



Newsletter

ISSUE: 3

11th October 2013

Boswell Road Lower Westwood
Bradford on Avon BA15 2BY



Clover Class Celebrate India for International Day

I would like to open this newsletter with two big thank yous. Firstly to the members of the FoWs committee for organising a fantastic ceilidh which raised £460 profit for the school and was a lot of fun. Look out for that next time around; I have a feeling that it will be VERY popular. My second vote of thanks goes to you all as parents for your continued support with FoWs events, harvest and for attending celebration assemblies on a Friday, it is always so lovely to see so many of you there.

The last two weeks have passed so quickly, yet so much has taken place. International day was a huge success and we have already started discussing holding another one later in the year as the wealth of learning and enjoyment that took place was evident in the children. Not only that, we made the front page of the Wiltshire Times last week! We had a jam packed hall too for harvest, which was great and thank you to Mrs Hannam for stepping in to lead a wonderful assembly. Mrs Cook has taken your kind donations of goods to Storehouse food bank in Trowbridge and they were so very pleased, so thank you to everyone who gave so generously and has helped to support our local community.

I am aware that there are still some issues surrounding parking when bringing your children to and from school each day. Can I please ask that if you do have to drive to school, that you park considerately and as far away from resident's driveways as possible. I am in the process of investigating alternative parking arrangements for those parents who live further away and for whom travelling to school by car is the only option and I will let you know more in due course.

Thank you to those of you who have taken an interest in my blog westwoodhead.schoolblogs.org. I hope that you find it interesting and a small window into daily life at our school. I am also trying to use it as a point of information inbetween newsletters, so anything that is imminent or noteworthy, I will include it in my blog. Two of our classes have also started a blog, so when they are fully up and functional I will pass on their details so that you can share in their learning journey.

As a final note, can I mention that we would always welcome feedback on your experiences of school. I am usually on the playground in the mornings, so please feel free to come up and talk to me, or you may wish to make an appointment if you need to discuss something further. HASP books are also a good way to keep in touch, particularly if you need to talk to your class teacher. As a school we will always operate an open door policy and we very much view our parents as an important part of our school community.

Ian Rocky

PARENT GOVERNOR APPLICATIONS

If any parents want to become a governor, please bring your application form into school for consideration. Spare forms are available from outside the school office.

HARVEST THANKS



Mrs Cook took everyone's donations to the Storehouse Food Bank on Monday and this is what they sent us.

STRIKE ACTION

There has been much mention of teacher strike action in the news for Thursday 17th October.

Westwood School will be open as normal for the whole school day.

DATES FOR TERM ONE

Thursday 17th October – School Disco – 5-6pm 6.15-7.45pm

Friday 18th October – Dance Club Cake Sale – 3.15pm

Thursday 24th October – Term 1 ends

Friday 25th October – Teacher Training Day

SOME DATES FOR TERM TWO

Wednesday 6th November – Term 2 starts

Monday 11th November – Parent Consultations

Wednesday 13th November – Parent Consultations

Friday 15th November – Children in Need
(A non-uniform day for £1 donation.)



TROPHIES

During today's Celebration Assembly, the trophy for Best Attendance was awarded to Orchid Class and the Westwood Wonders of the Week were Lotus Class. Well done to all of you.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK



This week Erin and Isabel celebrated their birthdays



The Giving Machine is a not for profit, social enterprise that helps to generate free cash donations for our school. In the lead up to Christmas, please use this site as a means of raising funds by simply buying your presents. It will not cost you anything but 5 minutes to sign up.

www.thegivingmachine.co.uk

Thank you

DANCE CLUB

To raise funds for t-shirts, props and costumes, Dance Club shall be holding a cake sale after school on Friday 18th October. Please support them and have some yummy cakes in the process.

If you needed any further incentive, then Dance Club are going to perform during the Celebration Assembly. Do come along and watch.

DISCO

Don't forget that the school disco is taking place on Thursday 17th October. Please bring the consent slip with you to the disco and not to school. Children under 5 will need a grownup to stay with them.



Watch out for the groovy glo sticks on sale!

