



# WIDECOMBE PRIMARY NEWSLETTER

No. 11

2nd December 2016

## Christmas Arts Week

Yay! December is here and the festivities begin next week with Christmas Art Week. A big thank you to Annie Watson for bringing a team of volunteers in to help.

During the week the children will be making gifts to sell at the Widcombe Christmas Market on 10th December and at the Widcombe's Got Talent night in Leusdon on 15th December.

If you are able to lend your talents or time in creating or selling the craftwork please let us know.

During art week we will also be preparing our canvasses for a Christmas art exhibition in St Pancras church starting this Friday. Please try and make the time to view the exhibition after school on Friday.

## Cold Weather

The views in and around Widcombe have been fabulous the past couple of days.

A reminder that, if there is snow or ice in the morning, we will put a notice on the school website letting you know whether there will be a delayed start or if school is closed. If in any doubt, please check the website or ring school before setting out.

## School Dinners

Menus are available on ParentPay until the end of term, please help us by making sure you have ordered your child's meals in advance. Thank you.

## PE Kit

Please ensure that your child has PE kit in school for the days when they have PE. Where possible, we will give the children lost property PE kit if they don't have theirs in school.

## Homework

...I think homework is one of those 'Marmite' subjects for our parents at Widcombe! There are countless research papers finding the positives and negatives of homework, but here at Widcombe we just want your child to be the best that they can be. So, it would be really appreciated if you could support your child in completing their homework each week.

Also, as a school, we are trying to get better at our spellings as we have identified this as an area in which we can make improvements. We are teaching the children many different strategies for learning their spellings and we have dedicated spelling lessons at least three times a week. Weekly spelling lists will now be displayed on the school website should your child forget their book or lose their spellings. If you would like any hints or tips in how to support your child with their spellings or their homework please see their class teacher.

## Carols on Tour

Four of our pupils, Cosmo, Polly, Hope and Lily will be joining the South Dartmoor Academy carol singing group next Wednesday. They will be singing at three venues during the day, Newton Abbot Library, Newton Abbot Tesco and Bovey Tracey town centre.

I had loads of letters requesting to be part of this choir and because of the children's enthusiasm we will be having our own carol singing event on Widcombe village green next Friday 9th December from 3.00pm. Please come along, join in the singing and support the children. They will come back to school in time for 3.30pm, but you may take them home straight from the Green if you wish.

## This Week's Learning Superheroes

*Congratulations to:-*

**Albie**

**Fern S**

**Polly**

## ATTENDANCE

### THIS WEEK

Well done to Upper Dart for their excellent attendance this week.

Upper Dart	98%
Webburn	97%
Lower Dart	96%

## EVENTS NEXT WEEK

### CHRISTMAS ARTS WEEK

**Monday 5th December**  
Lego Club

**Tuesday 6th December**  
Arts & Crafts Club

**Wednesday 7th December**  
Carols on Tour  
Code Club

**Thursday 8th December**  
Football Club

**Friday 9th December**  
Widdy Tots in School from 1.15pm  
Carol Singing on the Green at 3.00pm

## Emailed or sent with the Newsletter

*Exeter Visit Letter  
Friends Letter & Raffle Tickets  
Pre-School Christmas Raffle  
Christingle Flyer*

### Primary Music Makers

We recently sent out details of this music programme arranged by South Dartmoor for children from Year 4 upwards. This is a reminder that the deadline for applying is next Friday 9th December. A copy of the application form is available on the school website or in the office.

### Help Needed in Webburn

We are looking for someone to come into Webburn and oversee a 20 minute activity on laptops for a group of up to 4 children. If anyone is available from 9.10 to 9.30am on a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday we would be very grateful, please just let us know.

### Cycle Clubs

Please note that today was the last after school cycle club for this term, they will resume later in January, weather permitting. We are very grateful to Ceri and Demelza for running these clubs.

### Webburn Garden

Wow, Webburn's garden gets better each week! Last week a magic tap appeared and this week a



fountain! The gasps of surprise and amazement were heart warming to witness. Webburn also have a weather station in the classroom and what a great time to introduce it when we are

fascinated by the temperature and the beautiful frost which we have enjoyed exploring this week. Thanks again to Brian for the great ideas.

Des Stokes  
Head of School

## Friends' News

We are looking forward to seeing you for our Talent night at Leusdon Hall on the Thursday 15th December. We need a large audience to help with the voting so please come and support the school, we will be selling refreshments, Christmas cards and also we will be drawing the raffle. You should have received your Christmas raffle tickets today, please please can you make some time to take your children out to sell them as we need the slips back for Monday 12th if possible and as there is no extra money for our lovely school it's down to us to raise it.

### CHRISTMAS IN WIDECOMBE

We are having a table at the church house on Saturday 10th December. Annie Watson has been amazing and organised the making of the Christmas decorations this year with your children at school. We will be selling these along with Christmas cards and raffle tickets on the day and we are looking for parents to come forward and donate an hour of their time to help with the selling. Please can you let me know if you are able to help by e-mailing me on [....pipe007@btinternet.com](mailto:....pipe007@btinternet.com).

Widcombe becomes a very festive village on this day with all of the local businesses joining in, there will be donkeys, music, roast chestnuts, gifts and a treasure hunt so come along for a lovely day out. Thank you so much for helping our great school.

**Sarah Pipe, Chair of Friends of Widcombe School**

### PRE-SCHOOL CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Pre-school are raffling an amazing Christmas Hamper packed full of festive treats again this year!

Attached is the order form to buy your tickets and support Pre-school - the winning ticket will be drawn at the Widcombe Christmas Market on 10th December.

Good luck!