

WESTWOOD'S BUCKLEY BUGLE

To our Dear Westwood Family - I hope you are well.

I hope you are having the best Easter break and are getting ready for the children to return safely on Monday 12th April. As you know, when we return, all of our Covid and Health & Safety arrangements in place before the holiday, remain in place to keep our school safe! Please refer to the Parent's handbook for details.



From Monday 12th April, our children will be returning in their school uniform. As you know from previous emails, help for uniforms is there if needed with grants and the uniform exchanges. We would like to also remind you that on Wednesday 14th April the school photographer will be on site, Covid safe, for individual photographs only. This means there will be no 'Welly Wednesday' during the first week back but that won't stop us getting outside, weather permitting! Also on Wednesday 14th April, we have arranged another 'Dragon Bag' event with our fabulous PTFA – please see inside for more details on pages 6 & 7.

I would also like to remind you all to book your <u>Parent's evening appointments for Monday 26th April and Tuesday 27th April</u>, using the School Spider App. Emails regarding Parent's evenings were sent via email before the Easter break.

I would like to direct you to our Instagram page and You Tube Channel, as each week I post a weekly assembly for the children. Unfortunately, I cannot post it on Seesaw nor the website as it is a bit too long, but I would love to share all the fantastic things your child is involved in outside school, as well as celebrate the achievement of our children in school too. We have lots of regular followers and contributors, and we would love to have your contributions too! Just send these into the office. Parents and Carers please check us out on https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEA5K7BE84zf1LFtp9chDMA and on https://www.instagram.com/www_buckley/

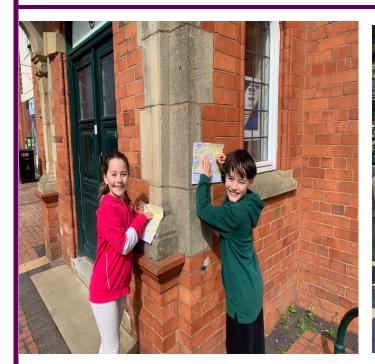
<u>Please keep checking your emails and staying in touch with us.</u> If you need anything, contact the office on wwmail@hwbcymru.net or call 01244 543207. Stay safe our Westwood Family!

Mrs Williams & Team Westwood:)

Easter Fun in the Sun!

A huge thank you to the P.T.F.A. for organising their amazing Community Easter Treasure Hunt on Friday 2nd April! Wow! What an amazing event. It was wonderful to see so many attend; even the sun made an appearance too! We will let you know how much this and the sale of the chicks made towards our Easter fundraising.

Thank you too, as always, for all of your generous support!









Eisteddfod 2021

As you know, our usual Eisteddfod was unable to take place this year! But even Covid 19 couldn't stop Westwood's Virtual Eisteddfod from taking place. We had an abundance of fabulous entries from the children and we had so much to share and celebrate of all things Welsh! This year the Eisteddfod competitions were held by each class and the children were so enthusiastic to take part! A massive thank you to you, our wonderful Westwood family, for taking your time to work on the amazing Eisteddfod entries with your child. They were very proud of their efforts and you should be too! Here is a <u>very small selection of the entries from the classes</u>.

Eisteddfod Entries from Nursery & Reception





Please click on the Padlet link below for more photos and to celebrate the fantastic work that your children were involved in.

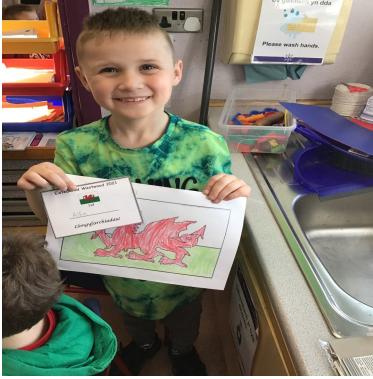
https://padlet.com/jaynewilliams90/9rxviizvjol65t3j

Eisteddfod 2021—Years 1 & 2

Please click on the Padlet link below for more photos and to celebrate the fantastic work that your children were involved in.

