



WESTWOOD'S BUCKLEY BUGLE

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

As you know, there have been relaxing of Welsh Government restrictions since Monday 12th April. However as a school, all of our Covid and Health & Safety arrangements remain in place to keep our school safe! Covid 19 is still a threat and having a positive case on Friday in Bubble E—Year 5 & 6 was a stark reminder, that although Welsh Government have relaxed their restrictions, we all need to remain vigilant to keep our school open. We are doing everything in our capacity to keep us all safe; we ask you to support us as you have, as we do not want to close bubbles. Please refer to the Parent's handbook for details of our safety measures; I have attached these again for your attention.

Since our return on 12th April, our outdoor area is undergoing a transformation! As you know, a new Outdoor Classroom is being erected, which should be completed over the next two weeks. Our Forest School is also under construction too! The Nursery and Reception areas are also undergoing a make over to enhance the outdoor learning experiences. I would like to thank all the parents and staff who have supported us and contributed to our outdoor work. Take a peek on pages 4 & 5 to see how our outdoors is transforming!

A huge thank you to my amazing staff for their hard work since our return. I am lucky to have such a hard working and dedicated team supporting our Westwood family. A big well done to them, as last week we have had our very first 'virtual parent's evenings'. The staff worked incredibly hard to make sure these were able to be successful and as supportive as possible. We hope that these meetings proved useful and informative. Well done Team Westwood!

In this month's Buckley Bugle, we have some reminders and some new pupil features too! Our amazing children are sharing their news and this will be a regular addition to our correspondence with you! Please check out pages 6 to 11. I know the children who have constructed these news items have worked incredibly hard and I know you will enjoy reading their work! I am very proud of you all!

I would like to direct you to our Instagram page and You Tube Channel, as each week I post a 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 your child is involved in outside school, as well as celebrate the achievement of our children in school too. We have lots of regular followers and contributors, and we would love to have your contributions too! Just send these into the office. Parents and Carers please check us out on <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEA5K7BE84zf1LFtp9chDMA> and on https://www.instagram.com/ww_buckley/ 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.

Please stay safe our Westwood Family! Mrs Williams & Team Westwood :)



We are still 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

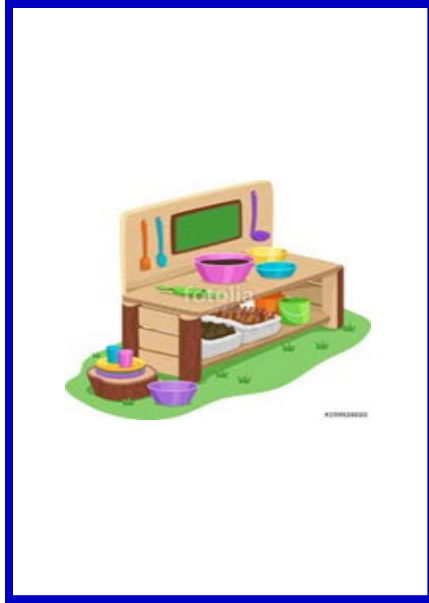
- Sand
- Gravel
- Ever green plants
- Rockery stones
- Large pebbles

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 or Mrs Hatton via office email.

Diolch :)

Outdoor Classroom and Community Garden— Under construction!

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, J & B Joinery, to agree to bring our vision to life! We know that this project will make a huge difference to our Westwood Family in terms of experiences, outdoor learning and bring our community together once more. We hope you love it too! See below for the story so far!



Forest School Project—Under construction!

As part of our extensive work on Outdoor learning, we are relocating our Forest School, from the bottom of the field to the site next to the Outdoor Classroom and Community Garden .

The work on our Forest School vision has began with a spot of gardening; clearing and removal of thorns near the trees. This will allow all of our children to safely access the grounds of school and enjoy rich outdoor activities.



As part of the Forest School project, we are looking for fence posts, timber, wooden stumps, hedging and trees. If you can help us with the sourcing of these materials, please get in touch with the school office. Thank you!

Pupil Voice and Newsround up!

The pupil voice is strong at Westwood; our children champion their learning experiences and rightly so! Therefore I feel this should also be reflected in our newsletters and correspondence to our Westwood Family. A regular feature of our Monthly Newsletter will be articles and news stories from our children, giving you a special insight and window into their world at Westwood – Well done to all of our reporters this month and thank you for your amazing contributions! Enjoy your read!!

