



# VERWOOD C E FIRST SCHOOL & NURSERY

## NEWSLETTER

Autumn Term  
Friday 6th October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Another busy week has passed in school with everyone working hard and showing us that they are ready to learn. We are looking forward to parents and carers coming into school for face to face parent consultation meetings on Monday 16th October and Thursday 19th October. Thank you for booking online through parentmail. At the meeting, teachers will provide you with information about how your child has settled into their new class, how they are achieving in reading, writing and maths and their attendance so far this term. Please note that attendance below 96% is considered to be a concern.

Have a lovely weekend,

**Katharine Anstey**  
Executive Headteacher

### Children Celebrated in Praise Worship

	Nursery	Oak Base	Sycamore Base	Beech Base	Willow Base	Ash Base
<b>Headteacher's Award</b>	Eddie J	Toby D Florance M	Eildh P Archie A	Ralph H Isabelle	Thomas M Mabel W	Tommi P Edie G
<b>Fruit of the Spirit Award</b>	Freya G	Ferne D Mason PR	Daisy P Liv T	Leo S Jacob D	Isaac B Joshua J	Elizabeth T Amelia B

### Attendance

Thank you for your support in ensuring your child's attendance in school and being on time every day. Good attendance in school is a top priority and our expectation is that pupils attend school every day for every session. We believe that regular, uninterrupted attendance secures the best possible learning achievement for all our children and we are committed to working in partnership with families to achieve this. Schools are expected to monitor all pupils' attendance records closely and to pass these on to the receiving school when pupils transfer.

### This week's attendance

Whole School	88.05%
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## When will absences not be authorised?

The school will not authorise absence for any of the following reasons: holidays, shopping, looking after other members of the family, minding the house, birthdays or similar events. Children will be marked in as late after 8.55 am and children arriving after 9.30 am are recorded as an unauthorised absence. We carefully monitor pupils who arrive late for school and work with parents and carers to improve punctuality.

## Home Learning

We believe that home learning can add much to a child's development and attainment and is therefore an important part of a child's education. Research tells us that learning and understanding are deepened through repetition and practice. Therefore, all the home learning tasks we set have a clear relationship to classroom activity and gives our children an opportunity to practise skills and deepen knowledge & understanding through fun consolidation challenges. We encourage our pupils to complete home learning as this can reinforce their learning in the classroom and gives them the opportunity to develop self-discipline, independence and the ability to take responsibility for their own learning.

The key skills that children need time to practise and rehearse at home are:

- o reading and talking about their reading to an adult **five times a week**
- o basic maths skills, such as reciting multiplication tables and number facts to increase their fluency so that they can be applied in other areas of maths and problem solving
- o spelling patterns and key words linked to age-related expectations

The key area of learning where parent support really has an impact is reading. If children can read at home, it really makes a significant difference to their outcomes. At Verwood C of E First School there is an expectation that children read frequently at home. Each week, teachers will provide reading materials for you to enjoy with your child at home and we suggest that children have the opportunity to read at least five times a week with an adult, which should be recorded in their reading record. Reading records will be checked on a weekly basis to monitor the frequency of reading.

### Home Learning in Reception

As well as daily reading, the expectation is for parents to engage with Class Dojo, showing 'wow' moments and participating in the challenges set.

### Home Learning for Years One to Four

**\*Sumdog Maths** builds maths fluency through games-based practice. Children will be set questions mapped to the curriculum and aligned to their ability level. The learning set will give children an opportunity to retrieve and practise prior learning. All children are in the process of taking a maths diagnostic test, which will pinpoint the level at which they are working at. This then allows Sumdog's adaptive learning engine to use the results to tailor future questions.

Also look out for Sumdog's maths contests, where children will have an opportunity to compete against other classes, locally or nationally.

**Sumdog Spelling/Grammar** - Many of the skills in Key Stage One focus on individual grapheme-phoneme correspondences to complement the teaching of phonics. In Key Stage Two, the curriculum then moves on to looking at prefixes and suffixes. Alternatively, a grammar skill may be selected for your child to practise through games. The learning set is aligned to the curriculum your child will be working through at school.

