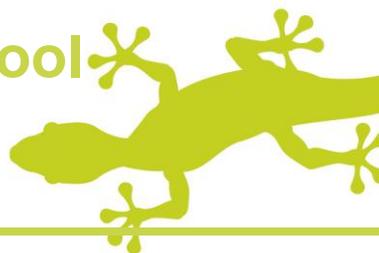


# THE LIZARD

West Moors Middle School

Easter, 2016



## Message from the Headteacher, Mr J Rielly

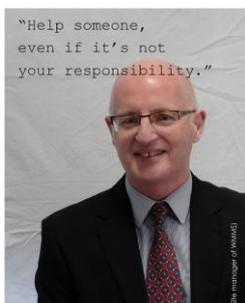
After a very short half term, we are reaching our Easter break and, as always, time has flown by. As usual, it has been a very busy time with lots of trips, events and hard work on the part of everyone at WMMS.

### Growth Mindset

During this half term, we have focused on our values of 'thoughtfulness' and 'understanding' during school assemblies. Specifically, we have been thinking about how a 'Growth Mindset' is essential for achievement in school. In a nutshell, this is an attitude to learning which is characterised by accepting challenges, valuing practice and using mistakes. The 'Growth Mindset' will continue to play an important part in how we continued to develop teaching and learning at West Moors Middle School



### Values Photography Project



As we continue to establish our school values, a dozen pupils worked alongside art teacher Mrs Clark to develop a set of photographic portraits. The subjects were 12 members of our extended school community, who the children also interviewed in relation to our school values. Here is one example of their work and there will be a gallery of all the photographs in the school admin corridor.

### Chris Lubbe talk

On Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, WMMS said sawubona to Chris Lubbe (Unicef Children's Champion). Chris inspired our school council members and students from Emmanuel Middle, Ferndown Middle and Ferndown Upper, with his amazing stories of his time as Nelson Mandela's body guard. He also led the audience on matters such as global citizenship and human rights.



## Uniform reminder

As we head into the summer term and children perhaps outgrow uniform bought at the start of the year, it is relevant to show this extract from the school handbook:

*We believe that school uniform is important. It helps children to develop loyalty to the school and pride in their appearance. The uniform is economical and serviceable and consists of standard and easily obtained items:*

- *School tie (girls wearing V-neck blouses do not need to wear a tie)*
- *White shirt or blouse*
- *Black skirts, culottes, trousers or formal shorts (Summer dresses of green/white may be worn)*
- *Bottle green sweatshirt\* or cardigans (All skirts/culottes should be approximately knee length)*
- *Shoes (not trainers) should be black, suitable for school and flat.*

All teachers will be vigilantly checking uniform standards after Easter so that we can continue to set the highest standards for our pupils.

## And finally...

In last term's edition of the Lizard, I referred to the Headteacher recruitment process that took place two weeks ago. It is with much pride and happiness that I am able to inform you all of my permanent appointment as Headteacher of West Moors Middle. Lastly, I hope you all have a lovely Easter break and look forward to seeing the pupils back in school on Monday 11th April.

## A message from Mrs Gould

To everyone connected with WMMS, thank you so much for all your, cards, presents and good wishes for my retirement. Very best wishes for the future.

## Year 4 Football Tournament

On 16th March, WMMS hosted the annual year 4 football tournament for our feeder first schools. The day was brilliant with a high standard of football being played and St Ives First School winning the event. Credit must also go to the year 8 leaders who were outstanding.

The Year 8 leaders who participated were:

Olivia Caballero	Ryan Agate
Stasia Smith	Liam Fredericks
Josh Haynes	Manasa Nawavuka
Eddie Clifford	Ben Woodward

All the students, teachers and parents who came to the event said they had a brilliant time and enjoyed every part of it. The teams all played incredibly fairly, respecting the game and each other. At the end of the tournament, each player went home with a medal, which they were delighted with. The leaders felt proud with the outcome of the day, saying that they were pleased everything ran smoothly and that the children all had a great time.



**Written by Olivia Caballero (8LP)**

## Rock Reef

The school was invited to spend the day at Rock Reef in Bournemouth - having the use of all their facilities.

We set off in the Mini-bus full of excitement and anticipation as to what would lie ahead, as we had previously looked at their Website.

Upon arrival, we were all toggged up in safety ropes and belts and then let loose to the climbing walls. After this, we went to the 'Leap of faith' (the title says it all)...

After lunch, we were treated to the ultimate zip wire trip - from the end of the pier and all the way down to the beach. I have an extreme fear of heights, but not being able to let on to the children of this fact, I climbed the stairs saying, "Come on - it will be fine." It was fine.