https://padlet.com/jaynewilliams90/9rxviizvjol65t3j







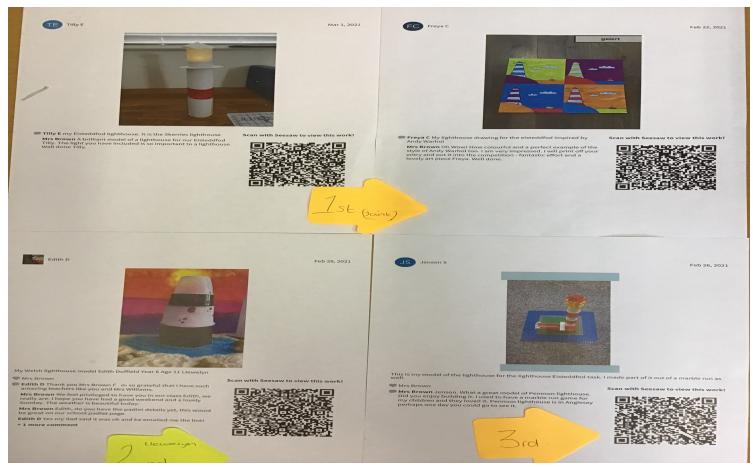


Eisteddfod 2021—Key Stage 2

Please click on the Padlet link below for more photos and to celebrate the fantastic work that your children were involved in.

https://padlet.com/jaynewilliams90/9rxviizvjol65t3j





Dragon Bag 'Daffi Day' is Wednesday 14th April 2021

Dragon Bags is a free fundraising scheme that helps schools across Wales raise funds for school!



Recycle unwanted clothes and raise funds for our school on our Daffi Day!

Our Dragon bag 'Daffi Day' is Wednesday 14th April and we would like you to help by sorting out your unwanted clothing and shoes, and bring them into school on Daffi Day! To get involved simply fill a plastic bag – carriers or bin bags are suitable, with clothes, paired shoes, bags, belts. All items must be in good reusable condition (so please nothing ripped or stained). Please bring your bags to the main gate either at drop off and collection time, where your bag will be collected by a member of staff and brought into school ready for collection from Dragon Bags.



The <u>Daffi Day</u> scheme is designed to develop students' awareness of textile recycling while providing them with a platform to generate much needed funds for their school. The half term will be a great time to sort out your unwanted textiles — see the list on page 11 on what we will accept on our 'Daffi Day!' So come on and join in!

Thank you for your support!

Westwood C.P. P.T.F.A.

Dragon Bags

WHAT WE WILL ACCEPT

















































IF UNSURE AS TO WHETHER WE WILL ACCEPT YOUR ITEMS, GET IN TOUCH TO FIND OUT

WHAT WE WON'T ACCEPT





















We are developing our Outdoor Areas

As you will 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 looking to redevelop the Nursery area, If you know anyone who could help us with funding or equipment for the Nursery area, we would be incredibly grateful. We are continuing with our project called 'Loose Parts' and we are asking for donations of a variety of bits and bobs to enhance the activities in outdoor provision in Reception and Nursery. So here is what we are looking for!

Nursery

- Cable Reels large and small
- Tyres large and small
- Wooden crates
- Wooden pallets
- Stones, pebbles and gravel
- Bark
- Logs

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

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 and tubing
- 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



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 gate, where we can store them 'Covid' safely and securely. If you need any more information on our outdoor learning activities and provision, or ways you can help, please email the office to contact Mrs Ryan or Mrs Hatton via email.

Diolch:)

Outdoor Classroom and Community Garden—Starting after the Easter break!

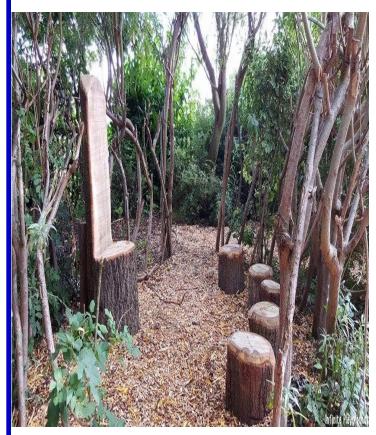
As you will be aware, we secured funding for an Outdoor Classroom and Community Garden from the Lottery grant during the last lockdown. We are very excited to share with you the vision for the project and the design of the new build. We are also grateful to the P.T.F.A. who have agreed to part fund this exciting project too. We have secured a local Buckley company to agree to bring our vision to life and we have now gained the planning permission to start! We know that this project will make a huge difference to our Westwood Family in terms of experiences, outdoor learning and bring our community together once more. We hope you love it too!



