

West Tytherley CE Primary School

Friday 17th November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are now at the end of the third week and time is flying by quickly!

Christmas Events

I hope that everyone has seen the list of activities and dates that was sent on Friday 3rd November. If you missed it, please look at the website, in the parent section, where you will find the dates on newsletters. The dates are also on the calendar on the website.

Remembrance at the War Memorial

On Friday the 10th November, the whole school gathered to think about all those who serve in our Armed Forces and to pray for peace across the World. The children sang our song appropriately titled "Remember" and our youngest children made and placed a poppy wreath on the memorial.

We know the importance of ensuring that this generation has an understanding and respect for all the sacrifices that have gone before and this annual event is an important part of this process. This is summed up in the final verse of the poem, which our year 6 children read out beautifully:

"Take up our quarrel with the foe:

To you from failing hands we throw

The torch; be yours to hold it high.

If ye break faith with us who die

We shall not sleep, though poppies grow

In Flanders fields."

In Flanders Fields by John McCrae



Boys Cluster Football Success - Silver medallists

We were absolutely delighted that there have been further additions to our medal cabinet, with our football team coming second (by goal difference) in the recent cluster football event. The team won all their games, but were just short of two goals to get the top spot. Nonetheless this victory is a testament to the fact that they played as a team and supported each other on the pitch.

We are absolutely delighted- well done!



Parents Evenings for Chestnut, Willow & Oak - Monday 27th November and Tuesday 28th November

We are looking forward to welcoming you into school to talk to the teachers. There will be books available to look at, so please arrive approximately **15 minutes before** your appointment. I shall also be on hand to talk to you, as will a member of the governing body, if there is anything that you would like to discuss.

I hope that everyone enjoys a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Lucy Macey

Beech Class

This term Beech class are learning about different festivals and celebrations and the reasons behind certain events.

First, they discovered the history behind Bonfire Night. The children explored various sources from the past to prove given facts. They also enjoyed making and holding their own indoor firework party, with a bonfire and sparklers.

Last week, the class thought about Remembrance Day and discovered why people wear poppies on and before the 11th of November. The children worked together to make a poppy wreath which they placed on the memorial during the whole school service last Friday.

This week, the children are finding out about the Hindu festival of Light, Diwali. The class have enjoyed finding out about the different activities that those who follow this religion do for Diwali and compared them with things they do themselves when celebrating other events, such as fireworks, decorating homes, giving presents, wearing new clothes, and eating special food. The children enjoyed making Rangoli patterns and making colourful lanterns.



Forest School

This term during forest school, the children are focusing on shapes and patterns in our school grounds.

So far, the children have noticed lines of symmetry in many natural objects, such as leaves. They have used resources to make symmetrical patterns and different shape frames to contain their art-work.



Chestnut Class

Chestnut class has come back from half-term with a brilliant attitude to learning. They approach every subject with an amazing attitude and willingness to learn. As a class, we have focused on Geography. The children can name all the countries in the United Kingdom. We have also used maps to explore our local areas, including Winchester. The children have explored their local school grounds and created wonderful maps to represent them. Chestnut class will continue to learn about their local town, the landmarks, and notable features.

In Maths, we have built on our addition and subtraction to include multiplication and division. Children have been grouping and sharing objects to experience this. We have also been learning with shape and fractions this half-term. Everyone has loved learning about the specific properties of shapes. The Year 1s have been learning their 2D and 3D shapes and how to split them in half. The Year 2s have been solidifying their knowledge of halves and quarters.

In English, we have been reading the book 'Big Brother, Little Brother'. We have been writing words in contracted forms and using them in our everyday language. We have also been learning how to write in the first person and have had a lovely time role-playing as different characters from the story. The children have tackled their first 'big write' with confidence and show an amazing willingness to learn from their mistakes.

Chestnut class continue to develop in their resilience when faced with challenges and their effortless ability to be happy.



Willow Class

In Willow Class we have now nailed our routines and are working well as a unit. We have organised our First trip to Hillier Gardens for a Romans Activity Day which aligns with our History Topic of Roman Invaders.

In Maths this term, the main focusses will be Geometry and Measurements. This includes lessons on 2D shapes, symmetry, angles and using different units of measurement.

In English, we are using our writing skills to set a forest scene. This is inspired from the book 'The Tin Forest'. The children will be using parts of speech such as adjectives, verbs, and adverbs to set their scene which will be packed with animal and forest imagery.

Can I please remind children to bring their PE kits on PE days (Tuesday and Wednesday). We also need to make sure they have the appropriate kit for PE and clubs (e.g. tracksuit bottoms) as it is getting colder and muddier outside.

Spellings will continue as homework, given and due every Friday. I will also be giving all the children a homework information sheet which will simply document when your child completes any homework, maths challenge or reading. By doing so, they can earn themselves house points.

For your information, each morning the same routine will continue where it will be either quiet reading or carrying on with their maths challenge books. Please see the schedule below.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Quiet Reading	Maths Challenge Booklets	Quiet Reading	Maths Challenge Booklets	Quiet Reading or Maths Challenge Booklets

Overall, we are doing very well and let's keep up the progress, heading towards Christmas.

Thank you for all your support of the class.

Mr Harris



Oak Class

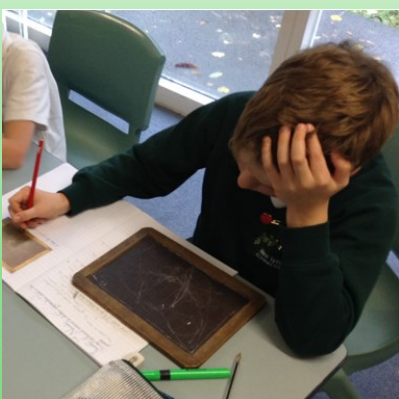
There have been some fantastic learning opportunities for Oak class over the first few weeks of term, with everyone showing lots of enthusiasm towards our new topics.

