

WESTWOOD'S BUCKLEY BUGLE

Hello Parents & Carers, welcome to our February monthly newsletter. Our newsletter will offer you an invaluable insight into the world of Westwood, keep you updated and support the school's website, Instagram and Twitter as a way of sharing information and improving communication. At Westwood we always have lots to look forward to as it is such a busy school, so here are some of the highlights from the last few weeks before half term and the next few weeks too!

On January 31st Mrs Farrer, Mrs Brown, Mrs Webster and Mrs Williams took a group of children to the Manchester Arena for Young Voices. Young Voices is a 10, 000 strong choir made up of school children from across Britain! It was an amazing experience! Our Westwood family sung their hearts out!

Also before half term, Year 5 & 6 pupils were invited to be part of the Bikeability and cycling proficiency scheme. Thank you to the staff who organised this wonderful initiative!

On February 12th to 14th, a group of year 5 & 6 explorers went off to Culmington Manor, in Shropshire for a fun packed 3 days of exciting outdoor pursuits! Even the mud couldn't stop them having fun!! Thank you to Mrs Farrer, Mrs Brown and Mr Powell for making this experience happen! Look out at the website to catch up on all the fun from before half term!

Our Pupil Cabinet have had a very busy few weeks at their meetings—organising the Children's rights project, Outdoor learning focus and tackling parking outside school. As you will know, our Pupil Cabinet are representatives from each of the Pupil councils at Westwood. They ensure that there is a cohesive approach amongst the pupil committees and ensure the children have a collective voice.

Since our return after half term this week, we have been visited by Stephen from St John's Ambulance, who has completed First Aid Training with all of the children in Years 3 to Year 6, and First Aid fun with all of the Foundation Phase. Chester Zoo Outreach programme and the Songbird project. have been visiting the children in Years I to 6, and will be engaging with us for the next four weeks before their visits to the zoo.

Next week our explorers in Year 3 & 4 will embark on their trip to Glan Llyn from Tuesday 3rd to Wednesday 4th March. A huge thank you to the staff and governors who are accompanying our children on the trip! On Friday 6th, it is World Book Day. Your child can dress up as their favourite book character for the day and bring along a book to share with their class. More details to follow!!

On Thursday 12th March, we have our Spring Discos run by our amazing PTFA – please check the letters coming home as slips are required back for participation :)

On the Friday 13th March, it is our Eisteddfod. You will have received an email with an invitation to join in the Eisteddfod fun with a competition for Parents and Pupils. Parents with the winning entries from each year group will be invited to join us at the Eisteddfod!

On Friday 20th March, again our busy P.T.F.A. are organising a Mother's Day Afternoon Tea. Letters are out very soon to book for this special experience!

Parent's Evenings are on Monday 23rd March & Tuesday 24th March. We will be booking online from Tuesday 3rd March from 3.30pm. The online system to book your child's appointment is directly through the School Spider App or through your Parent login on the parent's section of the website. The online system was highly effective last year so we hope this will run smoothly again this year. Therefore, it is vitally important that you have an up to date email address, so you can access the app and login successfully to book your appointment.

Remember, 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!

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!



Pupil News & Activities Celebration Assembly

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.

We always celebrate attendance and we also have a Friday lunch award - well done to the children who are showing good table manners and quiet, tidy eating! We also give out a new award for French in the Foundation phase too!

Also on a Friday we have a 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 February highlights!











Pupil Councils Criw Cymraeg



Da iawn Criw Cymraeg a Westwood am Dydd Miwisg Cymru! Well done to the Criw Cymraeg and Westwood for taking part in Dydd Miwisg Cymru! The Welsh assembly was a wonderful success, where the Criw led the whole school in participating in Welsh singing. We sang both traditional and modern songs, but the favourite with the children and staff was the Sterophonics!



Over the next few weeks, the Criw will be working hard to start to introduce the Silver Award Targets across Westwood. We have lots of plans and ideas of how to implement even more Welsh across the school, whilst still building on our Bronze Targets! Don't forget, if a Draig Coch (Welsh Dragon) comes home with your child, he can help you speak and learn Welsh at home too.

Finally, it will be the school Eisteddfod on Friday 13th March and we will be dedicating a whole afternoon to Welsh art, singing, dancing and lots more!

