



“All the darkness in the world cannot extinguish the light of a single candle” –Saint Francis Assisi



Christmas is coming...

Next Sunday (1st December) marks the start of Advent. But Advent is not just about chocolates and calendars, it’s about preparation. Advent means ‘coming’. The four weeks of advent help us to prepare and remember the real meaning of Christmas... the ‘coming’ of Jesus.

Be safe, be seen!

As we have not reached the winter solstice yet, morning and evenings can be quite dark! Please make sure you your children are visible whilst walking or cycling.





Lunchtime Vacancy:

We currently have a vacancy for a Senior Midday Supervisor. For more information about the post, please visit our school website www.wsmacademy.co.uk or speak with Mrs. Embling in the school office.



Fond farewells...

Mrs Agger has decided to step back from being Senior Midday Supervisor however, she will continue to support the children within school as a volunteer and support assistant. We want to thank Mrs. Agger for her support in helping to organise lunchtimes for the children this term.

Mrs Garwell is leaving us at the end of the term for personal reasons. We are so pleased that she was able to join us this term and are sad to see her go, but she has said that she hopes to continue to be involved in school in some capacity throughout the rest of the year so we will all hopefully continue to see a lot of her!

As Mrs Garwell is leaving, we have made the decision for Miss Pettit to move into Year 2 when she returns in January. We have an advert out for Mrs Ross’ Maternity Cover and have already had a great deal of interest.

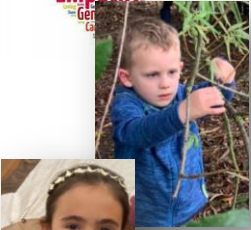


Christian Value Focus: Compassion

Children at school have been demonstrating thoughtful acts of compassion within our local community.

Noah was busy helping a homeless lady in need last weekend. He took the time to talk with her, reflect on her needs and consider what would help she needed. He asked his mother if they could help. They went back to visit her, brought her things to help her and she was very grateful.

For Christmas, Riamae wants to help the homeless in our local community by collecting donations to contribute to the charity, '50 backpacks for the homeless'. If you would like to make any donations to contribute to Riamae's quest, please speak with Mrs Embling in the school office and we will pass on your details to Riamae's parents who are helping her to organise this.





Children in Need 2019

A huge thank you to everyone who donated money and cakes for Children in Need.

We raised...

£152





Family Cafés

We still have three family cafés this term, starting with Peckover Class on Thursday. This is a fabulous opportunity for you to join your child for tea/coffee, biscuits and fun activities. Please see below for the dates.



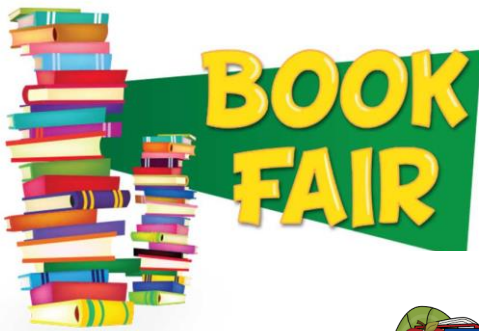
Peckover	Thursday 28 th November
Octavia	Wednesday 4 th December
Awdry	Thursday 12 th December



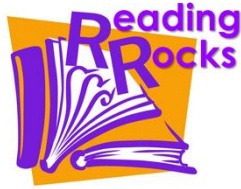


School Photographs

Please return school photograph orders by Friday 29th November.

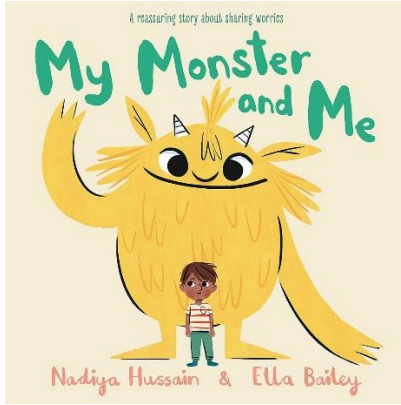


Don't forget to visit the Book Fair in the school hall from **3:15pm** every day until **Tuesday 26th November**. There is a huge range of books for all ages, and every book purchased will equal free books for our school. A great chance to get some fabulous Christmas gifts!

