



WESTWOOD'S BUCKLEY BUGLE

Hello Parents & Carers, welcome to our January monthly newsletter. Our newsletter will offer you an invaluable insight into the world of Westwood, keep you updated and support the school's website and Twitter as a way of sharing information and improving communication.

It has been a great start to the new school year. The children have settled well back into school routines after the Christmas and New Year Break; it's lovely to be back! I would also like to say a big hello to our new 'Little Acorns' who are attending our Early Entitlement with Mrs Quirk and Miss Pickering - Welcome little ones to our Westwood Family!

At Westwood we always have lots to look forward to as it is such a busy school, so here are some of the highlights over the next few weeks as we run up to February half term; the Young Voices Concert, Internet Safety Day, School Discos and the Glan Llyn Residential Visit for Year 3 & 4 - 45 pupils are going, which is a new record for Westwood on a residential trip! To keep you up to date on events, I have updated the School Calendar on the website, so you know well in advance what is coming up!

Since our return in January, we have introduced a lunch time reward system with our Pupil Monitors, as the pupils have said in the 'Suggestion Box' they would like an even quieter lunch time meal sitting. So, they have come up with treat table idea for the year group who have acquired the most points for quiet, tidy eating. The Foundation Phase are starting this week, and they are really rising to the challenge too! We have begun a new after school Badminton Club, and the children are loving the new experiences of playing a different sport with our Teaching student, Mr Formstone Roberts. 'Come and Cook' also starts soon for Reception Parents, so please make sure you let us know if you wish to be part of the scheme. Mrs Matthews is also going to be gauging interest in a free Welsh course for our parents, so watch out for details on that fantastic opportunity. The Pupil Councils are also super busy, so look out for the new section in the newsletter, where they share what they have been up to!

As it is winter, we are often faced with challenges. As you will be aware, due to the adverse weather we have been presented with, it can and has caused disruptions on site. We will always endeavour to update you as early as possible of any changes to a situation in school, and will only close if the safety for yourselves, the staff and children are in serious jeopardy and only when it is necessary. I would like to thank all parents and stakeholders for their help and support. It is extremely important that you keep us up to date with any changes in contact details for example, ideally at least two telephone contacts, up to date mobile numbers, email addresses, changes in circumstances or pupil medical information etc. If anything has changed since we updated the records this academic year, please contact the office. If we need to contact you all on mass and in an emergency, we will use the website email system, post an urgent message on the website, notify the Facebook parents page via Miss Pickering and Mrs Gill Jones or Mrs Carla Tellett and use Twitter. For school closures, the Flintshire School Closure System will also have a notice posted. I urge you to ensure you have a means of contact and keeping up to date with school events. Thank you!

Some of you may also be aware that Mrs Harrison is still unwell. Class 4 are in very capable hands. If you need to discuss any matters regarding Class 4, please contact me directly, via email, phone or in the morning on the welcome desk. I am sure you will all wish Mrs Harrison a very speedy recovery!

Enjoy your read and thank you for your support and commitment to Westwood C.P.- Buckley's school of choice!

From Mrs W and Team Westwood!

School News and Community Events

Scarecrow Competition for the Early Year Pupils



We have been asked by Hawarden Estate Farm Shop to build a scarecrow to go in their field to protect their crops. In Early Years (Reception, Nursery & Early Entitlement) we have decided to have a scarecrow theme during the last two weeks of this half term. It is a local competition and the winning scarecrow is to be chosen by the public. The prize will be a 'Pick your own and picnic day at the Farm shop in the summer.

During Saturday 23rd February and Sunday 3rd March, visitors to the farm shop will be given a ballot card to vote for their favourite scarecrow. There will be a scarecrow festival and judging day on Sunday 3rd March. There will be nature themed activities, face painting and marshmallow toasting. Winners will be announced at 1pm. We would love to see as many of you as possible there to vote and join in the activities. For more details go to the website on <https://www.hawardenestate.co.uk/new-events/2019/2/16/scarecrow-competition-voting-week> - Thank you Mrs Fresa for organising this with your staff.

SeeSaw comes to Westwood!



In our pledge to improve paperless communication, and improve the use of I.C.T within our systems at Westwood, we are super excited to put our new I.C.T. equipment to even better use, with introduction of SeeSaw! A platform for student and parental engagement. We have begun using Seesaw on a trial with the Nursery, and I have been informed that it has been very well received by staff, pupil and parents too! Our intention is to roll this trial out after half term to the rest of Early Years and then through school. When your class goes onto SeeSaw, you will be requested to sign a data form giving permissions for the use of information on the SeeSaw platform, which is G.D.P.R. compliant. For more information on SeeSaw go to, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sALMybc-98> Thank you Mrs McCormack!