PE KIT

Could you please ensure that your child's PE is clearly labelled. There have been a few unidentified items that have caused delays to the PE sessions as pupils try to find their kit.

LOST RAINCOAT

Arthur Rees, in Orchid Class, has lost his new raincoat. It is black with his name sewn into the collar. Please check at home in case your child has brought it back by accident.

FRIENDS OF WESTWOOD UPDATE

FoWs would like to thank everyone who supported the first fundraiser of the year - Westwood Ceilidh. I think I can safely say that everyone had an awesome night. Even those that were hesitant at first were soon expert dancers! It was a night full of laughter, and some dazzling footwork. My favourite dance had to be the helicopter one, respect to all the ladies who were spun around at head height. The evening raised the first £460 toward our new target of £3500 for the hall regeneration. Thanks to our dedicated home brewers who helped lubricate the dance moves, with guest beers from Tim Leeder, Jason Kearney and Paul Harvey. Also many thanks to all those that supported us in raffle prize donation. Congratulations to Mrs Evans in the School Office who won the unicycle - will we get ademo in the playground? The event will probably be back at some point next year by popular demand. If so just a bit of advice on footwear ladies, if your feet were anything like mine the next day, borrow some steel toe capped boots!

100 Club Relaunch for 2013/14 November to October. Year end 100 club winners for the monthly prizes in September and October are C. Cole (I know again!) and J. Batt. The October half term bonus prize of £50 goes to H. Spence. Cheques are in the School Office. The 100 club we run jointly with Westwood Nursery raised £510 for the school and £270 for the nursery last year. We will be re-launching membership for the 2013/14 year over the next few weeks, with October half term as the deadline for payment. Existing members will receive a re-join letter by email. For new members please download a form from www.westwoodwithiford.org, grab one from the School Office or sign up in the playground. We need at least 60 members to make it viable. Non-school family and friends are welcome to join. At just £2 a month or an upfront annual payment of £24 it's a great way to support the School.

Not last but least DJ Stuart will be back in the house for some enthusiastic dancing Thursday Oct 17th - look out for flyers in book bags. Thanks as always for your support.

FoWs Team

SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

If you have a child starting secondary school in September 2014, please remember that their applications need to be submitted by 31st October 2013.



CREEPY HOUSE

Summer Reading Challenge 2013

We have received a letter from Wiltshire Council Library Services congratulating us on the fact that Westwood School had the highest percentage of children who completed the challenge out of all the school in the Bradford on Avon Community Area.

SCIENCE FAIR 2014

Calling all budding young scientists, explorers...
Time to get ready for the 2014 science competition.
Choose a **project or question to create your very own experiment.** <http://mysciencefair.org/>



FREE HALLOWEEN WRITING WORKSHOP

Kip McGrath Education Centres are holding a **free writing event on Saturday 26th October** in Trowbridge.

The aim of the session is to get children started with writing their own picture ebook and have fun being creative with words. The session will last two hours (10am-12pm), will be run by a qualified teacher (CRB checked) and is suitable for any children in KS2.

ARMY LIFE

As part of the Life Talks Programme, committed FoWs member, Ed Harrison, has arranged for Westwood's very own Major Oli Dinnis to come in to school and speak to Lotus and Orchid Classes about his work in the Armed Forces.

TEACHER TRAINING DAY

Please do not forget that the school will be closed on Friday 25th October for Teacher Training.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

The school as a whole benefits from the generosity of parent helpers. If you think that you might be able to spare a couple of hours a week to help listen to children reading, or maybe paint a rocket ship, please let us know.

A poster for a 'Free Halloween writing workshop' by Kip McGrath Education Centres. It features a spiderweb illustration and a castle icon. The text includes: 'Kip McGrath EDUCATION CENTRES', 'Free Halloween writing workshop', 'Enjoy writing spooky stories? Then join us for our special Halloween writing workshop.....', 'We will use a range of pictures to help you create your own e-book. We can even publish it for you online! Suitable for any children aged 7-16. Booking essential.', 'Saturday 26th October 2013', '10 am - 12pm', 'To book a place call 01225 777514 or email trowbridge@kip-mcgrath.com or Google us!', and contact information for Matt & Jill Hughes at the bottom.