



Newsletter

ISSUE: 7

6th December 2013

Boswell Road Lower Westwood
Bradford on Avon BA15 2BY



Orchid Class learning about animation at @Bristol



A full church for the Christingle Service

As the nights get colder and decorations start to appear in homes, the winter smells remind us of what it was like to be a child at Christmas time. This is such an exciting time to be in school and already I have so much to report on when we are barely into December!

Firstly, I would like to say a huge thank you to the Friends of Westwood School for; once again, giving their time and energy to making this year's Christmas Fair a memorable event. Last Saturday the school was buzzing with stalls, aromatic from the scents of the pamper room and alive with the sounds of chick racing and tombola winning, amongst other activities - a fantastic family event which was thoroughly enjoyable and so much fun. The Friends raised an enormous £1000 profit, so thank you for coming and supporting us, we all very much appreciate it.

Preparations are well under way for this year's Thistle and Clover Class Christmas production of 'The Snow Child'. For many days now, I have had the pleasure of sitting at my desk with a background of beautiful singing drifting from the hall. This is a production not to be missed. Performances will be taking place as advertised, so please refer to the diary dates and I very much look forward to seeing you there. The children and staff have worked incredibly hard at this busy time of year.

On Wednesday of this week we all went to the church and celebrated our Christingle service with Reverend Joanna Abecassis, which was a magical occasion. Once again I was tremendously proud of the children in the way they listened, conducted themselves and most of all in the way they sang. The church was filled with good voice and festive cheer and was a great start to Advent. We are lucky to have such strong links with our church and do look out for the many activities taking place there over the festive season as I know Joanna would be delighted to welcome you.

Thank you to those of you who have attended the Esafety and Big Write parent meetings recently. I will be making the presentations and resources available on the school website, so please have a look at those as I hope they will be of use to you when supporting your child.

Finally, thank you for visiting my blog: westwoodhead.schoolblogs.org, which is nearing its 1000th hit in less than three months! I hope you find it informative and a window into life at our wonderful school. I do try to update it most days and please feel free to leave a comment.

Have a super weekend everybody.

Ian Rockey

DATES FOR TERM TWO

Wed 11 th Dec	Thistle & Clover Dress Rehearsal
Thurs 12 th Dec	Thistle & Clover Production 9.30am & 6pm
Fri 13 th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day
Wed 18 th Dec	Christmas Lunch
Thurs 19 th Dec	Class Christmas Parties – After lunch
Thurs 19 th Dec	Tea & Mince Pies with the Head 3.30-4.30pm
Fri 20 th Dec	Term Ends <u>SCHOOL FINISHES AT 1.30PM</u>



THE SNOW CHILD

Tickets are now available for the Thistle and Clover Class Nativity play 'The Snow Child'. There will be two performances of the production; both will be held on Thursday 12th December at 9.30am and 6pm.

Due to fire restrictions, tickets are initially limited to two per family, per performance. Any leftover tickets will be available on a first come first served basis.

If you would like tickets, please fill out a slip on the letter that was sent out and return to the school office. We are asking for a donation of £1 per ticket towards the costs of the licence and costumes for the production.

If you have small children and would prefer to not bring them to the Thursday performances, please feel free to bring them along to the dress rehearsal on Wednesday morning. Please note that this invitation is to parents with small children only.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK



The Birthday Bunch for last week

For the first time this year, nobody had a birthday to celebrate this week!



CHRISTMAS LUNCH

We have arranged for a catering company to provide a Christmas Lunch for the children on Wednesday 18th December. This will cost £3.80 and there is a turkey or a vegetarian option.

Please make sure that your orders are received no later than Thursday 12th December. Payment can be made via HomeContact or by cheque made payable to "Westwood with Iford School".

There will be a festive atmosphere for every child to enjoy that lunchtime with crackers, Christmas songs and a few laughs at the teachers' expense!

SILVER STREET DONATION

Matt Withers, of Silver Street solutions and a parent within the school, has very generously offered to donate a percentage of the commission taken from his business from new mortgages to our school.

