



West Monkton C.E. Primary School Newsletter

Where everyone has the courage and confidence to fly.

29th November

This weekend marks the start of advent and, what is a very special time in the church calendar. It is very fitting, therefore, that we continue to focus on our theme of Peace and Gentleness, which guides our Collective Worship and wider curriculum work. It is impressive how fluent the children are becoming in the language around our vision and values, with the Fruits of the Spirit underpinning all that we do. In my privileged position, I have been able to help and support the teaching in each of our classrooms, during the last couple of weeks, and have been nothing but humbled and impressed with the children's approach to their learning, of which Peace and Gentleness are important ingredients. Advent is often a time for peaceful and gentle reflection; it is during these moments that I reflect on our fortune in having such a hardworking and productive school in which to be a part of.

Mr Blackmore

Important Information

Staff Changes

You may have noticed that the school office team has been changing. We are sad to report that at the end of next week we are also losing Lisa from the team. Lisa has been with us since 2016, and we are sad to see her go, but wish her all the best for the future. We are also losing Gemma from the office as our receptionist at the end of next week too, as she is starting an apprenticeship as a Teaching Assistant in EYFS. These changes have resulted in a staff restructure, and we are pleased to confirm that Eleanor will be taking the role of acting School Business Manager, with Kim stepping in to the role of Senior Office Administrator, supported by our new administrator, Helen. We hope to fill the receptionist vacancy early in the New Year.

Last week, we also bid a fond farewell to Mrs Teate, who has been supporting Puffin class as a Teaching Assistant. She will be sorely missed.

Children in Need.

It was lovely to see so many children embracing the spotty theme for Children in Need. Pudsey Bear even stopped by! As a school we raised approximately £325. A big thank you to the sports council for organising.

School Christmas Fayre

The School Christmas Fayre takes place tomorrow! Parents are invited to come along from 2.30pm to browse the great collection of stalls that are attending before collecting your children at the end of the school day. The fayre will run until 4.30pm, and the raffle will be drawn at 4pm.

Board Game Club

Board Game Club has been successfully running every Friday lunchtime in KS2. The children have been busy playing a variety of games with their friends. It's been wonderful to see children teaching their peers (and adults!) different games. A big thank you to the PTA for providing the exciting board games and to Mrs Stone for giving up her time to come and support the club. This club will continue this half-term in Kiwi classroom and is a 'drop in'.

Operation Shoe Box

A big thank you to everyone who filled and wrapped a shoe box. In total we sent off 120 shoe boxes and £70 cash. Your boxes will make a lot of children very happy and we will keep you posted on the shoe boxes journey.



Christmas Lunch

Christmas Lunch will be on Thursday 20th December, and we would love to see as many children as possible sitting down together to get in the festive mood as the holidays approach. Look out for more details and the order form in ParentMail next week.

Kingfishers

Both breakfast and after school clubs remain incredibly busy, but there are spaces on some days. Please contact the office to enquire about availability.

Invoices for October have now been issued. Please remember to forward a copy of the payment confirmation to the school office if you pay by either childcare voucher or tax free childcare, so your payment can be allocated. Thank you to parents who have already sent confirmations, these will be applied to the invoices during the course of the next few days.

If any parents have any balance bikes or scooters in good condition they would like to donate, Kingfishers after school club would be very happy to have them.

Speed!

Please remember that the speed limit outside the school is 20mph, and that speeds within the carpark should be kept to a minimum.

Headteacher: Mr Ian Robinson Chair of Governors: Mr Paul Spencer

A: Bridgwater Road, Bathpool, Taunton, Somerset TA2 8FT **T:** 01823 412582

E: westmonktonprimary@educ.somerset.gov.uk **W:** www.westmonktonprimaryschool.co.uk

