



WESTWOOD'S BUCKLEY BUGLE

To our Dear Westwood Family – I hope you are well and busily preparing for the Christmas Holiday. We made to the end of a challenging Autumn term!

In a year like no other, I wanted to express my heartfelt thanks and gratitude to all of stakeholders for the way they have been supportive of school. It has been a challenging year and our children have shown their strength and determination to deal within a lockdown, a return to school and the 'new normal'. They have engaged with every aspect of school life and took every aspect of change in their stride! They have been remarkable. I know that this would not be possible without your encouragement and support. Our amazing staff have ensured that each and every child has had the best possible experiences within the parameters we are allowed to have, providing security, routine and care on a daily basis. We really are a family!

This edition of the Buckley Bugle will share many of the activities your child has been involved in this last month and gives you a peek of life at Westwood.

We are looking forward to our return after Christmas although not the return we had hoped for; online learning for the majority of pupils from Wednesday 6th January, with school reopening for critical key workers only in the first week back. A reminder that the staggered starts of the day and home time pick up remain in place until further notice. It goes without saying but the hard work continues after Christmas alongside ensuring our children are safe, happy and well. Your support with online learning and homework is appreciated and so beneficial. If you need any support with your child's learning, please contact school.

Diolch yn fawr iawn!

Nadolig Llawen a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda

Mrs Williams & Team Westwood :)

STAY SAFE!!



Pupil News & Activities

Celebration and Class Assemblies

Our children always have so much to celebrate and we wanted to ensure we recognised this as part of our weekly timetable. So we have a regular weekly, class assembly to share their achievements, no matter how small. As we cannot all come together at the moment, I produce a weekly video assembly for the children to watch in class, where I give a shout out to the children for their achievements in class and any certificates they have received from their class teachers. We also do birthday mentions and 'Seren Yr Wythnos' too!! Also in my video assembly, we also have a 'Question of the Week' slot - the children love to enter and we have the winners announced also in the Friday video assembly. There is a box in each class to enter the weekly question and Fairtrade prizes for the winners! Look out for my video assemblies on Instagram, and pictures of what your children do on Twitter and Instagram!

We would love you to send in any achievements or extra special mentions for their weekly assembly, as sometimes we do not get to hear about all the amazing things the children do **outside** their Westwood day. Just email into the office with their special achievements please. :)



Children in Need—November 2021



One of the highlights of our School calendar - this year the children raised £198.35!!!! Absolutely fantastic!!!



Our Fabulous French Day!! November 2020



An amazing day where the whole school went fabulously French for the day! As you will know, Westwood is a pilot school for Modern Foreign Languages for the New Curriculum. There were amazing activities from all of the classes to compliment the blended learning that had taken place over the half term! It was fantastic to see and hear the children having such fun! Even the staff enjoyed themselves too! Magnifique!







Remembrance Day 2020



Although Remembrance was a little different this year, our pupils observed this day with the greatest of respect for our heroes. A wreath was laid in the memory of our local heroes at the Hawkesbury memorial, in Buckley.

The children all decorated Poppy crosses, and made Remembrance gardens around the school grounds.



A 2 minutes silence was beautifully observed by the older pupils too.

Lest we forget!

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

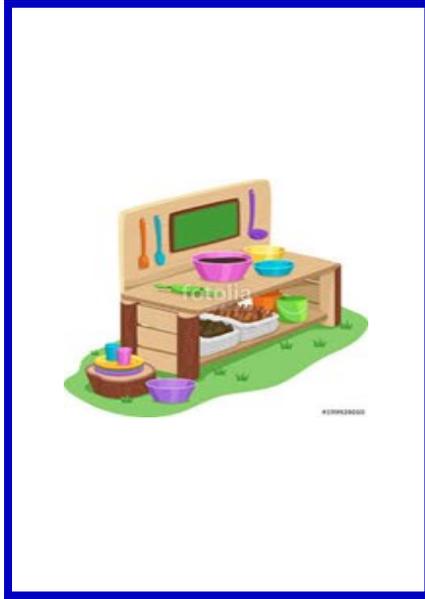
- Sand
 - Gravel
 - Ever green plants
 - Rockery stones
 - Large pebbles
- Artificial grass

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 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 ask for Mrs Ryan, Mrs Hatton or Mrs Fresa via email. Diolch :)

Look at the next 4 pages to see the Outdoor fun!!!