In our English lessons, we have been using the text 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty as a stimulus for writing. We began by using the text to develop our understanding of workhouses and writing diary entries as if we lived in the workhouse, describing the terrible conditions. We then focussed on chapter 8, where our main character escaped from the workhouse. As a class, we held a press conference to gather information from the witnesses, before using our knowledge of the plot to write a newspaper report. This week, we have been looking at discussion texts and exploring how we can use semi-colons, relative clauses and modal verbs to develop a detailed discussion about workhouses for the Victorian public.

The children have been very excited to use a new piece of equipment in Computing, known as Micro:bit. We had our first lesson familiarising ourselves with the technology and programme, which we called 'tinkering', and working out how to get the Micro:Bit to make sounds or light up when commanded. In our next lesson, we used our knowledge of the programme to program our own animation. We are having so much fun with Micro:Bit that some children are staying in at break and lunch to continue practising!

Our Science lessons have been focussed on developing our scientific skills, through our understanding of dissolving. We explored the difference between independent, dependent and control variables and used this knowledge to develop our own investigation question in groups. We can't wait to continue to process and conduct our experiment.

In music lessons, we have been learning about staff notation to help us read music and play this on the xylophones. We looked at parts of music and began to recognise the time signature and where the bars ended. We then tried playing a piece of music with minims in them, trying to count out two beats per note played.



Diary Dates: West Tytherley – Autumn Term 2023

Date	Event	Who	Details
21/11/2023	KS1 News Age Kurling Competition	Team of 4 from KS1	At Test Valley School 4pm – 5.30pm
27/11/2023	Willow class trip to Hilliar Gardens Study Centre	Willow	9am to 3:15 pm Transport by mini bus
27/11/2023	Parents evening for Chestnut, Willow and Oak parents	Willow and Oak	3.30 pm to 6pm. Time slots sent home
28/11/2023	Parents evening for Chestnut, Willow and Oak parents	Chestnut, Willow and Oak	3.30 pm to 6pm. Time slots sent home
05/12/2023	Annual Nasal Flu Vaccination - Yr R To Yr. 6	Whole school	
05/12/2023	KS1 (Beech And Chestnut) Christmas Production To Parents - Afternoon Performance	Beech and Chestnut	TBC 1.30pm
06/12/2023	KS1 (Beech And Chestnut) Christmas Production To Parents - Evening Performance	Beech and Chestnut	TBC 6pm
06/12/2023	Whole school Pantomime 'Cinderella'	Whole school	1:45- 3pm
14/12/2023	Christmas dinner and festive jumper day	Whole school	
15/12/2023	End of term assembly	Whole School	10.30 a.m.
18/12/2023 - 01/01/2024	Christmas Holiday		School Closed to pupils

Weekly Certificates from Friday 10th November 2023

Beech	Arthur	For being so thoughtful and helpful towards others.
Willow	Robyn	For showing huge progress in maths, levelling up in her maths challenge book and being resourceful in her learning.
Oak	Isla	For having a positive attitude to her learning and checking her work through.

Weekly Certificates from Friday 17th November 2023

Beech	Edward	For taking an active interest in our post office role play area and working well with others.
Chestnut	Bailey	For having an amazingly positive attitude towards his first big write and writing sentences independently.
Willow	Edward B	For showing huge effort in Maths and English, pushing himself to learn new things and challenge himself. Well done for taking charge of your learning.
Oak	Murray	For using his initiative and finding ways to successfully recreate a piece of artwork from John Muafangejo.

Last Weeks House Points

Singer = 91

Pragnell = 90

Budden = 108

The individual HP winners were:

Kaspar, Bailey, Filipp, Alica

Well done everyone!

This Weeks House Points

Singer = 111

Pragnell = 113

Budden = 117

The individual HP winners are:

Arthur, Alfie, Milan, George

Well done everyone!

Local Events and Activities



**CHRISTMAS
DRAMA CLUB 2023**
Stockbridge Primary School

**BIGFOOT ARTS
EDUCATION SOUTH**
Ages 5-11

Monday 18th Dec - Friday
22nd Dec
9am-3pm
Please bring a packed lunch, drink and
comfy clothes

£24 per
day

At our club children will play, explore
drama skills and take part in fun activities.
They will explore being storytellers and how
to stage simple tales. Each day they will
learn a new drama skill eg puppetry, dance
and movement or music to keep things
really exciting and varied.

Please book here
<https://eequ.org/experience/4670>
Call Jessica on 07746313410 with questions

**BIGFOOT
ARTS EDUCATION**

West Tytherley School and St Peter's Church

Christmas Carols



Wednesday 13th December, 6pm

at St Peter's Church

Please come and join us to sing some traditional carols
and to listen to the retelling of the Nativity story through
readings, poems and songs led by the school children.

All welcome

Stay and enjoy a mince pie and a hot drink

after the service

(Donations to the PTA)

Thought for the Week

This week I have yet again been away from the schools and churches. I have been spending time at General Synod (the 'parliament' of the Church of England). At the Remembrance Service last Sunday, I was asked by several children why I had been away and when was I next going to be in School. (I felt really bad about having missed out but pleased that I was missed). Next week, I will be back! Sometimes life is hard and we can feel lonely. However, in School we can be sure that there are people who want to be our friends and want to help. If you are feeling sad, you could pray: *Lord God, help me to use this time to seek you. Help me to find a community and friends to share my life with – my joys and my sadnesses. While I wait, Lord God, help me to not fear being alone, but to find time to sit with you in quiet togetherness and learn to draw comfort from being with you. Amen*

Vicar James