Internet Safety Day is Tuesday 5th February 2019

The aim of Safer Internet Day is to inspire a national conversation about using technology responsibly, respectfully, critically and creatively. Your child will have received a booklet linked to this event! We at Westwood are supporting this event so please go to <http://www.westwoodprimary.co.uk/page/advice-and-guidance-using-digital-devices-/50678> on the School website and scan the QR code for more information on how you can support your child in this most important area in today's world! Thank you Mr Powell for organising!



Pupil Councils at Work!

Our new 'Dinner Ladies & the Lunch Time rewards



At Westwood we have a large number of pupils who form our cabinet and councils. They play such an important role in the smooth running of initiatives and new events for improved pupil experiences. The latest group of pupils to form such a group are our Lunch Time team. They are working super hard to fulfil the wishes of a number of pupils for an even quieter lunchtime! They have come up with a points system, a rota for the dinners and the rewards being a whole year group treat table on a Friday for the year group who have gained the most points for quiet, tidy eating, So far Year 5 and Year 3 have won in the Juniors, the Foundation Phase are having their treat this week! Well done girls for a great initiative!

Criw Cymraeg

In Westwood the Criw Cymraeg want to get the Bronze award for Cymraeg Campus because we need to speak more Welsh in school.

Yn y Westwood, i'r Criw Cymraeg eisiau cael i'r Bronze Award am Cymraeg Campus achos mae angen siarad ni yn y Ysgol.



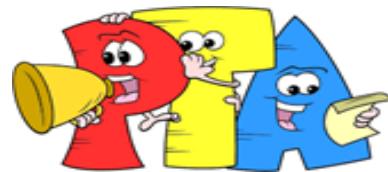
Our Criw Cymraeg are superb ambassadors for the Welsh language at Westwood and we are currently on our way to achieving the Bronze award for the Campus Cymraeg with lots of new ideas including Parents Welsh workshops, Urdd competitions and rewards for speaking Welsh. The Criw Cymraeg have regular meetings and they will be arranging a 'Croeso' poster competition next week for the whole school! The winner will be announced next month.

We are also taking part in Dydd Mwisig Cymru on February 8th to celebrate our Welsh Music Day. Parents at home can help children learn the song by visiting <https://beta.gov.wales/welsh-language-music-day>.

A massive thank you to Mrs Farrer and Miss Jones for leading this with the school and helping our team to be proactive and productive in their efforts. We hope you can support us too! Look out for the Cymraeg Bob Mis on the back page and other activities coming your way! Diolch yn fawr iawn!

Parental Engagement and Community Events

P.T.A. News & Events



Our fantastic P.T.A. has been super busy since Christmas organising events and activities for the forth coming year and I hugely appreciate all of their efforts! As a parent of Westwood Community Primary, along with the teachers and staff, you are automatically a member of the P.T.A. and they urge you to be involved in their work. The next events are the School Discos and the A.G.M. You will receive separate correspondence about these two events. The P.T.A. committee at Westwood are key to the improvements and marketing of our school. They provide a dynamic, positive role at Westwood leading events and fundraising; their latest fundraising events at Christmas generated over £1000 for our children - an amazing achievement. Please see their blog at <http://www.westwoodprimary.co.uk/blog/christmas-fair-thanks/33311>

Questionnaire — As a proactive and forward-thinking P.T.A, they are always looking for your valuable input and ideas. The P.T.A. would like you to please take the time to complete the P.T.A. questionnaire accompanying this newsletter and return it to school by 15th February 2018. Diolch!

Welsh Courses for Parents

Mrs Matthews, our A.N.C.O., is looking for parents or carers who are interested in a free Welsh language course for beginners with Coleg Cambria.



If you are interested, please contact school via email or speak to Mrs Matthews directly. If we have enough uptake, we can begin as soon as March!

Come & Cook!

A new and exciting cooking initiative is starting for 6 Reception Parents and their children. If you wish to take part, See Mrs Ducker. We are hoping to start other cooking initiatives with parents and pupils after Easter with our newly purchased cooking equipment thanks to the Coop Community grant. Watch this space!



Young Voices



The largest school choir concerts in the world and Westwood are taking part!

Our amazing Young Voices are singing at the Manchester Arena on Monday 11th February. We still have seats remaining for parents on the coach (those that have already purchased audience tickets for the concert) at a cost of £10 per person.

Cheaper than petrol and parking! A huge thank you to Mrs Brown for her commitment and hard work preparing our children for this fantastic event!

Badminton comes to Westwood!

