



WEST HADDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter No. 22

15th March 2019

School Budgets

Over the last few weeks you may have noticed some news items which focussed on school budgets. Information in these range from schools making significant cuts to staffing to some schools not being able to afford vital resources such as toilet paper. Whilst our school is not yet in crisis, I feel it important for all parents and members of the community to know that our school budget is also coming under incredible pressure. Some of you already know that our school leadership team supports other schools in order to develop their practice whilst raising crucial funds for our school. This year, however, we are still likely to make considerable cuts: this will affect our staffing moving forward. The Governors and I will need to save in the order of £50,000 this year to cover the increased costs in National Insurance, Pension costs and Living Wage as well as finding money to cover the cost of inflation.

I know this may well come as a shock to some of you as we don't tend to talk much about school finances, however, our Government has not increased school funding for the past few years and our Local Authority is also struggling to support its local schools. Many local schools have already made cuts which we have managed to avoid up until now but, unfortunately, this year real term cuts in school finances will have an impact on us.

Whilst we will try to minimise the impact on our children, this will ultimately mean that our school provision will be reduced. We are aware that these issues are affecting schools nationally and many people, including Unions, have lobbied MPs to request that they take action. We are hoping that there may be some good news in the spring budget.

Science Week

This week our children took part in practical science sessions throughout the week. Notable activities included:

- Spring powered vehicles
- Paper aeroplanes and helicopters
- How far does a sneeze travel?
- Bubbles
- Balloon rockets
- Pouring liquids



Dates for the Diary

March

Monday 18 th	Science workshops for KS2
Tuesday 19 th	Yr 5 & 6 trip to Ashmolean Museum
Tuesday 19 th	Yr 1 & 2 Production
Wednesday 20 th	Easter Garden competition
Tuesday 26 th	Year 6 parents SATS meeting
Wednesday 27 th	Class Photos
Friday 29 th	PTA selling Mother's Day gifts

April

Thursday 6 th	Year 6 Clip & Climb
Friday 5 th	Easter Service in Church
Friday 5 th	Term Ends
Tuesday 23 rd	Training Day
Wednesday 24 th	Handover date for new hall (we hope!)
Wednesday 24 th	School Opens

CROSS COUNTRY

We had a fabulous time competing in the Woodford Halse Cross Country event this week. Children from year 3, 4, 5 and 6 took part against schools from all over the county and there were over 1000 runners at the event. The course was a proper cross country course with streams to jump over, rabbit holes to avoid and branches to duck under! Not surprisingly, many of us came home covered in mud.



E Safety Information

This week's information focuses on FIFA.



OUR VALUE FOR MARCH IS EASTER

Please remember to visit our school website regularly for useful information <http://www.westhaddonprimary.net>

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