



West End Primary School

Newsletter

6 July 2021

Lockdown Hero Award

We were delighted to receive a certificate of excellence from the Pearson National teaching awards last month. We were even more delighted to discover that we had been nominated by parents for the Lockdown Hero Award not once, but four times. The nominations were for the whole school and it was fabulous to know that parents recognised how hard the entire staff has worked to make sure this difficult time has been as positive and painless as it can be for the children and their families.

Although we weren't chosen as finalists, the kind words of the nominations will stay with us all for a long time. Thank you to those parents who nominated us and to you all for your continued support.



Best of West End Celebration



We will be holding our annual Best of West End celebration on Tuesday 13th July. This year we will giving out two sets of awards, the 2019-20 Star of the Year awards and the 2020-21 awards. As this is our special red carpet event your child may wear their smart party clothes on the day, (think more wedding than soft play). We will make the day special for all of the children, whether they are receiving an award or not.

Fun Days

You will have already received information from your child's class teacher about our fun days. We have arranged for an ice cream van for the children on Wednesday 14th, which has been kindly paid for by the PTFA and Exact Education. Year 3 will have their ice cream on the Wednesday even though their fun day is on the Thursday (for staffing reasons), so they won't miss out.



Gifts for Staff

As a poverty proofing school we ask that parents do not buy gifts for the staff at the end of the academic year. It is our privilege to teach your children and seeing them grow and develop is reward enough for us. We do not want you to feel in any way obliged to send in anything, we know the year has been tough on many families financially, but if you do choose to do this we ask that you do not spend lots of money.

Kind words in a card will stay with us longer than a bottle of wine or a box of chocolates, much as we appreciate them (believe me, they don't last long!).



Post Lockdown Survey Results



Thank you to all of the parents who responded to our post lockdown survey. We received 139 responses in total, which was excellent. The results were as follows:

Do you think we should continue with the staggered start and finish of the school day?

Yes - 50.4% No - 49.6%

Do you think we should continue to use all of the entrances to school that we are currently using?

Yes - 71.2% No - 28.8%

Do you think we should continue to use Tapestry/Class Dojo for setting and returning homework?

Yes - 64% No - 36%

Do you think that we should continue to send newsletters and other communications via email?

Yes - 94.2% No - 5.8%

We found your responses and written comments extremely useful and we will now collate this data with the responses from the staff and children's surveys. We were also very grateful that a number of parents chose to use the survey to thank the staff for all of their work during the pandemic. It is good to know that parents and carers appreciate all that school has done to try and keep things as safe as possible for everyone and as normal as possible for the children. Your kind words are much appreciated. Until we know exactly what the Government guidance is going to be around bubbles and isolating we cannot make any definite plans, but we will let you know as soon as we do.

Summer Reading Challenge

Bedlington library is running the Summer reading challenge again this year. The theme is Wild World Heroes. The children will be bringing home bookmarks with information about how they can be involved. You can find out more at <http://www.mylibrary.co.uk>



Diary Dates

Thursday 8th July

Beech and Willow Class Julia Donaldson day

Year 3 Greek Day

Holly and Cherry Sports

Friday 9th July

Annual reports sent home

Monday 12th July

Year 4/5 Sports (postponed from 5th July)

Tuesday 13th July

Best of West End celebration day

Wednesday 14th July

Nursery, Reception and Years 1, 2, 4 and 5 fun day

Thursday 15th July

Year 3 fun day



Friday 16th July

Year 4 trip to St. Mary's Island
Hazel Sports (postponed from 8th July)
Transfer morning - children meeting their new teachers
Term ends at 2:00pm

Term Dates 2021/22

Tuesday 7 th September 2021	School opens for 2021/2 academic year
Friday 22 nd October 2021	School closes for half term
Monday 1 st November 2021	School re-opens
Friday 17 th December 2021	School closes for Christmas holidays
Wednesday 5 th January 2022	School re-opens
Friday 18 th February 2022	School closes for half term
Monday 28 th February 2022	School re-opens
Friday 8 th April 2022	School closes for Easter holidays
Tuesday 26 th April 2022	School re-opens
Friday 27 th May 2022	School closes for half term
Monday 6 th June 2022	School re-opens
Friday 22 nd July 2022	School closes for Summer holidays



School is closed on Monday 6th September 2021, Tuesday 4th January 2022 and Monday 25th April 2022 for staff training.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Jane Bushell'.

Mrs J Bushell
Headteacher