



# Newsletter

ISSUE: 13

14<sup>th</sup> March 2014

Boswell Road Lower Westwood  
Bradford on Avon BA15 2BY



*Lotus Class have had an amazing week learning about Romans*

After a very busy couple of weeks in school it seems no time at all since I was writing to you last and already we are halfway through this short term.

Recently we have been treated to a series of class assemblies, with clear evidence of how committed the children have been to their learning in their respective classes and, more importantly, how much they have been enjoying it. I have also very much enjoyed spending more time teaching in classes recently and have experienced first hand the children's desire to challenge themselves and develop their knowledge, skills and understanding.

With this in mind, we are always looking to maximise the children's potential and to give them the best possible opportunities. I would ask that, during the course of the week and if you don't already, you could spend some time supporting your child's learning at home. Not only will this encourage them to work independently, but it can make a huge difference to their development. By reading with them at least three times a week and spending a few minutes each day to focus on their homework, you will be supporting the teaching and learning that the children are experiencing in school each day. If you have any questions or would like any guidance, please leave a note in your child's HASP book.

Our school library is well on the way to being ready for use by the community. Books are being

catalogued on a daily basis and once this is complete, your child will be issued with a lending card to enable them to borrow from the full range of fiction and non-fiction books in our library. I am very excited by this and will of course write to you with opening times and procedures for borrowing books when we are at that stage. This is all, of course, possible thanks to the hard work and fundraising efforts of our Friends of Westwood School, who have kindly donated the funds to enable us to computerise our books stock and to purchase further books to offer the children an exciting and engaging range of books. The school council will be bringing ideas discussed in their classes for books to buy for our library to our next council meeting. Watch this space!

Can I also mention attendance in this issue of the newsletter. Whilst I fully understand that illness can never be helped, can I stress the importance of your child attending school at all other times. The government minimum expectation is for all children to have a 95% attendance rate. Currently, this has risen to 28% of children in the school who are below this threshold and we really need to improve. Your child will learn most effectively if they are in school every day.

A small reminder for before and after school supervision of your children please! As a small school we are not able to spend time in the mornings on the playground and the staff are always busy preparing

for an exciting day in the classroom. Therefore, can you please ensure that your children are supervised before and after school, when we have seen them out and whilst they are on the school site, as their safety is always paramount.

Two upcoming dates for your diary are **Mother's Monday** on Monday 31st March and our **Easter Assembly** on Friday 4th April at 9.10am. More information will follow for both of these events next week in a separate letter, but if you would like to plan ahead, Mother's Monday will be an open invite for mums and significant females in our school community to join your children for as little or as much of the day's learning as you would like to; you are also very welcome to stay for lunch!

Finally, I am so pleased that our school meals have been such a success. With more children taking them up each week and having sampled them myself, they are a welcome addition to our school day. If you would like your child to have a hot meal, please enquire at the office.

Have a lovely weekend everyone

**Ian Rockey**

<u>DATES FOR TERM FOUR</u>	
Thurs 20 March	Sport Relief One Mile Walk
Thurs 20 March	Thistle Class Assembly 9.10am
Sat 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Quiz Night 7pm
Mon 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Mother's Monday
Mon 31 <sup>st</sup> March	The Great Big Dance Off
Friday 4th April	Easter Assembly 9.10am
Friday 4th April	Tea with the Head & Art Club Exhibition



**WOODLAND TRUST DONATIONS**

We received thirty rowan and cherry saplings from the Woodland Trust last week and Miss Brown, (with the help of some little people in Thistle) very kindly planted them in the school grounds.

We look forward to seeing them grow in due course and thank Miss Brown for her hard work.

**BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK**



*Happy Birthday to these children who have celebrated a birthday over the past two weeks.*

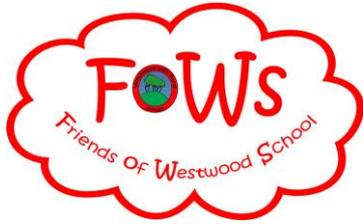


Sport Relief starts next week! To help support this good cause, the children are all going to walk a mile around the school field on Thursday. Can you please make sure that your child has their PE kit in school that day and we also ask that each child bring in £1 that we can send off to the Sport Relief Charity. Thank you

**CHILDREN IN NEED**

You may remember that last November we had a mufti day to raise funds for Children in Need. We received this certificate from the BBC last week and should feel very proud of ourselves.





