Chief Executive Officer: Mrs Alison Nettleship Head of School: Mrs Kathryn Catherwood Assistant Head of School: Mrs Chelsea O'Brien & Assistant Head of School: Mrs Becca Gleed.



Weston Mill Community Primary Academy Ferndale Road Camel's Head Plymouth PL2 2EL

> 01752 365250 Westonmill.desk@discoverymat.co.uk



Newsletter 19th January 2024

Thank you to everyone who has responded to our parent questionnaire over the last few weeks. It is great to have your feedback and suggestions in how we can continue to improve our school. As previously shared, we will be reviewing the feedback over the coming weeks and there will be an opportunity to discuss it during our Parent Forum meeting on 6th February 2024 at 2pm.

This week, we have participated in Computer Science week across the school. The children have enjoyed using Beebots, Microbits and completing their Hour of Code as part of Coding week. The children have also researched famous computer scientist and created a poster to share the facts they have learnt. Mr Mann has also facilitated a very successful Computer Club in his classroom for children in KS2 to attend, which was very well attended.

Next week, we are delighted to welcome parents into school to for Adams' Class Reading session on Thursday 25th January at 2:30pm to share a book with your child in the class library. We have also been developing the range of books available for you to share as part of our Equality and Diversity Inclusion Mark. On Friday 26th January, Everson Class assembly in the school hall at 2@30pm. This is a great opportunity to come and see what your child has been learning so far this year. Please continue to check the school calendar and Facebook Page for reminders of upcoming events.

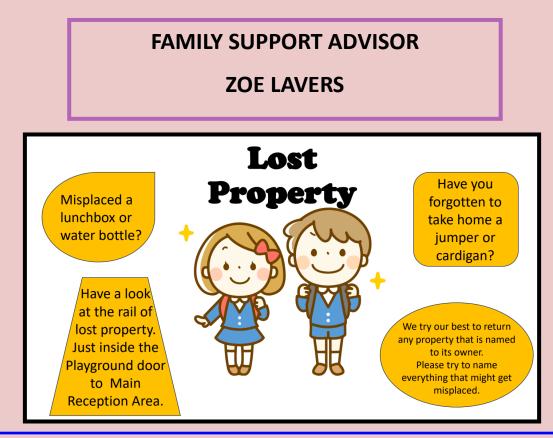
I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Kathryn Catherwood

Discovery MAT is keen to further our practice regarding Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI). As part of this we are currently working towards

an EDI Quality Mark and would appreciate some parental engagement. If you would like to be part of this process please email our Trust Inclusion Lead

L.cooper-smith@discoverymat.co.uk.



DO YOU RECOGNISE ANY OF THIS LOST PROPERT?

IF SO PLEASE CLAIM BEFORE THE 9TH FEBRUARY AS WE WILL BE DONATING ANY UNCLAIMED ITEMS TO CHARITY/ FAMILIES IN NEED.

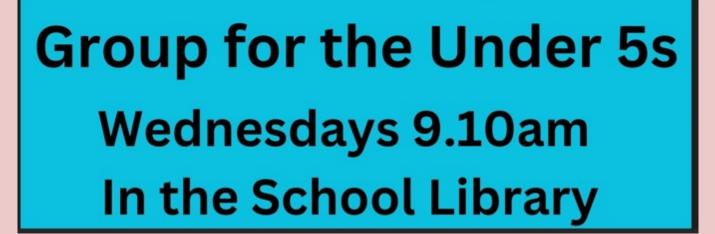
THE ITEMS IN THE GREEN TRAY ARE FROM YEAR 4, ALL OTHER ITEMS WERE FOUND IN THE PLAYGROUND AFTER LUNCH..

