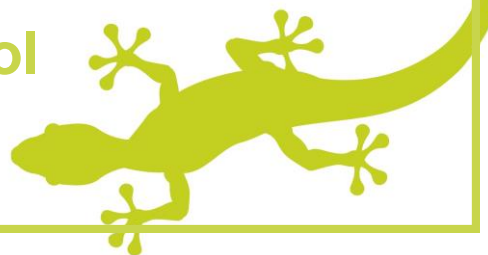


THE LIZARD

West Moors Middle School

February, 2015



Message from the Head Teacher, Mrs C. Pritchard

As usual, time has flown by and we find ourselves at the end of another half term. Although I'm sure it seems like a distant memory now, I hope you all had a lovely Christmas break and a very happy new year.

This term has, so far, seen the continuation of Year 6 maths booster sessions – running both before and after school. The pupils must be commended for their dedication in coming along to improve their maths skills – and thank you parents for making this possible by collecting your young people at the end of the sessions. Please note, the SATs exams will be taking place in the week beginning Monday 11th May, so the next term will be crucial for preparing the pupils for their exams. Further information about the SATs will be issued nearer the time, but should you have any questions for us, please ask.

We have also been fortunate to have some exciting events taking place in Science – which Mrs Phillips has written about below and pupils have participated in various sports events including rowing, cross country and football. In addition, we have started our Breakfast Club, where students have been able to not only have breakfast, but also participate in some pre-school exercise in our 'gym' area. Should you be interested in your child attending, please get in touch.

And on Friday this week, our pupils will be participating in internet safety sessions, delivered by the Safe Schools and Communities Team (SSCT). These sessions include the following:



- Year 5 – the session introduces social networking and 'posting' online.
- Year 6 – the session provides a more in-depth exploration of social networking and popular media and their inherent risks, including the risk of sending images that may be unsuitable.
- Year 7 – the session educates students on the use of digital technology to groom children and young people and where to access help and support. The term 'sexting' is also introduced and explained.
- Year 8 – the session provides an in-depth review of the safeguarding issues relating to personal data, privacy settings, social networks, friendship requests as well as popular apps and games.

Next half term promises to be just as jam-packed. Year 7 pupils will be orienteering at Moors Valley Park and Year 6 will be visiting Intech in Winchester. Year 5 will be going on a trip to Fishbourne Roman Palace to investigate light in an age before electricity and Year 8 will be participating in the Arson Courtroom Drama and 'Chelsea's Choice' drama workshop.

We have also arranged for all of the pupils to participate in Anti-Bullying workshops, again run by the Safe Schools and Communities Team as detailed below:



- **Year 5** – Exploring what a 'healthy friendship' is and the importance of treating each other respectfully.
- **Year 6** – Introducing the different types of bullying behaviours and the impact they have on both the bully and the bullied.
- **Year 7** – Using Childnet's 'Joe's story' DVD this session focus on cyberbullying and its consequences.
- **Year 8** – This session integrates the DCSF's 'make them go away' video to explore the different strands of diversity and the legislation in relation to hate incidents/crimes.

And Year 7 will also be participating in the GRIP roadshow (Gaining Respect in People) which addresses issues such as diversity (exploring, celebrating and embracing our differences), 'Keep Dorset Safe', street influences – defining gangs and exploring the impact on communities and exploring antisocial behaviour and understanding its consequences.

Undoubtedly, there will be other opportunities which crop up as we progress through the term, so it promises to be an interesting and enriching experience for all of our pupils. Finally, I would like to say well done and thank you to all of the pupils for their continued hard work and excellent behaviour. We had exams last week and the pupils worked really hard to achieve their very best. We also had a tiny smattering of snow – which enabled those who wanted to, to go outside at break time and have a snowball fight. The pupils were respectful of each other and had great fun playing in the snow and throwing snowballs at each other and also at Mr Malone, Mr Dover, Mrs Phillips and Miss Clark. While I have no doubt that they were desperate to throw them at me, they refrained ☺, but I very much enjoyed watching them make the most of the tiny bit of snow we had! And congratulations to Jake Cole, who made, according to Mr Dover, the most perfect spherical snowball!



Assessment and feedback

Over the past year we have further developed our marking and assessment policy to ensure that there is greater consistency and to enable pupils to understand how we are feeding back to them. When pupils do assessed pieces of work, the following happens:

- 1) Teacher feedback is given in two different colours.
 - Pink is used to alert the pupil to something that is wrong – **PINK FOR THINK**
 - Green is used to acknowledge what the pupil has done correctly or well – **GREEN FOR GO**
- 2) Pupils are then set a **NOW** task. In this task they are asked to respond to their teacher's feedback. This may be answering a question, correcting their mistakes or doing something to show they have understood what the teacher has said.
- 3) Pupils complete their **NOW** task in the **PURPLE PEN OF PROGRESS**.
- 4) Teachers also correct literacy mistakes such as spelling, grammar and punctuation.



