

WESSEX WEEKLY

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'Self Portrait' by Bethannie Stevens – Blue Class

**This week:
Mini Enterprise, Poppies, Christmas Cards, Community Day.....**



From the Head's Chair



I am sure you will have seen the notice at the front of the school telling us that we raised over £3000 at the fantastic fireworks event last Friday evening! It was great to see so many people from school, the local community and from further afield attending this spectacular event and I want to extend my thanks to the organising committee and all those that helped to make the event such a success. We were exceptionally lucky with the weather compared to the rest of the weekend and I enjoyed seeing the happy and grateful faces as people bade us farewell at the end of the evening.

I would like to congratulate Mrs Dawson who welcomed a new baby daughter to her family recently. Isabelle Grace was born on 31st October (scarey!) weighing 8lb 10oz. Mum and baby are both well, and mum is already back into her jeans – which I am reliably informed is just not fair!!

Well done to all those children who dressed up in something spotty today to help Wessex mark Children in Need day. We will count up all the generous donations you kindly sent in and will give you the grand total next week. Well done everyone!

We marked Armistice day on Tuesday with a special assembly in which I talked to the children about the significance of the occasion and why we wear poppies. The children behaved beautifully during our 2 minute silence at 11.00am and I was proud to see how many of us were wearing poppies. Thanks also to those parents who joined us for this occasion.

I enjoyed celebrating some of the children's work during a whole school assembly this week and am amazed by the progress your children have made in such a short time. I was showing a parent around upper school on Thursday, and when I finished our tour she told me that she wanted to send her child to Wessex because whenever we entered a classroom we were greeted with smiles. Well done children and thank you for continuing to make me feel proud!

Nick Stevens
Headteacher

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Mini-Enterprise Week



A reminder that Years 5 & 6 are aiming to make significant profits during Mini-Enterprise week next week (**17th until 21st November**). The children will form small business groups, develop and test a product, manufacture it and sell it to other children in the school. Last year we had great fun and the children learned a lot about market research, budgeting, advertising and selling techniques. Much of their inspiration came from parents who kindly came in to talk to the children about their own businesses. We would like to invite any willing parents

to get in touch with Miss Smith or Miss Razeghi if they would like to come in to talk to either Year 5 or 6 about their business this year. Thank you!

School Uniform

Please can we beg parents to label trousers, t-shirts and jumpers (and check them occasionally to make sure they have not been washed off). Teachers are spending rather a lot of time trying to work out which item of clothing belongs to whom and they would rather spend the time teaching!! Thank you for your help.

Christmas Lunch

This year the school Christmas lunch will be on **17th December**. Your child was given an envelope, which they have named, and we would like you to mark which lunch your child would like and enclose £2 payment in the envelope, please, returning the envelope to the class teacher by **21st November** at the latest.. The menu is as follows:

Traditional Roast Turkey, with chipolata, stuffing and gravy

Or

Vegetarian Cheese and leek puff pastry star

Roast potatoes, Carrots, Peas

Christmas Dessert

Or

Fresh Fruit Platter



The staff will, as usual, be serving the meals to the children and the PTA will kindly be providing crackers to add to the festivities. We hope that all the children will be able to join in this event. Please contact the school office if you have any queries.

Stories at the Library

Cox Green Library are holding a story telling session on **Saturday 15th November** from 10.30 to 11.30. The session is free and is suitable for children aged 5-11 years old.

Christmas Cards

Thank you to everyone who ordered the Christmas cards designed by the children. We have raised £250 from this activity. We hope you are impressed with the final product, which will be delivered to you in the next couple of weeks.



This week's....

TALKING HOMEWORK

What did you do today that you didn't do yesterday?

THINKING SKILLS CHALLENGE

Can you think of any words that start and end with the same letter? E.g. thought and pip.

Times Tables

At school, we've come across a wonderful CD that teaches all the times-tables from 2 to 12 - set to music with a disco beat! It's called 'Tables Disco' and it really does the trick. Each table is set to a different rock, rap or disco style, and is repeated and thoroughly tested. The CDs cost £7.99 each. More information about how to order the CD is available from your child's class teacher.

School Community Day

As I mentioned last week, we will be holding our first 'School Community Day' at Wessex tomorrow, **Saturday 15th November**. I am very pleased that 17 parents have responded and agreed to join us - if anyone else would like to come along for an hour or so, please do! We will be re-painting the external doors to lower school which are in desperate need of a touch up. I plan to open the school at 10am and the more pairs of hands we have, the more we can do. Children are welcome to accompany adults and will be able to play on the playground / field whilst we work. Fingers crossed for clement weather!

Free Credit Advice – Helping in the Crunch!

We will be holding a free information evening with consultants from Alton Mortgages, providing advice, hints and tips on how to keep control of your finances during the credit crunch. You will receive a letter with further details, but the event will take place at 7.30pm on **Wednesday 3rd December** in the upper school hall.

Some dates for your diary: (Advanced Christmas Warning – Please Note!!!)

DATE	OCCASION	WHO?
Thursday 27 th November	5S Class Assembly	Parents of children in 5S
Wednesday 3 rd December	Credit Crunch Survival Seminar 7.30pm	All
Sunday 7 th December	PTA Christmas Fair 2pm	Everyone!!
Monday 8 th December	Nursery Nativity 11.00am / 2.45pm	Nursery AM / PM
Tuesday 9 th December	Lower School Nativity 9.30am – adults only!!	Rec, Y1, Y2
Wednesday 10 th December	Lower School Nativity 9.30am	Rec, Y1, Y2
Thursday 11 th December	Wessex 'Carols By Candlelight' 5pm (NEW!)	All
Tuesday 16 th December	Nursery AM Closed / Nursery PM Party	Nursery AM / PM
Wednesday 17 th December	Nursery AM Party / Nursery PM Closed Community Christmas Carols at Cox Green, 6pm	Nursery AM / PM All
Wednesday 17 th December	Christmas lunch	Rec – Y6
Thursday 18 th December	Christmas Party Day	All (Children only)
Friday 19 th December	End of Term – School Closed 2pm	All
Monday 5 th January	INSET DAY – please don't send your children in to school!	All
Tuesday 6 th January	Term stars for children	All

Further information re tickets, timings, details etc. will be published prior to all Christmas events.