



## West Ashtead Primary School

### Newsletter Number 4 5<sup>th</sup> November 2018

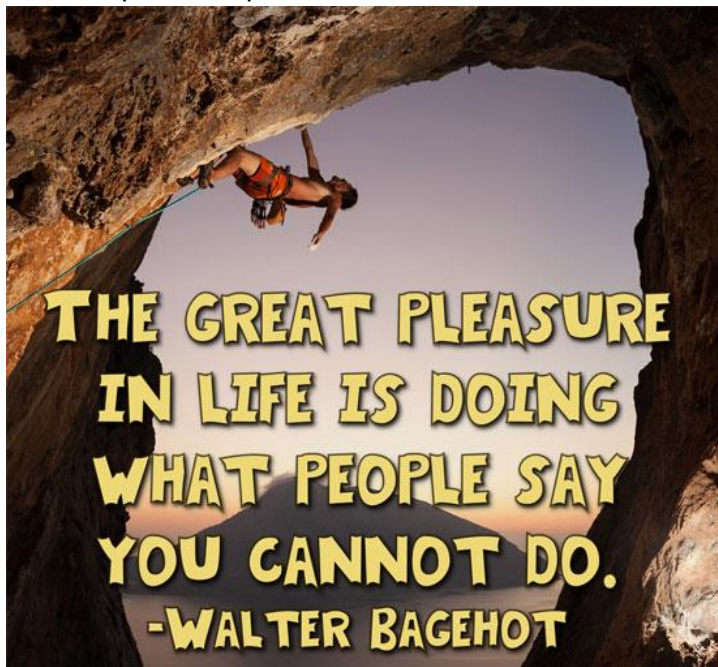
- 1. Parents Evening** The first Parent's Evenings for this school year, are this Wednesday and Thursday. You can book a 10 minute appointment to see your child's teacher by going to Scopay. If you have any problems with this, please contact the school office. We will be able to tell you how your child is doing so far this term and how much progress they have made. As part of our drive to get children reading at home more effectively, we will also be giving you a booklet of questions to ask your children about their reading, to improve their comprehension. You can also book an appointment to see Mrs Allum, our SENCo if you would like to and I will be available as well. No need to book an appointment with me, just come to my office.
- 2. Fireworks** Last Friday the FOWA committee organised a wonderful fireworks display. With plenty of drinks and hot dogs to fill us up, we had a 25 minute display which many parents told me they thought was even better than last year's – and I thought that was fantastic. Very many thanks to all on the FOWA committee and their helpers for running such a superb event, which was attended by over 500 people. Special thanks to Vicky Hills and Hayley Blanchard for organising the event so professionally and to Simon Gadd for doing the music and PA.
- 3. Music cabin** Events like the firework display enable FOWA to raise money to provide the school with things which it would struggle to fund itself. The Chancellor may believe austerity is over, but that is not how it feels to us, so the fund raising done by FOWA really makes a significant difference to us. Their most recent gift to the school is the cabin which suddenly appeared on the edge of the junior playground, TARDIS like, during half term. This building is being used for instrumental lessons which previously took place in the Qube or one of the group rooms or the HE room. Three years ago we had around half a dozen children learning the piano. Now we have nearly 140 children having lessons on a variety of instruments. Finding space for these lessons has been proving tricky. Finding space for the many interventions and other catch-up groups we run has also been difficult for some time and not being able to use a room for a group because 1 pupil and a music teacher were in it was frustrating and did not represent the most economic and efficient use of the space. Now we have our new music cabin, those other rooms can be used better. The outside of the cabin needs to be painted and we will be doing some planting behind it so it does not stick out, as it does currently, but importantly the room is already in use and making a real difference to the school. We are extremely grateful to FOWA and to all of you for supporting their events so generously.