West Moors Middle School PTFA



Friday 20th March 2014 at 7pm in the school hall.
£1 entry – tickets available to buy soon (children free)

Children's bingo – Licensed bar – Bring your own nibbles

No unaccompanied children

Science – Year 7 STEM - Bloodhound Team: January 16th 2015

A team of scientists and engineers are building a supersonic car named the Bloodhound. They are attempting to be the first car to go faster than 1,000 miles per hour. The engines produce more than 6 times the power of all the Formula 1 cars on a starting grid put together. Year 7 watched lots of video clips showing how the car was designed and saw the car in action. They were able to ask the engineers lots of questions and then were set a challenge to design their own car powered by a balloon.

'The Stem activity was fun and interesting at the same time. I was proud of our car as it travelled the furthest. We also learned lots about the Blood hound car.' Ryan A

'I enjoyed our STEM afternoon. I learnt a lot about the Bloodhound and Drag. It was interesting to hear about engineers and their work.' Alina

'The thing I liked best was making the car as we had to work as a team. I learnt lots of new things from the talk about the Bloodhound car and really enjoyed it.' Sarah



The winning teams



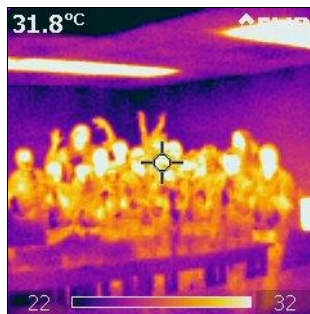
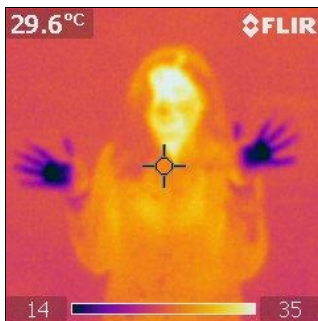
Marie Curie Cancer Care – Update!



The daffodil bulbs the pupils planted are all growing nicely and are being cared for by Mrs Phillips' tutor group. We are hoping to send them home with the donation envelopes sometime after the half term and hope that you will support us in raising money for this worth while charity.

Year 8 Thermal Imaging

Our Year 8 pupils are learning about heat transfer. To link in with this topic pupils learnt about thermal imaging. The Science department and our year 8 pupils would like to say a very big thank you to Mr Jason Milsom, who came into science to discuss and show us how a thermal imaging camera works. During the lesson, pupils had the opportunity to try using the camera themselves and to look at the images the camera produced. The pupils learnt that the camera would pick up heat radiating off a subject and show the different temperatures as a different colour in the image. To prove this, some of the pupils put their hands into ice cold water and then had their image taken. Their hands showed up black & purple whereas their faces, which were warmer, showed bright yellow & white. Everyone agreed that they really enjoyed using the camera! Thank you once again Mr Milsom.



Science: Year 6 Boats

Year 6 pupils are learning about different forces in Science. After having a lesson about up-thrust, pupils were set a challenge to design the best shaped silver foil boat, which would hold the most 10g slotted masses. The winning team's boat held an impressive 270g!



School choir



Wednesday CHOIR 1:00-1:20pm in the music room.
Come and sing. Learn to love your voice. It's with you for life!
Look forward to seeing you there.
Mrs Hanwell

World Book Day



West Moors Middle will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday, 5th March this year. The WHOLE school will be involved, including members of staff! We would love everyone to come in dressed as a character from a literary land. Here are some ideas to inspire you:

Alice in Wonderland

The Wizard of Oz

The Chronicles of Narnia

The Wind in the Willows

The Hobbit

Harry Potter

Peter Pan – Neverland

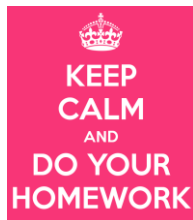
Most fairy stories!

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.

