



Dear Parents,

Welcome to edition 11 of the weekly communication. Please ensure that you read the communication and school diary carefully to ensure you are up to date with all the many events etc. that are taking place at school.

Weekly Attendance Awards

Bright Sparks – Turn up, Turn up on Time, Turn up Ready for Action!

The following classes have won the year group attendance trophies for 14th – 18th November. Well done!!

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
3TH	4NG	5CW	6HS
98.9%	99.3%	99.4%	98.7%

Before and After School Clubs:

Please note that clubs end the week commencing Friday 2nd December. A new clubs list will be sent home before Christmas for you to reapply for the clubs your child would like to do in the New Year.

NSPCC Green Day:

A reminder that on the 7th December there will be a dress in Green day for NSPCC in return for a £1 donation. That week the NSPCC will be coming into Assembly to talk to the children.

Future Inset Days:

On Wednesday of this week, during the teacher INSET we hosted a small group of children for the day, allowing their parents to continue their working day as normal. The children had a great experience – one stating that it was her best day at school ever! (I thought that was a bit cheeky, however the point stands that a great time was had by all). Given the success of these arrangements we will provide this service at all future INSET days. The day costs £25 children are provided with breakfast but need to bring a packed lunch from home. If you would like to get organised and book early for the remaining INSET days this year and next please email Kate Brown: kbrown@chesswood.w-sussex.sch.uk

Future dates include:

Wednesday 15th March

Wednesday 19th July (previously it had been arranged for the 12th July)

Monday 4th September 2017

Wednesday 4th October 2017

Wednesday 22nd November 2017

Wednesday 14th March 2018

Wednesday 18th July 2018

The Great Chesswood Christmas Fair

The Great Chesswood Christmas Fair is due to take place on Friday 2nd December – and there is much to do as we are expecting over 1000 children and adults to enjoy the delights of Santa's Grotto, the school choir, children's stalls, a Christmas BBQ, Filipino tasty treats and much much more! This is an important event because it kicks off the Christmas season at Chesswood (and in Worthing!) and raises much needed funds, in a fun way, to pay for the little extras e.g. development of our nature and outdoor play area.

Entrance to the event will be £1 for each adult and child above Y6. A raffle ticket will be given to each paying guest and 50% of the entrance fee will be returned to one lucky raffle ticket holder when they place their child's name and class on the ticket and put it in the collection bucket in the main reception area.

If your child has volunteered to support the event with the school choir or by running a Christmas stall then you will receive a separate letter giving details. It is hope that mums, dads, uncles, aunties, grandmas and grandads will join children at the event – all are welcome!

The event timing is as follows:

5:00	School Fair opens – visitors enter via Chesswood Road. Choir greet guests with carols.
6:30	Stalls Close
6:40	Raffle Winners and Christmas Card winner announced in Sports Hall
6:45	Clean up, child collection and register taken (please be patient!)
7:00	Event closed – we hope you will have had an enjoyable evening.

We also need your help:

Are you willing and able to help with this event?