The Play Futures Project has arrived!!

Over the past five weeks Year 4 have been working hard on a project to improve break times during the school day. They have been working alongside Simon Bazley, a freelance Play Consultant and Trainer who developed the programme in direct response to the needs of schools across North East Wales.

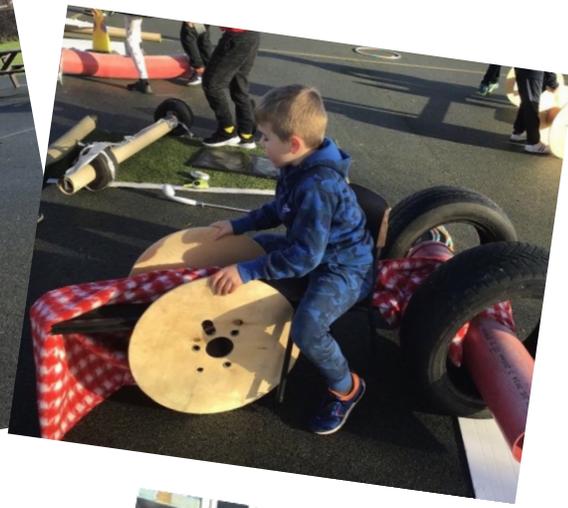
Session 1: During the first session, Year 4 looked at the overall project in more detail, the 'right to play' and the expectations of becoming Westwood's Play Champions.

Session 2: The second session required the children to become 'Play Doctors', they collected data on what the other children thought of play times during the school day. A questionnaire was given to each class in Key Stage 2 to complete. The children also learnt how to make a paper popper in this session.

Session 3: Year 4 became 'Play Detectives' and discussed the results of their findings from Session 2. The children also took part in a variety of games they could use on the playground, including a very fun way of playing rock, paper, scissors!

Session 4: PLAY! PLAY! PLAY! This session involved the children using the equipment in the shed for the very first time. The shed has been placed on the Key Stage 2 yard and inside there are lots of objects the children can use to create their imaginative games- it's amazing what a cardboard box can turn into!





Session 5: What if? This session allowed the children to reflect on what they had learnt in the previous sessions, from fun and exciting games to keeping themselves safe during play times. This session also including games on how to build paper aeroplanes.

Along with some of the staff at Westwood, the 'Play Champions' of Year 4 have now opened the shed for the other children to use during break times. Now let's go and play! :)

Outdoor Learning is Fun

Our Foundation Phase Children never stop having fun and the areas outside has been transformed by the team and the children! Our fantastic team Westwood have made the outside areas a haven for imagination, creativity, play and most of all FUN!! Here are some of the exciting activities our children have the opportunity to be involved in and of course, thanks to our wonderful pupils– the opportunities are endless!





Christmas at Westwood

Although Christmas was a little different this year, we were resolute to ensure our lovely children had the best time possible! Covid 19 will not stop Team Westwood spreading Christmas spirit! From Father Christmas to the Christmas parties; Christmas lunch and Christmas jumper days, singing virtually for Willowdale, Christmas CD's and even Christmas Bubble Plays!

We hope that the children had a brilliant time in the run up to Christmas, and forgot little of what is going on in the outside world! Here are some of the highlights! There even more pics on our website, Instagram and Twitter!





P.T.F.A

It has been another great term from our wonderful P.T.F.A.! Always creative and forward thinking, they really did pull out all of the stops to fund raise in other safe ways over the Christmas period! It goes without saying that they have smashed it once again!! Their events including the hugely successful Christmas Raffle, Adopt a Teddy and Secret Santa raised £1386.15 net profit and they paid for the sweets and drinks for the Children's Christmas Party too! Thank you for all of the donations and the amazing support you gave to our P.T.F.A. events this Christmas.



Huge thanks to all of the committee, Alison Wightman, Sue Large, Stacey Alexander, Susan Slinger, Lesley Ducker and Sarah Jones for this amazing effort. A special mention to Adie Drury, Helen Maguire, Clare Linforth and Iris Wightman who kindly volunteered to put together the raffle prizes and help wrap the teddies too! You are all wonderful!! Thank you!!





A special Christmas message from our Governors

On behalf of the Governors at Westwood, I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. After an exceptional year in many ways, we are all looking forward to a bit of normality into 2021. However you may be celebrating the Christmas period, we hope you stay safe!

