



WESTWOOD'S BUCKLEY BUGLE

To our Dear Westwood Family – I hope you are well .

As you will know from our communication on Friday, that we will be apart for a little while longer. We understand how disappointed you will feel with no news of a return just yet. My staff and I are also disappointed, however our return is determined by the reduction of infection rates. With all of our efforts, we are hopeful of a return very soon.

You have been so incredible since lockdown began again in January, your hard work, patience and resilience has been amazing. We would like to thank you for working with us; for remaining as positive as you have, as supportive as you are and as strong as you can be, as any family should be. I have reiterated our message for your wellbeing and that of your family during our time apart on page 8 of this month's Buckley Bugle. There is also more information for our parents about groups that can help you through this difficult time on pages Page 10 and 11, with EPEC and ' Being a Parent' group. Please take time to look over these pages as it is an fantastic opportunity for our Westwood Family.

I would also like to remind you to save the date of Thursday 11th February, when will be holding a virtual Community Café and Coffee catch up– you are all invited and more details will follow this week with a link to join us.

This week is Children's Mental Health week and our teachers have included wellbeing activities and ways you can support your child's mental health too. Take a look at the links below for more ideas and help to support your child:

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/parents-and-carers/>

<https://youngminds.org.uk/resources/>

Thank you too, for all the feedback you have given within the online learning and support questionnaire. We are actioning feedback as we speak, providing additional support, help and guidance. Further adjustments to our home learning and wellbeing contact with school will adapt, based on the feedback we have received and in consultation with our wonderful staff. We will be communicating these adaptations soon as we are now expected to continue with remote learning longer- term plan. Again, with everyone's wellbeing at its heart!

I would also like to direct you to our Instagram page, as each week I post my weekly assembly for the children. Unfortunately, I cannot post it on Seesaw nor the website as it is a bit too long, but I would love to share all the fantastic things you are doing whilst you are at home with your child. We have lots of regular followers and contributors, and we would love to have your contributions too!

https://www.instagram.com/ww_buckley/

Finally , we have some wonderful news! Mrs Farrer and Mrs Fresa are both expecting babies in the Summer term! We are very excited for both of our amazing teachers, and I know you will extend your best wishes to them both!

Please keep checking your emails and staying in touch with us. If you need anything, contact the office on wwmail@hwbcymru.net or call 01244 543207. We are all thinking of you! Stay positive and stay safe!

Mrs Williams & Team Westwood :)



Pupil Councils

Criw Cymraeg

Annwyl Pawb!

This is our busiest term to celebrate all the wonderful things we do in Wales. On Monday 25th January, it kicked started with Dydd Santes Dwynwen - The Welsh saint of love. All the bubbles across the school had taken part in our themed day and what fun we all had! We also got to see the children at home celebrating the day too. Lots of you sent in your pictures that you were making cards and celebrating it with your loved ones, which was lovely to see!

Gwaith anghoel!

Our next themed days that are coming up is Dydd Miwsig Cymru - Welsh Language Music Day on Friday 5th February and of course Dydd Gwyl Dewi - St. David's Day. Keep an eye out on your Learning Grids, Seesaw



We are developing our Outdoor Areas

As you will be aware, one of our targets for Westwood is developing the outdoor areas around school, for all of our children to have even better experiences during the school day; be it in lessons or at play! We are looking to redevelop the Nursery area, If you know anyone who could help us with funding or equipment for the Nursery area, we would be incredibly grateful. We are continuing with our project called 'Loose Parts' and we are asking for donations of a variety of bits and bobs to enhance the activities in outdoor provision in Reception and Nursery. So here is what we are looking for!