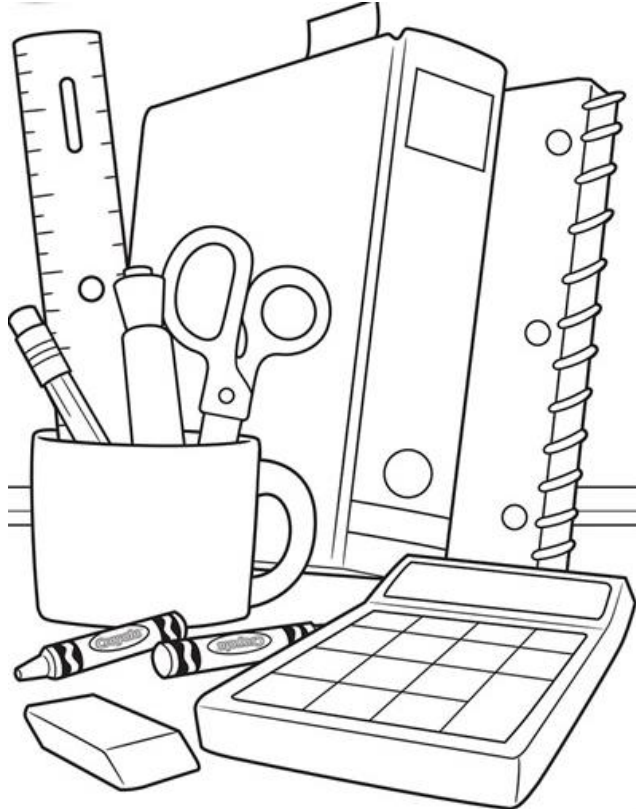


West Monkton C.E. Primary School Newsletter

Where everyone has the courage and confidence to fly.

Puzzle Corner

Can you colour in the picture below



Phrase of the Fortnight

Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.

Malcolm X



Reading Percentages

Percentage of children in the class who have read a minimum of 5 times in the week:

Year 1 - Pelican 53%	Yellow Wagtails 57%
Year 2 - Robin %	Puffin 71%
Year 3 - Buzzard 78%	Maggie 81%
Year 4 - Kiwi 48%	Eagle 79%
Year 5 - Crane 87%	Red Kite 89%
Year 6 - Peacock 77%	Peregrine Falcon 96%

PTA NEWS!

Save the Date! Friday 25/01/19 cheese and wine evening (adults only). Times to be confirmed, located at WMPS. Come to meet the PTA, find out about our projects and meet other parents.

PTA Disco – Friday 7th November. Letters out next Week!



Maths Success!

Last Saturday, four of our Year 6 pupils, Theo, Imogen F, Imogen C and Riley B took part in a Mathematics Competition at Wellington School and participated extremely well. Forty five schools took part in the competition, which asked the team to answer twenty five extremely challenging questions. Their place among the field is unknown, but they got fifteen questions right, which is fantastic. The children thoroughly enjoyed the event, which also had a guess the sweets-in-the-jar question too. Although they didn't win either prize, the team commented on the fantastic cookies available! A big thank you to parents for taking and chaperoning but also to the children whose behaviour, effort and endeavour has made us all very proud in school! Congratulations team!

Useful websites and other information

ParentMail

<http://pmx.parentmail.co.uk/>

Mathletics (Year 1 – Year 6):

www.mathletics.co.uk

Somerset Safeguarding Children Board:

<http://sscb.safeguardingsomerset.org.uk/>

Online Safety KS1:

https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/5_7/hectorsworld/

Online Safety KS2:

https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10/cybercafe/

ParentZone:

<https://parentzone.org.uk/>



SAFEGUARDING UPDATE

A recent Somerset study found that 38% of Primary children are using internet chat rooms or social networking in 2018. This increased by 25% since the last survey in 2016.

Twitch (much like Youtube but based around gamers watching other gamers play) is a growing forum. This involves a chat feature and often displays inappropriate comments. There is a feature where the view can donate money to the online gamer. Twitch streams games with an 18 PEGI rating and the top five channels (with 11 million viewers) are Grand Theft Auto and Call of Duty. Twitch has been highlighted to the county safeguarding leads as there are concerns gangs are using this to extort money out of children.

We are also aware of a game called 'Five nights at Freddy's' which is a graphic horror game and could easily scare younger children. 'Freddy' is a big brown teddy bear so the game at first can be deceiving, but once in the game there are themes of horror and violence: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt4214834/parentalguide>

Finally, musical.ly is now called Tik.Tok and is reported regularly for cyberbullying through its chat feature. The age recommendation for this APP is 13 years old. If your child does have it please check the security settings and permissions are set to their highest.

Headteacher: Mr Ian Robinson Chair of Governors: Mr Paul Spencer

A: Bridgwater Road, Bathpool, Taunton, Somerset TA2 8FT **T:** 01823 412582

E: westmonktonprimary@educ.somerset.gov.uk **W:** www.westmonktonprimaryschool.co.uk



West Monkton C.E. Primary School Newsletter

Where everyone has the courage and confidence to fly.



COMMUNITY CAROLLING

Three opportunities to join with others
from the area as we aim to bring a
little Christmas cheer to the neighbourhood



Contact Paul for further details
bathpoolpioneer@gmail.com
07765 388 655