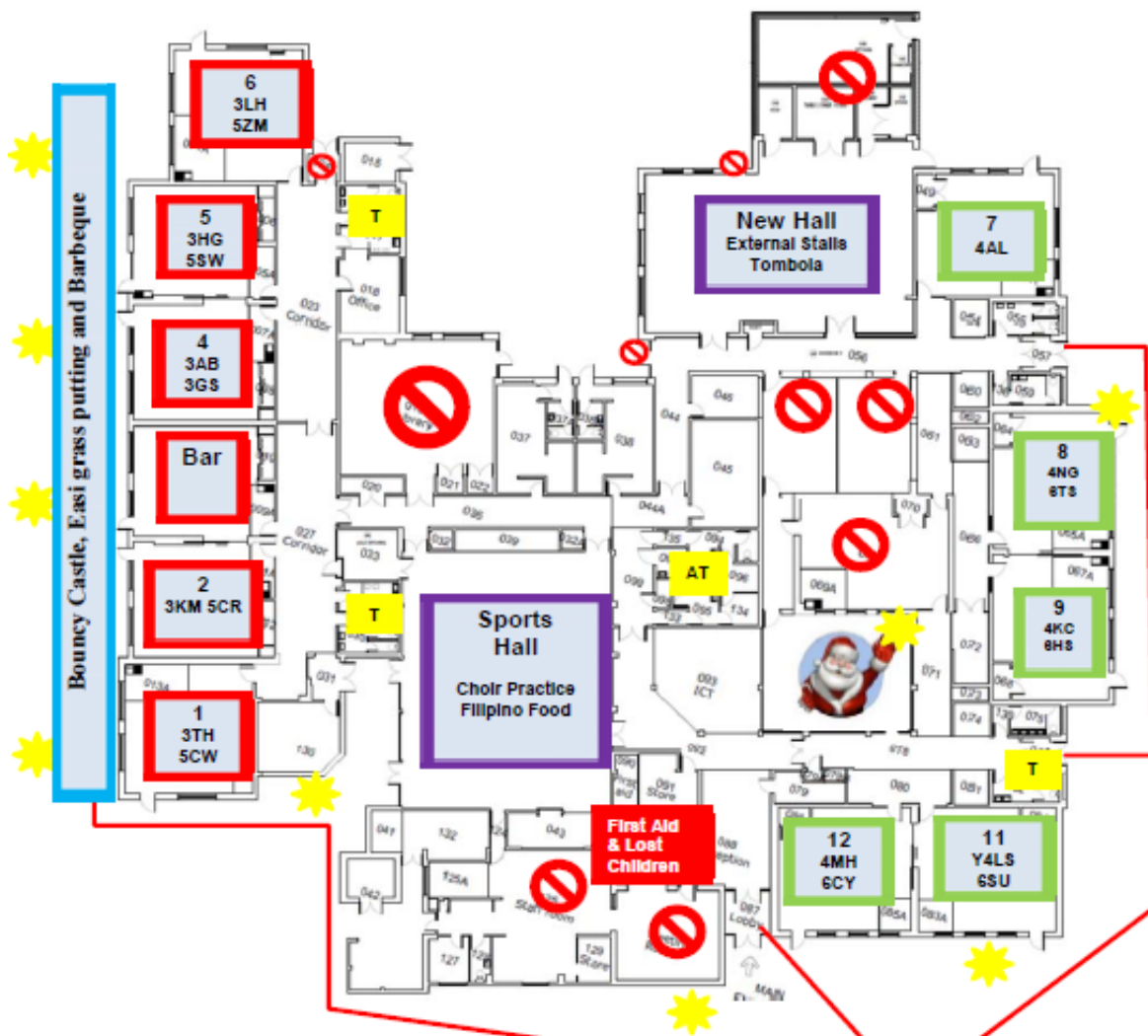
There are lots of jobs big and small jobs that we need help with at an event such as this, before (setting up), during (running stalls) and after (clearing up and cleaning!). If you can help out please email Miss Taylor with your availability.

staylor@chesswood.w-sussex.sch.uk

Examples of jobs include:

Before	During	After
Collection of goods from warehouse Putting out chairs Christmas Stall set up Setting up floats	Bar work BBQ chef Running Counting money Collecting money from stalls	Cleaning up - hoovering, wiping tables, collecting rubbish and taking to bin store Register children leaving with parents Counting money

In an emergency evacuation, leave school building by the nearest entrance and proceed to the South playground, next to Chesswood Road.



	Y3&5 Stalls		Y4 & 6 Stalls		
	Staff Only		Santa's Grotto		Choir, Stalls and Refreshments
	External Lighting – Hot - do not touch!		Main Reception		Outside Entertainment
	Child Toilet		Adult & Disabled Toilet		Routes in and out of school

Please print and bring this school plan with you on the evening to help guide you around the building.

Club cancellations – Upper School football and Choir will be cancelled on Friday 2nd due to Christmas Fayre preparations.

Christmas Hot School Meal:

Our hot meal provider Chartwell's will be doing a Christmas lunch on 15th December 2016. To book your child's place please book two weeks in advance via their website: <https://westsussex.mealselector.co.uk/>. Children who are entitled to Free School Meals will be ordered by the School.

