



NEWSLETTER 17

01404 812599 Friday 4th February 2022 Website www.west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,



ATTENDANCE

The whole school's attendance last week was **95.5%**. This is to be expected with Covid cases rising in school at the moment. We would like to wish all our children, families and staff who are isolating with Covid a speedy recovery.

VICTORY FOR WEST HILL AT ATHLETICS FINALS

A group of 12 pupils from Year 6 represented West Hill at the East Devon School Partnership Athletics Finals at The King's School last Thursday.

They competed against 5 other local schools in 6 track and field events consisting of: 1 lap run, 2 lap run, standing chest press, speed bounce, standing long jump and team hurdle relay.



We were delighted to hear that our team came first in two of the events (2 lap run and team hurdle relay) and were placed second in the other four events. As a result, we achieved first place overall. Mrs Boulton who accompanied the team was very proud of their fantastic efforts and they were all great ambassadors for our school. A huge well done to:

George, Ben, Lawrence, William S, Toby, Otto
May, Bella, Lucie, Lucy, Poppy, Matilda

Congratulations also to Lawrence who was nominated by another school to win the 'Passion' trophy for his caring manner when a pupil from another school had a tumble during his running race.

A particular thank you must go to George, Lawrence and Bella who all stepped in with less than 24 hrs notice when 3 participants were unable to attend.

COVID UPDATE

Unfortunately our cases of Covid have increased dramatically across the school since last Friday's newsletter and following advice from DCC Health & Safety team, we have had to implement additional control measures since reaching outbreak (5+ cases in any given class) to restrict pupils mixing with those from other classes. These include:

- no whole school assemblies in the Village hall
- playtimes in separate class bubbles (for any classes at outbreak level)

- eating lunch in classrooms (for any classes at outbreak level)
- cancelling indoor clubs with mixed year groups (or holding them in separate classrooms)
- ensuring good ventilation of indoor spaces throughout the school
- masks worn by staff and visitors in communal areas
- strong messages to parents/carers about signs, symptoms, isolation advice and testing, to support prompt isolation of suspected cases
- maintain appropriate cleaning regimes
- practice good hand and respiratory hygiene

We hope that the number of cases will diminish in the next few weeks with everyone working together.

LATEST GOVERNMENT ADVICE TO PARENTS

The latest Government advice to parents of children attending schools is published here. It has the most up to date advice on face coverings, testing, close contact guidance and rules for self-isolation. If you need any clarity on what to do if your child tests positive or is a close contact, this is the most up to date source of information.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/step-4-update-what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges>

VISITORS TO SCHOOL

1. LFD tests

The guidance above states '*Parents and other visitors are strongly advised to take a lateral flow device (LFD) test before entering a childminder, nursery, school or college.*'

2. Face masks

Although face coverings are no longer advised for pupils, staff and visitors in communal areas at school, we have reintroduced the wearing of masks from Friday 28th January due to recent increasing Covid cases and additional enhanced measures following advice from DCC Health & Safety team.

With this in mind we would ask **any adults to take a lateral flow test before coming into the school as a volunteer and to wear a face mask in communal areas.** Thank you for your support with this.

SELF- ISOLATION FOR POSITIVE CASES OF COVID-19

Children and adults who are self-isolating with COVID-19 have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a lateral flow device (LFD) test on both day 5 and day 6 and do not have a temperature. They can return to their education or setting immediately on day 6 following a second negative test.

All test results should be [reported to NHS Test and Trace](#).

Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.

PUPILS WHO ARE CLOSE CONTACTS OF COVID-19

Children identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, should take a **LFD test every day for seven days** and continue to attend school as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time.

Children under 5 are not being advised to take part in daily testing of close contacts. If a child under 5 is a contact of a confirmed case, they are not required to self-isolate and should not start daily testing. If they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 they should limit their contact with anyone who is at higher risk of severe illness if infected with COVID-19, and arrange to take a PCR test as soon as possible. They can continue to attend an education or childcare setting while waiting for the PCR result. If the test is positive, they should follow the [stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection](#).

GOOGLE CLASSROOM

Children who are off school with Covid and feeling up to it are encouraged to access Google Classroom. Teachers of affected classes are regularly updating work online so children can engage with their learning from home. If you need any details on how to log on to Google Classroom, please contact the office at admin@west-hill-primary.dev.sch.uk.

TROPHIES

We will be awarding trophies for this half term on **Friday 18th February**. If your child was the recipient of a trophy at the end last term, can we please ask that the trophy is returned to the school office as soon as possible so it can be awarded to the next deserving winner.