OUTDOOR LEARNING WEEK WITH CLASS 9

During last week class 9 enjoyed the outdoors and to celebrate nature the children created inspiring pieces of artwork.

Class 9 decided to scavenge around the field for materials, they collected twigs, leaves and grass to create an art masterpiece. Using the items, they collected they decided to create a landscape of their school field.



They also created grass sculptures due to the grass recently being cut. They used the freshly cut grass to sculpt their own unique creations. (e.g. bird's nests, football pitches, and much more). When the time came to eat their lunch the children all wanted to eat their lunch outside on the picnic benches.

Westwood C.P. School Class 7 Litter Pick

This week class 7 undertook a session litter picking to clean our school field. There were an appalling 115 pieces of plastic around the perimeter fence of Westwood's school field; luckily class 7 were there to help! They made a tally chart to document all the plastic and other litter that was found on the school field. After the litter pick, they realized what was on their potential play area was very hazardous, there were materials such as glass, sharp metal tins and non-biodegradable items.

When the collection of litter ended, Class 7 used the school bins to dispose of the litter they had collected. After the litter pick Class 7 made a tally chart to practice their math's skills. The results on the tally chart were very shocking, it was sad to see there had been so much litter on the playground. However, it was great that the children had cleared it all.



News story by Edith and Jess in Year 6.

A Surprise Picnic for Bubble E

Last week, Kacey made some bread with Miss Jones which resulted in Bubble E having an outdoor picnic! Class 9 and 10 made some sandwiches for their picnic; they could choose from cheese, butter and Biscoff spread!

After they had made their sandwiches they went outside, and they ate their sandwiches and made some grass sculptures; one of the groups made a camp-fire and another made a daisy out of leaves and flowers.



This news story was written by Sienna in Year 6.

News from Bubble E

Eco Week Saw Lots of Learning in the Outdoors

An army of men (gardeners!) visited Westwood's school field with their grass cutting machines during Eco week. This was fantastic because it gave all the children lots of natural resources to use, to develop imaginative ideas outside.

Edith, Bev and Victoria from Year 6 created a giant daisy (see picture below). It is certain that everyone will agree their work is very artistic and makes good use of natural resources from Wales.

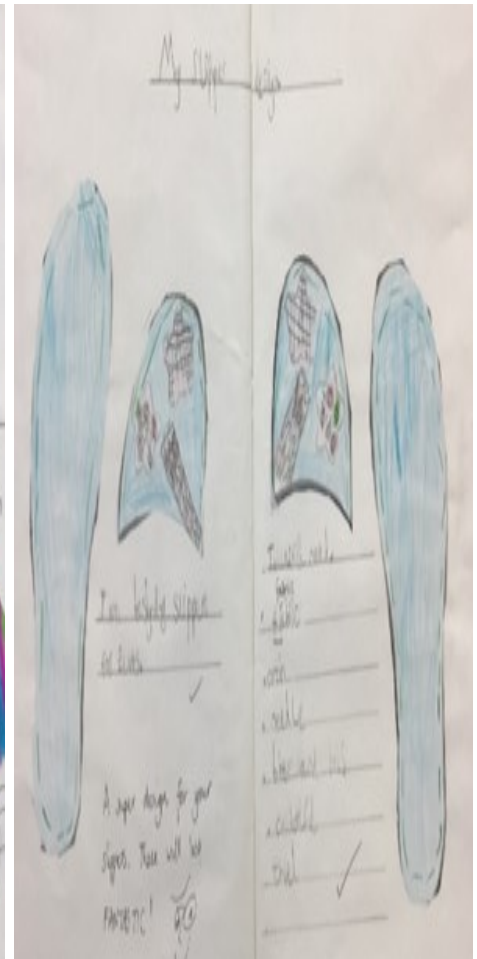


This news story was written by Sienna in Year 6.

ELVES AT WESTWOOD

Two elves called Pippa and Pepper came to visit us at Westwood. They went to Year 1 and 2 and they wanted some designs for trainers. They also wanted to know which kind of material would be the best for wellies. We investigated waterproof materials and we found out that the best material was rubber. It would keep your feet dry and it was nice and strong!