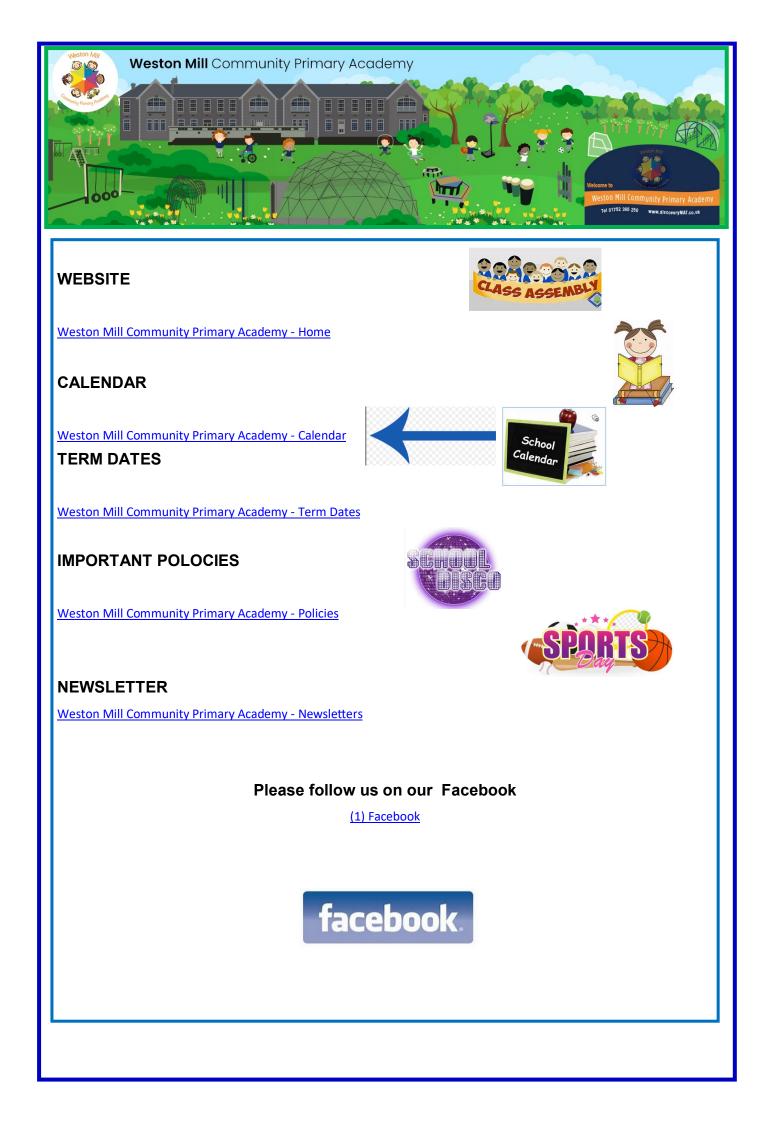












Weston Mill Community Primary Academy

NURSERY

Spaces are currently available for 2, 3 and 4 year olds within our Nursery.

We offer 15 funded hours per child, opening during term time only. Me2 funding now accepted.

Please see the contact details below to express an interest in applying for a nursery place.



For more information, please contact the school on 01752 365250 or email westomill.desk@discoverymat.co.uk.

START OF THE SCHOOL DAY & ATTENDANCE

Our school gate leading to the playground will remain open until 9:10am every morning.

Please use this entrance only when bringing your child to school.

Reception entrance via the staff car park must not be used before this time. You will be asked to walk around, unless there has been an arrangement made with Mrs Catherwood or Mrs Powney.

In the unusual event of your child arriving extremely late for school, after 9:10am (gates closed), the reception entrance should be used **PLEASE SIGN YOUR CHILD IN, GIVE REASON FOR LATENESS AND ADD LUNCH CHOICE.**

Please be aware that crossing patrol is available for children arriving to school between 8:40 and 9.10am each morning. There will be no crossing patrol after 9.10am each morning.

Important reminder: the school register is taken at 08.55am!

BEING LATE AFFECTS YOUR CHILD'S

ATTENDANCE

Children arriving after this time will be registered late, which has an enormous impact on attendance figures.