Chesswood Community Choir:

Ms Cossins will be starting her Chesswood Community Choir from Wednesday January 4th, 6pm-7pm. Everyone is very welcome - all experiences. It is singing for FUN and a chance to de-stress! The choir is geared towards anyone attached to the school community in anyway - ex-pupils have joined, parents of ex-pupils, grand parents, friends of friends attached to the school, staff. It's a great way to show the kids that adults enjoy singing just as much. If you are interesting in joining or would like more details please email Ms Cossins - ccossins@chesswood.w-sussex.sch.uk

Christmas Jumper Day:

We will be asking children to join us in wearing Christmas jumpers on the last day of term, Friday 16th December, this is purely to get everyone in the festive mood and no donation will be expected.

Carol Concert:

Ms Cossins' has requested that if there are any parents that are able to assist in walking the children to St George's church for the carol concerts on 13th and 14th December please can you email her your availability – ccossins@chesswood.w-sussex.sch.uk.

Sports News

It was a relatively quiet sporting week - only one competition - 30 Y5/6 pupils involved in the qualifying round of the indoor athletics held at Durrington High School.

Teams of boys and girls competed against TAB, Broadwater, The Vale, Downsbrook and St Marys to see who would qualify for the Cup final in a few weeks.

The competition started very well with 1st and 2nd places for all our teams in the Obstacle Relays, followed by Isla winning her Speed Bounce. Into a round of field events we had successes in vertical jump (Luke Y6 and Alisa Y5), Natalie (Y6) in triple jump and second places for Natalie and Henry (Y6) in shuttlecock throw, Thomas (Y5) in speed bounce and Reuben (Y5) in vertical jump and Felix in triple jump.

On to the relay races in Y5 wins for the girls in 1+1 relay (Isla and Caitlin), 2+2 relay (Lily T and Alisa) and our 4x1 team (Emilie, Mary-Grace, Kate and Alisa). Year 6 had a victory in the 1+1 relay (Holly and Lily N) and lots of second place finishes.

After all the events we finished third on 285 points, just behind Broadwater (290) and TAB (299) who we will compete with again at the cup finals along with West Park and The Orchards on Tuesday 6th December - parents are allowed to this one!!!

Worth Less? Update – November 2016

You will be aware that school leaders from across West Sussex have been meeting with local MPs - Jeremy Quin and Nick Herbert - and the Leader of West Sussex County Council, Louise Goldsmith, in order to pursue our goal of gaining £20m interim funding for April 2017.

At the time of writing we are extremely disappointed that we have no positive news to report. In short, despite the fact that there is no dispute over the funding figures provided or indeed our current dire financial situation, no additional money is being provided to West Sussex schools/academies.

We remain grateful to local politicians for their continuing engagement with the Worth Less? campaign and for their lobbying work at Westminster in support of our request. All local MPs have confirmed that they will continue to help us to secure this vital additional funding.

School leaders recognise that the introduction of a new National Funding Formula may well alleviate our financial problems in the future but we all know that any positive effects are some considerable way off.

In light of this, school leaders are reviewing what further actions we need to take. Our first inclination is to continue working alongside political leaders to try and secure additional funding by January 2017.

If we are not successful at this point, we will continue to consult with all of our stakeholders in order to find the best way forward. There should be no doubt in anyone's minds, however, that our financial situation is very bad indeed and without immediate help the provision for pupils in all of our school settings will be severely and detrimentally affected.

We continue to be extremely grateful for your support, and patience whilst we continue to work well beyond capacity to provide children and families with the best possible school experience with utterly inadequate funding. We say patience as things will sometimes be a little late notice due to our belief that we do not wish to cut back on your child's experience.

Now more than ever, your ability to appreciate the work staff at Chesswood do and support them by recognising this verbally or in writing will make an enormous difference. Individual staff routinely go the extra mile at work and their morale will be boosted no-end by a little recognition.

Further updates will be sent out in due course but don't hold your breath for any good news, just let staff know how much you appreciate the service they provide.

Yours sincerely