- 4. William Johnson** William, who is in Year 3, has decided that he wants to raise money for Stand Up to Cancer. This is admirable and sets a great example for us all. He plans to raise money by being sponsored to climb Mount Snowden in North Wales. This is a significant challenge for anyone but for a 7 year old boy, it is really ambitious. I am sure he will manage it though, because when William puts his mind to something he is always successful. If you would like to sponsor him you can do so by going to his Just Giving page: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/william-johnson9> . We all wish him good luck...and his dad Steve who will be accompanying him.
- 5. Epsom and Ewell PHAB** Miss Golding, who is a leader at PHAB (Physically Handicapped Able Bodied), would like us to advertise a musical play being performed by the youngsters (and some of the adult leaders) who attend her branch. They will be performing "Always Summer", a musical play written by themselves at the Epsom Playhouse on Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm. Tickets (£10 for adults; £8 for children) are available from [PHAB@PHAB.ORG](mailto:PHAB@PHAB.ORG) Children with special needs are especially welcome.
- 6. Football** Our school teams continue to do well. Just before half term the A and B teams went to Fetcham to play Oakfield Junior School. Both teams won 4-2, with some stunning goals scored. Last week they were in action again against St Peters, the A team winning 3-1 and the B team 7-0. Another match last week against Leatherhead Trinity went wrong as our Year 5 and 6 boys arrived at Trinity to find that their teams were all Year 3 and 4 children so we played a friendly match with mixed West Ashted and Trinity teams. The one positive from this is that we discovered that Trinity is keen to organise matches for Year 3 and 4 and for the older boys C and D teams. I will organise these matches for the New Year to give more of our boys a chance to represent their school. Today the A team is playing against The Raleigh Primary and on Thursday it takes part in a mini tournament against The Greville, St Peters and Trinity. Hopefully our impressive performances will continue.
- 7. The Pond** Our new pond, built for us by our friends at Connect Plus, will be opened officially on Friday. It is being dedicated to James McCartney, a pupil at this school who died tragically in June 2016, aged 7. The ceremony begins at 2:45pm and it will last around 20 minutes. Hopefully the weather will be kind to us and it will be held at the pond. If it is wet, we will have to use the Hall. If you would like to attend, you will be very welcome. Parents of children in Year 5 who were in James's class in the Infants are particularly welcome. James's family will be with us also.



And finally... the only barrier in life is our own ambition and imagination...



Have a good week.

*Rob Hart*

## Important Dates for your diary for the next 6 weeks

| Date       | Event  |
|------------|--|
| 05.11.2018 | Parent's Evening bookings closed at 8pm                                      |
| 05.11.2018 | Year 5 and Year 6 Girls football V Raleigh at West Ashtead 3.45pm            |
| 05.11.2018 | Year 3 – Year 6 Girls Football Club Cancelled <b>*Club Timetable Change*</b> |
| 06.11.2018 | Open Afternoon for perspective parents for entry September 2019              |
| 07.11.2018 | Parents Evening 15.30-17.30  |
| 08.11.2018 | Football tournament WAPS, Greville, Trinity and St Peter's 1pm               |
| 08.11.2018 | Parents Evening 15.30-20.00  |
| 08.11.2018 | Year 1 Weald & Downland Museum   |
| 09.11.2018 | FOWA Event-Bag 2 School Collection   |
| 12.11.2018 | Football B Team v Raleigh 3.45pm   |
| 12.11.2018 | Open Morning for perspective parents for entry September 2019                |
| 13.11.2018 | Year 6 Henley Fort Trip- 6M  |
| 13.11.2018 | 4G Class Assembly 9am  |
| 14.11.2018 | 3C to Leatherhead Theatre  |
| 14.11.2018 | Year 6 Henley Fort Trip- 6P  |
| 15.11.2018 | Year 6 Henley Fort Trip – 6H   |
| 23.11.2018 | Year 4 Fishbourne Palace   |
| 25.11.2018 | FOWA Event Christmas Fair  |
| 26.11.2018 | Year 5 Design Museum   |
| 27.11.2018 | Year 2 Lightbox Gallery  |
| 27.11.2018 | 3C Class Assembly  |
| 29.11.2018 | Theatre Workshop Pied Piper  |
| 04.12.2018 | 6M Class Assembly  |
| 12.12.2018 | Infant Christmas Production 9.30am   |
| 12.12.2018 | Junior Christmas Production 7pm  |
| 13.12.2018 | Infant Christmas Production 9.30am   |
| 13.12.2018 | Junior Christmas Production 7pm  |
| 14.12.2018 | FOWA Event Infants Christmas Party   |
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Our full calendar of events is available on our website:

[Click here for school calendar](#)

[Click here for school trips information](#)

**\*\*\*Please note all dates are subject to change at the headteacher's discretion\*\*\***