



# Warden Hill Primary School

Friday 13th  
January 2017

*2016-17 Newsletter 7*

A very Happy New Year from all the staff!



I hope that you all had a wonderful family Christmas and that your New Years have got off to a great start. Before we head into the New Year I would like to share with you the 'send off' Mr. Hiatt received on his last day as Head.

On the last day of term, after our traditional staff Panto for the children, we all said our goodbyes to Mr. Hiatt.

The children presented him with beautifully made cards from each of the classes.

I spoke to the children about Mr. Hiatt the 'author'. Mr Hiatt has already written one book called 'Mr. Hiatt the Builder' and then after he had finished the last chapter of that book he started a new book called 'Mr. Hiatt the teacher and Head teacher'. I explained to the children that Mr. Hiatt had finished the end of his 'Head Teacher' book and he was going to start his next exciting 'book' in January.

We then presented him with a beautiful silver plectrum (as you know he took guitar club) with his initials on one side and on the other 'Mr. Hiatt Head Teacher of WHPS 2011-2016'- he was delighted with this.

Then from all the staff, children, parents and governors, we handed over a Gift voucher of £540 for him to buy a piece of Cheltenham artwork to remind him of us all at Warden Hill.

Mr. Hiatt has no plans confirmed as yet, but Thailand in February looks most promising- very exciting times ahead for him and his wife Alison. We wish them all the best.

## New Term, New Year, My New Year Message.

Our staff were working hard last Tuesday during our INSET and some of our sessions included: safeguarding training, developing our science Curriculum and the assessment of it, new initiatives and E-safety updates.

We would like to formally welcome Miss Katie Porter (5P) and Mrs Sarah Taylor (2TC) to our fabulous teaching team at Warden Hill. They have both been getting to know their classes over the last few days and we know they are going to be great assets to our team.

Last Wednesday our school truly came back to life after the quiet holidays when the children returned. We had the perfect first whole school assembly, which focused on a **reflection of 2016 and looking forward into 2017, as well as talking about New Year's resolutions.**

The key message to the children was to really think about the little changes that they could make this year to make things better for themselves; small steps + small steps + small steps = big difference.

The staff and I are all very excited about the rest of this academic year and know that our children will continue to make great progress in and out of the classrooms. Please ask your children about **next Monday's assembly as I will be breaking away** from our assembly theme on British Values with some exciting news...

That just leaves me to say have a lovely weekend.



## Reception Classes

Reception have had an extra busy couple of days, due to a letter arriving from HRH Queen Elizabeth...fortunately all the jewels were found and have **been collected by 'The Royal Mail'.**



This morning the Reception children were busy writing in the snow!



## House Captain Election Results

Congratulations to the winners of this term's house captain elections!

	<u>House Captain</u>	<u>Vice House Captain</u>	<u>Sports' Captain</u>
Churn	Joe	Emily	Evie
Coln	Harry	Jessica	Rosa
Windrush	Tommy	Sam	James
Leach	Becca	Martha	Kate

## Google Expeditions

The children have had a fantastic experience of 'Virtual Reality' led by 'Google Expeditions' to support their computing curriculum. By putting on a set of 'Google Goggles' the children were able to look in full 360 degrees at different locations relating to their topics, for example exploring incredible creatures under the sea or the stars and planets of our solar system. The staff were able to use their control device to direct the children to particular points of interest and remotely take the children on new adventures in new locations. For more information see: <https://www.google.com/edu/expeditions/#about>

Mr. Williams



Staff training on Google expeditions this morning before school.



A few snap shots from around school this week.



# Bingo Night

## Friday 27th January

6.00 - 8.30pm in the Junior Hall

**This is a family evening for all to enjoy and have fun while raising money for the school and our children!**



Mrs G Flooks

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## Pupil Success



Becca Y6, Beth Y5 and Bonnie Y4 sang carols and Christmas songs in the Regent Arcade to raise money for charity. The three girls, as part of the Theatrics Performance Group helped raise an amazing £1000 for the Motor Neurone Disease Association and a staggering £1600 for Sue Ryder

Martha Y6 achieved her Gold ASA Swimming Award

Isabelle Y4 passed her freestyle and ballroom dance exams with a Highly Commended Result.

Alexander Y5 performed in The Snow Queen at the Cheltenham Playhouse Theatre this Christmas. Alexander played the part of Young Kai.



## The Safety of our children—message from Mrs Flooks

I am growing more concerned about the safety of our children when they arrive and leave school, due to the number of parents who persist in driving up Durham Close and then invariably parking there too. We have an extremely high concentration of children arriving and leaving our school at the very times some parents insist on driving up Durham Close. This causes a number of issues:

1. Our children are put at increased risk due to cars driving up Durham Close; cars **and children don't mix.**
2. We have taught our children not to cross the road between parked cars due to the very limited vision they have of the road (we all know the green cross code). However, this is difficult to follow when parents insist on parking up and down the Close.
3. The vast majority of our 450 children arrive and leave school each day on foot. When there is the high level of concentration of children walking down the pavements with their parents, all the pavement space is required. Parking on the pavements limit the safe space for our children to walk up or down them.