



# Parents' Weekly Newsletter

*'Thriving to achieve our best - together'*

19th November 2021



## Message from Dr Craddock

Dear Parents and Carers,

We started our anti-Bullying week in a fun way, celebrating the fact that it is good to be unique by wearing odd socks! There have been lots of rich discussions throughout the whole week that will really encourage all children to think about the kindness of the words that they use and how they affect others.

Children have been encouraged to share how they feel in different situations and being a 'Telling School' they learn how to stand up for themselves if they feel that someone is not treating them kindly. Our Jigsaw PSHE programme helps children to understand different cultures and ways of life better; hopefully getting rid of any future prejudice. From cyber-bullying to playground teasing – we will not tolerate children feeling unhappy and will do everything we can to show children how to behave in a way that is respectful. Having the voice and the confidence to speak out is so important and our children sometimes need help with this. We always act quickly to ensure that any unkind words or actions is never accepted – every child's happiness depends on this.

We are always available to talk with children and their parents and /or carers if things are not as they should be. Please remember to let us know of any incident that has made your child feel unhappy, unsafe or worried so that we can work together to make every day at West Moors Middle School a fun and happy one.

Thank you for your continued help in looking after each other and keeping our school community safe.

Dr Craddock

## Rights Respecting News

### Article of the Week

There are three articles that provide a particularly strong link this week:

**Article 2 – Non-discrimination:** The Convention applies to every child without discrimination, whatever their ethnicity, gender, religion, language, abilities or any other status, whatever they think or say, whatever their family background.

**Article 12 – Respect for the views of the child:** Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously. This right applies at all times, for example during immigration proceedings, housing decisions or the child's day-to-day home life.

**Article 19 – Protection from violence, abuse and neglect:** Governments must do all they can to ensure that children are protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and bad treatment by their parents or anyone else who looks after them. During our weekly assembly, we asked the children, 'Bullying can take many forms. Can you think of and describe some of the ways someone might be bullied?'



West Moors Middle School, Heathfield Way, West Moors, Ferndown, Dorset. BH22 0DA

Phone: 01202 872474 Email: office@westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Dr Deborah Craddock Deputy Head Teacher: Deborah East



During our weekly assembly, we asked the children, 'Bullying can take many forms. Can you think of and describe some of the ways someone might be bullied?'

Some of the responses were:

Physical – aggressive or violent action, being pushed, hit, kicked, intimidated.

Verbal – name-calling, threatening, being laughed at, teasing, being shouted at.

Social – being purposefully excluded from plans with your "friends".

Cyber bullying (online, on social media or gaming forums) – unkind comments, sharing photos with negative comments.

Discrimination - against race, nationality, sexuality, faith or another protected characteristic.

Emotional or Psychological – when someone gets what they want by making others feel angry/sad (manipulation) or being told they are not good enough.

*As a school, we pride ourselves on being a 'Telling School'. This means that if our children see or hear any of the above, or something else that worries them, they must tell an adult. This helps to ensure that bullying does not happen in our school.*



The Association for Physical Education provides guidance for all schools regarding the delivery of PE and safety within the sessions. Their guidance states: 'The Association for Physical Education (afPE) strongly recommends the practice of removing all personal effects at the commencement of every lesson to establish a safe working environment. This applies to all ear and body piercings, including retainer and expander earrings.'

As a school we follow this guidance and therefore we must remind all parents/carers and children that for safety reasons, all jewellery (including stud earrings) **must be removed for swimming and all P.E. activities.** We have been very impressed with all the children who are following this guidance and remembering to leave their earrings at home on PE days.

We appreciate that there may be some occasions when a child forgets or is unable to remove their earrings. On these rare occasions, the child will still participate in the PE lesson (or after school sports club) but we will make adaptations in terms of how the child takes part in the practical aspects of the lesson. We will involve them with group planning, designing and tactical discussions, but they will have different tasks assigned to them during the practical elements of the lesson (for example, individual skills practices, peer coaching, observation and feedback tasks, or officiating in a games context).

**Thank you for your cooperation and support.**



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## **FUN AT FOREST SCHOOL**

This week at Forest School:

**Year 7** – Go, go, go – how fast can you complete the obstacle course?

**Year 8** – Swinging into the trees to very focused tool work to make Forest School cookies.

**Year 6** – Learning how to be safe around the fire and challenging themselves to cross the rope bridge.



## **CRAFT-A-NOON**

**Every Thursday after school – Starting on the 25<sup>th</sup> November – 3:30-4.30**

Opportunity for your child to learn new craft skills.

Over the year, we will be exploring the use of different crafts and the children will be creating their own artistic masterpieces!