Then, they asked if we could design and make some slippers. We are going to make our slippers out of felt and my design has two flowers and two stars. We are going to make our slippers and take them home!!!! It's been great having the elves visit us.



This news story is from Rebecca Duckers Year 2

Eco Committee

Work has recently begun on a newly designated area for outdoor learning. In the lead-up to National Outdoor Learning week, space was cleared for a new Forest Schools area (see image below) which will continue to be developed to enhance and extend learning opportunities for all children.

Outdoor learning is a pedagogical approach used to enrich learning, enhance school engagement and improve pupil health and wellbeing. The new curriculum for Wales encourages increased opportunities for learning outdoors because there is a direct relationship between child health, wellbeing and time spent learning outdoors.

The Eco Committee prepared for Outdoor Learning Week by collecting ideas from pupils throughout school so pupil voice could steer the planning of activities. Classes collaborated and voted on their favourite ideas; as a result, a fantastic outdoor week of learning has taken place. Please check SeeSaw and the gallery on the school website to see some of the great adventures the children have had outdoors during National Outdoor Learning Week.

Mrs Brown and the Eco Committee



New Designated Area Cleared for Forest Schools Developing the new Forest School

Westwood Family Wellbeing Monthly Feature

A regular feature to our Buckley Bugle is a focus on our Westwood Family Wellbeing. During this last 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 and scared. As we gradually ease out of lockdown, it is important to keep ourselves safe and well! There are many ways to do this for a healthy body and mind.

Wellbeing Help for our Westwood Family

Please find below external support and useful information for wellbeing and mental health in the links below: this ranges from simple videos, strategies and activities, to having the opportunity to speak to someone about the help you may need. I hope you find this useful. 😊

Activate your life

Free online self-help course from Public Health Wales (PHW). Provides four videos with accompanying guidance

ACT1 – You are not your mind.

ACT2- Facing up to life.

ACT3 – Being mindful.

ACT4 - Living wisely Living well.

<https://phw.nhs.wales/services-and-teams/activate-your-life/>

Public Health Wales: How are you doing?

This is an uncertain time for us all, but have you stopped to ask yourself how you are doing?

This is a continually updated resource offering advice on looking after yourself and loved ones. It includes a video and links to other relevant topics.

<https://phw.nhs.wales/topics/latest-information-on-novel-coronavirus-covid-19/how-are-you-doing/>

Mind

If you are living with a mental health problem, or supporting someone who is, Mind will have access to a range of information and local support

<https://www.mind.org.uk/about-us/mind-cymru/>

Young Minds

An association who want to see a world where no young person feels alone with their mental health, and all young people get the mental health support they need, when they need it, no matter what.

https://youngminds.org.uk/?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIor6jupD27gIVTdiyChoqngrAEAAAYASAAEgLX4vD_BwE

BBC Headroom

As the BBC explains, “We know we can’t solve all your troubles, but we can give you tools to help. Whether it is everyday tips, [sounds to relax your mind](#), [strategies to cope with parenting](#) right now or [films to get you talking](#), we are here to help you look after yourself and your loved ones.”

[https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/YfRzhXDKSZQxFVn3oTIXBj/your-mental-health-toolkit?xtor=SEC-1-\[GOO\]-\[120352182200\]-\[498771471000\]-S-\[mental%20health%20advice\]](https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/YfRzhXDKSZQxFVn3oTIXBj/your-mental-health-toolkit?xtor=SEC-1-[GOO]-[120352182200]-[498771471000]-S-[mental%20health%20advice])

Don’t forget to look at our Westwood website too <http://www.westwoodprimary.co.uk/page/covid-19-wellbeing-resources/67453>

Whatever your situation, please get in touch - even if you just want a chat—we are here to help you.

Take care and stay safe our Westwood family :)

Healthy Schools; Healthy Life!

To help us to have a healthy mind, a healthy body plays an important role. We would like to take the opportunity to share with our Westwood Family that we are a **Healthy School**. We have been awarded 4 phases of the Healthy Schools Award and are working towards phase 5. The award is Welsh Assembly Government accredited and the purpose of the award is to ensure that health promotion becomes an integrated part of the school curriculum, the organisation and the ethos of the school.

