



The Red Squirrel



Term 1: Issue 3

4th October 2018

www.westburyontrym.academy

Dear Parents/Carers

Harvest Festival

We had a wonderful whole school family Harvest Festival at Holy Trinity Church yesterday. The weather was beautiful for our walk to church and we had a fantastic celebration together with parishioners, family and friends thanking God for the fruits of the Harvest. A big thank you to our 'express and reflect' team, choir, and families for your generous donations and all our volunteers who walked with the children.

Dyslexia Awareness week 1-7 October 2018.

Here at W-O-T, we strive to support those children who have a specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia. We use specific teaching and learning strategies within 'accessible' environments to support children in their day to day learning, and work closely with parents and carers to ensure the 'team' around the child offers a consistent approach. The British Dyslexia Association www.bdadyslexia.org.uk offers information and support with regard to identifying and/or supporting such a learning difficulty. Please speak with your child's class teacher or Mrs Forrester (SENCo), should you require further information relating to your child's educational needs. Thank you.

Uniform

Despite a few little reminders, thank you so much to you all for your support regarding school uniform. It's lovely to see the children taking a pride in what they are wearing and looking good! I thought it was useful to keep you up to date with a few developments. As you know 'logos' are not compulsory until September 2019. We are in the process of securing a contract with a company, so that we can offer 'iron on' logos for school jumpers/polo shirts as an optional extra for those who would prefer to purchase red sweatshirts or white/red polo shirts from alternative suppliers. This was agreed at our most recent Ethos committee last week. Once these are in stock in school we will let you all know. We also had a discussion about a number of issues raised including socks! Plain white/grey/black socks may be worn with skirts/dresses as was the case previously with shorts/trousers.

We are also in discussions about the possibility of holding 'second hand' uniform sales. If you'd be interested in supporting this from an organisational point of view, we'd love to hear from you in the school office. In addition, we will continue to keep a small stock of school uniform for those families facing financial hardship. Please speak to myself or the school office if we can support.

Parents evenings

Letters about the Parent evenings on 24th and 25th October will be emailed to you next Wednesday. Online booking for the appointments will be open on Thursday.

Two more diary dates!

1. Curriculum Celebration Afternoon

You are all welcome to join us on **Monday 10th December between 2 and 3pm** for our Curriculum open afternoon. Our Year 1 to 6 class families will be showcasing their learning over the last two terms in their classrooms. Please feel free to join them for as little or as long as you like to find out what our children have been getting up to.

2. Meeting

A reminder that our parent/carer meeting to follow up from the summer parent/carer questionnaire will take place on **Wednesday 14th November from 6.30 - 8.30pm**. If you have any suggestions for particular agenda items please email info@westburyontrym.academy by Wednesday 24th October.

We are emailing an updated list of dates to you, look out for this.

Parents as Partners

A few parents have asked me about the 'Parents as Partners' session planned for February 2019. This will be led by Di Pardoe

who has worked both nationally and internationally on how we support pupils to become more 'effective learners'. She will be sharing some of the approaches we are using in school and how you might support at home. She is inspirational to listen to and I would highly recommend this session. It also will link very well to some of the discussion that we had at the anxiety workshop last term. For those unable to attend, we will be planning to video the session. Confirmation of the date will follow.

Attendance policy

Our Attendance policy will be published within the next week, which we will email to all families. Please be aware that you are required to provide proof of dental and medical appointments taken within school time. Appointments without evidence obtained will be marked as unauthorised.

Desperately seeking School Crossing Patrol

We are still looking for a school crossing patrol despite advertising for this role since June. We are being supported by local campaigner Graham Donald who has been working with some of our families to explore other options and he also contacted our Mayor, Marvin Rees who wrote 'We would appreciate any help from the local community in finding someone suitable for this very important, fulfilling and much appreciated position. If you know somebody in the local area who might be interested, please encourage them to apply.'

We continue to advertise this role and hope that publicity from the article that will be published in latest edition of the Henleaze and Westbury Voice will support us in finding a replacement. If you have any other ideas for advertising this post, please let us know.

Playing on the field after school

As we enjoy the last of the lovely warm weather, the children will continue to be able to play in the school grounds until 3.40pm. However, please can I remind parents/carers that children must be closely supervised. Many thanks for your support.