Actually, it was amazing!

The mini-bus drive home was much quieter .The children and I were exhausted.

The only comments were, 'The best trip ever!' Thanks to Rock Reef and to the pupils who came with us, you were all fabulous!



Written by Mrs H Wakeford

## Seniors' Lunch

For the past four years, WMMS has been hosting a Seniors' Lunch: retired members of the local community are invited in to the school to have a delicious two-course meal served by some of our Year 8 pupils. The event has proven to be so popular that we now hold the lunches on a weekly basis.

The photographs below show some of the staff participating in Mr Long's (School Governor) Birthday celebrations. If you know a senior who would be interested in joining us, please ask them to call Angela in the kitchen on 01202 872474 (ext. 212).



## West Moors Middle at the Movies – our school CD

All pupils have worked very hard this term to prepare the songs for our first ever school CD which was recorded just before half term. The CDs have now arrived and look and sound fantastic! Special mention must go to the students who sang solos or small group songs. Also, to Courtney Brewer and Holly Fulker who were the winner and runner up of the front cover artwork competition. Copies are available to purchase, for a short while longer, from the school office. Listen out for the staff choir bonus track!

# MICRO--TYCO

ENTREPRENEURSHIP | INNOVATION | LEADERSHIP

Last month, one of our Year 8 maths groups took part in a charity challenge, raising money for the Wild Hearts organisation. I am delighted to report that from an initial seed loan of £26, the class managed to make an incredible **£432.09**. Mr Dover's class was divided up into five business teams who were given merely their seed loan and some ideas to get them started. Through innovation and entrepreneurialism, the pupils managed their money and invested in items that ultimately led to our substantial class total.



We are delighted that every penny raised within the month long challenge will help vulnerable families survive and provide the tools for them to start a Micro-Tyco project of their own.

Through taking part in such a project, the pupils will be able to track the impact of their money and receive postcards and letters from the families that they help. Following the success of this first Micro-Tyco project, we hope to enable more pupils to take part in the challenge throughout the year.

## Eco Club Spring term

During this busy half term Eco club have planted some bean seeds ready for planting out after Easter. Our new venture is planting a variety of chilli pepper seeds including scotch bonnets. Who will be brave enough to taste !

Our potatoes are in and we eagerly await our seeds from the International Space Station which have landed in the UK. We have delivered lots of empty bags in the hope that they will be filled with old clothing to raise money for the improvement of our school pond. Any old clothing would be really helpful.



## World Book Day

It was lovely to see so many literary characters on World Book Day, Thursday 3th March. The winners for each year group were, Year 5 Coral Laws as Mary Poppins, Year 6 Danielle Teed as The White Rabbit, Year 7 Finley Gerchen as The Lone Ranger, Year 8 Kai Connolly as Pingu and finally the staff award went to Miss Parker who came as The Awful Auntie. They each won a £5 book token and every child in the school also received a £1 book voucher.

The lunchtime quiz saw Sand win, and overall we raised £82 which will be spent on new books for the library. Thank you to everyone who supported this fun event.



## Swimming

Next term, we are giving the opportunity for all year 5 and 6 pupils to take part in swimming lessons at Ferndown Leisure Centre. This will be funded by the School Sports money we receive, which will provide transport, lifeguards and swimming teachers. We feel that having water confidence and the ability to swim is an essential life skill that all young people should have and is also an activity that the children elected to have on the curriculum.



The lessons will commence the first week in the new term with Year 6 pupils swimming on Wednesday afternoons and Year 5 pupils swimming on Friday afternoons. The children will return to school by the end of the day so as not to disrupt usual travel arrangements.

Your child will require a suitable swimming costume or trunks, a towel, a swimming hat and goggles if desired. In addition, an extra drink and a snack would be advisable.

## Fishbourne

The year 5s were lucky enough to go on a trip to Fishbourne Palace on Thursday, which was a beautiful day, without a cloud in a sky. When we arrived, we went to watch a short film about the area and the history of the Palace. Pupils were then able to explore the grounds and imagine what the Roman garden might have been used for. One of the best parts of the day was when the pupils took part in a workshop where they learnt about the different types of fuels the Romans used - this involved each pupil making a beeswax candle to take home. They also got to see what the Roman Palace looked like, all those years ago. After that, pupils were able to take part in a mosaic quiz, where pupils had to find the different mosaics which are over 2000 years old! All in all, it was a lovely day out and some of us even got to have some ice cream!