Forest School Project

As part of our extensive work on Outdoor learning, we are relocating our Forest School, from the bottom of the field to the site next to the Outdoor Classroom and Community Garden.

The work on our Forest School vision begins in the Easter holidays, with a spot of gardening and removal of thorns near the trees. This will allow all of our children to safely access the grounds of school and enjoy rich outdoor activities.





As part of the Forest School project, we are looking for fence posts, timber, wooden stumps, hedging and trees. If you can help us with the sourcing of these materials, please get in touch with the school office. Thank you!

Westwood Family Wellbeing

A regular feature to our Buckley Bugle is a focus our Westwood Family Wellbeing. During this last lockdown, it has become clearer to us a school, that we are all feeling it tougher this year. Many of us are feeling isolated, anxious and scared. As we gradually ease out of lockdown, it is important to keep ourselves safe and well! There are many ways to do this for a healthy body and mind.

Wellbeing Help for our Westwood Family

Please find below external support and useful information for wellbeing and mental health in the links below: this ranges from simple videos, strategies and activities, to having the opportunity to speak to someone about the help you may need. I hope you find this useful. ©

Activate your life

Free online self-help course from Public Health Wales (PHW). Provides four videos with accompanying guidance

ACT1 – You are not your mind.

ACT2- Facing up to life.

ACT3 – Being mindful.

ACT4 - Living wisely Living well.

https://phw.nhs.wales/services-and-teams/activate-your-life/

Public Health Wales: How are you doing?

This is an uncertain time for us all, but have you stopped to ask yourself how you are doing?

This is a continually updated resource offering advice on looking after yourself and loved ones. It includes a video and links to other relevant topics.

https://phw.nhs.wales/topics/latest-information-on-novel-coronavirus-covid-19/how-are-you-doing/

Mind

If you are living with a mental health problem, or supporting someone who is, Mind will have access to a range of information and local support

https://www.mind.org.uk/about-us/mind-cymru/

Young Minds

An association who want to see a world where no young person feels alone with their mental health, and all young people get the mental health support they need, when they need it, no matter what.

 $\underline{https://youngminds.org.uk/?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIor6jupD27gIVTdiyChoqngrAEAAYASAAEgLX4vD_BwE}$

BBC Headroom

As the BBC explains, "We know we can't solve all your troubles, but we can give you tools to help. Whether it is everyday tips, sounds to relax your mind, strategies to cope with parenting right now or films to get you talking, we are here to help you look after yourself and your loved ones."

https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/YfRzhXDKSZQxFVn3oTlXBj/your-mental-health-toolkit?xtor=SEC-1-[GOO]-[120352182200]-[498771471000]-S-[mental%20health%20advice]

Don't forget to look at our Westwood website too http://www.westwoodprimary.co.uk/page/covid-19-wellbeing-resources/67453

Whatever your situation, please get in touch - even if you just want a chat—we are here to help you.

Take care and stay safe our Westwood family:)

Healthy Schools; Healthy Life!

To help us to have a healthy mind, a healthy body plays an important role. We would like to take the opportunity to share with our Westwood Family that we are a **Healthy School**. We have been awarded 4 phases of the Healthy Schools Award and are working towards phase 5. The award is Welsh Assembly Government accredited and the purpose of the award is to ensure that health promotion becomes an integrated part of the school curriculum, the organisation and the ethos of the school.

A healthy school is a happy school. An effective school is a healthy school. At Westwood we promote physical, mental and emotional health and well being. Also, we hope the work carried out will enable our school to improve both the quality of teaching and learning and to enhance relationships between the school, its pupils, parents, staff, governors and external agencies. In line with the new curriculum, we are also currently updating our Food and Fitness policy, within a new policy for school under a new title of 'Health and Wellbeing'. The children will have input into this important policy through the work of the pupil cabinet and their classroom voice, alongside their important P.S.E. work into the rights of the UN Convention On The Rights Of The Child.