Nursery

- Cable Reels - large and small
- Tyres - large and small
- Wooden crates
- Wooden pallets
- Stones, pebbles and gravel
- Bark
- Logs

Garden/Sensory/PSD Area

- Mint
- Lemon grass
- Chives
- Lavender
- Insect Hotel



Environments in tyres for Small World

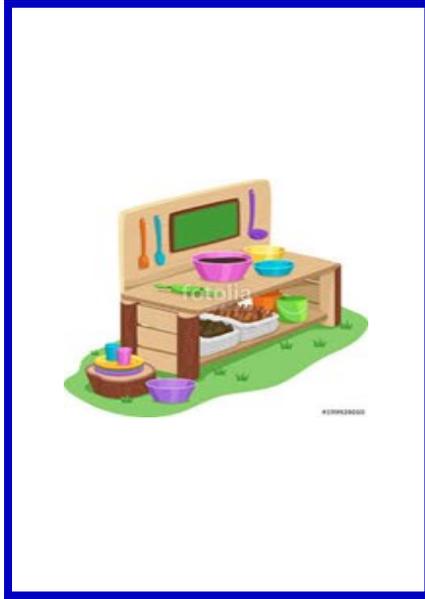
- Sand
- Gravel
- Ever green plants
- Rockery stones
- Large pebbles

Recycled and Reused Materials

- Paper (newspaper, shredded, cardboard, paper tubes)
- Containers (milk jugs, yogurt containers, metal cans)
- Textiles (sheets, shower curtains, blankets, towels, pillows)
- Ropes (used climbing ropes)
- Tires (inner tubes)
- Gutters
- PVC tubes
- Buckets, tubs, laundry baskets
- Pallets, crates (wooden or plastic)
- Nuts and bolts
- Car parts
- Hose
- Pipes and tubing
- Keys
- Hinges
- Rattan wicker balls
- Curtain poles/rings
- Picture frames A3
- Spools, bobbins and reels
- Swimming noodles
- Artificial flowers
- Cardboard rolls
- Chain

Mud Kitchen

- Waterproof trouser and jackets
- Wellies
- Round cutters
- Eggcup
- Pebbles
- Shells
- Cones
- Twigs
- Corks
- Measuring jugs
- Whiteboard
- Measuring
- Sieves
- Whisk
- Ladle
- Masher
- Garlic press
- Cups
- Scales
- Scoops
- Measuring cups
- Saucepans
- Pestle and mortar
- Wooden spoons
- Pastry brushes



Organic Materials

- ◆ Rocks, stones, gravel, pebbles
- ◆ Wood (sticks, stumps, boards, coins, branches, wood chips, cinnamon stick, pegs, beads, planks, different sized logs)
- ◆ Shells
- ◆ Water (ice, snow)
- ◆ Seeds (acorns, dried beans, seed pods)
- ◆ Pine cones
- ◆ Leaves
- ◆ Grasses (hay, straw)
- ◆ Mosses
- ◆ Flowers (petals)
- ◆ Textiles (hemp, cotton, wool, felt, silk)
- ◆ Corks
- ◆ Sea sponges
- ◆ Drift wood
- ◆ Hay bales
- ◆ Seeds
- ◆ Bark
- ◆ Feathers

If you have any of these items to donate, please can you bring them to the school main entrance gate, where we can store them 'Covid' safely and securely. If you need any more information on our outdoor learning activities and provision, or ways you can help, please email the office to contact Mrs Ryan, Mrs Hatton or Mrs Fresa via email.

Diolch :)

Outdoor Classroom and Community Garden

As you will be aware, we secured funding for an Outdoor Classroom and Community Garden from the Lottery grant during the last lockdown. We are very excited to share with you the vision for the project and the design of the new build. We are also grateful to the P.T.F.A. who have agreed to part fund this exciting project too. We have secured a local Buckley company to agree to bring our vision to life, and when the planning is finalised, we will commence building very soon. We know that this project will make a huge difference to our Westwood Family in terms of experiences,



More Grant Funding



A huge thank you to Asda for a fabulous £500 grant funding for outdoor equipment! We are looking forward to spending this for our outdoor learning.

We have also had other donations (anonymous) towards the outdoors that have enabled us to buy fantastic outdoor waterproof clothing for our Foundation Phase children.



Westwood Family Wellbeing

During this lockdown, it has become clearer to us as a school, that we are all feeling it tougher this year. Many of us are feeling isolated, anxious, scared, frustrated and disappointed to be separated due to the pandemic. We know that the safest place for us is at home but sometimes we just need to know that we are not alone either or that help is out there.

