



West Hill Primary School

Newsletter April 2017



Welcome Back!

A warm welcome back to everyone for the Summer Term, a term which will be extremely busy for all of us.

Big Foot Theatre Company are in school this week working with Key Stage 1 and 2 and will be returning later in the term to see Early Years. Another visit is also planned for June for a workshop with Key Stage 1. The Fire Service will be meeting our Early Years classes this week too and Wimbledon Junior Tennis Initiative will be visiting the school in May to give everyone in the school to have a go at playing tennis!

SATs are coming up for children in Year 2 and Year 6 also in May (please see later in the Newsletter for more information).

District Sports and Intrasports competitions will be taking place in June and of course the West Hill Sports Days are big days to look forward to this year as we have two! Key Stage 1 and 2 will have their Sports Day in June, separately from Early Years who will be having their own 'Fun Day' of sporting activities later in the month.

We also have lots of trips planned ranging from Year 5 visiting White Stuff as part of Enabling Enterprise to Year 3 visiting the British Museum and Year 4 going to Chelsea Physic Garden. And of course Year 6 will be enjoying their School Journey to the Isle of Wight in July, which will be well deserved after all their hard work this year. All dates for trips can be found on our website www.westhillprimaryschool.org.

At the end of term we will also be enjoying several performances from the children, including the Key Stage 2 Singing Concert and the Year 6 Leavers' Play as well as celebrating our Reception children's graduation from Early Years.

The Friends of West Hill will also be holding a Summer Fair on 14th July after school, so please save the date !

SATs

Year 6 SATS will be taking place between the 8th and 12th of May.

It is extremely important that all Year 6 pupils go to bed at a reasonable time and are well rested for the tests they are taking. They must also make sure they have a good breakfast in order to give them enough energy for what is a very tiring week. It is vital that all pupils arrive at school on time as we cannot delay the start of the tests if anyone is late.

Mrs Caraccio gave a presentation to parents in March about the SATs. If you were unable to attend, the full presentation is available on our website under Popular Links on the Home Page.

Year 2 SATs

Year 2 SATs will be taking place between 15th and 19th May. Miss Bate and Miss Corsan will be holding a talk for parents on Thursday 27th April after school but if you are unable to attend the presentation will be available to download on our website.



Run a Mile and Keep Fit

This week Miss Dobson launched our Run a Mile Run a Marathon initiative in a special assembly for the whole school.

After the May Bank Holiday we will be spending ten minutes of our day, every day to run a mile. Everyone will take part and there is no need to change out of normal school uniform.

You may remember that in 2015 a primary school in Scotland was in the news because since 2012 they had been taking their children out to run every day and had seen huge benefits. A third of all 10-11 year old children are obese or overweight in the UK but none of the pupils at this school are. Their daily exercise has also improved levels of concentration and behaviour at the school and of course all the children are much fitter.

Since then many many schools have incorporated a daily mile into their timetables and since 2016 a campaign has been running to get all children involved. We would like to join in!

We would like to encourage our children at West Hill to enjoy exercise and to become used to it as part of their daily routine. If a child is unable to run through injury they will still be able to take part by walking instead.

If you would like to read more about it there are links on the website that explain more about the background to this campaign and there is a short video on the bbc website <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-35829698>

Attendance

For the academic year to date our attendance stands at 95.1%. The government's minimum expectations for school attendance is 95% so we are very close to that. Please ensure that your children attend school every day. A pupil will fall below 95% if they miss as little as half a day over a 2 week period.

Missing out on lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind and children with poor attendance tend to achieve less. Therefore please do everything you can to make sure your child is in school every day.

Enabling Enterprise



We have been involved with an organisation called Enabling Enterprise for several years now. Enabling Enterprise is an award-winning not-for-profit social enterprise, set up by a team of teachers in 2009. Their mission is to equip young people with the skills, experiences and aspirations they need to succeed in life. They do this by organising projects and challenges in schools and also by partnering up with many other organisations and businesses so children can be equipped with the skills for enterprise that will help them in the real world. These include being able to work with a team, learning to collaborate, problem solve and negotiate in order to successfully complete a project.

We have completed several challenge days in the past and our pupils have visited many different companies such as Gumtree, Thames Water and BT to work on projects in their offices.

This term we will be having a project week and a challenge day in July. The activities will link with PHSE subjects learning about team skills, entrepreneurship and the world of work. The whole of Key Stage 1 and 2 will be taking part. Additionally Year 6 will be visiting UBS towards the end of May.

You can find out lots more about Enabling Enterprise on our website by clicking on the 'Our Learning' tab on the home page.

They also have their own website: <http://enablingenterprise.org/>

West Hill School Council

The members of the school council have developed a pupil questionnaire for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. They will be investigating the results to think about ways to improve the school. We will report back to you with our findings!

May Bank Holiday

We'd just like to take the opportunity to remind you that school will be closed on Monday 1st May as it is a Bank Holiday.

Dates for your diary (all dates are on the website)

Summer Term 2017

27th April—Year 2 SATs meeting for parents, 3.30pm

School closed : Monday 1st May (Bank Holiday)

5th May—Year 5 Enabling Enterprise trip to White Stuff

8th—12th May—Year 6 SATs

11th May—Year 1 trip to Gudwara

16th May—Year 3 Yew trip to the British Museum

19th May—Year 5 trip to Buddhist Temple

22nd May—School Photographer—class photos

23rd May—Year 3 Oak trip to the British Museum

25th May—Year 6 Enabling Enterprise trip to UBS

26th May—Year 4 trip to Gudwara

Half term: Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June

First day back: Monday 5th June

14th June—KS1 & KS2 Sports Day (21st June Reserve Sports Day)

28th June—Early Years Fun Sports Day

3rd—7th July—Year 6 School Journey to the Isle of Wight

11th July—KS2 End of Year Singing Concert

18th July—Year 6 Leavers' Play

19th July—Reception Willow Graduation Ceremony

20th July—Reception Maple Graduation Ceremony

Last day of Summer Term: Friday 21st July (2pm finish)

Autumn Term 2017

1st day of Autumn Term 2017: Wednesday 6th September

Half Term : Monday 23rd to Friday 27th October 2017

First day back: Tuesday 31st October 2017

Last day of Autumn Term : Wednesday 20th December 2017 (2pm finish)

Spring Term 2018

1st day of Spring Term 2018: Wednesday 3rd January 2018

Half Term: Monday 12th to Friday 16th February 2018

First day back: Tuesday 20th February 2018

Last day of Spring Term : Thursday 29th March 2018 (2pm finish)

Summer Term 2018

1st day of Summer Term 2018: Monday 16th April 2018

SCHOOL CLOSED : Monday 7th May 2018 (May Day Bank Holiday)

Half Term: Monday 28th May to Friday 1st June 2018

First day back: Monday 4th June 2018

Last day of Summer Term: Friday 20th July 2018 (2pm finish)

