



A small school, dreaming big

Thursday 23rd October 2025

Today we are sadly saying good bye to Mrs Kift, who has been with us for many years (and attended the school herself when she was a child!) but is now looking forward to a new chapter in her life, working for a safeguarding charity. She has been a fantastically skilled teaching assistant in EYFS and Y1. We will see her off in style but we know she won't be a stranger. She is handing over today to Jess Henry, who returns to Westbury after a few years' absence. Welcome back Mrs Henry!

Now that the weather is getting wetter, pupils are still accessing all areas outside. We suggest that alongside a coat and wellies they bring in **overtrousers** for playtimes when it is muddy, starting after half term. We are looking at setting aside drying areas for coats and muddy clothes. Please name these!!

Year 6 Parents- don't forget to register your child with a secondary school ASAP- the deadline is 31st October.

Anna-Mai Armstrong
Headteacher

SCHOOL VALUES **GENEROSITY**

This value was in evidence at our lovely Harvest Church service last week.

Thank you for all of your donations to the Forest Foodbank in church. We also have overflowing crates in the school foyer, which Mrs Armstrong will deliver with school council next term.

Thank you everyone for your generosity!

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Class News



CHESTNUTS We have been learning all about **Diwali – the Festival of Light**. The children enjoyed creating colourful **Rangoli patterns**, which are traditionally made on the second day of the five-day celebration. Our focus story this week was **Cinderella**. We had lots of fun making crowns and pretending to be princes and princesses! In maths, we revisited numbers **0–5** and began using **Numicon** to help us with our counting skills. Finally, a big **thank you** to all the parents who have sent in bottles for us to decorate for our **Poppy display** next month. We really appreciate your support!



WILLOW It's been a busy and exciting couple of weeks in Willow Class, filled with lots of learning and discovery! In English, Year 1 pupils have been exploring prepositions and forming questions, while our Reception children have been working hard on their letter formation. In Maths, Reception have been learning different ways to represent the number 5, and Year 1 have been developing their skills with addition and subtraction number sentences. We also had a fantastic trip to the Dean Heritage Centre, where the children enjoyed a senses walk and followed the Gruffalo Trail – a definite highlight! In Science, we've continued our topic on Kenya, learning about its climate and comparing it to the weather here in the UK. In Computing, we've been learning how to group objects and describe them using labels.



SYCAMORE

This week in Sycamore Class, the children had a fruity finish to their Science topic on healthy eating by tasting a variety of unusual fruits, including dragon fruit, pomegranate, and kiwi berries, with some very mixed reactions! In English, we reviewed our class books from this half term, reflecting on our favourite moments and characters. In Maths, Year 3 began learning their three times table, while Year 2 have been working hard on addition. Although everyone is feeling a little tired after a busy few weeks, the children have continued to work hard and should be very proud of themselves. I wish you all a lovely and restful half term break!



OAK In **RE**, we've been learning about **Jewish celebrations**, focusing on *Passover*. The children explored the story behind the festival and the importance of family traditions, creating their own ideas for special meals that bring people together. In **Science**, we investigated **changes in state** through our *melting button experiment*! The children made predictions about which type of chocolate would make the best Maya money and not melt in your pocket. They observed carefully, and discussed what caused some buttons to melt faster than others — lots of great scientific thinking! In **English**, we've been **writing scripts** inspired by our class text *Tar Beach* by Faith Ringgold. The children have worked hard to turn parts of the story into short film scripts, practising how to bring characters to life through dialogue. **Finally**, we rounded off our last few weeks with an **amazing trip to Cadbury World**!



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Two school trips in one week!

Willow Class Trip to Dean Heritage Centre



Oak Class Trip to Cadbury world 22nd October



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Dates for your diary



2025

23rd October- Term ends

24th October - *INSET day*

27th October- **OPAL WORKING PARTY** on school grounds from 10am- Please come along and help if you can- we are building, creating, zoning and more. Talk to Helen Cracknell if you can spare some hours upgrading our play areas to be even more AWESOME.

3rd November- Term 2 begins

4th & 5th November- Parents evenings

7th November- **SCHOOL DISCO**- see information in this newsletter

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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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.

Here are all the awards given this past term:

Willow Class Academic Excellence Award: Marnie, George, Millie, Ellie, Oliver, Rowan
Freddie, Fern

Sycamore Class Academic Excellence Award: Layla, Finley, Django, Evie, Hattie, Olive

Oak Class Academic Excellence Award: Gregory, Max P, Elliot, Liz, Harrison, Seb,
Reuben, Jack

At the end of each term we assign one pupil per class a **Purple learner** award. Purple learners learn from mistakes, ask questions, show resilience and enjoy a challenge.

This terms **Purple learners** are:

Elliot Freed, Ihan Van Ginkel and Azzie Nelson

And finally **The Westbury Way Award** this term was given to :

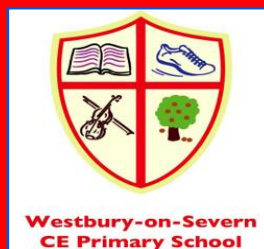
ROWAN CUMMINGS

Safe at all Times, Ready to Learn, Respectful to Everyone and Everything

Whole school Attendance update

Sept 1st – October 23rd 2025 = 95.9%

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**SCHOOL
DISCO**

NOVEMBER 7TH

CHESTNUT CLASS - 4.30PM - 5PM (CARERS/PARENTS
MUST ATTEND)
WILLOW AND SYCAMORE CLASS - 5PM- 6PM
OAK CLASS - 6PM - 7.30PM

ENTRY PRICE - £3 FOR WILLOW,SYCAMORE AND OAK
CLASS (SWEETS AND OTHER ITEMS AVAILABLE TO
BUY ON THE NIGHT)
CHESTNUT CLASS £2 WITH A GLOWSTICK AND A FREE
BAG OF SWEET INCLUDED

PLEASE EMAIL FRIENDS@WESTBURY-ON-SEVERNCOFE.GLOUCS.SCH.UK TO LET US KNOW IF
YOUR CHILD(REN) ARE ATTENDING AND IMPORTANTLY
WHO IS COLLECTING THEM

See below for more information

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Dear Parents and Carers,

The Friends of Westbury will be hosting a school disco on Friday 7th November. This year the disco will be held in three sessions:

Chestnut Class: 4.30pm - 5pm (parents / carers must attend with their children)

Willow and Sycamore Class: 5pm - 6pm

Oak class: 6pm - 7.30pm

The entry price is **£3 per child for Willow, Sycamore and Oak class** with sweets and other items available to buy on the night.

Sweets 50p

Cookies £1

Tattoos 50p

Nail Varnish £1

Glow sticks 50p

For Chestnut class the entry price is £2 which includes a glowstick and 1 bag of sweets.

Squash and water will be available for free for all children.

Arrival and departure for Chestnut class will be via the school hall doors.

For Willow and Sycamore class drop off will be at the main entrance, pick up will be from the school hall doors.

Drop off and pick up for Oak class will be from the main entrance.

Please email friends@westbury-on-severncofe.gloucs.sch.uk to let us know if your child(ren) will be attending and, importantly, who will be collecting them.



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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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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/>