A healthy school is a happy school. An effective school is a healthy school. At Westwood we promote physical, mental and emotional health and well being. Also, we hope the work carried out will enable our school to improve both the quality of teaching and learning and to enhance relationships between the school, its pupils, parents, staff, governors and external agencies. In line with the new curriculum, we are also currently updating our Food and Fitness policy, within a new policy for school under a new title of 'Health and Wellbeing'. The children will have input into this important policy through the work of the pupil cabinet and their classroom voice, alongside their important P.S.E. work into the rights of the [UN Convention On The Rights Of The Child](#).

Food brought into school

At this time, we encourage our children to bring their own healthy snack; please ensure this has their name on. We also encourage **healthy food choices** to be brought in as part of pupils' packed lunches.



If you need some new ideas for a healthy lunch box, please see the links below.

<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes>

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-02/healthy-lunchboxes-leaflet.pdf>

We would also like to remind you that **Westwood is a nut free school**. Please be aware when packing lunches.

Pupil's are advised to bring a named water bottle to school on a daily basis. This helps them to concentrate throughout the day. We will also provide the children water throughout the school day.

Diolch :)



Being a Parent Group

- Have you felt isolated during lockdown?
- Has your children's behaviour changed?
- Do you have a child between the ages of 2 to 11 years?



We may have the group for you....

Join our free virtual group run by fully trained 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

Some of the topics we cover over 8 sessions

Play

Feelings

Being a parent

Understanding children's behaviour



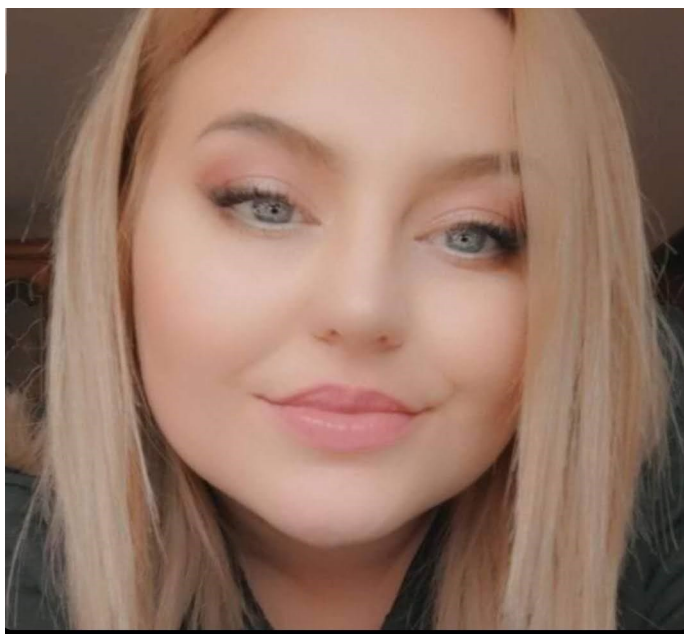
THURSDAY 12.30 - 2.30PM
STARTING 20TH MAY
OR
FRIDAY 9.30 - 11.30AM
STARTING 21TH MAY

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

E.P.E.C. ~ Empowering Parents: Empowering Communities!

A massive well done to our very own Miss V Crewe, Mum of Hunter in Reception and Jess in Year 5 & Miss C Collings, Mum of Ellie in Year 2 and Louisa in Reception, for delivering the first parents' course for E.P.E.C. Both of our amazing ladies undertook special training (in their own time) to deliver the course (in their own time) and they have both been hugely successful at ensuring many local parents have now got the help, skills, support and advice they need to help themselves and their children.

We are so very proud of you both and your commitment to E.P.E.C.; we know just how valuable your work is and how much it means to many of our parents at Westwood and in the wider Buckley community. You are a credit and inspiration to us all!



The second round of courses is taking place in May (see poster on page 14) and you can join the course by contacting Emma on 07584 533111.

Reminders -Use of Social Media Platforms and Age Appropriate Material

During lockdown, many children may have increased their usage of Social media, online gaming and access of films. Unfortunately, not all of these platforms are appropriate for their age.

Whilst we know that our parents are incredibly vigilant, social media changes rapidly and new platforms are popping up, making it more difficult to keep a close watch on activity. As a parent it's also important you know that all social networking platforms (or social networking apps, if on a smartphone) have age limits. Some social networks use technologies that may not be right for some ages or engage with communities that are made up of people much older than your child.