Cymraeg yr Wythnos - Dydd Gwyl Dewi - Saint David's Day

Cofio - Don't forget to check out the Eisteddfod information on your emails! Diolch!

Our School Council



School Shop

Is a roaring success and is already making a small profit. The children love manning the shop and are learning valuable business skills.

We have exciting ideas for Mothers day and Easter items so please speak to your Council member for more details.

Pay it forward

We have received some lovely donations to be included in our hampers for the homeless shelter and the care home. Please can you see if you have any more items at home to donate? we are looking for toiletries, new socks, slippers, hankies etc.

5P Challenge

This has been relaunched with a new bottle in each class. Please can you bring in all of your spare 5p's? all proceeds will be spend on equipment for the outside area. Winning class will be announced at Easter.

Many thanks

Ms Jones and the School Council

Reading Amnesty at Westwood

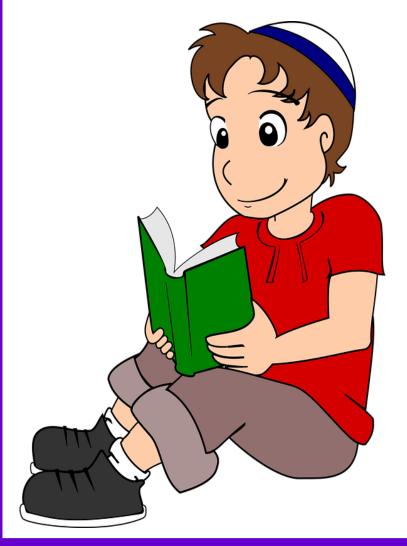
Calling out for our Reading Books

Hello all!

Our reading books have slowly over this term have become very low in supply with some reading ages having very little in choice:(

Could you have a look at home for any reading books belonging to school? Please! We would be so very grateful if you could return any books belonging to Westwood.





Also, if you have any books you wish to donate to the reading stock, we would be very grateful!

Many thanks,

The Pupil Cabinet

of

Westwood.

First Aid with St John's Ambulance @ Westwood Community Primary

We are such a busy school and the activities and the wonderful experiences here are second to none. First aid is a skill for life and we value the importance of our pupils being prepared with important life skills! We are very lucky to have been given the opportunity for our Junior pupils to receive a course on First Aid. This certificated course was completed by all Junior children two years ago and this training was a refresher for some, and new for others. Each child will receive a two year certificate from St John's Ambulance. Their training included DRABC, resuscitation and chocking.

Our Foundation Phase children received an hour on First Aid fun with St John's ambulance on Friday 28th February. Even our youngest Nursery Children were able to be part of the first aid programme! We were also able to extend this awareness to our support staff too! A huge thank you to Stephen More from St John's who delivered the programme brilliantly, engaged all learners and provided every child in our school the opportunity to have skills for life and life saving!









Internet Safety and Mobile Phones

We as a school are growing ever more concerned over the extended use of mobile technology amongst young children. It worries us to say that our lives depend so much on mobile phones and so much so they are starting to cause some issues and upset.

It has come to our attention that some older pupils are involved in group chats outside of school, for example on Whatsapp and TikTok, which are causing upset with regards to commenting on the conversations within them. We would ask you as parents and carers to be vigilant and monitor the content your child is accessing on these group chats and social media platforms, communicate the importance of being safe on social media and to ensure that they share or inform you of anything that is causing upset or distress. We have worked incredibly hard as school on Internet safety and P.C. Marc regularly visits school with the important messages of keeping safe on the Internet too. Thank you for your support with this.

Furthermore, there also seems to be a growing number of children bringing a mobile phone into school so they have it with them when they walk home. We would also like to clarify the rules in relation to mobile phones for this purpose.

