

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE: 8
19th December 2013

Boswell Road Lower Westwood
Bradford on Avon BA15 2BY



Thistle & Clover performing The Snow Child



A festive Christmas Lunch for all

We have arrived at the end of another busy term and I always think it is a good time to reflect on what we have achieved. I would like to begin by thanking the staff, children, FoWs and you as parents for your continued hard work and support as we move forward as a school community.

This term we have been privileged to have the official opening of our school library. This will be developed even further in the New Year, thanks to the hard work of the FoWs, who have secured a grant in order to make it a community lending library. I am excited by this prospect and I do believe that it will allow children the opportunity to experience a wider range of books and it will develop their reading skills. If you feel that you are able to volunteer to help catalogue our library, please get in touch with the school office. Training will be provided and it would be great to have our library up and running as soon after Christmas as possible.

We have also been lucky enough to have the Storybox theatre perform for us, which inspired the children to write in detail and with passion, which was lovely to see. The Big Write has certainly had an impact on our children's writing this term and I am looking forward to seeing what they are able to achieve in the New Year too. I will also be planning further parent meetings to share our vision of ideas like the Big Write, Esafety and further into the year, maths. Please keep a look out for these on the newsletter and school calendar as it will be an opportunity to find out how

we teach in class and to ask questions. Furthermore, if there is something you would like to know more about, please feed it back to us as we welcome your comments.

This term also saw our Christmas Fair, which was a wonderful occasion. So much money was raised, all of which will go towards supporting our school. I do feel lucky to be part of such a thriving and vibrant community, with the school at the centre. I am working hard to see that this goes from strength to strength and that the Westwood message reaches far and wide!



Some very proud moments and maybe even a tear or two were shed when Thistle and Clover classes performed 'The Snow Child'. Beautiful singing, confident speaking and some wonderful dancing ensured that everyone who was able to attend a performance was treated to a spectacle which lit up the week with Christmas magic. Not only that, but at the end of a week of brilliant performances, we all got to wear our Christmas jumpers in probably the best homage to Mr Darcy in Bridget Jones I've ever seen.

This week the children have been able to enjoy their Christmas parties and a delicious Christmas lunch as a well-earned end to a productive term. I've said this before, but there is always something very special about working in a school at Christmas time and this year has been no exception.

I would like to say a huge well done to all of the children for continuing to work hard at their learning. I would also like to take this opportunity to wish all of you a very merry and restful family Christmas and a happy New Year. I do hope that you enjoy the break and immerse yourselves in festive cheer. If you are available, I will be serving mince pies, cake, tea and coffee tonight at 3.15pm in the Meadow, just to get us in the mood!

Ian Rockey



Our Friday morning assembly will be a festive celebration with carols, live music, dance routines and Christmas readings by a number of pupils. Please join us if you are able.

DATES FOR TERM TWO

- Thurs 19th Dec** **Tea & Mince Pies with the Head 3.15-4.30pm**
- Fri 20th Dec** **Carols around the Tree Assembly – 9.15am**
- Fri 20th Dec** ***** SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 1.30PM *****

DATES FOR TERM THREE

- Mon 6th Jan** **Term Three Starts**
- Tues 14th Jan** **FoWS Meeting – 8pm The New Inn**
- Fri 24th Jan** **Tea & Cake with the Head 3.15-4.30pm**

END OF TERM

Please remember that school will close for the Christmas holidays on Friday 20th December at 1.30pm.



WINTRY WEATHER

The weather will undoubtedly be very cold when the new term starts in January. Can you please ensure that your child comes to school with appropriate coats, gloves, hats etc.



FRIENDS OF WESTWOOD UPDATE

Please see the website for the 100 Club 2013/14 welcome letter, and do let the School Office know if you have not received a confirmation email. November and December winners were E. Brown, T. Wyartt and K. Smallforest. It's not too late to join so please check the website for details. Our next FoWs event is the Quiz night on Sat 8th Feb. Teams of up to 6 people can be entered, with ticket price including a fabulous night of feasting as the theme is PUDDINGS this year!

If you have more Christmas shopping to do please consider setting up the 'Giving Machine' as your homepage into other sites - by doing this simple log in you can go into 'my account' and set 'westwood with iford PTA' as your beneficiary. This means companies donate a small % directly to our fund - this adds up quickly if lots of people use the site. It's really easy and painless - this from a technophobe!

Finally, a really MASSIVE thank you to all who have supported our events this term. We have raised approximately £1750, and are half way to this year's target. In addition to this, quotes for the grant spending on the library resources are being gathered, with the Council agreeing to an early release of the entire monies pledged. It's also looking positive that we will be able to support the School with the hall revamp and Wi-Fi upgrade this year. So thanks again as your support really does make a difference. We hope to run either Circus Skills workshops or a Samba Band drumming workshop - if you have any contacts or ideas for an activity please do get in touch with Phillippa Lowton or the School Office. Merry Christmas to all!

Your FoWs Team



www.thegivingmachine.co.uk



Westwood Nursery Family quiz

Thank you to all of you who purchased a family quiz sheet from the nursery, a half term fundraiser. Answers are available at www.westwoodnursery.org. We hope you and your families enjoyed it, and appreciate your support.

Westwood Nursery 30th Year Anniversary

2014 is Westwood nursery school's 30th anniversary year. Our community has supported the nursery well over the years and has seen a couple of generations of local families come through its gates. We will be having a special event in the spring / summer to mark this occasion, more information to follow, as well as events that have become established in the community diary; Easter egg hunt and the scarecrow hunt. We would love to hear from you if you have some great memories or photos of the nursery in its early years, or even what you think of this asset more recently.

Get clicking -Westwood Nursery Westwood calendar

There will be NO calendar in 2014 but a special 30th year Anniversary calendar for 2015.

Following the success of this year's calendar, a fundraiser of £700, we are going to repeat the photography competition and look forward to your entries. Please get clicking over the holidays and next year. 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 for entries will be 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 author's name credited on the

Westwood Calendar. Feel free to give any information you consider is relevant about the photo, giving it a title or catch phrase. Images can be submitted digitally to

westwoodnurseryschoolphotocomp@yahoo.co.uk

Please include your name and contact details 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



VILLAGE NATIVITY



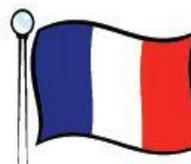
St Mary's Church in Westwood will be holding their annual candlelit carol service on Sunday 22nd December at 6pm. This is lovely service with short nativity involving some of the local children. All are welcome.

CYCLING HOLIDAY

The Bradford on Avon French Twinning Association has cycling holidays available in Sully sur Loire.

Family Holiday!

Enjoy cycling ? Enjoy France ?



Sully-sur-Loire, your twin town, welcomes you for fun low-cost holiday:-
May half term
(May 27th-June 1st) 2014.
Bike or coach to wildlife park, castles, along river Loire, Tintin exhibition, etc.

FREE accommodation with French families.

FREE bike hire and coach travel for day excursions.

FREE meals.

You pay coach travel to Sully – approx £100-150 per person

You pay one overnight stay at wildlife activity park Domaine du Ciran – approx £ 15 per person

You pay family membership of B on A French Twinning Association - £15 per family

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
CONTACT VIVIENNE 01225 863647
OR GO TO

www.bradfordonavonfrenchtwinning.weebly.com