



# Newsletter

ISSUE: 9

4<sup>th</sup> January 2016

Boswell Road Lower Westwood  
Bradford on Avon BA15 2BY



*Thistle Class enjoying their new Numicon learning tool.*

Happy New Year and welcome back everyone to a brand new year and another exciting new term. I do hope that you all had a really lovely Christmas with your families and a good rest over the festive season. Talking to the children, they certainly seemed to have a wonderful time and were very excited to tell me all of what Father Christmas had brought them.

The next two terms are particularly short and with only just under 11 weeks until Easter we have a lot to pack in! As always, though, the children have some excellent topics lined up and with this week's entry points already having engaged them in some fascinating learning, I can see that this is going to be another great term. Do keep up to date with what is going on in school through our blogs - they are constantly being updated and provide an excellent window into our world, giving you an insight into the teaching and learning that takes place on a daily basis.

With the New Year and a new term it brings an opportunity to revisit some of our routines and procedures, particularly since there has been some change to the playground environment in recent months.

As a staff we have discussed this at great length and can I please ask that, for Health and Safety reasons, children do not use the monkey bars, climbing wall and up and over bars before and after school. Whilst I understand that this is a lot of fun, we have seen a number of children using the apparatus unsupervised during these times, which is likely to lead to accidents. During playtime and lunchtime within school hours, we constantly maintain a high level of supervision,

with trained first aiders on hand to assist if necessary. I would like to avoid any unnecessary incidents so would ask for your cooperation in this, please.

Whilst the winter so far has been mild, can I also ask that all children come to school wearing appropriate school shoes – not trainers – and bring a warm coat. It is likely that the weather will get colder at some point and some days have been chilly and very wet, with some children having no coat to wear to keep them warm and inappropriate shoes which have got very wet indeed. Thank you.



With the recent success of achieving our Bronze Wiltshire Healthy Schools Award just before Christmas - look out for the plaque soon! - now seems like a good time to reiterate the importance of sending your child to school with a healthy lunchbox, if they have a packed lunch. I am in the process of writing a healthy lunchbox policy, which will be shared with you in due course and will give further guidance, but in the meantime can we please continue to send children with a healthy lunchbox for their midday meal. Thank you.

All that remains is for me to wish you a very enjoyable term and a great start to the New Year!

**Ian Rockey**

## BIRTHDAYS



*Happy Birthday to these children who have celebrated their birthdays since before Christmas*

## MUD KITCHEN

We have just this week taken delivery of a number of wooden pallets and Miss Brown is planning to use them to create a mud kitchen for the children.

All we need now is someone willing and able to hammer a few of the pallets together to make some mud kitchen equipment!



For younger children, mud kitchens can also provide a whole variety of different learning opportunities including sensory, imaginative, creative and exploratory play. Being outdoors gives children the chance to connect and learn about nature, to be creative and invent their own role play games and can even allow opportunities for early maths and science activities.

If you or someone you know is able to help create this wonderful resource for the children, please let us know.

Thank you.

## SCHOOL MEALS

We have been informed by Mrs B's Catering that starting from 25<sup>th</sup> January, the Week 2 Menu will have a Flapjack as the pudding on a Monday instead of a Doughnut.

Please remember that orders for meals need to be handed to the school office /post box by 9am Thursday morning for the following week.



## CODE CLUB HELPER

Mr Rockey has started the very popular Code Club this term and in the first session alone, the children's excitement and eagerness to learn more was clear.

In order to help make the club work at its optimum level, we are looking for a volunteer to join the club and help Mr Rockey. There is online training and no technical expertise is required. If you can spare the time, please let us know. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

More information can be found at <https://www.codeclub.org.uk/>

### DATES FOR TERM THREE

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January - Lotus Class Exit Point @ 3pm**

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January – Dance Club Cake Sale @ 3:15pm**

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January – Maths Day**

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January - SCHOOL DISCO**

**Reception, Years 1 & 2 – 5pm – 6pm**

**Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 – 6:15pm – 7:30pm**

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January – Science Day**

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February – International Day & Safer Internet Day**

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February**

**Interim Reports to Parents**

**Tea with the Head @ 3:15pm**

**END OF TERM**

## DANCE CLUB



We are delighted to announce that Dance Club has once again reached the Regional heat of the Great Big Dance Off Competition. Now in its third year, the judges were inundated with video entries from schools from all over the South West of the country. So it is a massive achievement to have got through.

Congratulations to Karen Hobson for her continued hard work and dedication and to the children in Dance Club, who have worked so hard and always do their best.

The Regional Competition will take place on Monday **7<sup>th</sup> March** at the **Wyvern Theatre, Swindon**. Dance Club will be travelling by coach during the school day. Siblings of those in Dance Club may be excused from lunchtime to attend the performance with their families.

Tickets are now on sale.

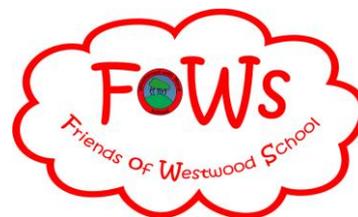
Dance Club shall be holding a cake sale after school on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January to raise funds for coach and costumes needed.

Please support the children by either donating cakes or buying them.

All cake donations will gratefully be received in school from Friday morning.

## BOOK BAGS

Please remember that BOOK BAGS are compulsory in Thistle and Clover Class and the children are required to bring their book bags into school every day. The same applies to their HASP books and Reading books. Thank you.



## FRIENDS OF WESTWOOD SCHOOL UPDATE

Hello again and Happy New Year to you all from the FoWS team!

### Kid's 'New Year' Disco Night – Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> Jan

A great night for the children, with our brilliant DJ, Stuart.

**KS1 (Reception, Year 1 & 2) - 5-6pm**

**KS2 (Year 3–6) – 6.15-7.30pm**

£3.00 entry, per child, which includes an ice-pop. Glow products on sale from only 50p! Details and a permission slip will be sent home nearer the time.

### Quiz Night

We will be holding our 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Quiz Night at Westwood School on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March at 7:30pm. This event is open to all (adults only), so get your team together and join us for an evening of slightly competitive fun!

Tickets will be available from the school office from Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February, priced at £7.50, which includes a supper. Bring your own drinks (and a glass).

Please support us in raising money for our school.

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