## WESTWOOD NEWS



# December 2016



# Message from Mrs Aldous

Dear families,

Yet another month has passed here at Westwood and so much fantastic learning and enrichment has taken place. There is a real buzz in school and it is wonderful to see the children so happy and engaged with their learning.

We were visited by the Department for Education last week who were impressed with the quality of teaching, strength of the leadership and the ethos of the school. This was a real boost for the staff who always work so hard to ensure the very best for your children.

The Christmas Performances have been enjoyable to watch. The children enjoy performing to their families. It was great to see so much support from you all.

Thank you for your response to the parental survey. We really value your views. It was great to see that 100% of families would recommend this school to others. If you have not had the opportunity to complete a questionnaire, they are available at the main entrance.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and wish you well for 2017! See you all on Wednesday 4th January 2017.

Kind regards

Mrs Aldous



#### Christmas Market

Thank you to all those who supported our Christmas Market. The hall was alive with Christmas excitement and we raised a fantastic £855 for school funds. Early this year we asked the children what they would like to spend

money on this year.
Their answer was
play equipment for
the outside areas.
We will be asking all
children for their
input as to what we
should purchase.



# Music Performance

Several children have been receiving piano and guitar lessons this term. The lessons are provided by ACEG. The whole school enjoyed a Christmas concert and thoroughly enjoyed listening to the musical skills of these children. If you would like your child to take part in this, please speak to the school office who will provide details of the costs and the instruments available.

Year 5 children have been learning to play the clarinet and the whole school thoroughly enjoyed their performance of Jingle Bells.



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#### Nursery

The Nursery children have had a busy few weeks, we were very lucky to have a visit from Lindsey from Butterflies of Britain who helped the children develop our bug hotel and sensory garden.

It was lovely to see parents from our afternoon nursery at our first family café.

We hope you have a lovely Christmas and look forward to lots of new and fun learning experiences in the New Year.





#### Reception

Reception, have been busy enjoying the festive term by making Christmas cards and sewing Christmas stockings to take home. We also had a visit from the postman who came to post our Santa letters.

The children have worked relentlessly hard on their Christmas show learning new songs and making props to make the stage sparkle.



#### Year 1

We have followed instructions on how to make many winter themed crafts. We have especially enjoyed making our Snowmen! We used a sock, rice and elastic bands to make a winter decoration that can be kept and remembered for years to come. Using our writing toolboxes we had the opportunity to write our own set of instructions on how to make a snowman. Look out for your child's snowman coming home soon. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



#### <u>Year 2</u>

Year 2 have had a busy few weeks of learning finishing off our literacy and maths units in the lead up to the Christmas holiday. We have also been finding time to rehearse for our Christmas performance and the singing has blown us all away - very proud! Not forgetting the fantastic afternoon spent at the pantomime watching Beauty and the Beast. The Year 2 team would like to wish all children and families a joyous Christmas and cracking start to 2017.

#### Year 4 & 5

Years 4 & 5 spent a wonderful afternoon entertaining the residents at The Dell Residential Care Home. We sang a selection of Christmas songs as well as some from our upcoming performances. We then spent some time chatting to the residents and spreading Christmas cheer.

The staff commented on the children's fantastic behaviour and how our visit had really lifted their spirits!

We look forward to spending more time together in the New Year.









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#### Year 3

This month Year 3 have been working hard to learn their 2, 5 and 10 times tables. It has been very exciting adding dance moves and actions to help them remember. We have been using 'Percy Parker' a fun program that is supporting their recall and keeping learning fun!

Harvey-"I really enjoyed learning the songs because they were fun. I love Percy Parker songs".

Jake L-"I am confident at my 10's and 5's and have enjoyed the fun times tables activities".

#### Year 6

Year 6 have been working very hard this month. They have been learning to find equivalent fractions; add and subtract fractions and convert fractions to decimals! They have also been writing their own mystery tale in literacy using different sentence structures, the results have been phenomenal! Check out the Facebook page to hear a selection of the children's stories.



#### School Council

A huge thank you to everyone who attended our Christmas Fayre, we raised an amazing £855. We hope you had as much fun as we did.



#### Sports News

It has been a busy few weeks with sporting events. Year 3 took part in an ALT Football Tournament and some of the Year 5 children took part in a Badminton Tournament at Pakefield High School. After Christmas we will be offering a Badminton Club to children in years 2-6 on a Wednesday after school.



