

West End First School Newsletter



6 November 2018



Poppy Appeal

Just a reminder that all this week we are selling Royal British Legion merchandise in support of the Poppy Appeal. As we have a limited amount of merchandise we are limiting purchases to 1 per child so that the children are not disappointed and also so parents do not feel obliged to buy more than they are able. We are not setting prices for the merchandise and are happy to accept your donations.

Parent Survey

Thank you to all of those parents who completed the parent survey recently. We were absolutely delighted with the response we received, which is included with this letter. The staff work incredibly hard to make school a safe, happy and exciting place and to make sure that the children have the best possible start to their education.



It is lovely to see that so many of you appreciate all that we do. Of course, we cannot please all of the people all of the time and where there are concerns we would urge you to speak to your child's class teacher or make an appointment to see Mrs. Bushell so that we can address them. Thank you once again for your support. The prize draw has been made for the Parent Survey responses and the winner has been informed.

Sporting Success



As you will have seen in the PE newsletter that Mr. Allison sent out last half term, we have another sporting success to celebrate. The Year 4 Tag Rugby team came second in the Blyth/Bedlington School Sports Partnership Tournament, only losing out in the final match and by one try! Once again we were incredibly proud of the children's enthusiasm, hard work and sportsmanship.

Anti-bullying Week

Next week, 12th to 16th November, is national Anti-bullying week. We will be covering this with the children in assemblies and lessons and with a special event (yet to be finalised) during the week. Please take the opportunity to talk to your child about bullying and ask about their learning in school.



Children in Need

Friday 16th November is Children in Need day. We will be supporting this event with a non-uniform day and parents can send in a donation if they wish.

SAVE MONEY!



Christmas Gifts

I know many of you will have already started your Christmas shopping and so I wanted to remind you that we would rather you did not spend your money on gifts for the staff. We always appreciate your kindness and generosity whether it comes in the form of a box of chocolates or a thoughtful card but, as we said in the summer, we love our jobs and the best reward for us is knowing that we can make a difference to the children's lives.

If you really want to give please do so discreetly, but remember we would be much happier if you spent your hard earned cash on special Christmas treats for the children than on us - Santa comes to our houses too you know.

Reception Places 2019

The online portal for applications for Reception class places for September 2019 opened on 1st November 2018. The portal is available on the Northumberland County Council website at www.northumberland.gov.uk/Education/Schools/Admissions.aspx.



Applications for a Reception place must be made via the portal, even if your child is already attending West End First School nursery or West End Pre-school. The portal closes on 15th January 2019. It is essential that applications are made before the deadline if you wish to be considered for a place at your first choice school.

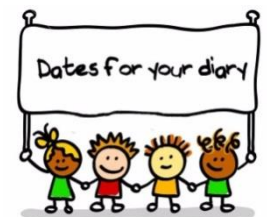


Nursery Places 2019-20

If you would like your child to have a nursery place at West End First School please let us know by contacting the school office to register. Places are limited, so it is essential to have your child's name on our register so that we are aware of your wishes and can offer you a place.

Diary Dates

Please keep an eye out for letters with information about our activities and events and check your child's bag every day. We are always adding to this list and new events appear in bold. We will send out information about our Christmas events nearer the time.



Wed 7 th Nov	Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 Panto workshops
Fri 9 th Nov	Year 4 Be safe workshops
Mon 12th to Fri 16th Nov	Anti-bullying week
Tues 13 th Nov	Year 4 Miniband workshop
Fri 16 th Nov	Children in need day
Tues 20 th Nov	Year 3 Big Draw Workshop
Thurs 19th Nov	Gymnastics Team at Blyth/Bedlington Gymnastics Festival
Fri 30 th Nov	Year 3 Northumberland Day
Mon 3 rd Dec	Bluebird group Alnwick Garden trip (information to follow)
Wed 5 th Dec	Reception Northern Stage trip
Thurs 6 th Dec	Choir visit to Woolsington Court
Mon 10 th Dec	New nursery parents' meeting 9:00am
Tues 11 th Dec	Parent and child Christmas Craft event 9:15 - 10:15am

Tues 11 th Dec	Nursery Christmas performances 11:00am and 2:30pm
Wed 12 th Dec	Christmas lunch and Come as you like day
Wed 12 th Dec	Year 1 and 2 Nativity: 9:20 – Sycamore parents 2:00 Hazel parents
Thurs 13 th Dec	Year 1 and 2 Nativity: 9:20 – Holly parents 2:00 Cherry parents
Thurs 13 th Dec	Nursery and Pre-school magic treat
Mon 17 th to Thurs 20 th Dec	New nursery taster sessions
Mon 17 th Dec	Year 3 and 4 Carol concert 2:00pm
Tues 18 th Dec	Year 1 and 2 Whitley Bay Playhouse trip
Tues 18 th Dec	Year 3 and 4 Christmas party
Wed 19 th & Thurs 20 th Dec	Reception Nativity
Thurs 20 th Dec	Year 3 and 4 Whitley Bay Playhouse trip
Thurs 20 th Dec	Year 2 and Year 1 Christmas parties
Fri 21 st Dec	Reception and Nursery Christmas parties
Fri 21 st Dec	Break up for Christmas holidays 2:00pm

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Bushell
Headteacher