**Times Tables Rockstars:** children will use the online learning platform 'Times Table Rockstars' to practise their multiplication bonds. Teachers will set appropriately challenging times tables questions according to National Curriculum expectations and individual's ability. This resource will be used in KS2 and introduced in year 2 during the spring term.

For years one to four, all Home Learning will be set on a **Friday** and should be completed by the following **Thursday**. This will be set each week through Google Classroom.

Thank you for your patience on Google Classroom passwords, we are now able to generate passwords for the children to be used at home. These will be sent via ParentMail in the coming week. When you first log in with your given password, you will have the option to change this. Please proceed to change to a password of your choice, which you can use at home. QR codes will continue to be used in school. We do not need to be informed about your child's password but if this is forgotten we are able to reset this for you in school, please let us know and we can do this for you.

Home learning will start on **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October**, as this will allow us to complete the necessary assessments. For our younger children (Oak and Sycamore), home learning will start after half term. Please continue to support your child with their reading.

We thank you in advance for all that you will do to help your child engage with their Home Learning.

***\*Sumdog is available on desktop and as an app for Android or iPhone devices.***

### **Pick Up**

Please ensure that all pickup changes are notified to the school office by phone or email . Children can not be handed over to another adult without parental permission. Office hours are 8am-3.30pm .

[Office@verwoodfirstschool.org](mailto:Office@verwoodfirstschool.org) 01202 822652

### **Open Events**

Please share the below poster for our Open Events for children starting school in September 2024 with your friends and family.

### **Rotary Christmas Shoebox**

We are pleased to be part of the Rotary Christmas Shoebox appeal again this year. If you are interested in making up a shoebox please let us know. This year the Rotary club will be providing the boxes for you to fill. Below is a leaflet giving you guidance on what to include. If you could register your interest by Monday 16th October we can get the boxes delivered into the school. Filled boxes will be collected by the Rotary **Friday Nov 3rd**. Please see further information leaflet below.



ROTARY CLUB OF  
WESSEX ROTARY SHOEBOX SCHEME  
PEOPLE OF ACTION



A Present with love from

PLEASE CIRCLE BOY OR GIRL & THE AGE GROUP OF WHO THE SHOE BOX  
IS INTENDED FOR

BOY 1-3 4-7 8-11 12-15  
GIRL

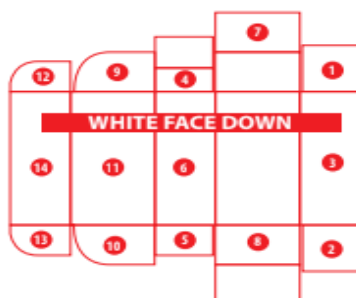
PLEASE STICK THIS LABEL AND YOUR DONATION TO THE TOP OF THE SHOEBOX  
All monies collected will be held in the Trust's general account

Rotary is a worldwide voluntary organisation of business and professional people who are dedicated to "service above self", helping others throughout the world, promoting all that is good in our society and our aim is for peace the world over.

Rotary has no religious or political affiliations. There are over 1.4 million Rotarians in over 35,000 Clubs in 200 countries worldwide.

If you like having fun and helping other people at the same time, why not find out more about Rotary? **Visit Rotary District 1110**

### BOX ASSEMBLY



1. FOLD IN
2. FOLD IN
3. FOLD IN
4. FOLD IN
5. FOLD IN
6. FOLD UP
7. FOLD OVER 1&4
8. FOLD OVER 2&5
9. FOLD UP
10. FOLD UP
11. FOLD UP
12. FOLD
13. FOLD
14. FOLD OVER

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

# Rotary



For disadvantaged & displaced children  
we now deliver in Moldova, Montenegro,  
Poland, Romania and Ukraine



### WESSEX ROTARY SHOEBOX SCHEME

(Wessex Rotary CIO Trust fund)  
Reg Charity No 1183094

For more information contact:

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

FINAL DATE FOR RECEIPT OF SHOEBOXES:  
By the end of October

### AGE 1 - 3 YEARS (Boy or girl)

#### CHOOSE FROM

Small soft toy, picture book, hat, gloves, socks, soap, hairbrush, flannel, toothbrush and toothpaste, plus any other suitable small items.