We also understand home is not school. You are doing a fantastic job with your children, **and we are thankful** for any learning you are able to do. As a school, we will ensure your child has an appropriate curriculum offer. However, every family is different, and their circumstances are too. You and your children will have good days and bad days. **We want to reassure you - Please do not struggle nor battle with school work! You do what you can, when you can. Your children will be well if you are! Your health and positive wellbeing are important to us - always has been, always will be!!! Do not be hard on yourselves; be kind to you! More importantly - talk to us – we want to help!**

Whatever your situation, please get in touch - even if you just want a chat. With this in mind, **we have arranged a Virtual Community Café and Coffee on Zoom on Thursday 11th February - details to follow. Please save the date as we would love to see you!**

There are also other avenues to give our parents a helping hand at this time. We would like to introduce you to ‘E.P.E.C.’ and ‘Being a Parent’ course as we all know that being a parent can be hard and with the events of the past year this has led to many parents feeling isolated and noticing a change in their children’s behaviour.

This recently launched project in Buckley is here to help support parents with practical support for the day to day challenges of being a parent, and an opportunity to meet others who may be going through similar experiences.

Starting after February half term, we will be running our ‘Being a Parent’ groups. So why not come and join us, meet our fantastic Parent Group Leaders and make new friends too! Our Westwood group will be run on Wednesday’s from 9.30am to 11.30am—the first on Wednesday 24th February.

The groups are being delivered online for 2 hours per week, for 8 weeks (term time only) and are run by our parents who have been trained to deliver this course. We will share ideas together on what works well with your own family, whilst making sure we take care of ourselves too!

Interested or want to find out more? See over the page where you will find a poster and course outline OR Why not give Emma a call on 07584 533111 or email emma.blacklock@flintshire.gov.uk.

Other help is out there too: <https://hwb.gov.wales/zones/keeping-safe-online/support-services/confidential-support/>

Stay safe our Westwood family :)

On Wednesday
3rd February 2021

**Wear an item
of clothing
inside out!**

Be kind always... you never
know how someone is
feeling inside.

For more information visit
nowandbeyond.org.uk

**Now and
Beyond** >>>

on Inside Out Day

#LetsGoBeyond



EMPOWERING
PARENTS
EMPOWERING
COMMUNITIES

Being a Parent Group

- Have you felt isolated recently?
- Has your children's behaviour changed?
- Would you like help to support your children during Covid?

We may have the group for you....

Join our virtual course run by fully trained and supported local parents
An opportunity to meet other parents going through similar experiences
Practical support for the day to day challenges of being a parent
Share ideas with other parents

Topics we will cover

Play

Feelings

Being a parent

Understanding children's behaviour



**STARTING AFTER FEBRUARY
2021 HALF TERM**

**CONTACT EMMA FOR MORE INFORMATION
07584 533111
EMMA.BLACKLOCK@FLINTSHIRE.GOV.UK**

INFORMATION SESSION – HANDOUT 1

COURSE OUTLINE

Session 1: *Being a Parent*

- Getting to know each other
- Goals for parent and child
- 'Good enough' vs 'perfect' parent
- Taking care of ourselves

Session 2: *Feelings*

- Remembering what it was like to be a child
- Acknowledging and accepting feelings
- Expressing Feelings

Session 3: *Play*

- Child-led play – Special Time

Session 4: *Valuing my child*

- Avoiding 'labels' and describing behaviour
- Using descriptive praise to change behaviour

Session 5: *Understanding children's behaviour*

- Understanding children's needs and their behaviour in response to needs
- Discipline
- Commands, consequences, rewards and star charts

Session 6: *Discipline strategies*

- Understanding what we mean by boundaries
- Time Out and saying 'No'
- Household rules

Session 7: *Listening*

- Communication styles
- Helping a child when upset
- 'Open' and 'Closed' questions
- Reflective listening

Session 8: *Review and support*

- Coping with Stress
- Reviewing the course & knowing where to get support
- Ending and celebration

Community Donations

We are incredibly lucky to be part of a Buckley community who reach out and help Westwood in times when they are needed the most. A huge thank you to another generous anonymous donation to Westwood of two new Chromebooks to assist with our children's online learning. Thank you for such a generous act which will make a huge difference to our children, who need a device to support with their online school work at this time.



If you, or you know someone, who can help with devices to support our Westwood family, please get in touch. We are always grateful of additional technology, old unused devices which can be given out to our children. It is a great way to pay kindness forward and it really makes a difference. Contact the office if you can help :) Diolch yn fawr!