Mobiles in School ~ Our Rules

- Only Year 5 and 6 children who walk home without an adult or have dual parenting arrangements need to consider a mobile phone. A mobile is not needed for any other reason.
- Parents/ Carers must complete and hand in a consent slip and agree to the rules as well as acknowledging the consequences should they
 be breached. If we do not have the consent, then your child will be asked to leave their phone at home. If you need another consent form,
 please contact the school office.
- Mobile phones must be **switched off** and **not used when inside** the school building.
- A mobile phone in school will only be used for sending a quick message or a quick phone call home (e.g. "I've arrived safely at school" "I'm on my way home" etc).
- Mobile phones will <u>not be used to contact home</u> or family members for any reason <u>during the school day.</u> (eg "I've forgotten my PE kit" "I don't feel well!"). Any contact home will be done by school staff via the school office.
- Using a mobile phone to take **photos, videos or record voices is not permitted** anywhere on the school grounds. This includes outside the building as well as inside!
- A mobile phone must be <u>handed in</u> to the Class Teacher first thing in the morning during registration for safe keeping. It will not be kept in a bag, coat or class tray.
- Mobile phones are brought in at your own risk. We do not have a 100% secure storage facility. The best we can offer is a teacher's desk drawer (this is not under 100% surveillance).
- School staff are not responsible and will not be held accountable if a mobile phone is lost, broken, stolen or damaged in any way.
- When collected at the end of the school day, mobile phones will not be switched on until the child has physically left the building.

At all times, the mobile owner must be responsible for its appropriate use. Should there be any inappropriate use of a mobile device beyond the rules above (especially involving social media) then a ban will also be issued.

We hope this clarifies the school's position on mobile phones in school.

Our New School Vision

Over the Autumn term, all stakeholders were invited to contribute to our new School Vision and Mission for Westwood.

We are very proud of our wonderful school and thank you all for the amazing contributions we received, informing us of what you want for Westwood now and into the future. We believe we have captured all stakeholder contributions to take our school forward into the future for our children! We would like to now share that vision with you!

Our Stakeholder Vision

At Westwood Community Primary School, we aim to be your school of choice by creating a nurturing, supportive and kind school community, where children are happy, valued and have a voice. Our children are encouraged by their successes, excel in their achievements and are inspired to be learners for life.



Westwood Community Primary School Mission Statement:

At Westwood Community Primary School our mission is to nurture healthy confident individuals who are ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society. Team Westwood will ensure the best possible education for the children in its care, celebrating successes and nurturing efforts so that each member of the Westwood Community family has a voice, can develop as an individual and flourish as a 21st century learner.

At Westwood Community Primary School our mission is to develop ambitious, capable learners who are ready to learn throughout their lives. We strive to create a safe, secure and stimulating environment that promotes and nurtures the development of growing minds; where pupils feel happy, empowered and inspired to learn effectively.

At Westwood Community Primary School our mission is to nurture ethical informed citizens who are ready to be citizens of Wales and the world. We will foster a strong sense of family, community and belonging where children develop kindness and a mutual respect for themselves, each other and the environment.

At Westwood Community Primary School our mission for our learners to be enterprising confident individuals who are ready to play a full part in life and work. Everyone will be encouraged to try their best, attend regularly and achieve their full potential academically, creatively, personally, socially and emotionally. High quality and engaging learning experiences will be provided for all children and we will celebrate successes, innovation and aspiration.

This is Westwood Community Primary School, at the heart of the Buckley Community, with the Buckley Community at its heart.

Westwood Stay and Play - Family Fun

From January we will be holding our toddler sessions at
Westwood school every two weeks with the first session on
Wednesday 15th January 2020

Sessions are held in Westwood Early Years hall from 9.30-11.00am For families with pre-school aged children

Sessions are FREE (however, we do have a donations box to put towards resources)







Open to all families in the community!







Baby and toddler groups are an essential part of the community. They offer the opportunity for young children to have fun and mix with other children in a safe environment where a familiar adult can share and extend their early learning experiences.

For further information please contact Mrs Gemma Thomas on 01244 543207 or www.net

Welcome to our Westies Breakfast Club!



In our mission to provide the best wrap around care facility in Buckley, we welcome our youngest pupils to our Westwood family in the Westies Breakfast Club!

Westies is open from 7.45am to 8.40am for our younger pupils in Nursery and Reception. The children can have a healthy breakfast, and lots of fun and stimulating activities whilst at Westies. As you can see the children love it!





