

Wyche C.E. Primary School

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12th November 2021

This week at the Wyche

It has been another eventful week here at the action-packed Wyche. It was lovely to see you all online for parents' evening this week. My apologies to the handful of parents who struggled to connect; I know this is frustrating and I'm aware teachers have made phone calls and worked hard to get in touch. We had the pantomime: "Beauty & The Beast" which was great fun – so good to have children enjoying live theatre again (oh yes, it is!). On Thursday we had a poignant remembrance assembly led by Mrs Whitehurst, and marked two minutes silence at 11 o'clock to remember the dead of all wars and mark the moment of Armistice.

Green were delighted with their task of creating audiobooks of Alfred Noyes' *The Highwayman*, selecting appropriate images and splicing these into their own narratives. Orange have been immersed in publishing of all things, working in teams to write, illustrated and print Greek Myths which will be judged by Year 6 next week. Blue are very proud of their Greek vase designs combining copying authentic designs with their own creativity. Yellow had a great experience indoor curling this week, trying again and again to get the curling stone in the middle of the target. Finally, Red have been learning about exercise and its effects on the body, getting out of breath and feeling their heart rate rise.

Staffing announcements

Our valued and well-loved Year 4&5 teacher Mr Pett has announced his intention of leaving the Wyche at the end of term. This is sad news as I know he will have taught many of your children and whether it is his fun and engaging lessons, exciting creative projects, excellent subject knowledge or groaningly awful jokes, he's a very special person and will be missed. I am sure you will join me in wishing him safety and success in his future career.

We held interviews just before half term, interviewing a very strong shortlist from a wide field, ultimately appointing a really excellent teacher in the shape of Miss Sarah Bent. Orange class will undoubtedly remember the thrill of developing vocabulary with the aid of blindfolds and popping candy (very Wyche!). She will be coming in to visit the class shortly, to shadow Mr Pett, learn routines and build relationships so she can hit the ground running in January.

Mrs Martin started with us this week as the new TA in Orange class and has made a wonderful start. Give her a thumbs up if you see her around and about.

Online Safety

Net Aware is a great site where you can look for advice about specific apps (e.g. TikTok) and take action to safeguard your children for exploitation and harm online. It will be coming to a close soon but check it whilst you can on <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

Anti-bullying week

Next week is anti-bullying week which we will mark with a PSHE activities in class and Odd Socks Day on Monday 12th. Odd Socks Day helps us say proudly "it's ok to be different" and whilst anti-bullying is always on the agenda at the Wyche, we will take the opportunity to really embed the ideas of tolerance, careful use of power and how to get help.

- Mon 15th Nov Odd Socks Day. Children are encouraged to come into school wearing odd socks today in celebration of individuality and difference.
Deadline for shoebox donations for the Amen Trust.
Guitar lessons
Netball is on this week
- Tues 16th Nov Violin lessons
Choir & Chess Clubs are on this afternoon
Online Meeting of the Friends of the Wyche, 8pm to continue planning for the Christmas Fayre. Everyone welcome. A link will be coming out via Parentmail this afternoon
- Wed 17th Nov Woodwind and drum lessons are on today
FAME clarinet lesson for Blue Class
- Thurs 18th Nov Brass and piano lessons
Cricket club is on this evening.
- Fri 19th Nov 5th swim for Green Class
Multiskills club is on this afternoon
- Guitars Help! We currently have 17 children having guitar lessons in school and all of the black cases look very similar. This means a considerable amount of time is spent weekly trying to unite the correct guitar with its rightful owner. To make life easier could we ask guitarists to add something clearly identifiable to their guitar case, e.g. a piece of coloured string tied to the handle. This will also ensure that your child brings their correct instrument home each week for practising.
- Messy Church November Messy Church will take place at All Saints Church on Thursday 18th November, 3.45pm for 4.00pm start, ending at 5.00p.m. Places will be limited and families will need to book by emailing Helen at helen@standrewsandallsaints.org . They are looking forward to seeing you.
- Shoeboxes As emailed earlier on this week, and with apologies for the short time scale of this request, we will be collecting shoeboxes this year for Amen Trust in conjunction with All Saints Church. The shoeboxes go to Romania and are distributed by Amen Trust's partner churches. You can help in a number of ways – fill a shoebox, donate items for shoeboxes, knit or crochet hats, scarves, mittens, toys or blankets or make a donation towards the cost of getting the shoeboxes to Romania. Deadline for donations is Monday 15th November. Please bring any donations of items or completed shoe boxes to the office. Here are some ideas for the shoeboxes; Calculator, colouring book, comb/brush, flannel/soap, games/toys, hair slides, jewellery, notebook, pencil sharpener, pens/pencils, roll-on deodorant, scissors, screwdriver, sewing kit, shampoo, shower gel, socks/tights, sweets, teddy/doll, toothbrush/toothpaste, wind-up torch.
You can watch the Amen Trust's Presentation
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UqzuPar17Rg>

Best wishes, and have a wonderful Wychey weekend,
Stephen Murphy
Headteacher