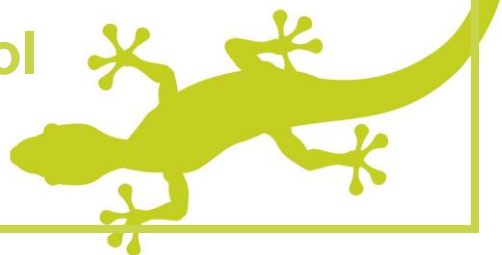


THE LIZARD

West Moors Middle School

February, 2016



Message from the Head Teacher, Mr J Rielly

As we leap forward within 2016 – a leap year – it is important to pause for breath and celebrate some of the pupil achievements this half term.

There has been a very musical flavour to the last few weeks as all the children (and teachers) have been preparing for the school's debut vocal recording – we 'cut' the **School CD** on Thursday 11th February and it will be available after half term. Thanks to Mrs H Watkins for her passion and drive in this area.

Our Year 8 pupils have been showing great entrepreneurial skills as they aim to convert a 'seed loan' of £1. As well as developing pupils' mathematical and innovative talents, the scheme aims to raise funds for school children in developing countries, so that they can pursue similar outcomes. Thank you to all parents who have supported their children on various money making schemes so far and to Mr Dover for his leadership on the **Micro-Tyco** project.

I have been very impressed with how pupils in all year groups have behaved positively and purposefully during our spring testing week. These assessments help us to track the progress of all pupils and intervene where necessary. It is worth restating that the SATs exams for Year 6 pupils will take place in the week beginning Monday 9th May. If you have any questions about these tests, please get in touch. The whole school has much to live up to as the results from last year's SATs made West Moors the best performing Dorset middle school, according to the school league tables.

Next half term will be the last few weeks of Mrs Gould's teaching career of 35 years. She has taught in Dorset continuously since leaving college. She will be taking early retirement at Easter. Mrs Gould has been a tremendous servant of the school having spent the last 28 years at WMMS, culminating in her current role as Assistant Headteacher. Her

commitment to West Moors children has been unquestionable and her professionalism has been a huge asset over the years. On a related matter, I am delighted to be able to announce that the school has recruited Miss Liberty King from Allenbourn Middle School. She will assume Mrs Gould's teaching commitment and become a KS3 tutor.

Finally, many of you will have seen that the school is advertising for a Headteacher. My current position is a secondment for one year from Allenbourn Middle School. Nevertheless, I will definitely be applying for the permanent position so please feel free to write supportive letters to the Chair of Governors!

Year 6 Visit Winchester Science Centre

On 4th February, Year 6 spent the day trying out a variety of experiments ranging from making a tornado and sending parachutes into the air to building stable bridges. The highlight was a visit to the Planetarium where we reclined and viewed the planets within our solar system, trying to take on board the massive distances involved in getting from planet to planet. Students arrived home with a variety of bouncy balls and gooey alien slime!

Everyone agreed that they had a fantastic time.



Please note that the second instalment for payment of trips was due on Friday 1st February. If you have not yet paid your first and/or second instalment, please contact the school office on 01202 872474 as soon as possible. If you have any queries about the amount due or payment options, please speak to Mrs Clark in the finance department.

Eco Club

We have been very busy in Eco Club looking after the birds during the cold weather. We had a very messy but fun afternoon using lard, bird seed and pine cones to make fat balls to hang on the trees outside the Science lab and pond area. The birds must have been really hungry as, within a week, they had eaten them all! We will be making some more next Eco Club session.



'Phil the Bag'

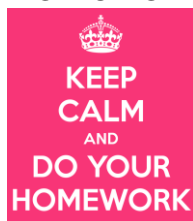


Eco club runs the 'Phil the Bag' scheme to support school activities. We are raising money by collecting any unwanted textiles such as; clean clothing, bedding, table cloths & curtains. If you have any unwanted textiles please bring them into school via the front office. Pupils can collect a 'Phil the Bag' bag from the school office or from Mrs Phillips in the Science department. Thank you for your continued support.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to our kitchen staff who received the top Food Hygiene Level 5 Rating. Well done!

