



Newsletter

ISSUE: 7

9th December 2016

Boswell Road Lower Westwood
Bradford on Avon BA15 2BY



What a wonderful festive season we have had so far and with just a week left of this magical term, there is still so much to look forward to with our school Christingle service, Christmas lunches and Carols around the tree.

I must begin this edition with an enormous thank you to our fantastic Friends of Westwood School who, in the last week alone, have organised two super Christmas events. Christmas stories at bedtime was a calm and thoroughly enjoyable occasion with so many of our children returning in their pyjamas to listen to stories and enjoy some hot chocolate together. It was so lovely to share this event with them and I hope that we do it again next year. Two days later, our Friends then held our Christmas Fair which raised an enormous £1300. I cannot thank you enough for supporting this event which, once again, had such a lovely community atmosphere and sense of occasion in the run up to Christmas. These funds will go towards making school an even better place to be for every child within our school.

This week, Thistle and Clover class treated us to magical performances of their Christmas production, Born in a Barn, which was enjoyed by so many of you and it was so lovely to see the children confidently speaking, singing and acting. These are memories that I hope they will remember for a very long time. I know I will. It makes me constantly proud to see how everyone works together so well at such a busy time of year and how strongly supported we always are by our school community. Thank you.

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 performance of Jack and the Beanstalk had us all enthralled and mesmerised for well over an hour and I always think that this is the perfect way to begin our Christmas celebrations in school.

As I sit here composing this update for you all, we are having additional mats fitted to our humps area and playground markings added to make our outdoor area even more exciting. These were funded by our FoWs from their Summer fundraising and we are so grateful that we can continue to improve our school for the children.

So with just one more week I do hope that I will see as many of you as possible at our Carols around the Tree assembly next Friday 16th at 1.30pm. This will be followed by Tea and Mince Pies with the Head in the meadow to round off a successfully and extremely enjoyable term. I do hope that you will be able to join me for a festive chat before we all head off to celebrate with our families and have a well-earned rest over Christmas.

Have a super weekend everyone.

Ian Rockey

FOLLOW THE STAR...



To a Nativity Set
Exhibition at
Westwood
Church



Friday, 16 to Saturday, 17 December

10am – 6pm

Come and enjoy mulled wine, mince pies, teas and coffee!

Donations in aid of St Mary the Virgin's nominated charity: *The Refugee Council*

CAROLS AROUND THE TREE



There will be carols around the tree during our traditional Christmas Assembly starting at 1:30pm on Friday 16th December. You are invited to join us as we celebrate the last day of term and if you are able, please stay for a festive Tea and Mince Pies with the Head.

NB There is no Celebration Assembly on Friday.



Friday 16th December is also Christmas Jumper Day! Children are welcome to wear their most festive jumpers and cardigans to add to the Christmas atmosphere.

This year we are supporting Save the Children and so asking for a £1 donation from each child.

TEACHER TRAINING

Please make a note in your diaries that the school will be closed on Tuesday 3rd January for Teacher Training. We will see you all back in school on...

WEDNESDAY 4th JANUARY 2017

SCHOOL MEALS

If you would like your child to have a school lunch the first week back in January, please make sure that you place your order on ParentPay no later than Wednesday 14th December. Meal numbers are sent to our caterer on Thursday mornings, so any bookings made after this date will not be ordered.

DATES FOR TERM TWO

Monday 12th December

Lotus Class Exit Point @ 3pm

Tuesday 13th December

Christingle Service

Thursday 15th December

Christmas School Lunch & Parties

Friday 16th December

Christmas Jumper Day

**Carols around the Tree Assembly @1:30pm
Tea & Mince Pies with the Head (after assembly)**

END OF TERM

DATES FOR TERM THREE

Tuesday 3rd January

TD DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED

Wednesday 4th January

Back to school



West Wiltshire Schools
Sports Partnership

ORCHID CLASS DANCE FESTIVAL

If you would like to book tickets for the Dance Festival please visit <http://www.bathforum.co.uk/> or phone 0844 888 9991.

The children in Orchid Class will be performing on Thursday 23rd February 2017.

