



## West Monkton C.E. Primary School

*Where everyone has the courage and confidence to fly.*

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### Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2017 (Newsletter 02)

Dear all,

#### **School Open Day**

Our school open day for Reception 2018 starters will be on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October. There will be two sessions available, 10.45am – 12pm or 1.30pm - 2.45pm. Each session will include a fifteen minute welcome and introduction, a school tour and refreshments. Please contact the school office on 01823 412582 to book a place, or alternatively email us to confirm which session and the names of those who will be attending. Email address:

[westmonktonprimary@educ.somerset.gov.uk](mailto:westmonktonprimary@educ.somerset.gov.uk)

For September 2018 Reception starters, you can apply online via [www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions) The deadline for applications is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

#### **Heathfield Open Evening**

The Heathfield Open Evening is on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September from 6pm to 8:30pm. No need to book.

#### **Uniform**

Please can you ensure all of your child's uniform is clearly named.

Please ensure any pupils with long hair have their hair tied back. This is for health and safety reasons in PE and to stop the spread of head lice. Hair bands should be discrete and in keeping with the school uniform. During the school day, children should wear appropriate foot wear. No heels or trainers.

#### **Gardening Volunteers**

We are looking for keen gardeners to help maintain the early year's garden area and planter. If any parents/grandparents are interested, please contact the school office.

#### **KS2 Thank you**

A big thank you from LKS2 to Avery's Garden Centre, for donating so many beautiful plants for our garden party on our WOW day. The children thoroughly enjoyed planting wellies to transform our outside area.

#### **Nut Policy**

A ParentMail has been sent home regarding our policy as a 'Nut Free School'. We have pupils and a staff member with severe nut allergies at school, and we therefore ask that you do not send in nuts or products containing nuts of any kind to school. We thank you for your cooperation with this.

#### **School Website**

Don't forget that our school website is now available again at ([www.westmonktonprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.westmonktonprimaryschool.co.uk)) following a refresh. It will continue to evolve over the course of this term. You will find lots of useful information here, including newsletters and key school dates and activities. Please do take a look.

#### **2017-2018 Term Dates**

This year's remaining INSET days are as follows:

- Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January
- Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February
- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June

School calendars are available from the entrance foyer and on the school website.

#### **Facebook**

We have an active Facebook page where we enjoy sharing school events, achievements and news. Should you have any concerns or comments to raise, please come in and speak to your class teacher or phase leader in the first instance, rather than using social media.

#### **School Lunches**

Lunch order forms will be going home soon. We will send them via ParentMail and hard copies will go home with your child. In future we will be unable to accept any late lunch orders due a change in the ordering process.

Please always ensure that payment (if necessary) is included, and that you fill in both sides of the menu and include your child's name and class. We did receive menus without names last term.



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### **Packed Lunches**

Children must have a healthy snack for each day. No crisps or sweets are permitted during the week, other than Fridays when we have our treat day.

### **Absence Requests**

Parents are reminded that wherever possible, holidays should not be taken during term time. We have already received a high number of absence requests. A child's absence has a noticeable impact on their learning.

### **Attendance**

If your child is unwell, please ring the school office by 9.30am. A message can be left on the absence reporting line, option 2. Ensure you explain the reason for absence, not just give the reason that they are 'unwell'.

Don't forget that children arriving after 9.10am are marked as "Late after the registers have closed" (a 'U' code) *this is the same as an unauthorised absence*. Please remember that should your child experience sickness and/or diarrhoea, they should not return to school until 48 hours after the last episode.

### **Kingfishers Breakfast/After School Club**

Our breakfast and after school clubs are very popular, please book as far in advance as possible to avoid any disappointment. We would suggest a minimum of one week ahead. Bookings for Monday of the following week must be received in the office no later than Thursday mornings. We have had to turn away some late notice bookings this week. Should you have any queries or need to make contact with, or regarding Kingfishers, please call the main school number and select Option 6.

We have also had some issues with our new invoicing system, if you were waiting for an invoice and would like to make an interim payment via cheque please drop this in to the office drop box in an envelope confirming your child's name.

### **Year 6 Kilve Trip**

The remaining £100 outstanding balances for the Year 6 Kilve trip should be paid by Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September. If you have any concerns regarding this, please inform the school office.

### **Parking**

We would like to remind all parents that there is no parking on the school site for drop off and collection of pupils. The only exception for this is blue badge holders. Disabled parents and grandparents are having difficulty parking as spaces are being used by other parents.

### **Bikeability – Volunteers Needed**

Some of the year six children will be participating in Bikeability training on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October. We do need parent volunteers to help. If you are available on either or both days and have a bike, please get in touch.

### **Portrait Photographs**

DSP photography will be at school on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November to take portrait photographs of the nursery and school children. Parents with younger siblings are welcome to attend from 8.15am – 8.45am. More details will follow nearer the time and information will be included in the next nursery newsletter.

### **Community Choir**

We are delighted that Stephen Holman has agreed to work with the school to orchestrate a community choir.

We would like to invite any pupils, parents, grandparents, friends of the school and adults from our local community to join in with choir practice which will start Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October. More details will follow next week.

Kind Regards,

Ian Robinson – Headteacher



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### **Diary Dates – Autumn Term**

| Date   | Activity  |
|--|---|
| <b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup><br/>September</b>                                  | Harvest service at West Monkton Church at 10am          |
| <b>Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup><br/>September</b>                                 | Taste the Harvest trip to Keirles Farm, Thurloxtan.     |
| <b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup><br/>and Thursday 5<sup>th</sup><br/>October</b>  | Year 6 Bikeability                                      |
| <b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup><br/>October</b>                                  | PTA AGM (Annual general meeting)                        |
| <b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup><br/>October</b>                                  | Reception starters 2018 open day                        |
| <b>Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup><br/>October</b>                                   | Light party in school, more details to follow.          |
| <b>Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup><br/>October</b>                                   | Lights at the Rectory                                   |
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> November</b>                              | Year six Kilve trip                                     |
| <b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup><br/>November</b>                                   | Portrait photographs – Nursery, school pupils and staff |
| <b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup><br/>December</b>                                 | School Christmas lunch                                  |
| <b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup><br/>December</b>                                 | Nursery nativity  |
| <b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> &amp;<br/>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup><br/>December</b> | Year one and two nativity at 2pm                        |
| <b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup><br/>December</b>                                | Candlelight carol service                               |

### **PTA**

A huge thank you to Santander bank for match funding the amount we raised at the summer fete. This goes a long way to helping us provide additional support for the school.

### **Tuck Shop**

The tuck shop is run by the PTA and located in the lilac shed just as you go through the KS2 gates. It will be open after school on Fridays.

### **PTA 100 club**

We still have some uncollected prizes.

### **July 2017**

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – S Matravers (11)

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize – P Aquilina (51)

### **August 2017**

1<sup>st</sup> Prize - S Wyatt (87)