Click on the link below to find out more about the age limits.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/what-age-can-my-child-start-social-networking/>

So what are the risks of using an underage social networking account?

There are many risks when your child uses an unsupervised account or makes an account on a social network site that is not age appropriate. So what are the risks of an underage social networking account?

- *Many sites include an instant message function that allows private conversations between site members.*
- *Most social networking sites have an app version available, meaning your child will have access to the social network from their smartphone or tablet. Some app versions of social networks use the location of the phone.*
- *Information shared between friends can be easily copied and may spread.*
- *It isn't easy to take back information that has been posted - and can be impossible if it's already been shared.*
- *Not everyone your child meets online will be who they say they are. Chatrooms and forums can connect people who are complete strangers and can be unmoderated.*
- *Chatrooms and forums are some of the places online groomers go to connect with children. This is sometimes done through video chat programs. They can also be places where people use a lot of inappropriate language and engage in online activities with people who may be a lot older Or not who they say they are.*

Top social networks for kids

If your child is eager to start tweeting, posting or sharing but they struggle to find a network that is suitable for their age, then there are a number of alternative social networks made for children that you can point them to.

These offer child-friendly features like games and contests but also give you a chance to use them as teaching tool to get them sharing safely.

Ultimately, these social networks give children a safer environment where they can share their experiences and engage with friends they know.

Here are some [age-appropriate social media apps](#) for younger kids that you may find useful. For further details about these apps, just click on links :)

6-10 Years

[Spotlite \(formerly Kudos\)](#)

[PlayKids Talk](#)

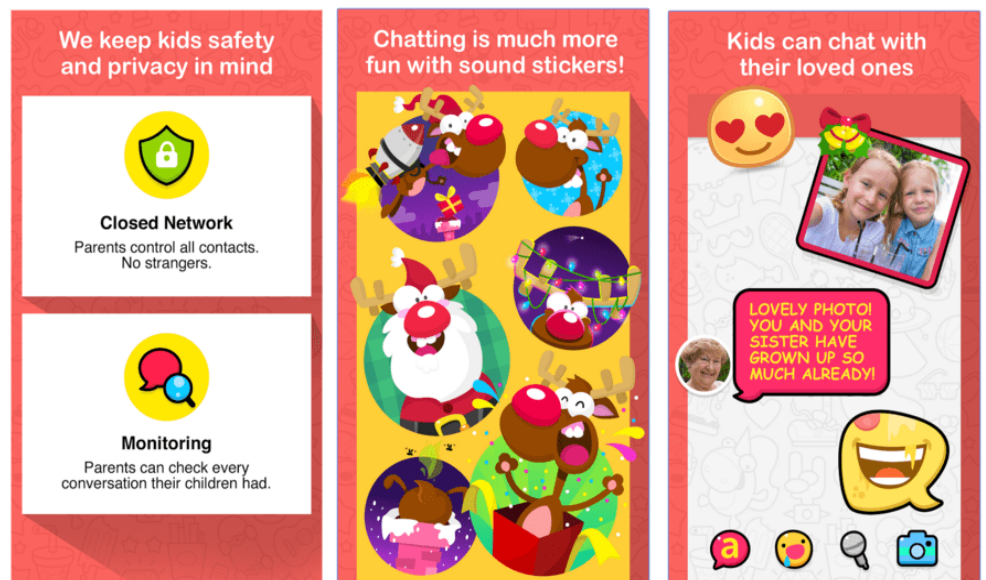
[GoBubble](#)

[Kidzworld: Chat Room & Forums](#)

[Grom Social](#)

11-13 Years

[PopJam](#)



Age Appropriate Material

It is also important to bear in mind the access your child may have or see with regards to online platforms, games, television programmes and films; again most will have age related guidance. This includes the use of YouTube.

We have had some very young learners discuss films they have watched, graphics on games they may have seen or programmes they have watched which are not suitable for children.

Please ensure if your child has older siblings or may be able to access this material themselves, that you can check your parental controls. Furthermore, it is important to keep their environment safe and ensure any content they have access to is suitable for their age.

Thank you for your support and working together with us, to keep our children safe.