We welcome any donations of crafting materials, which can be left at our school's reception. Thank you in advance.



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# IMPORTANT REMINDERS

## Nut-Free School

People who suffer from nut allergies can develop a severe, potentially life-threatening allergic reaction. If someone has a nut allergy, it is not just eating nuts that can cause a severe reaction, just being touched on the skin or smelling the breath of someone who has had nuts or a product containing nuts can trigger anaphylactic shock (which can cause breathing and swallowing difficulties).

### **We cannot have nuts in school in any form.**

So please can we ask that you have **no nut products** in the lunch boxes or brought into the school as treats. For example:

- Peanut butter sandwiches
- Chocolate spreads
- Cereal bars
- Some granola bars
- Cakes that contain nuts
- Biscuits / Cookies that contain nuts
- Peanut butter cakes

This list is not exhaustive, so please check the packaging of products closely. We appreciate that this is an additional thing to check and we know that you recognise the importance of it. We do have to insist we are a nut free school. I know if this was your child you would expect that we all help, especially as it is a life-threatening condition.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff.



## Attendance Matters

**School Improvement Priority**  
**To further improve levels of punctuality and attendance**

The tutor group that had the best attendance this week was 5KW (95%) in KS2 and 7MM (90%) in KS3. Well done to you all, you have earned an extra-long playtime this week! From next week, children with 100% attendance will enter a prize draw to win a prize each week. We will also be presenting weekly Postcard Awards for improved attendance. Every minute of school is learning time!



## REMINDERS & NOTICES

### Your Views Matter

Our staff team work incredibly hard to support our children's education, and we would really be grateful if you could complete a short survey on how well you feel we are doing. This only takes a few minutes and is a great way to show your support for our school. To date only 15/218 parents have completed this Parentview survey and we would really value this opportunity to capture everyone's views. If you are happy to support, please can you complete this survey by Monday 29th November 2021– [click here](#).



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## **PTFA Outdoor Christmas Market** **10th December 2021 16.30-18.30**

Friday 26th November 2021 is Mufti day in return for either £1 or a contribution to the tombola for our Christmas Outdoor Market on the 10th December 2021. Items should be taken to the assembly hall before school. We would particularly appreciate the following kinds of gifts from these year groups:

**Year 5 Chocolates or sweets**

**Year 6 and Year 7 Toiletries & Gifts**

**Year 8 Bottles**

This special event will be outdoors in front of the school which is floodlit, and we have taken all necessary precautions to make the event as safe as possible. Please come along and join us in these festive celebrations, enjoy a snack and / or hot chocolate with cream, take part in our tombola, and play festive games! We will also be setting up a photo booth with props as well as Santa's grotto with help from his elves!



## ***Communication***

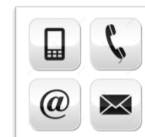
A reminder that at West Moors Middle School, we use our school website, email and our Twitter page to communicate and share information with you.

Email: [office@westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk)

School Website: <https://westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk>

Twitter page: [https://twitter.com/west\\_moors](https://twitter.com/west_moors)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WestMoorsMiddleSchool/>



Finally, please also look out for all key information to parents such as events information, newsletters, trips and special events using the parent mail system.



### **School Year: Term Dates & Holidays** **2021/22**

#### **Autumn Term 2021**

Term ends on Friday 22nd October

Term starts for Students on Monday 1st November

Inset Day Friday 3rd December

Term ends Friday 17th December

#### **Spring Term 2022:**

Term starts for students on Tuesday 4th January

Inset Day Monday 31st January

Term ends on Friday 18th February

Term starts for students on Monday 28th February

Term ends for students on Friday 8th April

#### **Summer Term 2022**

Term starts for students on Monday 25th April

Bank Holiday: Monday 2nd May – school closed

Term ends on Friday 27th May

Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday 6th June 2022

Term starts for students on Tuesday 7th June

Inset Day Friday 1st July

Term ends on Friday 22nd July

#### **Inset Days:**

Thursday 2nd September 2021

Friday 3rd September 2021

Friday 3rd December 2021

Monday 31st January 2022

Friday 1st July 2022

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# West Moors Middle School Outside Christmas Market

10th December 2021  
15:45-17:45

Photo  
Booth

Pin the tail on  
the reindeer

Festive  
Tombola

Guess the  
weight of  
the cake

Costume  
Competition

Football penalty  
shootout against  
Santa!

Festive Drinks  
Hot Chocolate with marshmallows  
Spiced Apple Juice

Face  
Painting

Visit  
Santa's  
Grotto!

Homemade gifts

LUCKY  
DIP

Where: West Moors Middle School West  
Moors, Ferndown, BH22 0DA.