### AGE 4 - 7 YEARS (Boy or girl)

#### CHOOSE FROM

Pictorial educational book and game, simple jigsaw, ball, lego, crayons and colouring book, hat, gloves, scarf, socks, soap, hairbrush, flannel, toothbrush and toothpaste, toy vehicle, small doll, skipping rope.

### AGE 8 - 11 YEARS (Boy or girl)

#### CHOOSE FROM

Pictorial educational book and game, jigsaw, ball, card game, felt tip pens, pencils, pencil case, drawing book, hat, gloves, scarf, socks, wide toothed comb, soap, flannel, toothbrush and toothpaste, sports item, skipping rope, hair accessories.

### AGE 12 - 15 YEARS (Boy or girl)

#### CHOOSE FROM

Pictorial educational book and game, playing cards, geometry set, pens, pencils and case, pencil sharpener, rubber, writing/drawing book, hat, gloves, scarf, socks, wide toothed comb, soap, flannel, toothbrush and toothpaste, washbag, hair accessories, sports item.

### THINGS TO PUT IN YOUR SHOEBOX

- International Customs require items which must be for education, health and hygiene purposes
- All items must be new or in 'as new condition'

### DO NOT INCLUDE

- Food of any kind
- Liquids of any kind
- Sweets of any kind
- Battery powered items
- War related items, toys, books, guns, knives etc
- Large items of clothing or shoes
- Books of a religious, racial or political nature
- Medicines
- Large toys
- Sharp items

THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR HELP

### HOW TO MAKE UP YOUR SHOEBOX

We know that children receiving our Shoeboxes value the box itself to store their treasures in. Make up the supplied box using the diagram overleaf. Decorate the box with stickers (available from High street stationers and retail outlet craft stores) and/or your own colouring. Please ensure the lid can be opened for checking and customs purposes.



**Do not wrap individual items**  
- just place them in your box.

Include a Christmas card and maybe a letter or photo if you wish.

Ensure that you have clearly marked the age group and whether it is intended for a boy or girl.

**Please sellotape to the top of the box a donation of £2.00 towards transportation & administration costs.**

Any surplus will be used for the benefit of disadvantaged children worldwide.





**"Learning Values for Life"**

## **Parent Open Events Admissions September 2024**

**We are extremely proud of our children and school  
We would love you to come and join us**

**We welcome all families to our Open Evening on Tuesday  
7th November 2023 anytime from 6pm to 7.30pm**

**In addition to the Open Evening, we are offering families  
the opportunity to have a tour of the school:**

**Friday 13th October - 9.30am, 10.15am, 11am**

**Tuesday 7th November - 9.30am, 10.15am, 11am**

**Thursday 16th November - 9am**

**Please contact the school office to book your tour  
or for further information:**

**[office@verwoodfirstschool.org](mailto:office@verwoodfirstschool.org)**

**01202 822652**



**initio**  
Learning Trust

**[www.verwoodfirstschool.org](http://www.verwoodfirstschool.org)**



**VERWOOD HUB**  
COMMUNITY & LEISURE

# CHILDRENS OCTOBER HALF TERM ACTIVITIES

Activities bookable in advance.

Places may be available on the day.

Payment taken at the time of booking

## Kids Club

Wednesday 25th October  
10:30-16:00 - Ages 8-12yrs

**Movie** - Teenage Mutant Ninja

Turtles: Mutant Mayhem

Session to include multi sports and garden games, make your own pizza followed by popcorn and a movie.



£15



## Passport for Youth @ Potterne

Daily 10:00-17:00 - 11-18 yrs  
Juniors can have a kick about on the astro and play a game of tennis. Subject to availability.

£4.20

## Bouncy Castles and Softplay

Suitable up to 10 years

Tuesday 24th October - 13:30 - 15:30

£5 per child (Under 3's) £3

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