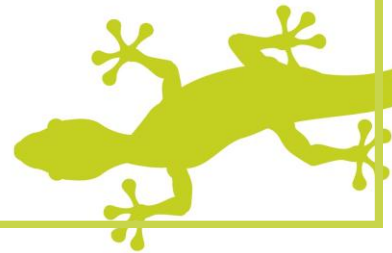


# THE LIZARD

West Moors Middle School

October, 2011



## Message from the Head Teacher, Ms A. Bunting

I can't believe that it is now nearly seven weeks since we started term on that very wet Tuesday. Despite the soggy start, this half-term has been action packed including a very exciting football match where the Yr8 Football Team beat Bournemouth Collegiate School 2:1 in the first round of the county cup competition. It was an extremely close game with West Moors Middle scoring in the final minute of extra time.

Other achievements this term include:

- Electing a new school council who have already taken part in learning walks with pupils from the feeder first schools.
- The lunchtime supervisors have undergone a very successful training morning.
- Pupils in Yr5, Yr6, Yr7 and Yr8 have sat tests to enable us to set accurate targets for this year. Test results have been shared with parents of pupils in Yr5, Yr6 and Yr7 and targets will be sent home with the end of term reports.
- Yr8 pupils visited Ferndown Upper to watch their production of "We will rock you"
- Various pupils have taken part in Cross-Country and football tournaments.
- Yr4 pupils (Rhino class) from St Mary's attended for a day to experience middle school. Oakhurst and St Ives will also be visiting next term.
- Holding the first ever Parents Focus Group – see below for more details.
- Many parents attended Parents Evening and took the opportunity to meet their child's form tutor.

Many thanks to everyone who has supported us this term and I hope you all have a fantastic half-term break.

## KS2 Parent/Carers

Thank you so much for the excellent first half term in Key Stage 2. The pupils in Years 5 and 6 have all settled to their learning very well. Thank you too for how smart they are looking in their uniform, for signing their planners weekly and for the equipment you have supplied. If your child has not yet purchased a locker key, could you please arrange for them to see Mrs Brown. We would like all pupils to lock their personal equipment away safely and to be responsible for their key.

Please do not hesitate to contact class teachers or myself through the school office if you need to talk something through with us.

*Mrs S Gould*  
(Assistant Headteacher and Key Stage 2 Co-ordinator)

## Parent Focus Group (PFG)

On 11<sup>th</sup> November a dozen parents attended our initial PFG. The group included those whose children had only just started at WMMS as well as those who had children in more than one year group. The meeting was informal, relaxed and full of enthusiasm – the perfect atmosphere in which to share thoughts and ideas!

Mrs Whale (Chair of Governors and past parent) chaired the discussion which looked at the aims and purpose of a group like this. The meeting lasted just about an hour and a summary of the points discussed can be found on the website [www.westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk](http://www.westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk). Please click onto the 'Info' page and then select the link to 'Parents' on the side menu.

The **next meeting** will be:

Tuesday 29 November 2011 (t.b.c.)

Topic: Transition: Year 4 to Year 5 and Year 8 to Year 9

Please look out for the invitation which will be sent home in your child's planner.

## Making Cakes in Food Technology

Year 4 pupils from St. Ives, Oakhurst, St. Mary's and Three Legged Cross attended cooking sessions at West Moors Middle School recently. The children made Australian Cakes which is an original World War Two recipe!



They had to make, cook and wash up all in one hour!



Everyone agreed that the sessions were fun, and that it was exciting to cook at School. At the end of the sessions pupils took home their cakes!

*Mrs K. Wright.*

## Learning Walk Day

On Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October, the Year 6 School Council teamed up with Years 2 and 4 from the schools of the Holt Heath cluster (Oakhurst, St. Mary's, St. Ives and Three Legged Cross First Schools). We split into two groups each going to two different schools and our own. We were looking for different ways children were showing respect. We saw things such as people putting their hands up, being polite and complementing each other. Overall we thought all the schools had respect for each other. It was a really fun day and we would all like to do it again!