Kind regards,

Gill

Chair of Governors



Health & Safety for our Westwood Family

Health and safety around and on the site remain of the highest priority. I urge you again to read the Parent handbook and previous correspondence. We have been incredibly safe at school and our school community has been amazing observing our new structure, social distancing and safety measures.

Just to remind you that when we return in the Spring term we are still requesting that all adults / parents / carers who come onto the school grounds to wear a face covering please. Please ask for a lanyard if you are exempt from wearing a face covering.

Furthermore, if you have a child or family member from another school / college who are not in school/ college due to their year self isolating, do not bring them to the school site nor send them to pick up siblings or family members.

If you need support, I am always on the gate or you can email school.

Colds / Flu / Covid -19 Communications

If your child is poorly, we ask you let us know they will not be in school. Even if you have told us, and your child attends Penguins, you must let them know too and vice versa. On a couple of occasions, I have been contacted by Penguins who have passed on information. Please keep both settings informed at all times. Thanks :)

Also as cold and flu season is upon us, we have a few children who are absent with colds, sickness bugs etc. I would ask you watch the video that was sent to you to give you advice of the symptoms of colds and Covid. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TTDbNz-1F3c&feature=youtu.be>

We are clear that the symptoms we consider as Covid are:

- A new continuous cough
- High temperature
- Loss of taste or smell

You will be aware of this from the correspondence we have sent out and the procedure we will activate if your child presents with these symptoms in school.

Please re read the parent handbook and the risk assessment to be clear of this. We are here to help but this has been outlined on many occasions with the testing procedures available too.

If you, members of your household or your child are presenting with Covid- 19 symptoms, please stay at home, book a test online <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/> or through the 119-phone number.

If you have booked a test, are considering a test or have been advised by your doctor to call for a test, please do not send you child into school.

Once you have your test results returned, please notify us. Only negative results will allow a return to school, and as long as no one in your home is symptomatic / well enough to attend school. We must keep our school community safe and we will support you if at all possible.

On the opposite page is an easy guide on what to do in in these difficult times and if you, or your child becomes unwell with symptoms.

You can visit the Welsh Government page for further guidance:

<https://gov.wales/self-isolation-stay-home-guidance-households-possible-coronavirus>

Westwood Community Primary Covid-19 related pupil absence

A quick reference guide for parents

What to do if	Action Needed	Return to school when....
My Child has Covid-19 symptoms: HIGH TEMPERATURE- this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back A NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH this means coughing a lot more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in an hour A LOSS OR CHANGE TO YOUR SENSE OF SMELL OR TASTE - this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL Contact school to let us know. Self-isolate the whole household for 10 days. Get a test INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY ABOUT TEST RESULTthe test comes back negative
My child tests positive for covid-19.....	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL Contact school to inform us. Agree an earliest date for return . Minimum of 10 days. Self- isolate the whole household for 10 days. Remote learningthey feel better. They can return after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of taste/ smell. These symptoms can last for several weeks.
My child tests negative	CONTACT THE SCHOOL Discuss when your child can come back to school (same day/next day) the test comes back negative and they are well enough to return to school.
My child is ill with symptoms not linked to Covid-19	FOLLOW USUAL SCHOOL ABSENCE POLICY PROCEDURE	After 48 hours following the last bout of sickness/diarrhoea if this is the cause of absence.
Someone in my household has covid-19 symptoms	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL Contact school Self-isolate the whole household for 14 days. Get tested. INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY ABOUT TEST RESULTS. the test comes back negative and they are well enough to attend.
Someone in my household tests positive for covid-19.	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL. Contact school. Self-isolate the whole household for 14 days Agree an earliest date for return. Minimum of 14 days INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY ABOUT TEST RESULTS The child has completed up to 10 days of isolation.
NHS test and trace has identified my child has been in close contact of someone with symptoms of confirmed covid-19	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL. CONTACT SCHOOL. Agree an earliest date for possible return. Minimum of 10 days.The child has completed 10 days of isolation.
We/my child has travelled and has to self-isolate as a period of quarantine.	Do not take unauthorised leave in term time. Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel. If returning from a destination where quarantine is needed contact school, agree an earliest date for possible return. Minimum of 10 days from return date. The quarantine period of 10 days has been completed.
We have received medical advice that my child must resume shielding.	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL. Contact school. Shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again. AT home support your child with remote learning provided by school.School/Welsh Government inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school.
My child's bubble/class/ contact group is closed due to covid-19 outbreak in school.	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL. AT home support your child with remote learning provided by school. Your child will need to isolate for 10 days. School will inform you when the bubble will be re-opened.