Year 6 maths challenge

Well done to Joseph, Leon, Lauren and

Rosa in Year 6 who represented Westbury-on-Trym at the Redmaids Maths competition on Tuesday this week. They astounded us with their quick arithmetic and problem solving.

ttrockstars

As a school, we have subscribed to a great times tables programme to support your child at home - ttrockstars can be found by using the link: <https://play.ttrockstars.com/>

It can be used on both the ipad and computer. The feedback from the children has been very positive. The user name and password for this is the same as mymaths.

Alerts on our payment system

Please find below a guide to how you can set up an alert for yourself to help avoid falling into arrears with school lunch and trip payments.

1. Log in to your scopay account
2. Select 'Alerts' from the toolbar at the top of the page
3. Click on 'Click here to configure alerts'
4. Set the value of the balance at which you want to receive an alert e.g. £10.00
5. Tick 'Receive alerts'
6. Tick 'email'
7. Then select any other alerts you may wish to receive e.g. school trips etc. and the number of days ahead of when you'd like to be alerted.

Travelling Book Fair

We will be hosting the Travelling Book Fair after school in the Keystage 2 corridor from **Monday 8th - Thurs 11th October**. The school receives a percentage of the profits, so a fantastic opportunity to help raise funds for the school and perhaps do a spot of early Christmas shopping. You will have received leaflets in your child's book bag about the event.

Online Safety team

Have you an interest in keeping your child safe online?

Do you know your Instagrams from your Snapchats?

Would you like to be part of our Online Safety Team?

Our online safety team is a small working party who meet regularly throughout the

year to organise and plan online safety for our school community. The group is made up of a governor, teaching staff, support staff and senior leaders.

We are looking for a parent/carer to be part of our team.

Please contact Clare Warbis warbisc@westburyontrym.academy if you would like to know more.

Watch out for our fortnightly Online Safety information, which will be sent to you via email. #wakeupdnesday.

Name labels

To avoid any lost school uniform, please ensure that your child's clothing, including outdoor wear is labelled with their name. If you order from Stikins name labels, the school receives commission from your purchase. Go to www.stikins.co.uk and quote our school number 24929.

Football news

Congratulations to our Year 5/6 football team, who took part in their Football Premiership League fixtures last night. Unfortunately, we lost our opening game 1-0 to Stoke Bishop, however we turned it around to beat Bishop Road 1-0 and drew our final game 0-0 against St. Ursula's. Thank you to Mr. Hartnell and well done to the team. Next fixtures: 12th November 2018.

Netball news

Congratulations to our Year 5/6 Netball team, who took part in their first Netball Premiership League fixtures this week. We played St. Teresa's first and drew 4-4. Then we played Henbury Court who we beat 2-1. Well done to the children who played and thank you to Mrs. Jones.

Swimming news

Well done to the swimming team who swam against Clifton High School last week. A particular well done to those who were swimming in their first competition. Westbury-on-Trym Academy won by 30 points.

The first Percy Smith gala of the year is on Wednesday 10th October at Horfield Leisure Centre at 7.30pm. Do come along and support the team.

Collections for our partnership school in Nepal

As in previous years, we would like to collect gifts to send out to the children in our partnership school in Singdi, Nepal. Each year group will be given a red bag and we are asking each child to bring a little gift, (not wrapped please), into school to donate into the bag. We have liaised with the Pahar Trust for the bags to be taken out to Singdi before Christmas.

Tim Mitchell, from the Pahar Trust will be coming into school in the next couple of weeks to talk to the children in assembly about the school in Singdi and the work that the Pahar Trust do there.

We feel this is important for our children to think of others as they prepare for and begin to get excited about Christmas themselves.

Suggestions for gifts:

- hair bobbles or bands of different colours (especially red ribbons), hairbrushes
- tennis balls, yo yos, flat footballs, little frisbees, flat beach balls, bouncy balls
- skipping elastics or skipping ropes
- balloons, stickers, small puzzle books
- playing cards, card games, travel board games, mini rubiks cubes, little puzzle games
- colouring pencils, crayons, rubbers, pencil sharpeners
- very small colouring books, little note books, post-its
- Children's watch, wind up torch, fidget spinner

- maths stuff (rulers, protractors & set squares)

We would like to send the gifts off shortly after half term, so could you please bring any gifts in by 9th November. Many thanks.

