



Dear Parents and Carers,

This will be the final newsletter of the calendar year – it's hard to believe we are now more than a third of the way through the academic year too. It has been great to see so many parents and relatives at our festive events. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for supporting our various charity fundraising activities recently. It is very much appreciated.

### Proposed admissions policy change for 2018-19 admissions

Essex County Council will shortly be consulting upon a proposed change to the admissions policy for the school. The change would mean children living in the school's priority admission area would have a higher priority for admission above children with siblings at the school who live outside of the priority admission area. Parents have a right to comment on this proposal. Further details about the proposed change and where and how to comment will be available on the Council's website [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions) from Monday 19th December 2016 by accessing the 'School Admission Arrangements' link. The relevant officer can be contacted via email [shamsun.noor@essex.gov.uk](mailto:shamsun.noor@essex.gov.uk).

### Parent Governor Election

On behalf of the Governing Body I would like to thank Mrs. Louise Moore for her contributions to the school as a parent governor. She will be standing down at the end of this term due to relocation. This means that we will have a vacancy for a parent governor on our governing body. Please do give some thought as to whether you may be the right person to fulfil this important role in the life of the school. I will write to you again in the New Year with details of how to nominate yourself for the role.

### A date for your diary- The Dark Web - Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2017 @ 7-9pm

Your child's safety is our most important priority, so with this in mind, we have arranged for your child to receive some updated e-safety training from '**The 2 Johns**' – CEOP accredited ambassadors (Child Exploitation and Online Centre) with an Essex Police background, on how to keep safe when online. This training will be held on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2017 for ALL Key Stage 2 children during the school day.

In addition to this, DS John Woodley and DC John Staines from Essex Police will be holding a Parental Workshop in the main school hall for **parents/carers only**. The content of this session is very hard hitting as it needs to deliver the message and upskill.

This training has come at great expense to the school but we are not asking for any donations as we feel it is our duty to support parents and carers. What is more important to us is **your support** – **your support** in attending, **your support** in preparing these young people in a world that does not exist yet and to give them the skills to stay safe. It is crucial that we work together to **safeguard** and **protect** your children. We need **your support**.

We cannot encourage you enough to attend so that you are fully informed about this crucial area of your child's development. We look forward to meeting with you on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at 7pm.

On behalf of all the school staff I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

School resumes on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January.

Yours sincerely *Matt O'Grady*, Headteacher

West Horndon Primary School  
Thorndon Avenue, West Horndon,  
Brentwood, Essex CM13 3TR

Telephone: 01277 811 741  
Email: [admin@westhorndon.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@westhorndon.essex.sch.uk)  
[www.westhorndon.essex.sch.uk](http://www.westhorndon.essex.sch.uk)  
Headteacher: Mr M J O Grady