After 9.10am it is recorded as an unauthorized absence. By law we are required to register in this way. We must also report to the Educational Welfare Officer if your child has had over a certain amount of unauthorized absences

On average around 10% of our children are registered late everyday!

If your child is unwell please phone the school before **08.55**am every day that they are unwell. Failure to do so will also result in an Unauthorized absence.

Let's work on improving our attendance together!

If you need support with this, please let us know.

Please see our Attendance Policy

Weston Mill Community Primary Academy - Policies

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT FOR YOUR CHILD TO ARRIVE AT SCHOOL ON TIME?



There are many benefits your child will gain from arriving on time to school and class.

Did you know?

- The likelihood of success in learning is strongly linked to strong participation in school programs which is linked to arriving on time.
- It is very important for children to develop habits of arriving on time at an early age, beginning from the time they start school.

Some Gains for Your Child

Arriving On Time for School and Class:

- Makes sure that your child doesn't miss out on the important learning activities that happen early in the day when they are most alert.
- Early morning learning activity is often reading or writing your child can lose so many opportunities to learn these critical life skills.
- Helps your child to learn about routines and commitment.
- Gives your child time to greet their friends before class and this can reduce the possibility of disruptions in the classroom.
- Class disruption can make your child feel uncomfortable and can upset other children.
- Arriving on time every day makes children feel good about themselves

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IS COOL!

HAVING PROBLEMS GETTING YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL ON TIME?



Are these some reasons why your child does not

get to *s*chool on time?

- 🖶 Your child won't go to bed at night or get out of bed in the morning
- Your child can't find their clothes, books, homework, school bag....
- The school lunches are not ready
- 📥 Homework's not done
- Your child is slow to eat breakfast
- Your child is watching TV late at night or when they should be getting ready for school
- 4 It's your child's or someone else's birthday
- 4 There is a test or presentation at school today
- ¥ Your child is screaming or not letting go of you.

Things to Try

Here are some suggestions based on setting regular routines:

- 🖊 Have a set time to go to bed
- Have a set time to be out of bed
- Have uniform and school bag ready the night before
- Make lunches the night before
- Have set time for starting and ending breakfast.
- Set a time each day for homework. Try straight after school with the TV off so your child can relax for the rest of the night and have a reward when finished.
- Turn the TV on for set times and only if appropriate.
- Be firm that children must go to school.
- Give your child lots of positive encouragement and acknowledge they are organized and get to school on time.
- Be firm; a birthday does not equal a holiday.
- On arrival look for some of your child's friends and encourage your child to go and play with their friends.
- Once settled leave quickly.

REGULAR ROUTINES ARE IMPORTANT

Why does attendance matter?

- You fall behind in work and lessons.
- > You have lower motivation to be here at all.
- > Your enjoyment of learning is less.
- > You have less chance of achieving GCSEs.
- You're more likely to show poor behaviour
- You miss out on the social life of school and extra curricular opportunities and experiences.
- It effects your ability to have or keep friendships,

LATE ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL



When your child arrives late at school, he/ she misses the teacher's instructions and the induction to the lesson. Your child may also feel embarrassed at having to enter the classroom late.

Minutes late per day during the school year	Equals days worth of teaching lost in a year
5 Minutes	3.4 Days
10 Minutes	6.9 Days
15 Minutes	10.3 Days
20 Minutes	13.8 Days
30 Minutes	20.7 Days

Frequent lateness can add up to a considerable amount of learning lost, and can seriously disadvantage your child.

Weekly attendance for 15th-19th January

The UK Government expectation is **96%**. We are striving for children to achieve this as there is a direct link between attendance and achievement.

