

Westbury-on-Severn C of E Primary School Newsletter



Thursday 24th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

The sound of joyful singing has been in school these past few days with IsingPOP leading their workshops with both Willow and Oak Class in preparation for our concert next week and to refresh our singing programme in Worship.

You may not have noticed the invitation to Celebration Worship every Friday afternoon, which we extended at the start of this term. All families are welcome to come into the hall and celebrate the week gone by- house points, attendance, certificates, birthdays, Valerie Values and out of school achievements plus some singing! Do drop by and have a seat at the back of the hall if you would like to be part of this.

And finally, we would like to extend a warm welcome to our new administrator, Amy Barnes, who is now job sharing with Nicky Keidel-Doggrell. She is now in the office on Wednesday afternoons, all day Thursdays and Fridays. She has made a wonderful start and we are so pleased to have her on the team.

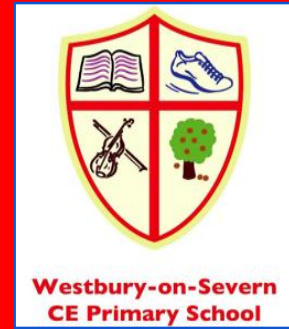
Anna-Mai Armstrong
Headteacher

Hope

In Collective Worship this week Mr Boyle shared the parable story of The Rich Man and Lazarus. We explored the character of the rich man, who ignored the starving Lazarus while he sat in his mansion. Mr Boyle also talked about the Prime Minister's aim to end homelessness in the UK, bringing hope to all of the people who sadly find themselves on the streets.



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Class News



CHESTNUTS (Preschool)

This week, the children have been learning all about the numbers **2 and 3**. We have been exploring these numbers through fun, practical activities and developing our understanding of counting and quantity. Our focus nursery rhyme this week has been **"The Wheels on the Bus."** Last week, the children enjoyed collecting conkers while playing on the playground. This week, we put our conkers to creative use! The children explored **autumnal colours** by placing blobs of paint into a tray and then rolling the conkers through the paint. As the conkers rolled around, they mixed the colours together and created some beautiful patterns and artwork. The children thoroughly enjoyed watching the colours mix and seeing the different marks and patterns their conkers made. It was a fantastic opportunity to develop their creativity, fine motor skills and curiosity while celebrating the colours of autumn.



WILLOW (Years R/1/2)

Willow Class have had a wonderful week. In English, the children enjoyed Drawing Club and exploring the story *Storm Whale*. In maths, Year 1 and 2 worked on place value while Reception loved practising their counting. Reception also impressed Mrs Walls with excellent letter formation practise during phonics. In RE, they shared thoughtful ideas about what they are thankful for. We have loved learning the Isingpop songs this week in readiness for our concert next week!



SYCAMORE (Years 3/4)

It's been a whizzpopping week in Sycamore! In English, things have been decidedly revolting as we've created disgusting Revolting Recipes fit for giants as part of our BFG unit, focusing on imperative verbs. Keep an eye out for our gruesome creations on display around school! In Maths, we've been partitioning 4-digit numbers using Base 10, counters and part-whole models, with lots of exciting 'light bulb' moments as our place value confidence grows. Well done, Sycamore, you've worked your socks off!



REDWOOD (Years 5/6)

Redwood Class have certainly had a jam-packed couple of weeks! In English, we have been exploring character descriptions, using ambitious vocabulary and thoughtful details. In Science, we have investigated classification and how living things can be grouped according to their characteristics. Maths has focused on place value, number work and Roman numerals, helping to strengthen our understanding of how numbers work. In Guided Reading, we have been thoroughly enjoying *The Final Year* by Matthew Goodfellow, with some excellent discussions about the characters and themes of the story.



OAK (Years 3/4/5/6- afternoons only)

In History, we have begun our exciting journey into the Stone Age, discovering what life was like for Britain's earliest settlers. The children have also created some fantastic Stone Age-inspired artwork, bringing our learning to life through creativity. In PE, we have been developing our skills in both hockey and netball, showing excellent teamwork and determination. Music lessons have been full of energy as we explored rhythm and performance through samba drumming.

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Dates for your diary 2026

30th September: ISingPOP concert at St Ethelbert's Church in Littledean

GL14 3NL@ 6pm- **All families welcome.** This will be a joyous performance and a very different kind of church service. Please come along and support and encourage your children to represent the school and perform alongside Littledean CE Primary. Parking available in the playground of Littledean CE Primary. Please arrive at no later than 5.45pm and the children are encouraged to wear bright colours. We hope to see you there!