Team Westwood :)

Community News



PENGUIN PLAYGROUP - JOB ADVERT

Position: Childcare and Business Manager

Salary: Competitive and negotiable, dependant on experience

Hours: Monday to Friday, 37 hours per week to be worked flexibly

Contract: 40 weeks a year (38 weeks of school term time plus 2 weeks in the summer holidays), permanent

Location: Westwood Centre, Tabernacle Street, Buckley, CH7 2JT

An exciting new opportunity has arisen at Penguin Playgroup and we would like to appoint a new Childcare and Business Manager to lead us on a journey of expanding our current childcare offer in a new purpose built setting, coming in 2022, which will cater for up to 35 children between the age of 2 and 11 for full day care.

Penguin Playgroup, soon to be named Penguin Daycare to better reflect our full day care offer, is seeking to appoint a passionate, nurturing and driven Childcare and Business Manager to lead our setting, alongside a dedicated group of Trustees and staff.

Penguin Playgroup has been running since 1990 and during that time it has continued to grow and increase its childcare offer to local families. Currently operating a full day care provision between 9am and 5.30pm with our desire to expand our operating hours from 8am to 6pm in the near future. The Manager will play an active leading role in the setting to start with, along with dedicated management time, moving to a supernumerary role under our new CIW registration. There is a team of 6 experienced staff and the charity is managed by a group of 4 Trustees. The setting has a strong reputation locally and this is an exciting opportunity to join a well-established setting.

We are looking for someone who...

- Has a warm smiling face that makes every child feel special
- Must be prepared to have lots of fun in the workplace.
- Must have the ability to pretend to eat creations of pretend food and drink realistically and be captain of a pirate ship
- Loves being outside, rain or shine
- Finally, must be prepared to feel special and an important role model to many young children and their families.

If the above sounds like you and you are interested in joining us on this new chapter please apply, send us your CV along with a covering letter by 12noon on the 14th May 2021.

For a further discussion about the role please contact us on penguingroup0@gmail.com or call Carol Dove on 07855418132 or Steph on 07985765175.

Interviews will take place on 21st May 2021. Successful appointment will be subject to satisfactory references, valid Enhanced DBS check and relevant qualifications.

Community News



Family Information Flintshire / Gwybodaeth i Deuluoedd Sir y Fflint

Do you have children? Are you struggling? If you don't know where to turn, EARLY HELP HUB is here for you.

Oes gennych chi blant? Ydych chi'n cael trafferth? Os nad ydych yn gwybod ble i droi, mae HWB CYMORTH CYNAR yma i chi.

**Do you have
children?
Are you
struggling?**

If you don't know where to turn, **EARLY HELP HUB** is here for you



01352 701900

EarlyHelpHub.Enquiries@flintshire.gov.uk

Single point of contact for you to ring/email for advice and support with

- Parenting
- Education
- Finances/Debt
- Housing
- Mental Health
- Family Relationships
- Health and Wellbeing in the Community



EARLY HELP HUB

FLINTSHIRE PUBLIC
SERVICES BOARD

**Oes gennych
chi blant?
Ydych chi'n
cael trafferth?**

Os nad ydych yn gwybod ble i droi, mae **HWB CYMORTH CYNAR** yma i chi



01352 701900

EarlyHelpHub.Enquiries@flintshire.gov.uk

Un pwynt cyswllt i chi ffonio/e-bost i gael cymorth a chyngor gyda

- Magu Plant
- Addysg
- Cyllid/Dyled
- Tai
- Iechyd Meddwl
- Perthynas Deuluol
- Iechyd a Lles yn y Gymuned