School News

Breakfast club

Breakfast club and Westies Breakfast Club (for Nursery & Reception) are now open for bookings on the School Gateway (Comms) app.



All the bookings are to be made on the School Gateway (Comms). Bookings must be made in advance, even if it's the 8.30-9.00 slot. The later time slots of 8.30 to 9.00 are capped at 20 places maximum, booked in advance – this is to keep our numbers conducive for social distancing between contact groups. If you don't already have the School Gateway app, please download it, put in your contact email and telephone number which we have on the school system, this will link you to your child's account. Any problems with this system feel free to contact the office.

Online learning resources and home support with reading

If your child is poorly or unable to come into school for whatever reason, we can support you with work. If your child is able to complete work from home, they can do so.

If your child is in Juniors, your child can access Study ladder, Read Theory, My Maths. Spellings for all year groups will be also available on the class pages. You also can read with your child 4 times a week. **It is important that regular spelling and reading practice is maintained at home for all children to support us with our recovery curriculum.**

If your child is in Foundation phase, you will have access to a learning grid on your child's class page and Seesaw. Your class spellings for Year 1 & 2 will also be on the class pages. Your child can read their reading books 3 times for the week too. **It is important that regular spelling and reading practice is maintained at home for all children to support us with our recovery curriculum.**

There are lots of further resources on Hwb for Blended Learning, if your child has their password. New nursery and pupils new to school may need help with passwords for the online platforms. Please contact the office who can forward your request for password help to the class teachers.

Outdoor learning Grants

As you know, at Westwood we are in the process of redeveloping our Outdoor play and learning experiences for the children. We are hoping to soon create a new forest school area, community garden and outdoor classroom during the Spring term. We were lucky pre Covid to secure grants for these projects. We are still looking at further improvements in the Outdoor area and need help with this.

If you, or someone you know can help with work, hands-on labour, funding or grants to further develop our Outdoor areas including play equipment, please email the office. Diolch!

Our New Normal

We know that your child is enjoying the many aspects of the new 'normal' we have established including Wellbeing and outdoor activities, despite the horrible weather at times,

Welly Wednesday is super popular, when they can wear their **own suitable outdoor clothes** for outdoor activities to allow you to catch up with the uniform cleaning mid week. Our Daily Mile is being incorporated with the classes through school.

P.E. kit to be worn on their P.E. days- can I remind you to pop on your school cardigan or sweatshirt over your P.E. kits please? P.E. day isn't an own clothes day. Your child's class may be involved in additional P.E. Sessions too. Please look out for information from class teachers.

Also I must remind you of our policy on school uniform, which can be found on the website. Many children have returned wearing jewellery; chains, drop earrings and looped earrings which are not allowed due to health and safety - studs and small sleepers are acceptable, which must be removed for P.E. or plasters provided.

Long hair should be tied back for health and safety reasons. We also have a few children with dyed hair, which we say within the school uniform policy isn't accepted. I understand during lockdown and holidays, that hair styles and colours may be changed however we must request that now we are back in school, we follow the policies set out which you support as part of the home / school agreement. I thank you for your support here.

We would like also to remind adults who are collecting children to ensure **only one adult per family enters the site**, keeping the entrances / exits clear, wear your mask and observe strict social distancing please at all times. Please also be prompt and as close to your time as possible dropping off your child & collecting your child and leaving the site swiftly. This it ensures our staggered times are effective, safe and well managed for all of our Westwood Family.

Finally, a huge thank you for the massive improvement in the parking outside school on Tabernacle Street. We appreciate this so much, as it ensures our children can be safe outside their own school. Please can we ensure this is also happening at the Padeswood Entrance (Breakfast Club and Reception Entrance) as some children are running across the road from cars to this entrance. **Also please keep your children close and safe, around the school site. Diolch!**

Important Dates!

School Closes for Christmas Friday 18th December

School opens after the Christmas Holiday to key workers only on Wednesday 6th January

The remaining training days for the academic year are as follows and school is closed to pupils:

- * Monday 4th January
- * Monday 12th April
- * Tuesday 13th July
- * Monday 19th July
- * Tuesday 20th July