9th October: Individual and sibling Portrait photographs in school.

13th October: Phonics information evening for all parents of Reception children. 3.30-4.30pm. Mrs Walls will be in touch nearer the time.

20th and 21st October: Parents evenings. You will receive information about signing up to meet with your child's class teacher and enjoy looking at the work they have completed this term.

23rd October: End of term. School closes at 2pm- we will inform the school bus.

2nd November: **INSET day**- school closed to children.

3rd November: Term 2 begins.

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Celebration Worship

Families welcome to attend every Friday 2.40pm in the hall

Every *Friday* we celebrate pupils' achievements during our Celebration Worship.
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- Dylan and Olly
Sycamore Class Academic Excellence Award – Lyra and Eliza
Redwood Class Academic Excellence Award – Violet and Ollie



We were so proud of Azzie in Year 1 who completed all three parts of the Library Challenge in the summer holidays. She brought in all of her certificates and explained the library challenge to the rest of the school.

Whole school Attendance update

Sept 1st – 24th September 2026

97%



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This week the whole school has enjoyed two days of ISINGPOP workshops, learning 8 new songs with actions with the inspirational Ellie. IsingPOP is the UK wide singing programme we follow in Collective Worship, because it is active and fun, the songs are catchy and joyous, celebrating our school values. We love it!

These songs are available on Spotify if children want to listen to them home (many already are!) and enjoy them. <https://isingpop.org/> You might have heard your children singing these songs already around the house...



We sing daily in Collective Worship and we will now be adding to our repertoire. The concert at **St Ethelbert's Church** on 30th September at 6pm is a concert to celebrate these new songs- it will be a wonderful occasion. All families welcome.

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NHS Nasal Flu Programme

On 30th September (next week) the school nursing team will be in school administering the nasal flu vaccine to pupils. Please ensure that you have given your consent via the link before the deadline. The office have sent all the documentation via email. Here is the link:

<https://www.ghcimmunisations.co.uk//Forms/Flu?schoolcode=GC115701>

This link will close at midday on the working day before the team is due to visit so please complete this as soon as possible as the team will be unable to take any consents after this point. If you are unable to access the online consent form for any reason, please contact Gloucestershire Immunisation Team on 0300 421 8140.

Parents Evenings

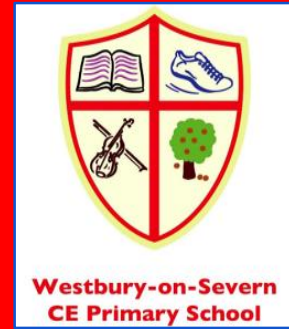
20th and 21st October

You will have by now received an email from the office staff regarding Parents Evenings for all classes. Please do make an appointment as soon as possible to talk to the class teacher, look at your child's work and raise any issues. If you child(ren) have SEND, we will allocate you additional time so that My Plans can be reviewed and discussed.

Healthy School

Please could I remind parents that pupils need to be eating healthy snacks at break time, not crisps or chocolate bars. This is also to keep our lovely OPAL play areas free from litter, protects wildlife as well as keeping pupils healthier in their habits. We offer Willow Class daily fruit and all classes (not Chestnuts) have the offer of a piece of toast for a £1 donation per week via Parentpay.

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Benedict's Law

You may be aware that a new law came into force on 1st September called Benedict's Law.

Benedict's Law introduces a consistent national framework for allergy safety in schools. Core measures include:

- **Whole-school allergy policies** setting out how schools manage allergies and respond to emergencies
- **Staff training** so teachers and school staff can recognise and respond to anaphylaxis
- **Access to emergency adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs)** where needed
- **Individual healthcare or allergy action plans** for pupils with diagnosed allergies
- **Improved communication and record-keeping** around allergies and allergic reactions

These measures aim to ensure that every school has the systems in place to respond quickly and effectively to allergic emergencies.

We have updated our policies in accordance with these new requirements. All staff received training on our first INSET day and we have invested in emergency EpiPens.

Now what is needed is for our records to be completely up to date with regards to allergies in school. Alongside this newsletter we are attaching a form for parents to complete and send in to help us update our records. **Please complete this if your child has an allergy.** We will be sending this form out yearly now, to ensure that we are up to date.

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We are also educating pupils regarding the importance of hand washing and not sharing food with other pupils.