Food brought into school

At this time, we encourage our children to bring their own healthy snack; please ensure this has their name on. We also encourage **healthy food choices** to be brought in as part of pupils' packed lunches.



If you need some new ideas for a healthy lunch box, please see the links below.

https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes

https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-02/healthy-lunchboxes-leaflet.pdf

We would also like to remind you that **Westwood is a nut free school.** Please be aware when packing lunches.

Pupil's are advised to bring a named water bottle to school on a daily basis. This helps them to concentrate throughout the day. We will also provide the children water throughout the school day.

Diolch:)

Use of Social Media Platforms and Age Appropriate Material

During lockdown, many children may have increased their usage of Social media, online gaming and access of films. Unfortunately, not all of these platforms are appropriate for their age.

Whilst we know that our parents our incredibly vigilant, social media changes rapidly and new platforms are popping up, making it more difficult to keep a close watch on activity. As a parent it's also important you know that all social networking platforms (or social networking apps, if on a smartphone) have age limits. Some social networks use technologies that may not be right for some ages or engage with communities that are made up of people much older than your child.

Click on the link below to find out more about the age limits.

https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/what-age-can-my-childstart-social-networking/

So what are the risks of using an underage social networking account?

There are many risks when your child uses an unsupervised account or makes an account on a social network site that is not age appropriate. So what are the risks of an underage social networking account?

- Many sites include an instant message function that allows private conversations between site members.
- Most social networking sites have an app version available, meaning your child will have access to the social network from their smartphone or tablet. Some app versions of social networks use the location of the phone.
- Information shared between friends can be easily copied and may spread.
- It isn't easy to take back information that has been posted and can be impossible if it's already been shared.
- Not everyone your child meets online will be who they say they are. Chatrooms and forums can connect people who are complete strangers and can be unmoderated.
- Chatrooms and forums are some of the places online groomers go to connect with children. This is sometimes done through video chat programs. They can also be places where people use a lot of inappropriate language and engage in online activities with people who may be a lot older Or not who they say they are.

14

Top social networks for kids

If your child is eager to start tweeting, posting or sharing but they struggle to find a network that is suitable for their age, then there are a number of alternative social networks made for children that you can point them to.

These offer child-friendly features like games and contests but also give you a chance to use them as teaching tool to get them sharing safely.

Ultimately, these social networks give children a safer environment where they can share their experiences and engage with friends they know.

Here are some <u>age-appropriate social media apps</u> for younger kids that you may find useful. For further details about these apps, just click on links:)

6-10 Years

Spotlite (formerly Kudos)

PlayKids Talk

<u>GoBubble</u>

Kidzworld: Chat Room & Forums

Grom Social

11-13 Years

PopJam







Age Appropriate Material

It is also important to bear in mind the access your child may have or see with regards to online platforms, games, television programmes and films; again most will have age related guidance. This includes the use of YouTube.

We have had some very young learners discuss films they have watched, graphics on games they may have seen or programmes they have watched which are not suitable for children.

Please ensure if your child has older siblings or may be able to access this material themselves, that you can check your parental controls. Furthermore, it is important to keep their environment safe and ensure any content they have access to is suitable for their age.

Thank you for your support and working together with us, to keep our children safe.

Team Westwood:)

Community News

We are incredibly lucky to be part of a Buckley community who reach out and help Westwood in times when they are needed the most. A huge thank you to yet another generous anonymous donation to Westwood of two new additional Chromebooks to assist with our children's online learning. Thank you for such a generous act which will make a huge difference to our children, who need a device to support with their online school work at this time.



If you, or you know someone, who can help with devices to support our Westwood family, please get in touch. We are always grateful of additional technology, old unused devices which can be given out to our children to assist with home learning. It is a great way to pay kindness forward and it really makes a difference. Contact the office if you can help:) Diolch yn fawr!

Community News—Please read and be inspired!



It is wonderful to have news about our Westwood Family, and even more so when it is news that is so good, we have to share!

Sarah, one of our parent's and is mum to Honey, has signed up for Age Cymru's Friend in Need telephone befriending service, as part of her studies with Glyndwr University.