WINTER PE KIT

The children still have PE outside when the weather permits. Could you please ensure that your child has something warm to wear in their PE kit. Black or Navy jogging bottoms and sweatshirts are allowed for the winter months.

STORYBOX THEATRE



Each year the FoWS generously pay for the whole school to watch a Christmas show. This year we were lucky to see the return of the amazing StoryBox Theatre. Storyteller and puppeteer, Rod Burnett, had everyone enthralled with the fantastic and very funny story of Jack and the Beanstalk.

Rod is also an accomplished artist and makes all his own puppets and stage sets. He very kindly stayed to be interviewed for Westwood Radio. If you missed it, you can listen by going to <http://radio.westwoodwithiford.org/>



WESTWOOD RADIO

As always, you can catch up on our radio shows via the website radio.westwoodwithiford.org and we will be live next Friday at 11am for the final time with a festive show to finish the term.



WINTERY WEATHER

With much colder, blustery weather and even the potential for snow, we are all trying to ensure that the children stay warm when they go out to play. Please can you make sure that your child comes to school with a warm outdoor coat and gloves and a hat.

SCHOOL CLUBS

There are no school clubs next week, with the exception of Dance. Please remember to collect your child at 3:15pm.

School clubs will resume w/c 9th January 2017. A form with the list of clubs for will go out next week.



CHRISTMAS POST BOX

Our Christmas Post Box is waiting near the main entrance for all the cards your children would like to send to their school friends. Remember to put names and classes on each envelope and our little elves will sort and deliver the cards each day.



DOG LEAD HOOKS

Those of you who walk your dog to and from school will have noticed the wonderful new hooks for your dog lead, along the fence on the far side of the car park.

These were installed by the Windo family, who also helped fund them, along with Debbie A, Karen H, Janey M, Rose P and Stan M. Thanks to their generosity, there are now nine hooks to use, so please make use of them if you are bringing your dog to school.

Please remember that **no dogs are allowed near the noticeboard area or in the school playground.** Some of our children find it frightening to walk past a dog they do not know, whilst others have allergies that can cause them great discomfort if they are too near to dogs.

Thank you very much for your support.

PARENT GOVERNOR

We currently have a vacancy for a parent governor. You do not have to be an expert on education to be a school governor; your role would be as a typical parent bringing a parent's perspective to the running of the governing body and the school. We value the experience that all governors bring to the role.

To find out more about what being a governor at this school is like; you can contact Sean Wyartt, who will be very willing to answer any questions.

seanwyartt@westwoodwithiford.org



Children's Christmas Card Designs

A huge thank you to those of you who have supported us with this. We raised an impressive £327.

Stories at Bedtime

What a lovely evening! Everyone snuggled up with hot chocolate, cuddly toys and some lovely stories. Thank you for helping us raise £135.

Christmas Fair

We hope you and your families enjoyed the Christmas Fayre last Saturday.

As ever, we were overwhelmed with your donations, offers of support and a fantastic turnout on the day itself.



We are delighted to announce that a total profit of **£1,300.81** was made.

All together you've helped raise an incredible £2,378, just since September. All of the profits raised are invested directly into the school to enhance our children's learning and playtime experiences.

Thank you again for your fantastic and continued support.

Kind Regards,

FoWS Team

Email: fowschair@westwoodwithiford.org

Web: <http://fows.westwoodwithiford.org>



OUT AND ABOUT

WESTWOOD CHURCH EXHIBITION



St Mary the Virgin Church, Westwood, is holding a Nativity Set Exhibition from Friday 16th – Saturday 17th December 10am – 6pm.

Come and admire the nativity sets, wander round the Church and munch a mince pie.

Christmas Competitions at Bradford on Avon Library

Children's Christmas Short Story Competition 1 – 16 December 2016

(Closing date for all entries 16 December)
Free competition open to all 5 – 7 and 8 – 11 year olds.
Write a short story (max. 500 words) starting with the words
"It was the night before Christmas ..." Entries will be judged by local
children's authors Fleur Hitchcock and Maudie Smith.
Book prizes to be won! Winners announced 23 December.