WEEK 17 WORD OF THE WEEK: **fulfil**

Verb: fulfil

achieve or realize
(something desired,
promised, or predicted).

"he dreamed of **fulfilling** a
life-long dream of visiting
Antarctica



Instructions Checklist

Use "How to..." in the title	
Lists (e.g. materials/ingredients/equipment)	
Numbers/letters or bullet points to show order	
Imperative verbs (e.g. mix/stir)	
Short, clear sentences	
Diagrams/illustrations	

Verb: fulfil

carry out (a duty or role) as
required, promised, or expected.
"some teams had to forfeit games
as they could fulfil all their
fixtures"

Noun: fulfilment

making someone satisfied or
happy through allowing their
character or abilities to develop
fully.

"a **fulfilling** and rewarding
career".



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 to let us know!

PARENTS' EVENINGS

Parents Evenings are scheduled for the first 2 weeks back after half term (Monday 28th February to Friday 11th March 2022). Teachers will be offering a 10 minute telephone call per child. We have experienced a technical issue with Google Forms which has delayed us but this has now been resolved so we hope to have the appointment booking system ready for Monday and will inform you by e-mail. This will allow you a 3 week window in which to book an appointment(s). Two household families will be able to schedule a Teams call with their child's teacher to allow both parties to attend. Please contact the office using the admin@ to organise this.

We would politely ask all parents to book an appointment during the 2 week window as we will not be taking requests from parents to book appointments at other times.

MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

From Monday 7th to Friday 11th February, the school will be marking Mental Health Week. The theme this year is "Growing Together".

SCHOOL HEIGHT AND WEIGHT MEASUREMENTS

Each year in England, school children in Reception and Year 6 have their height and weight measured at school as part of the National Child Measurement Programme. We collect this information as it helps the Public Health team identify trends and helps us plan services to support families and children. The measuring will take place at some point between 1st March and the end of the Summer term. It is carried out by Devon County Council's trained School Nursing service.

If you are happy for your child to be weighed and measured, you do not need to do anything. If you do not wish your child to take part, please complete the [online form](#).

ARRIVING FOR SCHOOL IN THE MORNINGS

We would like to remind you that the school gate closes at 8.55am. If children arrive after this time, they need to be taken to the office **by an adult** and sign into the late book. They will then be marked on the register as late. Increasing numbers of children are arriving after this time, which leads to disruption to the rest of the class and missed learning. Please can we remind you to be on time to give your child the best start to the day.

COATS/WINTER WEATHER

As we are now in winter, please can all parents ensure that their child/children come to school with a coat each day. Each day, children spend between 1 hour and 1 hour 15 minutes outside during their 3 play times and we do not have enough spare coats for everyone who forgets. Thank you for your support with this.

PTFA NEWS

SPRING BALL

The spring ball is due to be held this May, but due to a very limited number of people currently interested in organising this might not be possible! It is only with your help that events such as these can occur. The PTFA team also have two big events in the spring/summer to organise (Queen's jubilee and Summer fete), so cannot commit to running this event with only their small team. Please email PTFAWH@west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk if you can be of any assistance to

the ball planning team. Not only is the ball a fundraiser for the PTFA, but a brilliant night out within the village!

RAINBOW RAFFLE AND HAMPERS

To celebrate Equality and to coincide with LGBT History month, we are holding a raffle for rainbow hampers. Please see attached poster for each colour class. The aim is to fill your class hamper with only items in that colour! It can be anything including toys, food, drinks, games, toiletries, books etc... You will have until half term to make any donations via the school office, or the individual classroom and raffle tickets (for a chance of winning any of the hampers) can be purchased using the following link <https://raffall.com/285496/enter-raffle-to-win-west-hill-rainbow-hampers-hosted-by-west-hill-primary-school-ptfa>.

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>
Please use the Cartridge Lookup Tool to confirm your cartridge donation value. Ink cartridges not on the list do not generate a donation but can still be recycled if sent together with cartridges eligible for a donation. www.recycle4charity.co.uk

CLOTHING COLLECTION

A Bags of Help clothes bank is situated in the McColls' car park, which is collected on a fortnightly basis. 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 FACEBOOK PAGE

Did you know we have a PTFA Facebook page? Please follow "PTFA West Hill Primary School" for up-to-date information and reminders of events.

PTFA MEETING

We shall be getting together for our next meeting on Wednesday 9th February 2022, at 7.30pm in the RBL. Please join us if you'd like to get involved, even if it's only to support in small ways all the help is much appreciated!

With my best wishes for a lovely weekend,



Mrs. Cheryl Boulton
Headteacher