



Warden Hill  
PRIMARY SCHOOL



NOVEMBER 2019

## Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents

November has been bursting at the seams with so many wonderful activities and learning experiences for our children.

Our year 6 pupils were incredible in leading our school in a **Service of Remembrance** on Monday 11th. They shared stories of real life events that took place during the Second World War, as well as a reflection of all wars and the reason we remember.



The next day we took part in the **National Anti-Bullying Alliances 'Odd Socks Day'**. My whole school assembly focused on the importance of recognising our own and each other's uniquenesses. The importance of being respectful and mindful of the words we use with each other and the need to speak up if you feel that someone is bullying you.

Our school council have been working really hard this term in defying what bullying is and what it is not and



sharing these definitions back in assemblies that they have led. The main overarching message to everyone in our school is: **We are all unique and that's what makes us the same.**





The **PTA Fireworks** was another huge success and we have made an incredible £1600 profit, which will go back in, supporting and enriching our children's experiences at school. A huge thank you to everyone who came and supported us.



Friday night's **PTA Christmas Fair** was another brilliant success. There was a lovely atmosphere in the school. As well as the staff, PTA and parent helpers, our Y6 and Y5 pupils stepped up into different roles of leadership on the night. They took responsibilities on stall holders and Santa's elves in the Grotto. Thank you to everyone who came, we will have a profit update in December's newsletter.



December is such a busy month and I know that our school calendar is full to the brim - please keep checking it as it is updated every week (as things change).

The next PTA event is our **School Disco on Friday 13 December**: Infants Disco 5.00pm - 6.00pm, Juniors Disco 6.15pm - 7.30pm

I look forward to seeing you all at some point over the next few weeks at the different Nativities and Carol concerts.

That leaves me to say here's to the next few weeks of all things Chrismassy!  
Enjoy the festive run up.

Warmest regards  
Georgina Flooks

## Reporting to parents update

The statutory requirement for schools is to prepare an annual report. As a school, over the years, we have held two formal parents evenings and one informal drop-in session in the summer term, as well as two short written reports in the Autumn and spring term and a full end of year report in the summer term.

After much discussion with the teaching staff we are moving to the new reporting arrangements below, which we feel will still give a really good overview of our pupils' progress and attainment throughout the year.

October :	Parents' Evening
January:	Short written report updating on progress since parents' evening
March:	Parents' Evening
July:	End of year curriculum report

## Parking

I have received two letters recently from neighbours requesting that I remind parents about being polite parkers.

Some drives have been blocked of late, as well as dangerous parking on corners of junctions. Please park considerately at all times.

Thank you for your support in this.

## School Streets

Some of you will have seen Iain Dobbie (one of our school governors) in recent media coverage about the initiative 'School Streets'.

This is a project that we are getting involved in and are hoping to launch it in the Summer term to tie in with the Big Pedal 2-week initiative.

Effectively it will mean a closure to Durham Close at drop-off and pick-up to keep the street clear of cars for our children and neighbours.

I will have more information for you in the coming weeks, but we are at the very beginning of this exciting journey.

<https://www.gloucestershirelive.co.uk/news/cheltenham-news/dozens-cars-queuing-parking-pavements-3434156>

<http://schoolstreets.org.uk/>

## Medical and contact details

Please make sure that if the medical needs of your children change then you must let us know either by putting it in an email or popping into reception and speaking to one of the admin team. This also goes for updating new mobile numbers so we have the correct contact details.

## Staff training

5

Keeping updated with the latest thinking or necessary professional development is the key to continuing to develop a great school.

Some of the courses and training events our staff have been on recently are as follows:

- Early Years Foundation Stage Conference run by the amazing Alistair Bryce Clegg
- Designated Safeguarding lead training
- Preparing for Statutory Relationship Education in Primary Schools (more information to follow next term)
- Anti-Bullying and Equality work in the Primary School
- Offsite Visit Coordinator training





## Year 3 Stone Age Day

On Stone Age Day we got to dress up as Stone Age people. First, we went to the classroom and saw that the room was dark with a burning fire on the board. A few minutes later, we went into the hall and saw Mr Bridgwood talking to his class in a very funny voice. He told us that 3W were going to be making clay pots and 3H were going on a pretend beast hunt. We went back to our classroom and made the clay pots. First,

we designed the pots on a piece of paper then we were given a ball of clay to make the pots with. After break, we went on a beast hunt. We had saber tooth tigers, crocodiles, eagles and mammoths and I even pretended to kill our leader Mr Bridgwood so Toby became our new leader, lots of people died though. Later on, we made Stonehenge out of biscuits, we didn't get to eat the biscuits but they looked yummy!

Huw, Edie, Alice and Harry A



## Avebury Stones

On the 28th November 2019, 3W went to the biggest stone circle in the world and we had so much fun! We walked around the stone circle with our tour guide, John. He told us that Alexander Keiller had put some of the circle back up. He showed us a ditch that took 100 years to make, we got to go in the ditch too! We had lunch and visited 2 museums, it was the best time of our lives!

Elya

## Remembrance Assembly

On the 11th hour, on the 11th day, on the 11th month, Year 6 performed their traditional assembly on Remembrance day. It is always a poignant tribute, where we think about all of the soldiers lost in World War One and World War Two, as well as those currently fighting overseas and those impacted by war. This was a day to remember and a day to hope for peace. Thank you to all those who watched the assembly and paid their respects.