## Hola a todos!

We are excited to announce that all year 8 pupils will now have the opportunity to study Spanish in the summer term. Spanish is a fun, innovative and interesting language which has already had a great reception through West Moors Spanish club. This new lesson will help the pupils to choose which language they would like to continue with when they make their step up to upper school. We hope that pupils will enjoy this change to the curriculum and will see it as a brilliant opportunity to become talented linguists!

## WMMS welcomes Linguascope

The language department are happy to announce that they have now subscribed to Linguascope. This is an interactive language learning tool. All pupils at WMMS can access up to five languages; including French, Italian, Spanish and German. Pupils can play various games, make comic strips and listen to other native speakers. It is now being used in language lessons and so far, pupils are really enjoying it!

Miss Parker (Languages Teacher)

## Healthy Lunches

Can we please remind parents that we are a 'Healthy School'. This means that food served in our canteen complies with government requirements ensuring that we provide nutritious and balanced meals for our students.

This also means that we would like you to support us in maintaining this by ensuring that packed lunches do not contain a surplus of crisps, sweets or chocolate. Fizzy drinks are not allowed in school. We have noticed that there are a number of children who have quite a lot of 'junk' food in their packed lunches, which is clearly not conducive to a healthy lifestyle.



## Year 8 Speech Competition 2016

On Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March, thirteen year 8 pupils participated in the final of our annual speech competition, delivering persuasive speeches on a range of contemporary issues, which included: *Celebrities can be good rôle-models*; *Greyhounds used for racing should have better living conditions*; and *Helium should not be wasted in balloons*. Judged by a panel, comprising of Mr Jones (Head teacher of Ferndown Upper

School), Mrs Frances (Governor at WMMS), Mr Brooks (Chairman of the Governors at WMMS), Mr Rielly and Mrs Gould, the eventual winner was chosen to be Olivia Caballero with her well-delivered and thought-provoking speech on how helium is vital for the running of MRI scanners. Second place was awarded to Stasia Smith and third to Amy Boon.

**Mrs Watkins**

### 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.

This term we have presented the following certificates:

<b>Bronze:</b>	Toby Rattley Joseph Wareham Mewse Cameron Whittley Jake Palmer Emma Thompson Brandon Hayward Gemma Lilley Aimie Lomax Evie Marshall Stasia Smith	Luke Mitchell Mia Turner Ruby Turner Jack Watson Ben Williams Gabrielle Caballero Destiny Grey Lilly Palmer Courtney Brewer	Ellie- Mai Jervis Jamie Stocks Daniel Toms Lauren Marsh Harry Howard Lizzie Hunter Sonia Mecia Alissa Cole Brendon Russell
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<b>Silver:</b>	Ruby Nicholson Peter Bowyer Brandon Cronk Cariss Doyle Amy Entwistle Adam Hector Rebecca Howard	Mark Hunter Demi-Leigh Johnson Coral Laws Abbie Miles Ruby Smith Cameron Yau Holly Berridge	Louise Lacey Sebastian Singh Lauren Steel Hardee Vermaak Lucy Marsh
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**Gold:** Jake Smith

Well done to you all!

## House Points Totals

<b>Gecko</b>	<b>Iguana</b>	<b>Komodo</b>	<b>Sand</b>
<b>4410</b>	<b>4208</b>	<b>4542</b>	<b>4316</b>

## Lizard Trophy Winners

Year 5: Toby Rattley	Seren Hince
Year 6: Abi Wingate	Marc Collins
Year 7: Joshua Cox	Kirsty Pollington
Year 8: Lauren Hayes	Kai Connelly



**Pupil Points Winner** Abi Wingate

## Office Reminders

- Please can we remind parents that medical appointments for your child should, where possible, be made outside of school hours.
- If your child is absent from school, please don't forget to contact the School Office on 01202 872474 before 9am when the registers close. We would ask you to call us each day that your child is absent. We are having to chase a large number of pupil absences at the moment and if we do not have a valid reason for your child to not be in school, they will be recorded as having an unauthorised absence. Thank you.

## School Calendar 2016

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	Students return to school
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Bank Holiday
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Family Quiz Night
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 SATs
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> May - Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 8 exam week (refer for more details above)
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	Break up for half term – students in school
Mon 30 <sup>th</sup> May	Half term week
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	Students return to school
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 trip to Blashford Lakes
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 trip to Blashford Lakes PTFA Summer Fayre
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Day
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Transfer Day
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	Reserve Sports Day
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 5 Trip to Longleat
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Term Ends – students in school

