



Dear Parents and Carers,

On Monday, staff were busy learning more about how we can teach **maths** in the best way possible. Part of this is about making sure we encourage a **“growth mindset”** through the things we say and ask of children, giving children **self-belief** and avoiding negative phrases such as “I was no good at maths when I was at school.” Scientific evidence (e.g. study by Blackwell et al 2007) shows that students with a growth mindset outperform those with a fixed mindset in maths. If you are interested in learning more about this and how to support your child in developing a strong mathematical mindset, I would recommend reading **“Mathematical Mindsets”** by **Jo Boaler** or visit the website <https://www.youcubed.org> where there are useful practical ideas and video clips of things to try at home. *Miss Kim Wilcox, Headteacher*

Stars of the Week

- YR – Hannah Bailey & Freya Carr**
- Y1 – Jenson Cooper & Alya Alcock**
- Y2 – Laurence Peaty & Elsie Cracknell**
- Y3 – Theo Wiggins & Seb Miller**
- Y4 – Neve Brophy**
- Y5 – Tilly Philips & Kitt Wills**
- Y6 – Georgie Underhill, Tom Garrett & Jack Coyle**

Lunchtime Award

Hannah Bailey, Jerry Spooner & Freddie Angel



Year 3 & 4 Hockey

12 children from year 3 and 4 went to play quicksticks hockey at New Milton. Unfortunately we didn't win Gold, Silver or Bronze, however we had tons of fun and won lots of points. We would like to say a huge **Thank You** to **Mrs Sherwood, Mrs Penny and Miss Bostock** for getting the children safely there and back, and giving us loads of support. Well done to all the children **Jamie Legg, Edward Penny, Seb Miller, Finlay Newman, Fletcher Yeates, Phoebe Forshaw, Lucia Broadbridge, Ellie Burton, Scarlett Bast, Freya Owen, Phoebe Courtney & Lola Nicholls** for being so good and not being sad when we didn't get a medal. They still kept their

smiley faces on the whole way through, and we hope you will all accompany us to the next tournament! By *Lucia Broadbridge and Lola Nicholls.*



Governor Profile – Rev Les Player

As ex-officio governor and rector of the parishes of Western Downland, I serve on the governing body of our School because of its historical links with the Church of England. Education in these villages has been very much bound up with the life of the Church, with much of the impetus for creating schools dependant on the Christian community. The challenges at the beginning must have been enormous: identifying sites for buildings, raising the money to build, appointing staff, persuading parents to send their children when they

might well be needed in the fields. But when it came to being a governor, the role was probably less onerous, with the day to day life of the School being left largely in the hands of the headmaster or headmistress. Today, it is much more of a partnership, where school governors engage deeply with all aspects of School life. As a consequence, as governors we must continually develop our skills and understanding, to more effectively support the life of the School. For example, recently we came together for a training session on ‘Holding School Leaders to Account’. Drawn from a range of backgrounds and constituencies (foundation, parent, authority, co-opted, ex-officio) and bringing a range of different skills and experience, the governors work collaboratively to strengthen and develop the life of the School in co-operation with the staff and Headteacher. As time passes, individual governors change, but our aim is to sustain a strong, resilient and motivated governing body. Even where - because of the constitution - we cannot appoint directly to the governing body, we are keen to encourage others who may bring particular or specialist skills to bear. Look out for opportunities to support the governing body, (perhaps as an associate governor) or to help with specific projects. If you would like to know more, do speak to any governor. *Les Player*

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Poppies are now on sale – please bring in a donation if you would like to purchase one.



Reminders

School Photo orders must be in by first thing on Monday.

Head Lice these seem to be doing the rounds again. Can parents please check childrens' hair regularly – and ensure that long hair is tied up at all times.



Letters this Week

Y4-6 Girls Football @ Burgate on **6/11**

Y1/2 Football on **7/11**

Y5/6 boys football on **10/11**



Rotary Shoe Boxes

Thank you for all your Christmas boxes which have now been collected by the Rotary Club.

The Friends of Western Downland

Our next meeting is on **Thursday 16th November**, 7pm at the Compasses Inn Damerham. All Welcome !

Date for your diary – Christmas Fair on **Friday 1st December**

Western Downland Primary School Diary

Autumn Term 2017

Mon 6 th November	Y4-6 Girls Football Workshop @ Burgate
Tues 7 th November	Y1/2 Boys Football @ Dibden Purlieu
Fri 10 th November	Y5/6 Boys Football @ Dibden Purlieu
Thurs 16 th November	Y5/6 Girls Football @ Dibden Purlieu
*Fri 17 th November	Muftiday for Tombola Donations for Friends Christmas Fair
Weds 22 nd November	Y4-6 Boys Football @ Burgate
Fri 24 th November	Y3-6 Sportshall Athletics @ Ringwood
*Fri 24 th November	Muftiday for Children in Need
*Fri 1 st December	School Christmas Fair
Mon 4 th December	Flu Immunizations – Infant site and Years 3 & 4
Tues 5 th December	Choir at Salisbury Christmas Market 2pm
Tues 5 th December	Y3/4 Gymnastics @ Dibden Purlieu
Thurs 7 th December	Y1/2 Gymnastics @ New Milton
Sun 10 th December	Choir @ Damerham Ecumenical Christmas Service 3pm
Tues 12 th December	Y5/6 Handball @ Totton
Wed 13 th December	School Christmas Services (afternoon & evening)
Fri 22 nd Dec – Weds 3 rd Jan	Christmas Holiday

Spring Term 2018

Thurs 4 th January	Return to school
Mon 12 th - Fri 16 th February	Half-Term
Mon 19 th February	INSET DAY
Fri 30 th March-Fri 13 th April	Easter Holiday

Summer Term 2018

Mon 16 th April	Return to School
Mon 14 th -Fri 18 th May	KS2 (Year 6) SATs
Fri 25 th May	INSET DAY
Mon 28 th May - Fri 1 st June	Half Term
Mon 4 th - Fri 8 th June	Year 6 Wales Residential
Mon 23 rd July	INSET DAY