### Junior Road Safety

This term the JRSO's have focused on "be bright, be seen" every child received their free reflectors and it is good to see they are being used. We held a colouring competition and the winners are; Alima in Year 6, Tilly in Year 6 and Ethan in Reception. Please remember be safe over Christmas and be bright, be seen.



# Reading Challenge Leader Board

Year 6 = 3 tubes

Year 5 = 3 tubes

Year 4 = 2 tubes

Year 3 = 1 tube

Year 2 = 1 tube

Year | = | tube

Reception = 1 tube

Nursery = 1 tube

# **December Learning**















#### Pupil and Parent Support Advisor.

Mrs Dawn Williams is our Pupil and Parent Support Advisor and is available to speak to parents, carers and families on a daily basis. She is very experienced and can provide advice on a range of different parent and family matters. If you need any help, advice or just a listening ear, please contact her through the school office.

#### SCHOOL PLACES

We have places available in Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4 and have a waiting list for children for our Nursery who are not quite old enough at present. Please spread the word to friends, family and neighbours.

#### CONTACT DETAILS

Please ensure we have your up to date contact details. This includes current address and telephone numbers.

We often contact parents by text.



#### WEBSITE

Please keep an eye on the school website.

The address is: www.westwoodprimary.org

You can also follow us:

Twitter: @Westwood

School

Facebook: Westwood Primary School



#### PE Kit

Please ensure your child has, in school every day, the following PE kit:

- Black shorts
- White T Shirt
- Trainers
- Sweatshirt/Jogging Bottoms (optional)

Please ensure all items are named.



#### Arriving at School

The school doors are unlocked at 8.30am. From this time you may bring or send your child into their classroom. Teachers will be waiting for the children in the classroom from 8.30am where learning activities will be take place. (8.45am for Nursery and Reception children)

Please do not hesitate to come into the classroom to speak to your child's teacher at the beginning or end of the school day.

We have a breakfast club available from 8.00am every morning at a cost of £1.50 per day.

#### LOST PROPERTY

Please ensure you have labelled your child's school uniform. It is much easier to find the owners and return items quickly if they are labelled.

At times we have an extensive range of lost property which we cannot keep for more than a term.

#### School Uniform



We have a strict School Uniform Policy. Please ensure your child is dressed in the following named school uniform:



#### Bous

- \* Black tailored trousers or shorts (no jogging bottoms etc.)
- \* White polo shirt
- \* Westwood Primary School Sweatshirt with logo
- \* grey,/black/navy socks
- \* Black shoes (No trainers)
- \* School Book Bag

#### Girls

- \* Black tailored dress, skirt or trousers
- \* Purple checked summer dress
- \* White polo shirt
- \* Westwood Primary School Sweatshirt
- \* Westwood Primary School Cardigan
- \* grey/black tights or white socks
- \* Black shoes (No trainers or boots)
- \* School Book Bag
- For further information about school uniform requirements please contact the school office.
- Sweatshirts/Cardigans/Book Bags/PE Bags/Water Bottles are available from the school office.
- School uniform bursaries will be given at the discretion of the Headteacher

#### <u>Diary Dates</u> There will be more events taking place and we will let you know as soon in advance as possible.

4th January	Back to school for all children
23rd January	Year 3 & 4 Able Maths Day at Carlton Colville Primary
25th January	Year 6 Athletics Tournament at Waterlane Leisure Centre
27th January	SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN — STAFF TRAINING
30th January	NSPCC assemblies and workshops
2nd February	Anti-Bullying theatre production in School
13th-17th February	SCHOOL CLOSED — HALF TERM
9th March	Online Safety Day in school
13th & 14th March	Parent Interviews
30th March	Easter Egg Raffle
31st March	LAST DAY OF TERM

On behalf of the Active Learning Trust I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas.

I do hope that you are aware that Westwood Primary School is a member of the vibrant Lowestoft Hub of schools in which staff, pupils and governors have been actively working together in partnership throughout this busy term. 'Working in partnership' is an attractive concept, and for many schools this collaboration can operate on a superficial level. In our Hub, however, schools have opened out their practice, both in classrooms and in leaders' work, to thoughtful scrutiny, debate and celebration. Our hub is based on a solid understanding of how this spirit of openness can lead to everyone raising their game. As a result, I firmly believe that your children are benefitting from a collaboration that puts teaching and learning at the heart of every decision we make.

I do hope that you have an enjoyable Christmas and I look forward to working with Westwood Primary School in 2017.

With my very best wishes

Andy Redman