Jacob and Alfie R



## Odd Socks Day

On Tuesday 12th November, all children came to school wearing odd socks as part of our anti-bullying week. The message being sent out was to remember that we are all unique in our own way - which makes us all the same! We are who we are and that's what makes us all special. Life would be boring if we were all the same as each other!

Martina and Keeley







## Year 6 Evolution and Adaptation

Year 6 got the amazing opportunity from Nicola Mayo and some of her students from Hartpury College to lead us in a science day. They brought in lots of animals, from a royal python and a blue-tongued skink to a giant African land snail and two Hermann's tortoises. They taught us lots about different adaptations those animals had, how they have evolved and their offspring. After an action packed few hours of learning, we were even able to hold or touch the animals - if we dared! We were so thankful to Nicola and her students for the opportunity.

Lucy and Max



## Football

### Team A

Having won our 1st of 6 group games last month, we have since had 4 more games in our group with Dunalley, St Marks and Rowanfield. Our first 2 games in November were home and away against Rowanfield. Sadly, in our away fixture, we lost 3-2, but at home we won 6-3, giving us 6 points from 3 games so far. We have since gone on to beat Dunalley twice (9-0 and 2-0) meaning we have qualified from our group with 4 wins from 5 games. We have one more game to look forward to before Christmas, which was postponed due to the recent bad weather.

Thomas W and Luke A

### Team B

Warden Hill B team have had a very successful start to their season, with one game against St Marks and 2 against Rowanfield. We won our first match, beating St Marks 4-0. With our ever-popular football club, we were even able to field 2 B-teams in our away games at Rowanfield, which were won 9-0 and 13-0. We then beat them 4-1 at 'home' - even though we went to Rowanfield again - conceding our first goal of the season. Our big event will happen in the Spring with the B team tournament.

Ethan and Lucas

## Sports Leaders

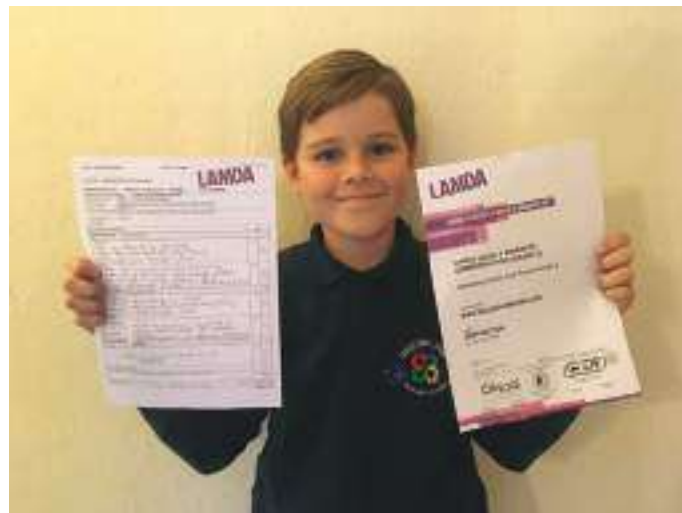
Sports Leaders are currently being trained up by Move More coaches. They will start leading sessions towards the end of this term to promote active lunchtimes with each year group. 16 of us across Year 5 and Year 6 were chosen by the PE team and our teachers and are excited to get our new badges in assembly and start getting other children even more active!

Molly P-W and Luke A

## Pupil Success

Max N 6W received the highest awarded grade possible - a distinction in his LAMDA grade two speaking verse and poem.

Marie, Super-proud mum



# Christmas Services



**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December**

6pm | Carol Service

**Christmas Eve**

4pm | Crib Service

*Come dressed as your favourite nativity character*



**11pm | Midnight Communion**

**Christmas Day**

10am | Holy Communion



## UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILDREN'S & TEEN'S BEHAVIOUR

THURSDAY 5 DECEMBER

5 - 6.30PM

DISCOVERY ROOM, GROUND FLOOR

Join Helen Ryder from Hope Parenting for a workshop which aims to help parents better understand their children's behaviour. Helen has many years of training and experience in the fields of Parenting, Family Support, Psychology & Child Development. She will cover topics 'Having Clear Boundaries' & 'How to use Emotion Coaching rather than Discipline'. £7pp to include coffee and biscuits. Book at the experience Desk in store or on 0241 544 042.







# Dates for your Diary

For times and detailed information please visit the Calendar page  
[wardenhill.gloucs.sch.uk/events/](http://wardenhill.gloucs.sch.uk/events/)

Monday 2 December	Christmas Tree Lighting at St Christopher's Church
Tuesday 3 December	Reception Nativity
Wednesday 4 December	Parent Governors Election - voting deadline
Thursday 5 December	Flu Vaccination
Friday 6 December	Flu Vaccination
Friday 6 December	Year 1 Carols around the Christmas Tree
Tuesday 10 December	Year 2 Nativity
Thursday 12 December	KS2 Carol Service at St Phillip and St James'
Friday 13 December	Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children
Friday 13 December	PTA Christmas Disco
Sunday 15 December	Linc Light Up A Life Service at St Luke's Church (KS2)
Monday 16 December	Infant Christmas Party
Monday 16 December	Year 6 Christmas Party
Tuesday 17 December	Year 5 Christmas Party
Wednesday 18 December	Year 4 Christmas Party
Wednesday 18 December	Year 3 Christmas Party
Thursday 19 December	Whole School Christmas Lunch - Wear Christmas Jumper
Friday 20 December	1.30pm End of Term
Monday 6 January	Back to School

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