Yours sincerely



Amanda Pritchard
Headteacher

PTA News



Thank you to everyone who was able to make it to the AGM on Tuesday 2nd October. It was lovely to see some new faces, we look forward to welcoming anyone who wishes to come to any PTA meeting. Thank you to the committee members who have stepped up to take on the executive roles on the PTA, the line up is now as follows:

Kath Smith - Chair

Lee Botterill and Becca Sewell - Vice Chair

Jenny Pearson - Treasurer

Jo Jenkins - Secretary

Autumn disco - Friday 19th October

We will be selling tickets for the discos at the PTA kiosk starting **Monday 15th October** both before and after school. Tickets are £3 per school age child. We are happy for pre-school children to attend the KS1 disco, tickets are £1 for children over 1yr old. However, we would be grateful if you could make alternative arrangements for the KS2 disco, as we only have children of that age group attending. We would also be grateful if you could leave buggies at home on the night. KS1 Disco will be from 6:30-7:30, KS2 7:45-8:45.

Canford fireworks

We will hopefully be selling tickets for the popular Canford firework display in school in the week straight after half term, Tuesday 6th- Friday 9th November. For every ticket we sell, the school keeps £1, and last year this raised us £300! If you are planning on going to this display, please buy your tickets from us after half term.

PTA Planning meeting Tuesday 6th November 7:45 (In school)

Please come along if you are able, to help plan the Christmas fair.

Christmas fair - Saturday 1st December 2-4pm

We would love to accept donations of toys and books for the fair to sell, and are aware that many people will be using half term to have a clear out of the cupboards. If you would find it difficult to store your donations until December, please feel free to bring toys and books to the PTA kiosk in the week after half term (6-9 November). We will be open both before and after school for firework ticket sales.

We would also love any donations of raffle prizes - please let us know if your company can donate anything, or if you know of a shop or business that would be happy to contribute.

Other dates for the diary:

Film night - Friday 1st February

Cake sales - the Great Westbury Bake off returns!

29/03/19 Yr 5, 6 and teachers

26/04/19 Yr 3 and 4

10/05/19 KS1

You only need to bring in cake if it is your year group - more details nearer the time.

Spring Disco - Friday 17th May

Red Squirrel Day - Saturday 22nd June

Dates for diary

October

| | |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| Mon 15th-19th | Yr 6 residential camp |
| Wed 24th | Individual & sibling photos |
| Wed 24th | Parent/Teacher afternoon 3.30-6.00pm |
| Thurs 25th | Parent/Teacher evening 5.00-7.30pm |

Term dates 2018/19

Term 1 Break up Friday 26 October 2018

Term 2 Monday 5 November 2018 to Friday 21 December 2018

Term 3 Monday 7 January 2019 to Friday 15 February 2019

Term 4 Monday 25 February 2019 to Friday 5 April 2019

Term 5 Tuesday 23 April 2019 to Friday 24 May 2019

Term 6 Monday 3 June 2019 to Tuesday 23 July 2019

Remaining INSET Days & Academy day 2018/19

Monday 5th November 2018

Monday 7th January 2019

Friday 5th April 2019

Friday 28th June 2019

Community News

Left to their own devices? - Confident parenting in the world of screens from Care for the Family. Autumn serenade—City of Bristol Choir & Bristol Youth Choir

Join 'Left at their own devices?' on **Thursday 18th October, 7.30pm -10pm** at St Michael's Centre, Stoke Gifford, BS34 8PD. The evening will look at the impact of the digital world on parenting, including: Being digitally native, the social revolution, selfies and self worth, dangers of digital and safeguarding your family. You'll come away with loads of practical tips on how to guide your family through the highs and lows of the digital world. Tickets 1-3 £6 each, 4 or more £5, on the door £7. To book visit cff.org.uk/owndevices or call 029 2081 0800.

Sunday 21st October 6pm Redland Hall, Redmaids' school—music for choir, piano and percussion on the theme of love, nature and time. Tickets £15 adults, £5 students/under 18s. Box office Opus 13 music shop 0117 923 0164. 14 st Michaels Hill. www.cityofbristolchoir.org.uk



WESTBURY REMEMBERS

Sunday 11 November
at 6.30pm

Holy Trinity Church,
Westbury-on-Trym

An informal service of music and readings given by Westbury Singers and the Westbury-on-Trym parish church choirs to mark the centenary of the Armistice, including excerpts from letters of soldiers from Westbury village.

Free admission. All welcome.

BRING A FRIEND FOR FREE

October half-term



Kings Camps will be delivering a 3-day holiday camp at Redmaids' High School this October half-term from October 30th.

Children 4 – 17 can enjoy a variety of sports, games and team challenges! All children who attend can bring a friend ABSOLUTELY FREE

Call Kings Camps on 0114 263 2160
or visit www.kingscamps.org for more information