



## NEWSLETTER 22

01404 812599 Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2022 Website [www.west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk](http://www.west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk)

Dear Parents/Carers,



### ATTENDANCE

The whole school's attendance last week was **85.1%**. This reflects the high level of Covid we had in school last week, which is thankfully now going down.

### PARKING AT PICK UP TIME TODAY

Coaches will be returning children to school from 2 school trips around 3-3.30 pm today (Friday.) It is going to be very busy with 60 children disembarking. Please avoid parking along Beech Park to allow coaches access to the school. It will be impossible for them to drive down Beech Park if it is busy with parked cars.

### COVID IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK

As you know, we are still suffering with staff absence due to Covid and this week we had 7 members of staff testing positive and off school. We wish them all a speedy recovery and hope they will be back as soon as possible.

A big thank you must go to Miss Kemp for holding the fort this week in the absence of Mr Pantling, Mrs Bennett and myself. I would also like to thank the staff who have remained in school this week as they have all rallied round and helped out in so many ways, demonstrating true teamwork and resilience. Thank you to all of our parents for your understanding, patience and support during this challenging time. We know that some staff will remain off next week so the situation continues I'm afraid.

### STAFFING UPDATE

Last Friday we all said goodbye to Mrs Pedley as she starts her maternity leave and awaits the arrival of her baby. Mrs Pedley had been working in classes 2,3,4 and 5 to release teachers for their PPA time (Planning, Preparation and Assessment). In her absence, Mrs Bennett has agreed to cover this role on Mondays and Tuesdays.

### SCIENCE WEEK

This week marked British Science Week and we had lots of exciting activity going on throughout the school. Year 1 looked for the signs of Spring around the school and examined the relationship between the size of a seed on the size of a plant. Year 2 held a poster design competition around Science, Technology and Maths. Year 3 measured body parts in cms and mms and collected, analysed and presented their data. Year 4 embarked on a habitat walk through the school environment to

examine evidence of Spring growth. They took photos, classified their findings and created a key for their presentations.

## WEEK 22 WORD OF THE WEEK: enquiry or inquiry

**Noun:** (abstract)

an act of asking for information.

"the police were **making inquiries** in all the neighbouring houses"



**verb:** to enquire, to inquire

ask for information from someone.

"she **inquired about** cottages for sale"

"he **inquired about** the dessert menu"

We would love to hear from you if your child makes great use of our 'word of the week' (or any of the other new vocabulary they have been taught) at home, so please email [wotw@west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:wotw@west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk) to let us know!

### COURSES FOR PARENTS

We have been contacted by the AIM Group who free offer courses to parents of local schoolchildren. These courses include Adverse Childhood Experiences, Behaviour That Challenges in Children, Specific Learning Difficulties, Understanding Autism and Children's Mental Health 0-5 or 4-16. They are Government funded learning resources designed to complete in your own time

If you are interested, click [West Hill Primary School - Link to Register](#) and they will be in touch to explain more and confirm if you would like to go ahead. Applications for free spaces are available until 1<sup>st</sup> April.

### EASTER EGG COLOURING COMPETITION

Hall & Scott are running an Easter Egg colouring competition. Children can colour an egg (template attached) and return it to school before **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April**. The best entry will win £100 for West Hill Primary School and an Easter egg for themselves.

The top 11 eggs will also be displayed around Ottery St Mary spelling out a word for children to find.

## PTFA NEWS

### PRINTER CARTRIDGES

Please drop off any used inkjet printer cartridges, within a sealed bag to the school's post box. These will help earn the PTFA money through a recycling scheme. Details of wanted printer cartridges can be found here: <https://www.recycle4charity.co.uk/inkjetcartridges>

### AMAZON SMILE

Please see attached poster for details on how to sign up to Amazon Smile (this only needs to be actioned once, and then sign in via AmazonSmile rather than the normal site). A % of all sales made on AmazonSmile go towards our PTFA funds if you have us selected as a charity.

### CLOTHING COLLECTION

If you are having a spring clear out, please remember we have a Bags of Help clothes bank situated in the McColls' car park. Donations made to this bank are weighed by Bags of Help who in turn give us a payment, based on the weight. Please donate any good quality clothes, paired shoes, bags and soft toys at your own convenience.

### PTFA MEETING

Our next meeting is being held via Zoom on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 19.30. Please feel free to join us to talk about Jubilee and summer fete ideas!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7943894814?pwd=eXNvM0JSZjRVN2hsY1ZVM2EwS2p5UT09>

Meeting ID: 794 389 4814

Passcode: 53DyDt

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### SPORTY STARS EASTER HOLIDAY CAMPS

Sporty Stars are offering activity camps over the two weeks of the Easter Holidays. Activities include zorbing, archery tag, nerf wars, sports, bouncy castle, arts and crafts and more. Details and booking forms can be found here: <https://www.sportystars.co.uk/sidmouth-holiday-camp.html>

This year they are offering free places to children on free school meals. This is on a first come, first serve basis. If you are eligible for a free place, the office will already have sent you an email directly.

### RAINBOW WARRIORS & MINDFULNESS

There are a few places available at the lunchtime clubs:

Tuesday - Year 2,3,4,5 & 6

Thursday - Reception & Year 1

Sessions are 30 minutes and cost £4, payable in advance for the term (£24 for 6 weeks)

To book or for more information please email Kara: [karatwinkle@hotmail.com](mailto:karatwinkle@hotmail.com) or call on 07778127685

### CRICKET CLUB

Clements Coaching is running an after school cricket club for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. Sessions run from Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March from 3.30pm - 4.30pm. Sessions are 1 hour long and cost £3.

To book please email Alex: [aclementscoaching@hotmail.com](mailto:aclementscoaching@hotmail.com)

### TABLETOP SALE IN AID OF HOSPISCARE

West Hill Pre-School Committee are taking part in a table top sale in aid of Hospiscare on Saturday

7<sup>th</sup> May. We are asking for donations of hand-me-down clothes and toys to sell. Please bear us in mind if you are having a clear out over the next few weeks as we would be very grateful for good quality, complete, clean and saleable items. Please can you leave them in the Foyer of the Village Hall by 29<sup>th</sup> April and a member of the committee will collect them. All proceeds raised will go to the Pre-School and Hospiscare. Many thanks.

With my best wishes for a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing you all again on Monday,



Mrs. Cheryl Boulton  
Headteacher