Christmas Tree Decoration Competition 1 – 24 December 2016

Free competition for all children.
Decorate a bauble to add to our Christmas tree (either colour one
while you're in the library or take one away to decorate at home).
Prizes for the best decorated baubles!

Contact Bradford Library on 01225 863280 for more information.
Children must be accompanied by a parent/carer.



**Love Reading
Love Libraries** **Wiltshire Council**
Where everybody matters

Christmas Story and Rhyme Times at Bradford on Avon Library

Come along and join us for our...

Christmas Rhyme Time Thursday 22 December 2016, 10.30am – 12 noon

10.30am – 11am Toddlers and Pre-schoolers
11.30am – 12 noon Babies
Activities for all babies and pre-school age children.
Dress your little ones in their best Christmas outfits!

Family Christmas Jumper Story Time Friday 23 December 2016, 10.30am

Activity for all children with their parents/carers.
Come along dressed in your Christmas jumpers to snuggle up
and listen to some festive favourites.

All events are free. Children must be accompanied by a parent/carer.
Contact Bradford Library on 01225 863280 for more information.



**Love Reading
Love Libraries** **Wiltshire Council**
Where everybody matters

Children's Art Classes ALL £12 (snacks provided)

Saturday 7th January 2-4.30 *'Van Gogh'* landscape style painting, please feel free to bring a picture you like to paint in his style

Sunday 8th January 10.30-1 *'Peg Dolls'* Make and Design your own fairy and mermaid peg dolls (Guest Artist Ellie McCallum)

Saturday 14th January 2-4.30 *'Imaginative Portraits'* inspired by Manga & Svenja Jodickel

Sunday 15th January 10.30-1 *'Day of the Dead'* Thaneyee McArdle patterned skull paintings

Saturday 28th Jan 2-4.30 *'Aboriginal Art'* Drawing and Painting Aboriginal animal using earth dots

Saturday 4th February 2-4.30 *'Love Hearts'* Print hearts on a toe bag, Make Fabric felt heart decorations for Valentine's Day, lots of beads, sequins etc.

Saturday 25th February 2-4.30 *'Drawing, and even more drawing!'* Learn to draw shells exploring line and tone.

Saturday 4th March 2-4.30 *'Make your own bunting'* and personalize with lettering

Saturday 11th March 2-4.30 *'Monsters'*, design and make your own monster using felt and hand embroidery

Saturday 18th March 2-4.30 *'Surreal animals'* Explore the beautiful art of Kerby Rosanes and use line and pattern to create your own Surreal animal



Booking essential. Please contact Lisa on 07934696546 Lisamelcalfe41@gmail.com
28A Huntingdon Street, Bradford on Avon (DBS Liability insurance)

MAKE it!

FUN WORKSHOPS FOR MAKING COOL STUFF

Festive Workshops

in Frome & Bradford on Avon
Secret shopping time in town for parents!

- ★ **Animate a Festive Message**
Sat 17th Dec C&G in Frome, Sun 18th BoA venue tbc both 10am - 1pm (9 yrs or over) £12
Make a short film to email to all your friends and family instead of sending paper cards - less paper, less postage, more fun! We'll start by showing you top hints and tips for inventing and modelling your character, then bring it to life using stop motion animation.
- ★ **Design a Christmas Hoody/T-shirt**
Mon 19th Dec C&G in Frome, Tues 20th BoA venue tbc both 2 - 5pm (any age, under 9 years with an adult) £12 (plus £2 for long sleeves, £5 for hoody)
Using stencilling and masking techniques, create your own festive designs on short or long sleeve t-shirts or hoodies. Book early to choose your size and colour. (Add £2 for long sleeves, £5 for hoody)
- ★ **Stockings for Santa**
Weds 21st Dec C&G in Frome, Thurs 22nd BoA venue tbc both 10am - 1pm (any age, under 9 years with an adult) £12
Just in time for Christmas Eve, sew a lovely big stocking with your own design. Add a fur top, your favourite festive designs and of course your name, so Santa knows where to deliver!

f www.facebook.com/MakeItFunWorkshops

To book your festive workshop place or ask about birthday parties, call Claire on 07940 497848 or email claire@makeitworkshops.com