how it applies to our life together as a Westbury family. We commend it to you.

OUR VISION

Through our core Christian values of respect, friendship, perseverance and forgiveness, our Westbury family is one body, shaping the spirit, achieving together and learning for life, so that all may flourish as unique children of God.



FLU VACCINATION

This year, the nasal flu vaccination programme has been offered to all children in school. 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 is a quick and simple spray up the nose which will be delivered by a healthcare team on Friday 25th October. You will have already received an information leaflet and a letter requesting your consent/decline please complete this and return to the school office as soon as possible.

Thank you.

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.

We would like to encourage any parents of children who may be entitled to free school meals to apply online as soon as possible.

At present, all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to receive a free hot school meal as part of the government's universal free school meal scheme. But if you are in receipt of certain benefits, your child may qualify for

additional school funding called Pupil

Premium. This money is an amount that the school receives for each child entitled to benefits-led free school meals. This money can then be targeted to providing additional support to those children as needed. Please look at the web link and apply if you think you are entitled. **This entitlement is for all the children in the school, KS1 children can be entitled to universal free school meals and benefits-led free school meals.** For additional information, please either speak to Mr Crunkhurn or Mrs Cox in the school office. Any conversation will be treated with the utmost confidentiality. The web link is as follows: <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-transport-and-free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/>