Ms Ward, School Librarian

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 in Room 9. The club will run every Wednesday evening, starting on Wednesday 27th February straight after school until 4:30pm. All year groups welcome. *Mrs Beavan*

Breakfast Club

The breakfast club started on Monday 2nd February and the first attendants have been welcomed. We have managed to incorporate breakfast with a keep fit session in the new 'gym' where we have an exercise bike, rowing machine, resistance bands and weights. If you would like to come along, the breakfast club runs from 8:00am each morning at a cost of £1.00. *Mrs Wakeford*



Sustrans bike event



This March we are encouraging pupils to get involved in the Big Pedal. The Big Pedal is the UK's largest inter-school cycling and scooting challenge that inspires pupils, staff and parents to choose two wheels for their journey to school. This year's competition will run from 2nd to 20th March. On each day of the challenge schools compete to see who can record the greatest number of pupils, staff and parents cycling or scooting to school. We will send out further information next half term or you can look up the competition at www.bigpedal.org.uk.

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:

Ellie-Mai Jervis – 5CB
Tyler Mawson – 5CB
Holly Berridge – 5CB
Junior Tamanitoakula – 6MW
Natalie Holden – 6CW
Aiden Hover – 6CW

Grace Dipinto – 5CB
Danielle Teed – 5BM
Ben Hector – 6MW
Alissa Cole – 6CW
Lizzie Hunter – 6CW
Lauren Marsh – 6CW

Jasmine Smith – 5BM
Amy Cole – 6MW
Sophie Bryant – 6CW
David Plumb – 6CW
Kirsty Zeineh – 6CW
Becca Rosier - PP

Silver:

Abigail Williams – 6MW

Sonia Mecia – 6MW

Well done to you all.

Certificates will be presented to the children after half term.

Reminders

Please note that the second instalment for payment of trips was due on Monday 2nd 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.

School Calendar 2014-15

Date	Event
Monday 23rd February	Students return to school
Friday 27 th February	Anti-bullying workshops – all year groups
Wednesday 4 th March	Year 7 GRIP workshops (Gaining Respect in People)
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day – please dress as a character from a literary land
Monday 9 th March	Year 8 (Blue) Arson Courtroom Drama
Wednesday 11 th March	Year 6 trip – Intech Winchester
Thursday 12 th March	Year 8 (Red) Arson Courtroom Drama
Wednesday 11 th March	Year 4 Football tournament 1pm-3pm
Monday 16 th March	Year 7 Orienteering – Moors Valley Park
Wednesday 18 th March	Year 4 Football tournament (reserve) 1pm-3pm Year 7 Orienteering – Moors Valley Park Year 8 Chelsea's Choice drama performance
Thursday 19 th March	World War I Centenary concert – all year groups – letters to be sent to students this applies to.
Friday 20 th March	PTFA QUIZ NIGHT
Monday 23 rd March	Winter school Games Event
Wednesday 25 th March	Fishbourne Roman Palace
Wednesday 25 th March	Winter school Games Final
Thursday 26 th March	Disco
Friday 27 th March	House Day
Friday 28 th March	Spring Term reports issued
Friday 27 th March	Break up for Easter – students in school
Monday 13 th April	Start of term – students in school French visitors in school
Thursday 16 th April	French visitors – Year 8 disco
Wednesday 29 th April	Year 3 Cricket Festival at WMMS
Monday 4 th May	School closed – Bank Holiday
Monday 11 th May to Friday 15 th May	YEAR 6 SATS WEEK
Monday 18 th May to Friday 22 nd May	Year 8 exam week
Friday 22 nd May	Break up for half term – students in school
Monday 1 st 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.

BOURNEMOUTH PARENT CARER FORUM

Bournemouth Parent Carer Forum are extremely pleased to invite you to the launch of Afasic in Dorset.

THURSDAY 26TH MARCH 2015

10.00 - 12.00

COMMUNITY ROOM

C/O TESCO SUPERMARKET

CASTLE LANE, BH7 7AY

WHO ARE AFASIC?

Afasic is the UK charity representing children & young people with speech, language & communication impairments, working for their inclusion in society & supporting their parents & carers.

Afasic was founded in 1968 to help children & young people & their families. They provide information & training for parents - and professionals - and produce a range of publications. Members meet in regional groups throughout the UK.

Today Afasic has over 2000 members and is recognised as a leading authority in its field. As well as hosting a number of large conferences throughout the country, they also work closely with other national charities and organisations to promote understanding, acceptance, equal opportunities & the inclusion into society of children & young adults with speech & language impairments.

No need to book, but please feel free to contact us on bpcf.events@outlook.com if you wish to find out more about how Bournemouth Parent Carer Forum & Afasic will be working with children with SLC.N.



LAUNCHING AFASIC IN DORSET



Working towards a brighter future through effective partnerships between parents, carers & professionals in reviewing & developing local services

CHARITY NUMBER 1151503

E-Mail office@westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk

Tel 01202 872474