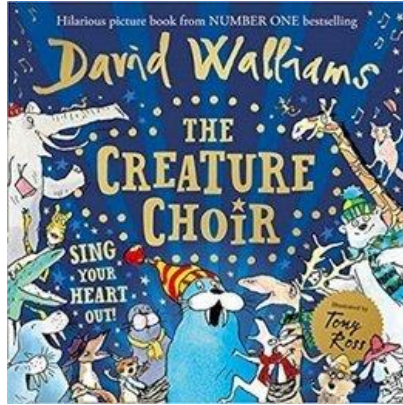


This week's recommended reads are:

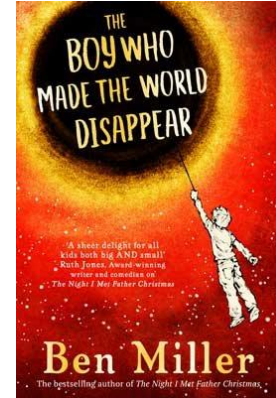
EYFS



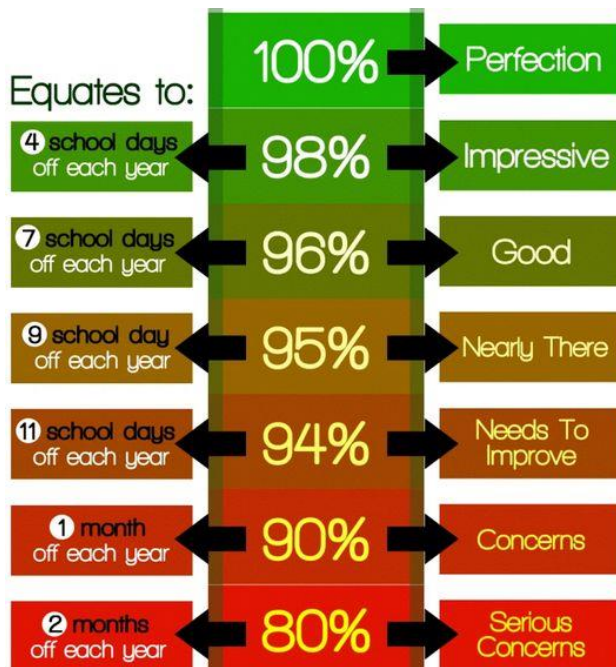
KS1



KS2



Attendance



Our current whole-school attendance to date is: **95%**. We have been working hard over the past year (and a half-term) to improve our attendance and to reduce unauthorised holidays. Please remember to phone in to school if your child is off for any reason and do continue to inform us of any longer-term, planned absences, such as holidays. We have a statutory duty of care to ensure that children are safe, which is why if you haven't phoned us, we always make contact that day – if we can't reach you, staff will follow up any absences, which could include a home visit. This is not in an attempt to catch anyone out, it is simply to ensure that your child (and you) are safe and well.

I am in no doubt that many holidays taken with your children will be 'educational' in many senses of the word, unfortunately I am not able to authorise any term-time holidays in line with our school policy and government guidance – any unauthorised absences may result in a penalty notice (school does not receive any of the monies collected from penalty notices). A copy of the Attendance Policy can be found on our school website: www.wsmacademy.co.uk



Thursday 28 th November – 9:00am	Peckover Class Family Café	
Wednesday 4 th December – 9:00am	Octavia Class Family Café	
Thursday 5 th December – 9:10am	Christingle in Church	
Friday 6 th December	Hudson Class trip to Church Farm	
Friday 6 th December (afterschool)	PTFA Christmas Fair	
Wednesday 11 th December – 2pm & 6pm	Reception and KS1 Nativity	
Thursday 12 th December	School Christmas lunch	
Thursday 12 th December – 5pm	KS2 Carol concert (in church)	
Monday 16 th December – 2pm	Pre-school Christmas Celebration (in church)	
Wednesday 18 th December	Last day of term	
Monday 6 th January 2020	Start of term (Reception – Year 6)	
Wednesday 8 th January 2020	Start of term (Pre-School)	

Sats for Year 6 will take place week commencing 11th May 2020

Thank you for your continued support!



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