

Dear Parents/Carers,

A big thank you to Sarah and the PSA for a great disco last Friday. Well done to Millie in Year 4 who won the dance off.

We welcomed Mary Copping from St Paul's to lead our assembly on Wednesday. The children enjoy her visits, including the guitar accompaniment to our singing.

We look forward to seeing you at our Partners in Learning parenting workshop this evening in the Upper School hall. It starts at 6.30pm for an hour.

Please look out for an email about our Year R Nativity and KS1 Christmas Celebration. There is useful information about tickets for these events included.

Pantomime Trip ~ Years 1 & 3

Wednesday 12th December 1.30pm

Theatre Royal Winchester

Calling all Parents!

We are planning to teach our Key Stage children more about different careers and professions. We would love parents to come in and talk about their jobs, celebrating all the different opportunities there are. Please do let me know if you would be able to come in at 2.45pm on a Tuesday to share your work and experiences. The children would really appreciate your time. Thank you.

Celebration of Certificates

Citizen of the Week

Congratulations to the following children who are our Citizens of the Week:

James S - for amazing teamwork with someone he wouldn't normally work with, but did it to make them happy

Hattie – for being kind and helpful

Lauren S - for her enthusiasm and always being so helpful around school.

Fionntan - for optimism and friendliness.

Joe – for trying his best and concentrating

Imogen - for being thoughtful and kind

Maddie - for being a fantastic role model and her positive attitude towards learning

Ellie – for her kind, caring approach

Learners of the Week

Well done to the following children who are our Learners' of the week:

Rowan: Rosanna

Beech: Jake

Willow: Charlie

Birch: Jessica Sh

Pine: Konrad

Elm: Leo

Chestnut: Thomas S

Larch: Harry K

Dates For Your Diary

Thursday 29th November ~ Partners in Learning, parenting workshop US Hall 6.30pm

Friday 30th November ~ INSET day

Monday 3rd December ~ INSET day

Wednesday 12th December ~ Years 1 & 3 trip to the Pantomime

Thursday 13th December ~ Year 3 Sharing Assembly 2.40pm

Saturday 15th December ~ PSA Christmas Fair
Year 3 carol singing and Year 4 selling Christmas gifts

Tuesday 18th December ~ Key Stage 1 (Year 1 & 2) Christmas Celebration 2.30pm

Wednesday 19th December ~ Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 19th December ~ Year R Nativity 2.30pm

Thursday 20th December ~ Year group Christmas parties pm

Friday 21st December ~ Midday finish for Christmas Holidays

Monday 7th January ~ First day back of the Spring Term

Sharing Assemblies

We would love you to come and share in our assemblies. Dates for the year and each year group are below. They are all Thursdays, start at 2.40pm and you are most welcome to join us.

Year 3 ~ 13th December

Year 2 ~ 14th February

Year 1 ~ 7th March

Year R ~ 16th May

Maths Games for Years 1,2,3 and 4

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our maths games session on the following Fridays;

14.12.18, 15.02.19, 29.03.19, 24.05.19, 12.07.19

If you have more than one child in Y1 – 4 please either take it in turns to stay with one of your children at each session or alternatively collect both children to play the games together. Please choose which ever option suits your family.

PSA News and Dates for Diary

Raffle tickets will be arriving on Monday in book bags.

Friday 14th December – Non School Uniform donations are kindly requested as follows:

Year R Jam Jar filled with sweets

Year 1 Jam Jar filled with sweets

Year 2 Cakes for our Cake Stall

Year 3 Cakes for our Cake Stall

Year 4 -

Chestnut Class - Gold (Chestnut) or Silver/Red (Larch) Item for a Hamper

Year 4 hampers will be available in classes from the first week in December for you to pop your items in.

Second Hand books, toys and school uniform also gratefully accepted!