The Age Cymru's Friend in Need telephone befriending service which is aimed at over-70s who are self-isolating or who are in the shielded group.

Befrienders are matched up with a person and asked to engage in a weekly chat for only half an hour or so, to help alleviate feelings of isolation and loneliness in elderly, vulnerable people. They usually call the same person each week at the same time, to provide a listening ear and monitor general well-being.

Sarah has been matched up with an 89-year-old lady, who loves to chat about her favourite television show, American mystery drama series Murder She Wrote.

Sarah said, "When I thought about how many times we check our phones throughout the day, and how many messages we get from people; and these elderly people are completely on their own and don't hear from anyone - I really wanted to do it."

Sarah continues: "One thing that stuck out to me when I got her profile was where it said 'Next of Kin' and next to it was 'no-one'. I phoned her for the first time this past Monday, and after I put the phone down, I was in tears.

"I think it just hit me, the reality of someone being home alone. She sounded so fragile and she wasn't very well. But that 30-minute phone call, it's a good thing. She'll look forward to that for next Monday, I hope!"

Sarah hopes to persuade friends and family to sign up for the service.

"I just wish everyone would do it," she said.

"It's just thirty minutes out of your week but for them, it's such a huge thing to have someone to talk to."

We at Westwood think it is amazing that such a small act by a warm hearted person can mean so much to someone so vulnerable. Well done Mrs O' Brien, we think you are inspirational! To read the full story, check out the link https://www.leaderlive.co.uk/news/19205269.glyndwr-university-student-buckley-tacklingloneliness-amongst-elderly/

If you are interested in the scheme and want to find out more about Friend in Need, you can contact Age Uk by visiting: https://www.ageuk.org.uk/cymru/get-involved/friend-in-need/

You could become that lifeline to those most vulnerable in our society, just like Sarah!



Goodbye to Mrs T



On Friday 26th March, we said goodbye to Mrs Angela Tomlinson, our longest standing member of our Team Westwood! Angela had worked for Westwood and Westlea for over 33 years as part of the Housekeeping Team, the Midday Supervision Team and our Breakfast Club Team!

We would like to take this opportunity to say on behalf of the entire

Team Westwood and Westwood Family.

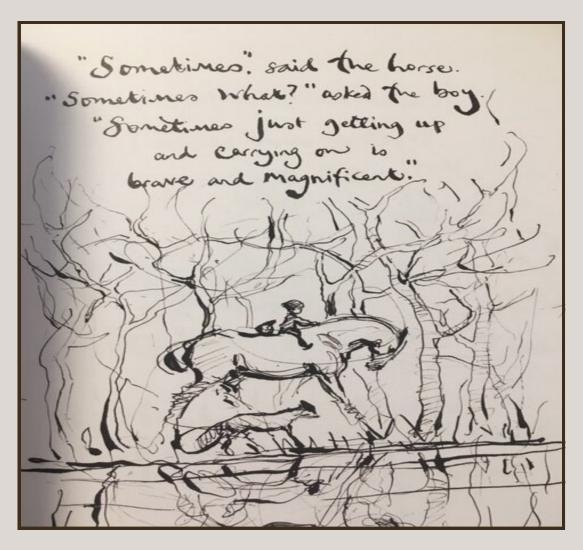
Goodbye Mrs T - you will be missed by us all!

Good luck in your retirement and enjoy your well-earned rest-you really do deserve it Ang!

18

A message for our wonderful children

Before the break, I wrote to your parents or whoever looks after you at home, to say how proud I am of you all and you should be congratulated on the way you have returned to school. Everyday, you never cease to amaze me with your spirit, strength and resilience! After the year you have had, to come back to school the way you have, is truly remarkable! You are not only a credit to your families but to all of your teachers; you're all amazing!



This term, is going to be the best ever- we have lots to look forward to and we want you to have the very best time at school, with your friends. Remember, if you need anything, just speak to your teacher or come and find me!

Well done to all of our children — I can't wait to see you all on Monday 12th April; then we can continue making more memories and the magic can start all over again!

Be happy and Stay safe!

Mrs Williams :)

