



## West Ashtead Primary School

### Newsletter Number 6 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2018

I have been overwhelmed by the messages I have received over the past few days since I announced my departure. Thank you to all of you. They have left me feeling very humbled and more than a little guilty for leaving, but I am certain that I have made the correct decision.

**1. Goodbye** At the end of this term we say good bye to 3 teachers. Ms. Hart, who has been at West Ashtead for 9 years, leaves us to become a Maths teacher at Cranmore School in West Horsley. Mrs Perrin is leaving to have more time to care for her young family and to work for Testbase, a company which produces revision tests for schools. Ms Coulson is leaving to take up a position at Downsend School. We thank all of them for their contribution to West Ashtead and wish them well for the future.

To replace them we have recruited Miss Laura Dalchow, currently a Year 6 teacher at Epsom Downs Primary School. Miss Dalchow will teach in Year 5 and be the school's Science leader. Mrs Tina Frost-Luttman will be replacing Mrs Perrin. Mrs Frost-Luttman has worked previously as a Headteacher and is hugely experienced. Mrs Jacqui Hosken, who is already a part time teacher at West Ashtead will replace Ms Coulson.

It is a reflection of the way the school is viewed by teachers locally that we have been able to recruit the excellent teachers who have joined us over the past 18 months, when other more highly regarded schools have been struggling to attract new staff.

**2. Christmas events** All the events between now and the end of term are listed on our website ([www.west-ashtead.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.west-ashtead.surrey.sch.uk)), but this is what is coming up:

**12<sup>th</sup> December:** Infant Nativity play at 9:30am. No need to apply for tickets, just turn up for the performance you wish to attend.

Junior Christmas Concert at 7pm. This event will last about 1 hour and all children in Years 3 to 6 are required for both evenings. No need to apply for tickets, just turn up for the performance you wish to attend.

**13<sup>th</sup> December:** Infant Nativity play at 9:30am

Junior Christmas Concert at 7pm

**14<sup>th</sup> December:** Infant Christmas party (organised by FOWA) at 1:30pm

**17<sup>th</sup> December:** Year 6 Christmas Fair at 2:00pm. This event involves games and other activities organised by the children in Year 6. All of the other children will get a chance to visit the fair during the afternoon. They will need to bring a small amount of money – in 10p 20p and 50p coins so they can have a go at some of the activities. All of the money raised will go towards the Leavers events for Year 6 next July.

**18<sup>th</sup> December:** School Christmas Day. Children come to school in their uniform, but they can wear a Christmas jumper, hat, antlers etc. as well. We will go for a walk around the village, we will have Christmas lunch, followed by a film in the Hall. Later we have the Christmas discos for Infants and Juniors.

**19<sup>th</sup> December** Last day of term. This is also a Christmas jumper day. At teachers' discretion, children may be able to bring in a small toy or game to play with during the morning. No electronic devices will be allowed. **Term ends at 2pm for all children.**

**3. Year 6 clubs** Last week we finally launched a new initiative I had wanted to start much earlier in the term. Children in Year 6 have come up with ideas for lunchtime clubs which they want to run for the benefit of the other children. All of them had to pitch their idea to me, Dragon's Den style, and then I decided which I would allow to go ahead. We have 9 clubs available offering activities like computing, art, storytelling, origami and Lego. Because so many children want to join these clubs we have organised them into blocks of 3 weeks. The first group will attend for the final 3 weeks of this term and then other groups will get 3 week blocks next term. I hope these clubs will give children more things to do at lunchtime, they will provide valuable leadership and organisational skills for the Year 6 leaders and they will help to add another layer to the community ethos of the school.