This week, our whole school attendance is **89.4%**

This week's winners are : DALEY Class and

WHITLOCK Class

DALEY	92%
BOLT	87.2%
EVERSON	87.1%

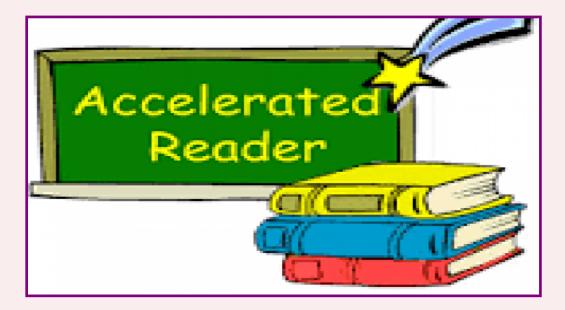


WHITLOCK	95.8%
AINSLIE	87.1%
ADAMS	84.6%
BROWN	87.1%



<u>Oak Villa Car Park</u>

Please ensure any parents using the Oak Villa Car Park take care when driving and parking, and hold your child's hand, if appropriate, when walking through the car park. This is to ensure that all children remain safe whilst arriving and leaving school each day. We appreciate your continued support with this to support our school community.



WE WOULD LIKE TO CELEBRATE AND SHARE THIS TERMS WORD COUNT ACHIEVED BY EACH CLASS THROUGH OUR ACCELERATED READER PROGRAMME. KS2 .

WE WILL UPDATE THIS EACH MONTH AND LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING THOSE NUMBERS RISE!

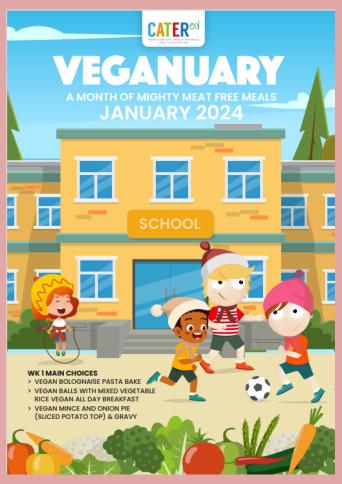
Autumn Term Word Count		
Brown	1,520,793	
Adams	1,306399	
Ainslie	760, 638	
Whitlock	141,798	

In Daley Class for Computer Science Week we have been learning how to give clear instructions and program a floor robot. The children have played simon says with a partner giving instructions to each other to move around the room and followed instructions to move a paper robot on a space grid map. We have learnt symbols to code a beebot on the interactive whiteboard and loved instructing the floor beebot to move in different ways. We even got them to dance!















At CATER^{ed}, we pride ourselves that the majority of the food we serve is cooked from scratch every day, making Ed's lunchtime menu truly awesome! Because we use fresh, local, seasonal and organic ingredients we're also supporting local growers, farmers and the regional economy whilst we keep an eye on our eco-footprint.

We use

- Locally caught and landed Pollock and Mackeral
 Free range eggs (including in our mayonnaise)
- Westcountry milk
- Westcountry yoghurts Organic herbs
- No fried food
- Fairtrade sugar
 Wholemeal flour
- Seasonal fresh vegetables and fruit (which may vary due to availability)

Please visit our pages at www.catered.org.uk

UIFSM: All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to receive a FREE school meal every day regardless of household circumstances. This is called universal infant free school meals. So you can come in and have a great tasting meal every day and pay Ed nothing!

We encourage everyone to take up this free offer!

FSM: If you think you may be entitled to free school meals for your child under aged 7 and for older children, information about free school meals can be found by following the link to Free School Meals within the CATERed webpages or by calling the FSM team on 01752 307410. Eligibility for FSM also provides schools with additional income via the Pupil Premium.

We encourage everyone one who's eligible to take up this free offer!

If you are buying a meal, one of Ed's Super Fantastic two course meals including a drink currently costs £2.80. For a full allergen breakdown please contact us at **catering@catered.org.uk**, let us know what school your child attends so we can talk through the menu offer currently at that school.

Mandatory Food Standards apply to all school lunches details can be found by following the link from our pages or by visiting http://www.schoolfoodplan.com/actions/school-food-standards/

Company No: 9355912 | VAT No: 208 5215 29







Tell Ed!

want to know who nk about our food

d us some recipe ideas tact us on 01752 977166 oy email catering@ catered.org.uk

have 0

at you