If you want to come and join the fun at Westies, we will ask you to register and complete a booking form. Places are limited, so please ensure you complete the booking form with payment, if you are accessing the paid element (7.45 am—8.10am), the week before your child attends. Please note that a booking form is required for any part of the Westies provision. Please book for March now!!!

Call into Breakfast club or into the main office for more details and forms you may require!

Mrs Ducker, Mrs Parry and Mrs Maguire will always guarantee a warm welcome at Westies!

Penguins Playgroup & Westwood Community Primary School Partnership





Together we are proudly offering our community excellent wrap around child care provision and a stimulating learning environment at affordable prices, within our new playgroup partnership!

Your Nursery aged children can have full wrap around care from 7.45am to 5.30pm from Monday to Friday!

Nursery Breakfast Club starts at 7.45am until 8.40am only £2.00

*Nursery plus provision from 11.30am to 3.00pm is only £10.00

*Nursery Afterschool club from 3.00pm to 5.30pm is only £6.00

*You can use these facilities in conjunction with the Child Care Offer!

Penguins After School Club

Do you need care for your child after school?



In the Westwood Centre, we have After School Provision for children from Nursery age up to Year 6.

We have spaces so if you wish to book in please call into After School Club or the School Office for a registration form.

Alternatively if you need anymore information, call in or call us on 07955114184 and speak to Mrs Jones or Mrs Parry, or you can contact the school office

01244 543207.

Diolch:)

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







If "YES" and your child is 3 between 6th January—19th April 2020, funding will be given for 1 term.

Applications open 24th Feb 2020 www.flintshire.gov.uk

Please contact Mrs Quirk at Westwood Nursery for further information or a Nursery visit on 01244 543207

Dear Our Wonderful Westwood Families,

The P.T.F.A. have been hard at work this term already. We have lots of fabulous events planned for the next few months, and with our upcoming A.G.M. only a few months away, now is the time to consider joining our team.

Well, we've had our first movie night for KS2, which was very well attended and has raised £260 profit. Thanks to everyone who supported this event and helped. The Foundation Phase Film event is coming soon so watch out for the date! We have been busy thinking of new ideas for different events so keep a look out.

Upcoming events

12th March - KS2 disco & Foundation phase party (nursery's party will be in class time)

20th March - Mother's day special afternoon tea (more details to follow)

27th March - Non-uniform day, please bring chocolate or Easter eggs

1st April - Easter bingo—Doors open @ 5.30 with Eyes down at 6pm

27th April 3:30pm-P.T.F.A A.G.M.

Dragon Bags

As always our Dragon bags recycling box is still located in reception, please fill a bag and drop it in. We had it emptied just before Christmas and raised over £70 again.

5p Challenge

Our 5p challenge is back for another term, so please bring 5p's in with your children so they can add them to their class totals.

School Lottery

Our weekly school lotto is still on-going, with a winner every week. Follow the link to join the schools weekly draw www.yourschoollottery.co.uk

Thank you so much for your continued support- it makes all the difference to our children:)

Developing our Outdoor Areas

As you may be aware, one of our targets for Westwood is developing the outdoor areas around school, for all of our children to have even better experiences during the school day; be it in lessons or at play! We are running on a project called 'Loose Parts' and we are asking for donations of a variety of bits and bobs to enhance the activities in outdoor provision.

So here is what we are looking for!

Garden/Sensory/PSD Area

- Mint
- Lemon grass
- Chives
- Lavender
- Insect Hotel
- •



Environments in tyres for Small World

- Sand
- Gravel
- Ever green plants
- Rockery stones
- Large pebbles

Artificial grass

Recycled and Reused Materials

- Paper (newspaper, shredded, cardboard, paper tubes)
- Containers (milk jugs, yogurt containers, metal cans)
- Textiles (sheets, shower curtains, blankets, towels, pillows)
- Ropes (used climbing ropes)
- Tires (inner tubes)
- Gutters
- PVC tubes
- Buckets, tubs, laundry baskets
- Pallets, crates (wooden or plastic)
- Nuts and bolts
- Car parts
- Hose
- Pipes
- Keys
- Hinges
- Rattan wicker balls
- Curtain poles/rings
- Picture frames A3
- Spools, bobbins and reels
- Swimming noodles
- Artificial flowers
- Cardboard rolls
- Chain