## FRIENDS OF WESTWOOD SCHOOL UPDATE

Last night was the spring school disco and we were treated to the most amazing dance moves from all the children. Armed with glo sticks and good music, they all seemed to have a great time.



Thank you to everyone who helped support the event and we raised a total of £167.50, so well done.

The 100 Club is still going strong, raising much needed funds for our school. March's lucky winner is Mrs A Windo.

There are currently less than 20 tickets left for the Quiz Night. If you have yet to buy yours from the school office, do so quickly!

The Boden Sale has been confirmed for 26th April. Our last Boden event was a huge success and helped raise a lot of money. More information will follow shortly.



If you have yet to put your name down to make a scarecrow, please do so. It's such a fun event that does so much to bring the village community together and raise funds for the school and nursery. More information is available on the school website.

Thanks to all for the support.

**Your FoWS Team**

## EASTER EGG HUNT 3<sup>RD</sup> APRIL

The nursery welcomes all children in the village to our annual Easter Egg hunt, starting at 3.30pm. It's a frantic dash for eggs throughout the park and an opportunity for the parents, family and friends to relax with tea and cake next to the nursery building. It's great fun and there are eggs of all sizes to win and search for.

## 'FUN AND BUBBLES'

### WESTWOOD NURSERY'S 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

We have organised a FREE event on SATURDAY 24th MAY in conjunction with the start of the Westwood Scarecrow Trail. The free event will start at 1.30pm and be an afternoon of fun and laughter for the whole village. Entertainment will be supplied by "Puppetree", a traditional Punch and Judy show, "Dr Zigs", giant bubbles that adult and children can climb in and Active Trowbridge, who will have bouncy castles, ball pits and games. As well as tea and cakes on sale, you can relax and enjoy an afternoon in familiar surroundings with all your family and friends. SAVE the DATE.

## GET CLICKING – WESTWOOD CALENDAR

We are running a photographic competition, with your pictures creating a calendar for Westwood 2015. It's a great opportunity to create a memorable village calendar for all whilst raising funds for our nursery. We invite photographers of all ages to submit photos taken around the village, highlighting village life, the seasons, and what you feel makes Westwood a thriving community. We will select the best 12 to include in a Westwood calendar 2015.

How to submit and required format

- Deadline September 14th 2014, Images must be of Westwood and from the last two years, 12 images will be selected, from all entries, printed and the authors name credited on the Westwood Calendar, Feel free to give any information you consider is relevant about the photo, giving it a name or phrase, Images can be submitted digitally to

[westwoodnurseryschoolphotocomp@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:westwoodnurseryschoolphotocomp@yahoo.co.uk), please include your name; address and where and when you took the photo, Alternatively images can be submitted in a printed format to Westwood Nursery School, 'Westwood Photo Competition' Upper Westwood, Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire, BA15 2DH

## HOST

Would you enjoy making friends with someone from another part of the world? There are international students at universities in the UK who would love to spend one day or weekend getting to know a family and experiencing 'real life' in this country. They are happy to talk about their country and culture with you, and will travel to wherever you live. This is a safe, fun way of helping your children to become caring citizens of the world.

Who are the students?

Only international students aged 18+ who are registered on full-time courses at universities in the UK may apply. Every application is approved by a designated person in the university – this is our guarantee that the applicant is genuine. Apart from this, students cannot be 'vetted' – however, they have a great deal to lose, and HOST has NEVER had an allegation of misbehaviour by students towards minors.

Students may be undergraduates or post-grads.

They come from all over the world, including large numbers from China and the USA. They all speak English – some more fluently than others.

Who arranges the visits?

HOST has voluntary regional organisers in every county. They get to know their hosts, and do their best to make a good match. Hosts are free to say what kind of student they would like to meet, and are under no obligation - they may offer just one invitation, or (we hope) they may want to meet 2 or 3 students a year.

HOST has been linking students with volunteer hosts for 27 years. [www.hostuk.org](http://www.hostuk.org) or call regional organiser: Frances Good 01934 712 606

## BRADFORD ON AVON SPORT RELIEF