*Emma Cheetham, Lydia Green and Jessica Carter 6PW.*

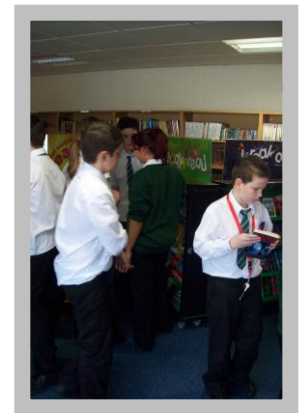
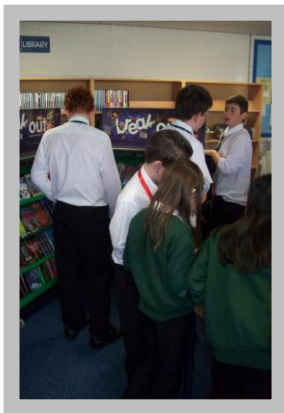
## Art Workshops

First School Pupils were invited to visit West Moors Middle School Art Department for two Gifted & Talented art workshops. Pupils had a really exciting time making pop-art food sculptures from Mod-Roc.

*Mrs K.E. Willmott.*

## Library News

- The Book Fair ran from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> - Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2011 and was very successful. We raised a total of £560 which earned the school £275, the equivalent of 66 new books for the library. May I say a big thank-you to all the parents who supported this event and to all the staff who gave up their time to make it all possible.



- All Year 7 pupils will each receive a new book (expected in December) as part of the 'Booked Up' Scheme. 'Booked Up' is run by Booktrust, a national independent charity, and we hope that this offer will encourage our students to continue to read and explore different types of literature. The library will also receive 13 new books as part of the scheme.

*Ms D.Ward*

## Message from the Community Police Team

Steve and I are the Community Police for West Moors and St Ives. This means we have responsibility for working with all schools in the area. Our remit is to carry out high visibility patrols in the area of schools at the start/finish of the school day and occasionally to travel on the school buses. You will also see us in the schools for numerous talks and presentations throughout the year. I am also a Community Governor at West Moors which involves meetings and close liaison with the staff. If you see us in and around the School please feel free to stop and talk to us.

*PC Tony Tester*

## House Points Totals

<b>Gecko</b>	<b>Iguana</b>	<b>Komodo</b>	<b>Sand</b>
<b>624</b>	<b>683</b>	<b>542</b>	<b>654</b>

## Reminders

As always we have several reminders ☺:

- Planners - Please do not write messages for your child's teacher in the Planners. Instead, phone or email the school to contact form tutors directly.
- Car Parking - Thank you to the majority of car drivers who park outside the school whilst dropping off or collecting their children. Unfortunately, there are still a few parents who drive into and/or park in the school grounds at the beginning and end of school. For the safety of all our children, we would ask for the car park to be kept clear at these times.
- After-School Clubs – Please remember to let us know if your child will not be attending their after-school club. We must know that our children are safe and all absences have to be followed up.

## Dates for your Diary

Date	Event
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> November 2011	Poppies will be on sale in school all week for the British Legion.
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November 2011	Open Evening for Year 3 & 4 pupils and their parents 7.15 - 8.45pm.
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2011	Christmas Disco 6.30 - 8pm. (Run by the Komodo Year 8 pupils).

**Reminder of Term Dates:** The Christmas holidays run from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2011 – Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2012 (Inset Day). All children back to School on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2012.

## The E-Lizard

We have a scheme where parents can have the choice to receive the half termly newsletter electronically rather than a paper copy sent home via your child.

We are currently able to e-mail some letters as well using this service, however all our letters are always available on our website: [www.westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk](http://www.westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk).

If you would like to participate then please contact the school office with your details or alternatively, please send an e-mail confirming that you wish to receive the newsletter electronically ([lizard@westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:lizard@westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk)).

Please note that all e-mail addresses will be confidential and never passed to third parties.