Mud Kitchen

- Waterproof trouser and jackets
- Wellies
- Round cutters
- Eggcup
- Pebbles
- Shells
- Cones
- Twigs
- Corks
- Measuring jugs
- Whiteboard
- Measuring
- Sieves
- Whisk
- Ladle
- Masher
- Garlic press
- Cups
- Scales
- Scoops
- Measuring cups
- Saucepans
- Pestle and mortar
- Wooden spoons
- Pastry brushes

Pastry brush



Organic Materials

- · Rocks, stones, gravel, pebbles
- Wood (sticks, stumps, boards, coins, branches, wood chips, cinnamon stick, pegs, beads, planks, different sized logs)
- Shells
- Water (ice, snow)
- Seeds (acorns, dried beans, seed pods)
- Pine cones
- Leaves
- Grasses (hay, straw)
- Mosses
- Flowers (petals)
- ◆ Textiles (hemp, cotton, wool, felt, silk)
- ♦ Corks
- Sea sponges
- Drift wood
- Hay bales
- Seeds
- Bark
- Feathers

If you have any of these items to donate, please can you bring them to the school main entrance. If you need any more information on our outdoor learning activities and provision, please ask for Mrs Hatton.

Reminders

School emails and contact numbers

During the first few weeks we will have been updating our data bases and contacts, so it important we have up to date addresses, mobile numbers for at least 2 contacts and email addresses for School Comms and School Spider communication. The school will be, by the Easter break, cash free for dinner money, snack, breakfast club and trips. Everything will be on the School Comms app for payment or we will issue a pay point voucher to pay any monies owed. So can all parents ensure their details are correct. Any issues, please call in and we will help you set the app up. Also we need to ensure all information we hold about your child is correct too. So any medical conditions including asthma, intolerances, allergies or any well-being information that we need updates on, please let us know immediately. This is really important!

Parent communication and contact.

We encourage parents to speak to their class teacher in regard to any concerns regarding their child's progress, wellbeing, friendship groups. We welcome appointments that can be made to speak to your child's class teacher. This can be done via email on www.net.net, a call to the school office or before 8.50 at the school office. All appointments will normally be made for after school at the earliest convenience for all, as our teachers are very busy in the mornings welcoming the children to school and teaching throughout the day.

For support for family concerns, you can speak to Mrs Thomas on Monday, Tuesday or Thursday Morning.

Mrs Matthew's, our Additional Needs Coordinator, is available by appointment on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

If the matter is an emergency or relates to safeguarding, Mrs Williams is available by appointment too.

We have clear processes for concerns, issues and the presentation by parents through a 'Parent code of conduct' and a clear complaints / concerns policy & procedure. You can view these documents on the website, or on request from the school office. We urge you to follow our processes. Thank you for your support with this:)

Parking

We would also like to thank the parents who park responsibly at the start of the day and on pick up. Before half term, a gritter got stuck down Tabernacle Street due to the rows of cars either side of the street. A fire engine would have had no chance of getting through in an emergency. We would like to AGAIN reiterate how important the safety outside school is! I have been informed again that the P.C.S.O.s will be in attendance around schools in Flintshire and our own P.C. Marc is working with us to help with this issue. Our own Pupil Cabinet have been out to look at the issue and the possibility of parking at the Spar car park, who have 18 car spaces free for one hour and 4 disabled spaces too! I have also read this on the Buckley Residents Group on an email from Flintshire County Council / Buckley Town Council to a Buckley resident recently, with regard to the Spar car park.

This is an email that I received today from the clerk of btc which he has been sent from FCC, hope this clears up the parking in the car park opposite the spar

We are in the process of finalising the legalities to the change of the legal order on the car park. This will be sealed this week and the required public advertisement will be made on Friday (10 January). From this time the free 1 hour parking will commence.

However, I can inform you that since the 1st January we have not been charging on the small section of the Brunswick Road Car Park, allowing users to still have benefit from free parking (all be it unrestricted in time).

If the car parks locally are free for a short time, please make use of this facility. Maybe email / write to the council and ask for this to be an all year round consideration for all Buckley car parks! For our children's safety, please park responsibly.