Homework club



Would you like some help with your homework? Do you struggle to get yourself organised and forget to do it? Then come along to homework club. The club will run every Monday lunchtime and Thursday after school until 4:30pm. All year groups welcome. *Miss Smith*

World Book Day



WORLD BOOK DAY is Thursday 3rd March. Please come dressed as your favourite character, there will be prizes for the best in school and members of staff throughout the school join in. We will also be holding a book quiz in the library and points will be awarded to the winning house team.

Costumes can be as elaborate as school life will allow or as simple as having your face painted. Please note that P.E. kits must be worn underneath and the normal school time table will continue throughout the day.

We will be collecting a non-uniform donation of £1.00 from each pupil who dresses up, with which we hope to get the latest top ten titles for the library.

A huge thank you to all who helped raise money through the book fair and also Norma Winfield and friends who donated lots of lovely new and nearly new books. We had an open week and displayed over 250 new titles !

Ms Ward, School Librarian

Individual Certificates

Pupils gain a Bronze Certificate when they achieve 50 Lizard Points, a Silver Certificate for 100 Lizard Points and a Gold Certificate when they reach 150 Lizard Points.

The following children have been awarded certificates:

Bronze:

**Logan Atkin Peter Bowyer Cariss Doyle Amy Entwistle Adam Hector
Rebecca Howard Demi Leigh Johnson Chris Jones Conner Hill
James Nawavuka Ruby Smith Cameron Yau George Amor Stasia Smith
Seren Hince Amber James Aiken Moss-Holland Hannah Osborne
Jacob Watt Kira Baggs Matthew Hodgson Louise Lacey Tyler Mawson
Lauren Pigott Mia Rushen Sebastian Singh Anya Smit-Ash Lauren Steel
Melek Urel Isabella Ashcroft Ashleigh Chew Amelie Gastaldi Emily Plater
Jasmine Smith Danielle Teed Jason Tomkins Abi Wingate Lucy Marsh**

Silver:

**Sophie Cox Felix Doran Rhiannon Hutton James Nawavuka Luke Hewitt
Aiken Moss-Holland Jake Smith Jessica Stainer Megan Collins**

Gold:

George Grocock Luke Hewitt Skye Wingate

Well done to you all.

School Calendar 2015-16

| Date | Event |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Monday 22nd February | Students return to school |
| Thursday 3rd March | World Book Day – please dress as a character from a literary land |
| Wednesday 9 th March | Year 4 Football tournament 1pm-3pm |
| Thursday 17 th March | Fishbourne Roman Palace |
| Tuesday 22 nd March | Yr 7 Orienteering |
| Wednesday 23rd March | Yr 7 Orienteering |
| Thursday 24th March | House Day |
| Thursday 24 th March | Spring Term reports issued |
| Thursday 24 th March | Break up for Easter – students in school |
| | |
| Monday 11 th April | Start of term – students in school French visitors in school |
| Thursday 14 th April | French visitors – Year 8 disco |
| Wednesday 27 th April | Year 3 Cricket Festival |
| Monday 2 nd May | Bank Holiday |
| Friday 6 th May | PTFA Quiz Night |
| Monday 9 th May | Year 6 SATs week |
| Monday 16 th May | Year 8 exam week |
| Friday 27 nd May | Break up for half term – students in school |
| | |
| Tuesday 7th June | Start of term – students in school. |
| | |

*Please note: there are times when we are offered opportunities at the 'last minute' which means we are unable to give parents a lot of notice. There may, therefore, be additional events that take place which are not detailed above.

West Moors Middle School PTFA

FAMILY

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Friday 6th May

Licensed bar – Bring your own nibbles

No unaccompanied children