Saturday 15th December 12-3pm Christmas Fair

Please visit www.pta-events.co.uk/thewestgateschoolpsa to book Father Christmas Grotto slots, order Christmas trees or our Majestic Wine deals

18th January - Lower School Film Night

8th February - Quiz Night

Saturday 15th December Christmas Fair

Year Group Information

Year R

It was with great excitement that little doors were discovered in the classroom towards the end of last week, this week we found a tiny key near the doors. We wondered who it belonged too and wrote posters and letters to find out. We have been practising our Christmas songs altogether this week and getting excited about our Christmas nativity.

A polite reminder to leave toys at home when it's not a sharing day. This saves them becoming lost or broken.

Mrs Widdowson is leaving us this week to start a new job in Southampton soon. We

wish her all the best and thank her for all the care and support she has shown the children. Mrs Benson will be starting as our Teaching Assistant in Ash class with Mrs Green, next week. The children are already familiar with Mrs Benson as she helps in our library and at lunchtime. We welcome her to our Year R Team.

Year 1

Well done to all those children who have participated in our reading challenge this week. It was a pleasure to see the enthusiasm and hear about the books they had been reading. Keep this up! As part of our Great Fire of London topic learning the children made brilliant 3D models of 1666 houses. Please make sure you are still sending your children in with a water bottle each week and a quick reminder that our library day is Friday.



Year 2

We have been inspired by the short film 'Soar' for our writing this week and next. It has enabled us to write many different genres as well as thinking about what the characters are actually like and why their role in the story is

so important. In maths we have revisited multiplication and next week we will be revisiting division by grouping (i.e I have 12 apples and I put 6 in each basket, how many baskets do I need?)

We are just about ready to start thinking about Christmas. For our class advent calendar we would love each child to bring in a Christmassy joke to put in a pocket of the calendar. We will then ask 2 children to read a joke each day in the countdown to Christmas!

Year 3

This week we have refined our jottings when adding a 3 digit number to 3 digit number. In our English we have been looking at diary entries and have written our first diary entry using the book 'Escape from Pompeii' to support our writing. Please keep practising your 3 and 4 times tables. We are looking forward to sharing our learning with you on Thursday 13th December at 2:40pm in our year group assembly.

Year 4

In Year 4 we have all been very creative this week! The week started with both classes making peppermint creams as a test for the ones we will be selling at the Christmas Fair. Children had a go at making the sweet treats which the teachers sampled and were very positive about. We have also been busy designing and painting a 12-point star (to represent the 12 days of Christmas) which will be used to decorate the Lower School library. Unfortunately it's been wet all week but that didn't stop children doing Forest Learning!

Year 4 Christmas Fair Request

Hopefully you will have all seen from the PSA email sent out this week that for Year 4 we have requested a coloured item for a hamper for your contribution for the Christmas Fair Non Uniform day. We will place a hamper in each classroom for you to send in items from 4th

December....please be as creative as you like in the item - the whole point of this is to create something totally unique which we can raffle...your only constraint is the colour - Gold for Chestnut, and Silver or Red for Larch.

If you're struggling...some ideas:

Silver / Red

Sparkly bubble bath

Lindt Chocolates,

Digestives

Red wine

Candle

Nail varnish

Tea bags in a red box...

Gold

Prosecco

Toblerone

Ferrero Rocher

Nescafe Gold coffee

Terry's All Gold chocolates
you get the idea!! Creativity, off the wall, or just plain easy...we don't mind...but I'm sure our children are going to love seeing these build over the next few weeks...and they're going to help us make them look amazing on Friday 14th December too!

Thanks for your help, and creativity / wackiness in advance!

Sarah

At the end of last year I was given some wonderful proverbs written by our present Year 4 pupils. I am going to share one a week with you and I hope they brighten your day as much as they do mine!

**Never give up,
Never turn back,
Just carry on !
Harry Hallum**

We hope you enjoy a super long weekend.

Kind regards,

Liz Woodall

Head of Primary Phase