**4. The Children's Wellbeing Practitioner (CWP) Service** is new to West Ashted School and is a programme available to parents of children who have mild to moderate anxieties or mild to moderate behavioural difficulties. Daniella is our Children's Wellbeing Practitioner from YMCA and is based at school every Monday. The CWP service is an early intervention programme and is designed for those who do not meet CAMHS threshold and are looking for a more preventative intervention. Daniella is currently in training at King's College London University in Children and Young People's Psychological Wellbeing. The programme consists of 8 one to one sessions with the parents (4 face to face and 4 telephone calls), helping parents to help their child overcome their difficulties. The approach is called Guided Self-help and is based on Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT). There is a book which parents will follow over the course and an important part of the programme is skills practise and readings in between the sessions. For more information and for a referral form to the service please contact Mrs Meadows or email Daniella directly at [Daniella.chow@ymcaeast Surrey.org.uk](mailto:Daniella.chow@ymcaeast Surrey.org.uk).

**5. Netball** Our teams have been in action twice recently against Oakfield Junior school in Fetcham and against the Greville. Against Oakfield our A team won 17-2 and the B team won 8-2. Against the Greville, the A's lost 2-7, in a game they dominated but despite having many shots, just could not get the ball in the net. The B team fared better, winning 15-2.

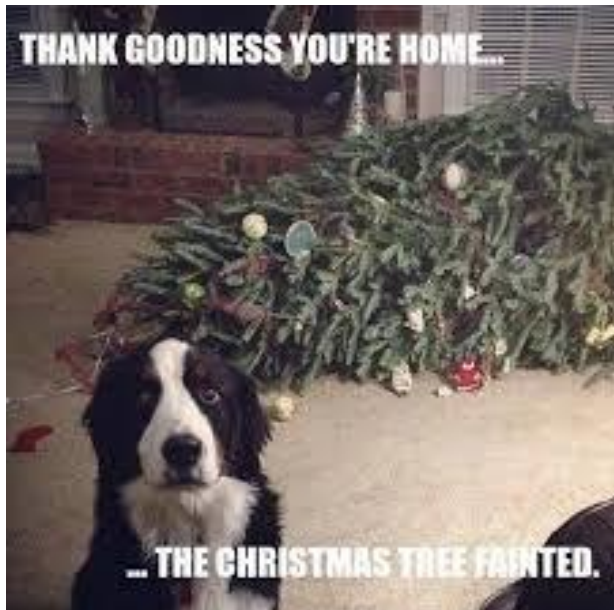
**6. Football** The final matches of this term were played a couple of weeks ago against Eastwick Junior School from Bookham. The boys A team once again dominated possession but could not score and drew their match 0-0. The boys B team fared better, winning 2-0. The girls A team also played well, winning 6-1 and the girls B team overran their opposition 10-1. That means the results table (because we all like a bit of data, don't we?) looks like this:

	Played	Won	Drew	Lost	Goals for	Goals against
Boys A	8	5	1	2	22	11
Boys B	5	5	0	0	23	5
Boys C	1	0	1	0	1	1
Girls A	2	1	1	0	9	4
Girls B	1	1	0	0	10	1

During this term 40 children have had the chance to represent their school and just over 70 have been attending the 3 football clubs. With no teachers available to take over from me I am trying to arrange for a local coaching company to run the after school clubs for football next term and cricket in the summer. The school will pay for this coaching, so the clubs will remain free. The new Headteacher will decide what to do after that.

- 7. Next term** Those of us returning to West Ashted in the New Year should do so on Monday, 7th January at 8:55am.

And finally... Is your tree up yet?



Have a good week,

*Rob Hart*

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

Date	Event
03.12.2018	Netball Match at Leatherhead Trinity
04.12.2018	6M Class Assembly
04.12.2018	Junior Dance Club Cancelled * Club timetable change*
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
17.12.2018	Year 6 Christmas fair
18.12.2018	FOWA Event-Christmas Disco
18.12.2018	School Christmas Day
<b>19.12.2018</b>	<b>*Term ends 2pm*</b>
<b>20.12.2018</b>	<b>Christmas Break</b>
03.01.2019	Inset Day
04.01.2019	Inset Day
07.01.2019	Children return to school
09.01.2019	Year 3 Swimming Lessons begin
14.01.2019	Teacher lead clubs begin

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\*\*\*\***