We love to provide the children at Westwood with lots of new experiences and this one is no exception! We are now running a Badminton Club after school on a Tuesday for pupils in Year 4, 5 & 6 with Mr Formstone Roberts. The children are having a great time learning new skills and the improvements in just 3 weeks has been fabulous! Well done everyone; keep having fun!



Would you like 10 hours
free quality childcare in a
stimulating learning
environment?



If "YES" and your child is 3 between
January 8th- 29th April 2019,
funding will be given for Summer Term.
Application forms now available online at

www.flintshire.gov.uk

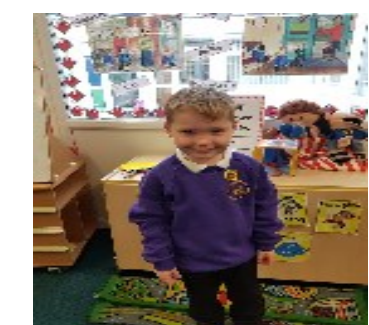
Please contact Mrs Quirk at Westwood Nursery
for further information or a Nursery visit on

01244 543207

Pupil News & Activities

Our children always have so much to celebrate and we have a regular Friday assembly to share our achievements, no matter how small. We would love you to send in any achievements or extra special mentions for our weekly assembly, as sometimes we do not get to hear about all the amazing things the children do outside the Westwood day.

Also on a Friday we have a new feature—Question of the Week slot - the children love to enter and we have the winners announced also in the Friday assembly. There is a box to enter the weekly question and Fairtrade prizes for the winners! Look out for this in the foyer! Here are some of the January highlights!



Attendance with Atti

Well done to the following classes for their weekly winning class attendance in January 2019.

Friday 11th January 2019 — Class 9 with 97.8%

Friday 18th January 2019 — Class 8 with 97.9%

Friday 25th January 2019 — Class 5 with 96.5%



Don't Forget!

Nant B.H. Trip Year 5 & 6

The deadline for payments is Wednesday 6th February. We will be sending out medical forms which will need prompt attention. These forms should be returned to school by Friday 15th February 2019. Thank you :)

Spelling & Reading Home Support

Practising your spellings and reading at home really makes a difference to your child's progress in school. Please make every effort to ensure your child is reading regularly and practising spellings too! If you need support with this, please contact your child's class teacher.

P.E. Kits including Swimming

If all P.E. kits are brought in for the week on a Monday, that would be really helpful. Also check if it's your turn to swim. Currently, it is Mr Powell's Class until half term. After half term, it is Miss Bennett's Class - Class 5.

Save the dates

5th February 2019 — Safer Internet Day.

11th February 2019 — Young Voices Concert.

19th February 2019 — Glan Llyn for Year 3 & 4.

22nd February 2019 — School closes for half term :)

4th March 2019 — Return to School after half term.

4th March 2019 —Swimming for Class 5 begins today.

5th March 2019 - Bug Busting Head Lice Session with Nurse Jackie @ 9am Main Hall.

5th March 2019 - P.T.A. A.G.M. @ 3.30 pm Main Hall.

6th to 8th March 2019 — Nant BH trip for Year 5 & 6

Cymraeg Bob Mis

Syniad da — Good idea!

Aros munud —Wait a minute!



Polite reminders from the January Update

Attendance, Lates and Appointments.

As you are aware from the newsletters, we are carefully monitoring attendance and lateness. On a positive note, our current attendance is 94.6% across the school, which is above our target levels. There are a small number of families with whom I have had correspondence with to make the necessary improvements and to keep up this level of attendance in school; thank you for this! However, we still have a minority of children arriving after 9am. I cannot stress enough the importance of punctuality - it is extremely disruptive to the running of the school day, lunch arrangements and educational provision at Westwood. Staff are being needlessly withdrawn from their daily duties, including myself, to answer the door to late arrivals. If you would like support with this or if you have any issues, please contact me directly.

We understand that appointments sometimes cannot be avoided during the school day. We require a written notification from the professional your child is visiting or appointment card, so we can authorise your child to leave school early. Also, during the afternoon, the office door will not be manned until 3.15pm. Unless an appointment has been seen by either myself, Mrs Smith, Miss Pickering or your child's class teacher, children cannot be collected early. I would be grateful for your support in this matter.

Traffic and Parking

It has come to my attention from parents and governors that the outside of school is extremely busy with traffic, which I expect, as it is a growing school. I would like to remind parents, carers and visitors to the school, to be considerate and that parking outside on the zig-zag lines is prohibited. Furthermore, parking in the Westwood Centre car park is forbidden. The Westwood Centre is run by Flintshire County Council, and its car park does not belong to school. Thank you for your support with this too!