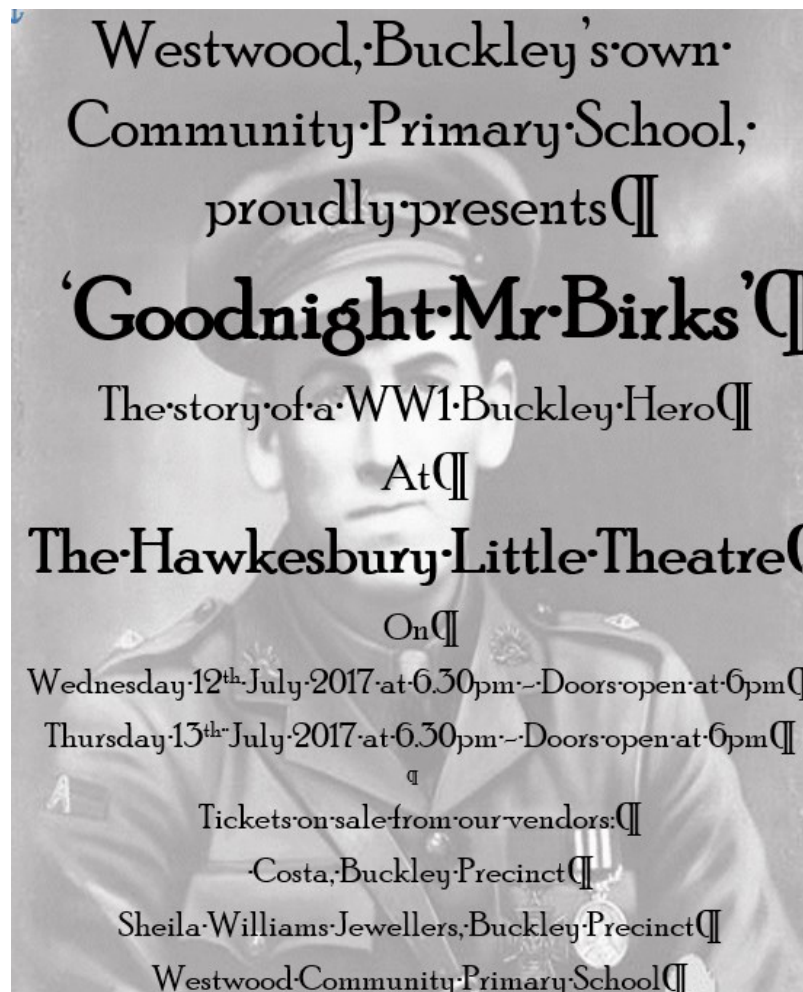
HWB CYMORTH CYNAR

BWRDD GWASANAETHAU
CYHOEDDUS SIR Y FFLINT

School Community News

Fred Birks

As many of our Westwood Family will know, since 2016 we have had a strong connection with the Buckley hero Fred Birks and his family. One of Fred's relatives, Tony Griffiths, is producing a biographical film about Fred's life, his family and the community links he had including our school involvement to Fred. Fred's niece, Janet Tildesley has directed Tony to school, as we have worked hard not only to keep his memory alive in our school community but within Buckley. Tony has now contacted school as he would like to view the Fred Birks Memorial Award and he would like to use a short clip of the Fred Birks' school production within his biographical film .



The short film clip would be from the summer production of 2017 (above) and we would like to give permission for a clip to be used. If your child was included in the 2017 production (2017 Junior pupils only, therefore last year's year 6 were year 3 at the time), and **you do not wish them to be featured in the film, please contact the school directly via email by Friday 7th May.**

Thank you :)

Sad news for our Westwood Family

As many of you know Mrs Fresa, Class 3's teacher, has been poorly and absent from school since February.

Up to now, we have respected Mrs Fresa's wishes, by keeping her absence information confidential, as this is a very difficult time for Mrs Fresa and her family. However, she feels it is now time for our wider school community to know why she has been absent from school. Class 3 had this sad news shared with them earlier last week.

Tragically, Mrs Fresa had a miscarriage in February. This tragic loss was followed by the devastating news that she has cancer. Mrs Fresa is undergoing a long period of treatment for her cancer diagnosis but the prognosis is positive. This does mean, that sadly, Mrs Fresa will not be able to return to school for this academic year.

Given the age of the children in class 3, we have not shared any of this information with them nor with any of the pupils at school. We feel it would be very upsetting for our children, as it has been for all of the staff, colleagues and friends of Mrs Fresa since we learned of her sad news. We do trust that if you wish to tell your child, you may do so. However, can you inform us of this so we are aware and mindful of how your child may react and we can support as necessary. Thank you to the parents of Class 3 for your support of Mrs Fresa.

We know that your thoughts and well wishes will be with Mrs Fresa and her family at this sad and difficult time. If you have been affected by this news, please contact the office.



"One day you'll look back and realise how hard it was, and just how well you did."

Stay safe our Westwood Family