Our children have a right to be safe! Thank you:)

Reminders

Drop off

Our doors open at 8.40am and most of the children from Year 1 to Year 6 come into the building independently. Sometimes the foyer is unnecessarily busy – over 200 children come through our main entrance and we would like this to be an easy transition. We would like to encourage the children only come into the main building independently. The door is always supervised by school staff. The front door closes at 8.50am. Thank you for your support with this request.

Collections

There have also been a few earlier than usual collections of pupils before home time. We would ask that as much as possible, arrange appointments for after school. Again, unless the reason for collections relate to important appointments or important arrangements, which a written note or letter confirming this is shown to staff, then we must stress that pupils are only to be collected at home time as it is very disruptive to the day and the learning of the children. Thank you:)

Home time pick up

We always stress that at home time pick up, to please keep your young ones close and safe. At home time parents and carers are responsible for their own children. I must remind you that your child is your responsibility at the end of the school day or after events. We want to continue to allow pick up from the rear of the school. A number of times, children have needed to be brought back to parents who were not being supervised. Please support us by keeping your children close and safe on the school grounds and outside the vicinity of school.

Absences and Lates.

Attendance and punctuality is the key to success! We are carefully monitoring attendance at all times. The expected attendance for pupils is 94% and over. We will be continuing to contact families with attendance below this figure, who have not provided a medical note or valid reason for absence.

A very small minority of families are excessively absent (below 90%) or regularly late. However it is important to reiterate the importance of regular attendance and punctuality in school. Lateness is not only disruptive to the school day but can seriously affect your child's readiness and capacity to learn; lates do count towards absence. Doors open at 8.40am.

As a Flintshire school we must adhere to their process for attendance management. If you need support please speak to Mrs Thomas or myself <u>by appointment.</u> For more information on how absence and lateness can affect your child, and the implications for poor attendance, please visit Flintshire's site https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/Education-Fixed-Penalty-Notices.aspx

P.E. Kits / Lunch Bags and Uniform.

Could we encourage children to bring in their kits/ leave them in school for P.E. please? Also there are a large number of lunch boxes, drinking bottles and unnamed uniform including coats in school. We will be displaying these at home times. Please take a look, they could belong to your child!

Don't Forget!

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 please check if it's you turn to swim. From Monday 2nd March it is Mr Powell's class -Class 6 and their first lesson is on Monday.

Exciting News

We have some very exciting news—our Team Westwood is growing as Miss Bennett is having a baby! Class 5 are very excited and are looking after Miss Bennett brilliantly!

Miss Bennett's new baby is due in August so she is hopeful of being able to be with us until the end of the academic year! We will keep you informed of any updates!

Save the dates

2nd March 2020 —Swimming for Class 6 begins today.

3rd to 4th March 2020—Glan Llyn

Friday 6th March 2020- World Book Day

Thursday 12th March 2020- P.T.F.A. Spring Discos

Friday 13th March 2020 - Eisteddfod

Friday 20th March—Mother's Day Tea

Monday 23rd & Tuesday 24th March—Parent's Evenings

Wednesday 1st April—Easter Bingo

Friday 3rd April—Break up for the Easter Holidays

Monday 20th April—Consortium training day—school closed to pupils (a parent letter sent out via email last term!)

Tuesday 21st April—Return to school after Easter break

Flintshire Free School Meals

Are you in receipt of income based universal credit? Are you on low income or other benefits? Well you may qualify for free school meals! You can apply online for these or if you would like help in applying, call into the office! Many families do not realise that they qualify and at £2.25 per meal it could help enormously; the benefit of a delicious hot meal a day and taking the worry out of the money too! If you need help or more information, call into the school office.

A huge thank you for an anonymous donation of £5000 for the Daily Mile Track! It was a wonderful gesture and incredibly generous! The Daily Mile Track will be a welcome addition to the outdoor space and so beneficial for the children. Work on the Daily Mile will begin after Easter!

Do you know someone who has a community link? Or someone that can help with grants or funding for schools? If so, please get in touch. We are currently fundraising for the Outdoor Area, Fencing and Equipment as it is in desperate need of repair, refurbishment and replacement.

Please contact the office on 01244 543207 or email at wwmail@hwbcymru.net—Thank you for your support!