



Newsletter

ISSUE: 1

8th September 2017

Boswell Road Lower Westwood
Bradford on Avon BA15 2BY

BIRTHDAYS



Happy Birthday to the children who celebrated their birthdays over the summer holidays.

Can I begin this first edition of our newsletter by warmly welcoming you back and welcoming you, if you are a new parent, to the new school year. I hope that this week your children have settled well and are enjoying the many exciting learning opportunities that they are experiencing. The school seems so settled, happy and full of fun as I walk around and catch up with everyone on how they enjoyed their holidays.

Even though we are just a few of days into the new term, already the children are finding out about their new topics and entry points for their International Primary Curriculum learning. If you are unfamiliar with this, as a school we teach the IPC as a way of engaging children effectively and enabling them to enjoy using a skills based approach, where a broad range of learning styles are catered for. Furthermore, the opportunity to extend their international mindedness and to learn about other cultures has been fascinating and with every class looking to establish a range of international link for the year, I can see this developing into a very exciting prospect. Watch this space and look out for a letter coming home soon

with details of the new unit of work in your class and what the children will be learning!

A few dates are already booked in to look out for and you will also be receiving a list of school dates for the year to enable you to plan ahead as we aware that you are all very busy people. Having listened to parental feedback we will always try to give at least a week's notice with communications of upcoming events from now on to allow you to attend our many school events. In the meantime, on **Thursday 21st September** we will be holding our *Meet the Teacher* session. This will take place in two short sessions, from 2.20-2.40pm and from 2.40-3pm, so that anyone with more than one child in the school has the opportunity to visit both class teacher sessions. It will be an opportunity for you to find out what you can expect from us as a school this year and what you can do to help your child in the Home-School Learning Partnership. Teachers will be happy to answer any questions you may have so that we start the year effectively.

DATES FOR TERM ONE

FRIDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER
YEAR 6 BIKABILITY

THURSDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER
MEET THE TEACHER SESSION FOR PARENTS
2:20 – 2:40AM & 2:40 – 3PM

FRIDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER
JEANS FOR GENES DAY

TUESDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER
SCHOOL OPEN MORNING 9:30AM-12PM

FRIDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER
TEA WITH THE HEAD/MACMILLAN COFFEE AFTERNOON
@ 3:15PM

Also, if you know anyone who has children starting school next year or may be looking to move their children at some point, we will be holding our Open Morning on **Thursday 28th September** from 9.30am-12pm. This will be a chance to drop in and see the school on a normal working day, whilst asking any questions that you may have to find out more about us. We will look forward to welcoming many new faces and I look forward to giving you a tour of our school, of which we are very proud.

As a reminder and an introduction, we are continuing to hold our Celebration Assembly every Friday from 9.10am in the school hall. This is open to everyone each week, so please come along when you can, you are always welcome. As a school, our ethos is firmly built on the celebration of skills, talents and achievements and we will be enjoying finding out what the children have achieved both within school and out of school, so if your child takes part in an out of school activity, sporting or otherwise and they have an award, certificate or something of recognition to share, then please bring it along and we will look forward to sharing it with them.



Tea with the Head is back again! On **Friday 29th September**, in conjunction with Macmillan, I will be holding our first Tea with the Head in our Meadow straight after Celebration assembly. Please come along and share a drink and a cake and an informal chat. It is always a pleasant occasion and very well supported.



I would like to end this week by formally welcoming **Mrs Rosemarie Warren** to the staff here at Westwood. Mrs Warren will be working as a TA and MDSA and we are delighted to welcome her as part of our team.

I am very much looking forward to another successful, happy and productive year. I do believe that we have such a fantastic school community and I very much look forward to catching up with you all in and around the playground.

Ian Rockey



THISTLE CLASS DRESS UP

Thistle Class are having a great time back in school after the summer and the Reception children are settling in really well. The children's favourite thing to do is dress up and we are hoping to add to some of the dressing up outfits that they use. If you have any dressing up clothes that you are able to donate for the children, we would be really grateful.

YEAR 6 PUPILS

A blue rectangular poster with white and yellow text. The top section says 'For the attention of all parents'. The middle section asks 'Will your child be transferring to secondary school in September 2018?' and states 'You must apply for a secondary school place'. It provides the website 'Apply online at www.wiltshire.gov.uk' and the deadline 'The deadline for all applications is 31 October 2017'. The bottom section provides contact information for requesting a booklet or application form: 'To request our booklet - Finding a secondary school place in Wiltshire or for a paper application form contact customer services on 01225 713010'. It also states 'All paper applications must be returned to the School Admissions Team at County Hall, Trowbridge'.

If you are the parent of a Year 6 pupil, please remember that you will need to apply for your child's secondary school place no later than 31st October. Applications are made directly to Wiltshire Council or any other local authority.



If you are a Twitter user, another way to keep in touch with what we are doing is to follow [@wwschool](https://twitter.com/wwschool), where we will be regularly tweeting and sharing our successes.

GOLDEN TIME



For those of you who may not already know, Golden Time is a period of free play for the children in school. It takes place on Friday afternoons for half an hour and the children are very welcome

to bring in toys and games from home to play with during this time.

We do ask that no electronic games are brought in, nor any items of great value. Please speak to your class teacher if you are unsure of what may be appropriate.