Therefore, if you have any mortgage requirements and would like to find out more, please contact him on 01225 869900 or check out his website: www.silverss.com





FRIENDS OF WESTWOOD UPDATE

A huge thank you to everyone who shopped, donated, lifted, shifted, mulled wine and hoovered up at the Christmas Fair.

We made approximately **£1000** profit from this year's Christmas Fair, which is absolutely amazing. Thanks to everyone who supported the event and all the pocket money spent! The Orchid Class Games room was brilliant this year, and you will be pleased to know the carpet has recovered. Baby chick racing, I think, will become a new tradition at Westwood School. The pamper room smelt divine, with Thistle Class crafts showing some super sewing skills. A last minute rush on Reindeer food and Santa's Grotto made me wonder if anyone wanted to go home! Thanks again for all your support and officially starting Christmas at Westwood in festive style!

The 2013/14 100 Club welcome letter will be on its way shortly, with information on this year's prize fund. The nursery experienced technical problems and information went out late so we have delayed the November and December draws. We will endeavour to hold them before the end of term. Thanks for your patience, and please inform any friends or relatives who have joined.

We have just heard that Wiltshire County Council are happy to release the library grant monies early, so we hope to be spending on IT support and more books early in the New Year. Many thanks to Ed Harrison for all his hard work in securing this grant from the Area Board.

Thanks to Mr Rockey for his blog on the Storybox Theatre Show - it's great to see the children enjoying the results of our fundraising!

A quick Diary Date for 2014 - Saturday 8th February. The 'ever so slightly competitive' quiz night returns to Westwood! Enter in teams of 6. This year's supper theme PUDDINGS - yes ladies you read it correctly!

Have a jolly holly Christmas,

Your FoWs Team



As the Christmas Shopping frenzy starts, please use the Giving Machine when you shop online to raise funds for the school. Anyone can use it, so please tell family and friends too. Thank you.
www.thegivingmachine.co.uk

STORYBOX

Many thanks to the FoWS for paying for the Storybox to come in and entertain us with the wonderful story of The Tin Soldier.



A mesmeric performance for the children

THREAD WORM

We have been advised by a parent that we have cases of Threadworm in school. Threadworms are the most common type of worm infection in the UK, and they are particularly common in young children under the age of 10.

A threadworm infection should be treated as soon as it's identified. It is not necessary to stay off school; however, it is important that you notify us to that we can ensure good hygiene practice to limit the spread of infection.

Further information is available on the NHS website
<http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Threadworms>

HOLY TRINITY

Following on from the lovely Christingle Service on Wednesday, Rev. Joanna Abecassis invited everyone to attend the Christmas Tree Festival at Holy Trinity in Bradford on Avon.



The Friends of Holy Trinity present...

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

December 10 - 15th
in Holy Trinity
10.30am - 6pm

Come and admire the trees, listen to live music and stay for a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie.



BOA CRICKET CLUB

If your child is a budding cricketer, then this is for them! Contact Paul Vooght, Bradford on Avon Cricket Club, Youth Manager & Head Coach on 07967 014530



Bradford on Avon Cricket Club

'Cricket Stars' – Have a Go!

www.bradfordonavoncricketclub.hitscricket.com



'Cricket Stars' is a Wiltshire Council supported 10-week winter coaching programme aiming to encourage children of all abilities, girls and boys ages 7 to 13 to 'have a go' and try cricket. New players are welcome to simply come along, play games, learn new skills and have fun.

All sessions will be delivered by ECB qualified cricket coaches with valid CRB certificates

For more information and to book a place:
email - pandkvooght@sky.com

Venue:	St Laurence School Sports Hall, BoA
Dates:	Sundays 19 th Jan to 30 th Mar 2014 (not 16 th Feb)
School Years:	2 to 4 5 to 8
Time:	9:00 - 9:55 10:10 - 12:00
Costs:	£2/wk or £15/10wks £4/wk or £30/10wks

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY



Friday 13th December is Christmas Jumper Day! Children are welcome to wear their most festive jumpers and cardigans to add to the festive atmosphere.

END OF TERM

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



There will be carols around the tree during the morning assembly. You are, as with all Friday assemblies, invited to join us celebrate the last day of term.