Golden Time items must be brought into school with your child. Please do not bring in items throughout the day as this causes a distraction to the children.

DANCE CLUB CAKE SALE



Dance Club will be holding a cake sale after school on Friday 15th September to help raise money for our former pupil and dance club member, Miranda Meldrum.

Please come along for a cake or three!

Thank you

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

One of the factors the DFE bases school funding on is the Free School Meals count. Therefore can we ask that any family who is eligible for free school meals completes an application form even if you do not wish your child/children to have the meal.

A child is eligible for free school meals if their parents or guardians are in receipt of:

- Income support
- Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Child tax credit
- The guarantee of State Pension Credit
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance

Application is quick and CONFIDENTIAL and forms are available from the School Office.



WESTWOOD RADIO

Don't miss our radio shows via the website radio.westwoodwithiford.org. We broadcast live every Friday @ 2:30pm and throughout the term. There will also be Radio Club breakfast broadcasts throughout the coming weeks, so stay tuned.

Keep up to date with Radio News from our Broadcasters by visiting the radio blog at radio.westwoodblogs.org.  [@wwipradio](https://twitter.com/wwipradio)

PARENTAL CONSENT FORMS

Consent forms were sent home this week in book bags. If you have not already done so, please complete the forms and return it to school as soon as possible.

FUNDRAISING SLEEPOVER



Westwood School is holding a sleepover, which is open to Year 2 and above, in school, on Friday 6th October from 6:30pm until Saturday 7th October, 9:30am.

We are raising funds for a former pupil, Miranda Meldrum (13), who lives in the village and left our school in 2014. As you may have seen on the front page of the Wiltshire Times last week, she is currently recovering in Bristol Children's Hospital and has been since April 25th, after she had a bleed in her brain which has left her with locked-in syndrome. As Miranda has extremely limited movement, she is currently fundraising for some Eye Gaze computer software to enable her to be able to use a computer to communicate and to access the internet (much like Stephen Hawking's).

The school is holding a sleepover within the school, supervised by our staff who are volunteering their time, and we will be asking for a minimum donation of £10 per child. There will also be the opportunity to gift aid your donation too, if possible.

Children will be welcomed back in school at 6:30pm for activities, games and hot chocolate. They will need to bring a sleeping bag, pillow and something to sleep on as well as their favourite teddy, sleeping clothes and spare clothes for the morning. We will provide a choice of different cereals and toast and jams for breakfast.

If you think your child would like to join us, please send back the form of interest below by Friday 15th and we will forward the extra information and paperwork for you to sign.

Thank you for your support.

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Westwood School Fundraising Sleepover – Friday 6th October 6:30pm – Saturday 9th October 9:30am

Please send me information about the sleepover. My child is Yr2-Yr6.

Name of parent:

Name(s) of children:

Class(es):

OUT & ABOUT

WESTWOOD PARISH ROOM

LOCAL VENUE FOR HIRE FOR PARTIES, ACTIVITIES OR EVENTS

TEA ROOMS OPEN 2-5PM TUES, WEDS AND SUNDAY (UNTIL END SEPT)

Your local venue – run by the Community for the Community

Situated next to Westwood Church, the newly modernised and accessible facilities make an ideal venue for children's parties, family events and for local clubs and activities.

Hire rates are competitive so contact us and see how we can support your event!

Come and enjoy our tea rooms with homemade cakes and a warm welcome!

Modernised and fully accessible facilities

Ideal for parties, special events and activities

Special offer for all bookings made before 31st July

Call us to make a booking – see details below

Come visit our Tea Rooms!



Lantern Parade and End of Summer Party

Saturday 16th September 2017

Fun for all the family, free admission.

Westbury Gardens 5.30-9.30pm.

Fantastic light show, live music, food stalls. Lantern procession featuring your Fights of Fancy creations starts from the Tithe Barn at sunset (7.20pm). For details see www.boaartsfestival.com

WESTWOOD PARISH ROOM
Farleigh Lane, Lower Westwood BA15 2AF
07976 168652
Twitter - @westwood_pr
Facebook - @westwoodparishrooms
westwoodparishrooms@gmail.com

The Parish Rooms next to the Church are now open and taking bookings following extensive refurbishment and are now a great local venue for children's parties, family events or for local clubs and activities. This was only possible thanks to the kindness and generosity of local people and organisations.

To mark the completion of the refurbishment works, local people are invited to a reception from 1.00pm on Saturday 9th September at the Parish Rooms. The Westwood Parish Rooms Trustees would like to see you there.

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

THE READING AGENCY AND LIBRARIES PRESENT

ANIMAL AGENTS

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2017

animal-agents.org.uk

The Summer Reading Challenge finishes this Saturday at 4:30pm and that the libraries absolutely won't be able to accept any latecomers.

Free Interactive Writing Workshop for Children Aged 7+

Soaring Stories
An interactive writing and imagining workshop with children's author **Maudie Smith** at

Bradford on Avon Library

Saturday 16 September 2017
10.30am – 11.30am

Maudie Smith, author of the **Opal Moonbaby** trilogy, **Bird Girl** and **The Cake, the Wolf and the Witch** invites you to join her on a writing adventure.

Find out what inspired Maudie's novels, fire up your imagination and go on a flight of fancy of your own. Make a start on an exciting story and see it take off.

Suitable for children aged 7 years plus

Children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult