

open door



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF WEST BLETCHLEY COUNCIL

OCTOBER 2020



Merry Christmas

SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM WEST BLETCHLEY COUNCIL

www.westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

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CHAIR'S WELCOME



Welcome to the latest edition of Open Door.

Green spaces have become even more important to many people in these difficult times, and I was pleased to be one of the first to have a go on the new outside gym equipment we have installed in Rickley Park. I hope you enjoy using it. We are so lucky in Milton Keynes to have so many open spaces to enjoy.

November brings Remembrance Sunday and West Bletchley has always played a role in this. However, this year it just can't be the same size event and the British Legion is asking people not to come to the St Mary's War Memorial between 10.30am and 11.30am on 8th November but perhaps to show support by standing outside your home to mark the 2 minutes silence at 11.00am.

Christmas at Melrose will not be quite the same this year either as we follow government guidelines and maintain sensible behaviour. But we are fairly confident Santa will pass by during the afternoon of Saturday 12 December.

With very best wishes and seasonal greetings

CLLR VERONICA BELCHER

Chair of West Bletchley Council

Letters should be sent to Open Door at
WEST BLETCHLEY COUNCIL
221 WHADDON WAY, BLETCHLEY,
MILTON KEYNES, MK3 7DZ

Or email to clerk@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

INTRODUCTION BY THE PARISH CLERK



I am delighted to introduce the winter edition of Open Door.

This edition features a range of articles, providing information about current initiatives and local matters that we hope will be of interest to you.

Read at pages 10 and 11 about the actions that we are taking to reduce our carbon emissions. Read also about some simple ways in which you can reduce waste and energy use and make a positive contribution towards combating climate change.

Due to continuing Covid-19 restrictions, we are unable to offer our usual programme of winter events but are doing our utmost to provide opportunities to participate in local activities where guidance allows.

We are pleased, however, to report that we will be having a new Christmas Lighting Display in the parish this year. Our new lighting contract provides for both new lights on our lamp posts and the added reinstatement of lighting at the Melrose Shopping Centre.

And we will again this year, in the run up to Christmas, be accepting food donations both at our offices at 221 Whaddon way and the MARC, Melrose Avenue Resource Centre. See page 7 for a list of the items that the Food Bank is keen to receive.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

HELEN HUPTON

Clerk to West Bletchley Council

SEPTEMBER COMPETITION WINNERS

Crossword

The answers to the September Crossword were:-

Across: 7 Lea, 8 Etc, 9 Abe, 10 Stuff, 11 Egad, 13 Ere, 14 Rye, 15 Now, 16 Tuna, 18 Acute, 20 Ode, 21 Coo, 22 Hoe.

Down: 1 Sloshed, 2 Mature, 3 Performance, 4 Accelerator, 5 Data, 6 Tea, 12 Sweeten, 15 Nought, 17 Used, 19 Foe.

*The winners of the September Crossword were **B. Worden** and **Bridget Rimmer** who both win a £15 gift card.*

Colouring Competition

Again the standard of entries to the colouring competition was excellent. The winners of the September Colouring Competition were **(1st prize) Ailsa Goble** who wins a £10 gift card and **(2nd prize) Summer Joyce** who wins a £5 gift card.

Deadline dates for Open Door 2021

If you would like to place an article in the Open Door newsletter, the deadline dates for 2021 are as follows:-

Wednesday 27th January

(distribution on Thursday 25th February)

Tuesday 13th April

(distribution on Thursday 13th May)

Thursday 27th May

(distribution on Thursday 1st July)

Monday 13th September

(distribution on Thursday 14th October)

NB:- The Open Door newsletter is published on a quarterly basis to provide information to residents about the Council, its services and amenities or other local service providers, and community groups. Any advertisements for commercial businesses will not be considered.

SALDEN CHASE UPDATE

In the last edition of Open Door we advised that a Public Inquiry would be held, on 13th October 2020, to consider the appeal against Milton Keynes Council's decision to refuse permission for the Salden Chase Highways Planning Application (Ref:15/00619/FUL).



The Planning Inspector has subsequently reviewed the representations submitted in respect of this case and has advised that the Inquiry will be adjourned until after the new year.

The new date for the Public Inquiry has now been published as 9th February 2021 on the Planning Inspectorate's website.

West Bletchley Council continues to maintain its objection to this application and is working together with Newton Longville Parish Council in preparing evidence to support its objection at the Public Inquiry.

Please continue to check our website at: www.westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk for updates.

Winter Bed Work Schedule 2020/21 West Bletchley

November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abbeys • Church Green • Scots • Rivers • Bottom half Whaddon Way
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Counties • Castles
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Top half Whaddon Way • Fairways • Buckingham Road
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Racecourses Estate • Saints Estate • Poets Estate • Bletchley Park
March	Any outstanding works.

Please note:

Our Winter bed work program includes mainly pruning work to shrub beds and hedges and Crown lifting trees (lifting lower tree branches).

**Please note this schedule has to be flexible due to possible unforeseen circumstances i.e. snow, heavy rain.*

RICKLEY PARK IMPROVEMENTS

The outdoor fitness equipment has now been installed at Rickley Park as part of the ongoing improvements. The installation generated much excitement amongst local people who were looking forward to being able to exercise 'on their doorstep'.

Unfortunately, our plans for a launch event had to be postponed due to the current restrictions however, look out for future plans in the Spring when we hope to welcome you along for some fun in the park.



Despite the weather Councillor Veronica Belcher, Chair of West Bletchley Council, enjoyed trying out the new equipment.



Russell Dyer, Contracts Manager for Proludic, Lisa Emmanuel, Environmental Projects Officer and Councillor Veronica Belcher start the day with some exercise!

Wildflower Planting

We have already received positive feedback from residents following the distribution of seeds with the last newsletter. We have launched a new scheme where residents have agreed in certain locations to look after a verge or strip of land close to their home including planting bulbs, wildflowers etc to improve the biodiversity increasing pollinators for the birds, bees and insects. This must be carried out in a managed way to ensure the public highway is not impeded and is maintained regularly –

if you are interested in the scheme
please contact us on
admin@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk.



Protecting hedgehogs

Hedgehog numbers are in decline, and it is important that we do everything we can to help give them a safe home to thrive again. After the ***State of Britain's Hedgehogs*** report was published in February 2018, we know that hedgehog numbers in the UK have fallen by around 50% since the start of the century.

Encouraging hedgehogs

There are a number of ways you can give hedgehogs a home in your garden. Making sure they have lots of thick dense undergrowth and a variety of lengths of grass to hide and nest in is always good. You can also make your garden a hot spot for the slugs, snails and bugs that hedgehogs like to munch on.

1. Create hedgehog highways

Hedgehogs travel up to one mile every night, so they need to be able to roam freely. The best way to ensure hedgehogs have travel rights is to team up with your neighbours and extend the highway within your community. Create holes or gaps between fences so hedgehogs can travel from one garden to another. **Visit hedgehogstreet.org for more info.**

2. Add a hedgehog house

You can buy a ready-built house, or you can build your own house based on an original design or create a more makeshift option using a pile of logs. Simply pile the logs in an unordered fashion and pad out the gaps with leaves. Log piles are great, not only do they provide shelter, they also provide food as they attract bugs and insects and they look pretty and natural.



3. Leave out water

Leaving clean water in small dishes around the garden is good for lots of wildlife if they pass through, especially in very cold months where most water is frozen at night. Leave a dish close to your hedgehog house.

4. Make a feeding station

If you want to make sure the snacks are not eaten by other animals, cut a hedgehog-size hole in the end of a Tupperware, turn it upside down and secure it to the ground with a weight or tent pegs. Put the food underneath the Tupperware and only hedgehogs should be able to reach it. Never feed hedgehogs milk or bread, they can't digest them - it upsets their stomachs. A particular favourite is hedgehog food, complete cat biscuits or meaty cat or dog food.



5. Leave them alone during hibernation

It's sometimes hard to know if you have a hedgehog hibernating in your garden - this happens between November and March - but, if you do, make sure you leave it alone.



FOOD COLLECTION POINT!

Drop off your donation to the West Bletchley Council offices at 221 Whaddon Way and at The MARC, Frank Moran Centre, Melrose Avenue

The FOOD BANK Shopping List

Please choose an item from this list to buy and donate to The FOOD BANK

Breakfast Cereal (500g)
Biscuits
Sugar (500g)
Milk (Long Life) *
Spaghetti (Tinned) *
Meat (Tinned)
Vegetables (Tinned) *

Tuna (Tinned) *
Fruit (Tinned) *
Rice Pudding (Tinned) *
Soup (Tinned)
Fruit Juice (Long Life) *
Baked Beans (Tinned)
Tomatoes (Tinned)

Dried rice (500g)
Dried Pasta (500g)
Pasta Sauce
Cup-A-Soups
Jam
Tea Bags / Coffee

*Most urgent items

Thank you for your support!



CHEPSTOW PARK TRANSFERS TO THE PARISH!

West Bletchley Council have now taken ownership of Chepstow Park from Milton Keynes Council. The Parish have been maintaining the park for the last 6 years but have been involved with planting events and play activities over the last 10 years.

The Parish will continue to provide Chepstow as a quality park for relaxation, exercise, and recreation for local residents to enjoy.



GREEN FLAG - RAISING THE FLAG

It's official! Chepstow Park in West Bletchley is one of the best in the UK. The Park is among a record-breaking 2000 parks and green spaces across the country that will be flying the Green Flag. To win the award parks are judged on a set criteria. This includes: is the park a welcoming place, healthy safe and secure, well maintained also environmental management, biodiversity and community involvement are considerations.

Remembrance in West Bletchley 8th November 2020

During this difficult year with Coronavirus it is even more important for us all not to forget those that made the ultimate sacrifice for their country during conflicts around the world.

It would be irresponsible to ignore Government guidelines limiting the number of people at gatherings and with the possibility of even stricter guidelines to be made mandatory in the near future.

With this in mind please do not attend the St Mary's War Memorial between 10:30 -11:30am on the 8th November 2020.

If you would like to pay your respects at the St Mary's War Memorial then please attend during the day avoiding the times above.

You could also show your support by standing outside your home at 11.00am to mark the two minutes' silence with your neighbours.

Royal British Legion

THE MARC AND FRANK MORAN CENTRE

It wouldn't be September without a Macmillan coffee morning. This year, owing to Covid-19 restrictions, the event was held across a whole day, with hot drinks and freshly baked cakes on sale. To make proceedings extra interesting, staff at the centre competed in a bake-off challenge. Sue's "wonderfully moist" lemon drizzle emerged triumphant, beating Mick's devil's food cake and Jenny's chocolate brownie. Over £250.00 was raised to help those living with cancer – thank you to everyone who donated so generously.



The centre's food offering continues to diversify, and September saw us distributing hot lunches to local families. We have also been part of MK Food Bank's Food Buddy project, handing out tote bags containing everything needed to create a nutritious meal for four. So far, participants have rustled up an authentic Sri Lankan curry as well as a warming bean chilli.

Elsewhere, we have continued to combat food waste through the FareShare and Neighbourly supermarket collection schemes. This is something everyone in the community can benefit from, so we'd love to see even more people dropping by to pick up free fruit, veg and baked goods. Some days there are even flowers to take away, and past blooms have included red lilies, white roses and purple brassicas!

A new coffee morning has begun on Tuesdays, in collaboration with Lord Grey school. It's a space for parents to meet one another, as well as find support from the Ethos Team. Contact Kate on kate.hall@lordgrey.org.uk to book a space.



Outside of the centre, the Monday Marchers walking group has taken to the streets once more. It's been an energising way to start the week and a mindful way to appreciate the seasons turning. New walkers should call Jenny at the centre on **01908 370348** for details on how to join.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, our usual timetable is suspended. However, do keep checking our Facebook page for updates and revised activities. Alternatively, call Mick and Jenny at the centre on **01908 370348**.

CLIMATE EMERGENCY

Climate change, or global warming, is the greatest environmental threat we have ever faced. How we respond to this crisis will greatly impact both current and future generations and all other species.

“We are the first generation to fully understand climate change and the last generation to be able to do something about it.”

(United Nations World Meteorological Organization)

If we are going to limit global warming and avoid catastrophic climate change, then we need to take full responsibility for our carbon emissions, as well as taking action to move to Net Zero as quickly as possible.

Carbon Footprint & Energy Audit

The Council has now received the report from the audit we commissioned, and our Carbon Footprint has been calculated as 28.6 tonnes of CO₂e, made up of 24.6 tonnes of direct emissions (fuel use including electricity) and 4.0 tonnes of indirect emissions (includes stationery supplies, staff travel and purchase of dog poo bags).

What does this mean?

This figure is the total amount of carbon dioxide which is released into the atmosphere as a result of the activities of West Bletchley Council over a period of one year. We have committed to achieve Carbon Net Zero by 2030 and will be implementing recommendations from the report to achieve this target.

We need both long-term plans for systemic change, as well as immediate action now, to take full responsibility for every tonne we emit today, and every day, on the journey to Net Zero. An action plan is being developed to take the necessary steps.

What action can you take?

Practice the 5 R's of zero waste

Going zero waste is a great step towards combating climate change. You have probably heard of the three R's: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. But there are two more that are equally important:

REFUSE: Avoid single use plastics and paper products by saying no thank you, opting for reusables.

REDUCE: Downsize what you purchase, opting to be more mindful of what you really need.

REUSE: Always find a way to keep an item out of the landfill by keeping it in great condition, repairing or upcycling it when it breaks.

ROT: Set up a compost bin for your food scraps, and/or utilise the food waste bins provided by MKC.

RECYCLE: Properly recycle any plastic, paper, glass or metal that comes into your life you cannot refuse, reduce, or reuse.



CLIMATE EMERGENCY

Bike more and travel by car less

Traditional cars put out a lot of exhaust, which pollutes the air. The toxins emitted by vehicles are also very dangerous for human health. Challenge yourself to drive less and bike more. You'll get a workout while helping the environment. If you can't bike to work for whatever reason, take public transportation. It puts less cars on the road, reducing the amount of exhaust filling the air at once.



Conserve water and protect our waterways

Reducing your water usage is essential: There's only so much water on this earth, and we can't make any more of it. Here are a few ways to help conserve water and protect our waterways:

- When you brush your teeth, turn off the water while you brush. Only turn it on when it's time to rinse your mouth out.
- Take shorter showers or shower instead of taking a bath.
- Don't flush things down the toilet to dispose of them. One flush can waste up to 5 or 7 gallons of water!
- Avoid dish/body soaps filled with toxins. Conventional dish and body soap contain ingredients that go down the drain and only further pollute our water supply.
- Opt for reusables. Lots of disposable items take gallons of water to make.



Grow your own vegetables

Do-it-at-home indoor kits are available so you can grow seasonal plants all year round, helping save on plastic packaging, chemical pesticides, food miles and waste. You will taste the difference too!

Eat less meat

Animal products are much more intense as they require more water and resources. Why not try having a veggie meal once a week, which you can cook together with your children.

Install solar panels on your roof

This is the most expensive option, but a good one if you feel you can make the investment. Talk to a professional and a trusted company before making the leap. Your own utility company may even offer installation.

Get a smart meter

Request a smart meter from your energy supplier at no extra cost. The handy in-home display shows your energy use in pounds and pence in real time, this is a great way to bring the concept of energy use and cost in sharp focus for your children too!



Cut down on electricity use altogether

No matter what you decide to do, using less electricity is always the best option. Invest in more energy efficient products and make sure to shut off lights when you're not in a room. Pull plugs out when not in use too.

Give old clothes a new lease of life

Take some of your old t-shirts and have an arts and craft afternoon re-vamping them with your kids – from tie-dye to turning them into other things you can really give old clothes a new lease of life.

#ProudtobeMK3



Groundbreaking Bletchley & Fenny

BLETCHLEY AND FENNY STRATFORD TOWN DEAL UPDATE, OCTOBER 2020

In the previous edition of Open Door, we told you about the work that is underway to prepare a bid to Government for a Town Deal for Bletchley and Fenny Stratford worth £25 million. The Town Deal is a really exciting opportunity to bring funding to our area which could be transformational in helping to improve local transport connections; skills and training and improve the quality of the town centres, making them more attractive to businesses and residents alike.



Thank you to everyone who has made comments on the questionnaire survey – you've told us so much about the things you like in Bletchley and Fenny Stratford, as well as what could be done to improve the appearance and fortunes of the area.

What have you told us?

Some of the area's strengths include:

- its 'small town' feel – Bletchley and Fenny Stratford town centres offer something different from Central Milton Keynes; you like the independent shops, cafes and businesses and the different character of the places that make up the Town Deal area.
- its history - the connection with Bletchley Park and the codebreakers is something that people are proud of and would like to see celebrated and used to promote the area to visitors.
- Whilst there is room for improvement in public transport and walking and cycling routes within the area, people appreciate the good rail connections serving Bletchley in particular and feel that the East West Rail route will only improve this.
- Access to the countryside, the canal and to the parks and green spaces across Bletchley and Fenny Stratford.



Some of the things you would like to change include:

- The quality of the environment, especially in Bletchley town centre. Better signage is needed, for example to the public toilets in Bletchley and wider direction signs to Fenny Stratford from the A5 and the canal . The empty buildings in both Bletchley and Fenny Stratford detract from the areas' attractiveness and represent an underused resource which could otherwise house new businesses.
- The access between Bletchley railway station and Queensway – the shopping area in Queensway is hidden by the Brunel Centre and the lack of an eastern exit from the railway station deters visitors to the town centre.
- The range of shops in the town centres is felt to be rather limited. The recently announced closure of the Sainsburys food store in Bletchley is a concern to local people, many of whom

travel by bus to shop there. The loss of the store's car park would also be a loss to the amount of parking in the town centre, should the site be redeveloped.

- People would like to see more opportunities for people seeking jobs and training and more support for struggling businesses and start-ups. The performance of local schools needs to be improved.
- Whilst the area is relatively well-served by broadband, there is an issue of 'digital poverty' with people unable to afford access to broadband and a lack of skills to make the best use of it.
- In transport terms, the area needs better access to the redway system. Fenny Stratford would benefit from a public transport hub, linked to the railway station, with digital displays announcing the next bus departure and train service.



The Town Deal bid

We've used your feedback, together with comments from local businesses and organisations involved in the area to prepare a Vision for the area and to identify potential projects that could help to improve the area. Not all of those projects can be funded through the £25 million but they will be considered when future funding opportunities become available.

Projects that are likely to be included in the Town Investment Plan for a share of the £25 million will support economic growth and improve the quality of the urban environment as well as connections across the Bletchley and Fenny Stratford area. Some of the proposals support the site opportunities identified in the Central Bletchley Prospectus and policy in the West Bletchley Neighbourhood Plan.

Potential projects include:

- Redevelopment of land at and around the old fire station to create residential-led mixed-use development which could provide new space especially for new businesses;
- the acquisition and re-use of run-down and dilapidated sites;
- improvement to Bletchley railway station and its connections to the rest of the town, including by creating a new 'Eastern Station Entrance';
- improvements to the appearance, attractiveness and safety of Bletchley and Fenny Stratford town centres that build on the heritage and brand of Bletchley Park.
- Completing the redway links between the Lakes Estate/ Newton Leys and Central Bletchley;
- A new training and skills hub – 'Tech Park Bletchley', based at MK College – that will provide access to skills and career support for adults, school children and community groups.
- Creation of galleries, learning facility and a collection centre in three wartime buildings at Bletchley Park.
- Completion of the fibre roll-out in the remaining areas of Bletchley/Fenny Stratford

What next?

The Town Deal Board and Milton Keynes Council will agree the final bid and this is scheduled to be submitted to the government at the end of October. The bid will be assessed and there will be further discussions between the government and the Board/ Milton Keynes Council before the funding is approved.

There will be further updates on progress on the Groundbreaking Bletchley and Fenny Stratford website: www.groundbreakingbletchleyandfenny.co.uk, as well as on the Milton Keynes Council website at: www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/your-council-and-elections/council-information-and-accounts/strategies-plans-and-policies/bletchley-town-deal

The work to get a bid in place is only the first part of the transformation of the Bletchley and Fenny Stratford area and there will be more opportunities in the future to get involved.

This year's must have *Christmas gifts for burglars*

STAYING AT HOME



Don't leave your presents in view



Don't leave packaging next to your bin



Don't advertise your gifts on social media



Register your new presents online

GOING AWAY



Lock your doors and windows



Don't advertise you're away on social media



Invite a neighbour to look after your house



Light up your home using a timer switch

CC5419-A4

#DontMakeItEasy



Want to support local families in Milton Keynes this christmas ?

Why not take part in our 'Santa's Selection Box Scheme'

We are wanting to collect 2,020 Selection Boxes this christmas as part of our 2020 project.

CHRISTMAS IS NOT CANCELLED!

Donations to be delivered to:

Unit 9, Hollin Lane, Stacey Bushes, MK12 6HT

Monday- Friday 9am-12pm.



The Food Bank Helpline will be closed from **Friday 25th December until Monday 4th January 2021.**

What to do if you need support over the Holiday Period.

We will have **ONE** serving centre open.

When – **Tuesday 29th December 2020** and **Thursday 31st December 2020**

Where- Milton Keynes Christian Centre, Strudwick Drive, Oldbrook, MK6 2TG.

Opening Times – **11.30am- 12.30pm (One Hour only).**

The Frank Moran Centre will be open for Foodbank collections until 24th December we also accept donations on behalf of Milton Keynes Foodbank.

WINTER CRIME PREVENTION

Stay safe over the winter months and the festive period

Thames Valley Police in conjunction with West Bletchley Council will be holding two events for local residents in November. Come along and get some free crime prevention and personal safety advice and devices to improve your home safety.

Both events will be outdoors using the police mobile unit



**MONDAY 9TH NOVEMBER
11-1PM**

Frank Moran Centre
Melrose Avenue

**TUESDAY 10TH NOVEMBER
3-5PM**

Adjacent All Saints Church
Whaddon Way

Social distancing and Covid-19 guidelines will be observed at all times.

MILTON KEYNES LIBRARIES

Opening Hours

**Bletchley, Kingston, Newport Pagnell, Westcroft
and Wolverton Libraries
are open with the following (temporary) hours:**

**Tuesday – 10am to 4pm
Wednesday – 10am to 4pm
Thursday – 10am to 4pm
Friday – 10am to 4pm
Saturday – 10am to 12noon**

Services are limited
(see the website for full information)

REMEMBER we are always open through the website
where you can:

- * Use the Online Library Services
- * Renew items
- * Reserve items
- * Pay fines and charges

www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/libraries

Milton Keynes Libraries



CHESTNUTS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Since returning to school in September, Chestnuts has been full steam ahead!

We welcomed all year groups back to school ready for our 'new normal' to commence. We opened the school with music and bubbles, with an aim to ease both children and parent anxiety. We have since evolved our start and end to the school day and stagger the children; to keep our school bubbles as safe as possible.

Day to day life at Chestnuts is similar within school, children are still enthusiastic to learn and enjoy their varied curriculum. Play times are in bubbles but all the children have adapted well. Assemblies are now via zoom, with our special Head Teacher celebration assembly each week- something the children look forward to and this enables us to come together as a whole community within school.

This half term we have also offered clubs to every child. Clubs include dance; multi-sports; cosmic yoga; football; TT rock stars and art. The children relish in participating in a variety



of activities and staff run these across their own bubbles.

We are so proud of how our children and parents have adapted this term. Their attitude has been fantastic, and we are excited to see what the rest of this half term has to offer!

Choosing a school for your child is a very important decision.



Learn more about our school online at <https://www.coldharbourschool.org.uk/>

At Cold Harbour we are proud to be a small, tight community which nourishes every child to reach their full potential.

Please call the school office on **01908 270377** for further information or to book an appointment to visit on one of the following Open sessions.

Tuesday 17th November 2020

and Thursday 7th January 2021



RICKLEY PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Life (but not as we know it!)

To say we have started the academic year at Rickley Park Primary School slightly differently is an understatement!



The school community has joined the Inspiring Futures through Learning Trust, families have had to adapt to a new way of dropping off and collecting, children have had to get used to staying in a set bubble of children (all facing the front!) and staff have had to close gaps in knowledge in a way never done before! However, the important thing to mention is how proud I am of the Rickley Park school community. Everyone has pulled together, shown deep levels of resilience and all whilst embracing the power of Zoom!

Assemblies from members of our local community and assemblies celebrating the successes around the school are currently taking place via Zoom. Each class logs in to the assembly and can still be a part of the learning that is taking place in another class bubble. Children are working hard across their subjects. Shaun in Year 6 explains that, "School is a bit difficult as we have to remember to keep in our own space, but we are still having fun!" Whilst Aya in Year 1 describes her best thing about school at the moment is, "Arts and crafts. We have been making birds!"

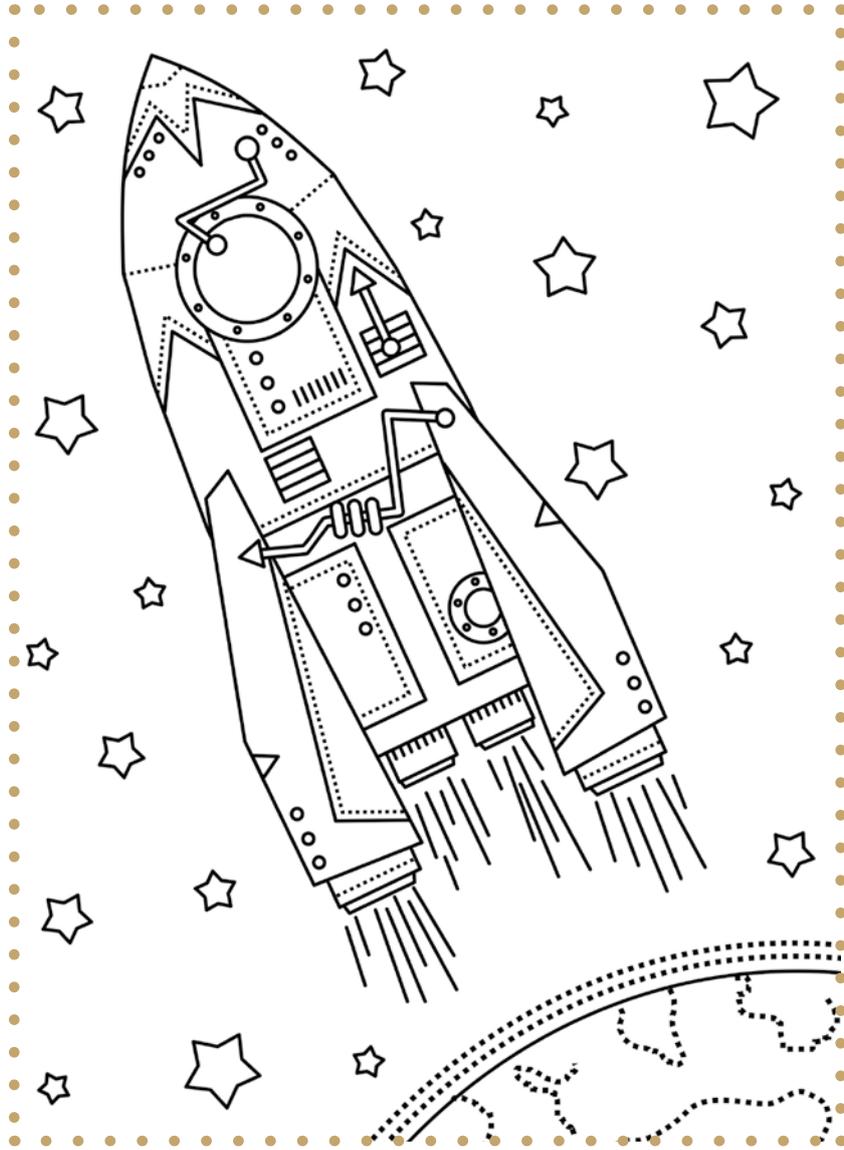
Whilst we know this will not be our School Life forever, we are looking forward to the time when we can invite parents back into the building to showcase all the hard work the children are doing and work with other schools across Inspiring Futures through Learning (IFtL) trust.



Nicole Bramwell, Head of School



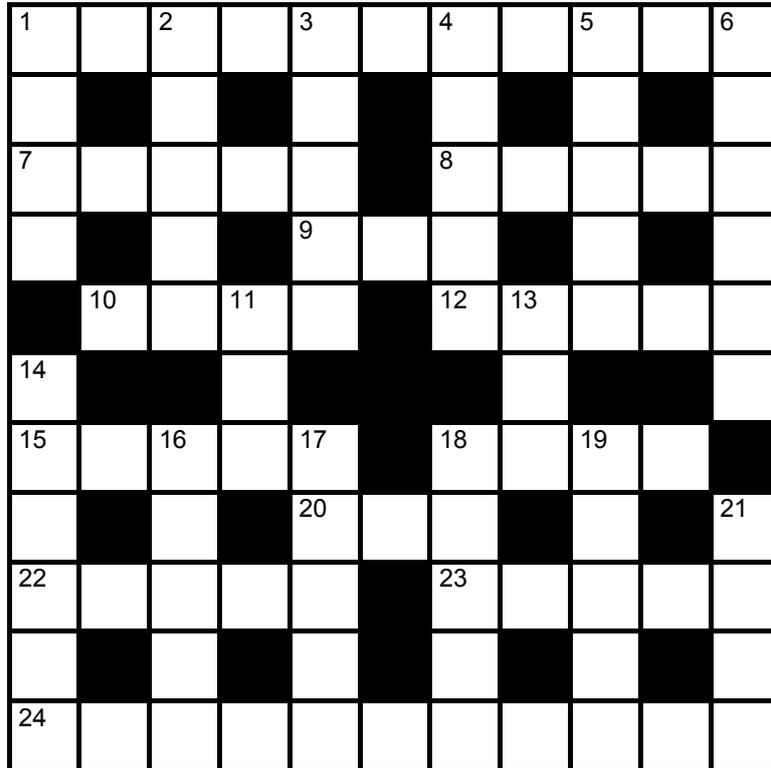
**COLOUR IN OUR OCTOBER PICTURE TO WIN A
GIFT CARD 1ST PRIZE = £10, 2ND PRIZE = £5**



This competition is open to all children under the age of 10 living in West Bletchley. To enter just colour in the picture, fill in the entry form then cut it out and send it to us at West Bletchley Council, 221 Whaddon Way, Bletchley, Milton Keynes, MK3 7DZ. The closing date for entries is **4th December 2020**. (Winners names will be published in the next edition)

NameAge.....
Address.....
.....
..... Post Code
Telephone

COMPLETE OUR **OCTOBER** CROSSWORD TO WIN A £15 GIFT CARD



ACROSS

- 1** Kill (11)
- 7** Russian spacecraft (5)
- 8** Thaw out, perhaps (2-3)
- 9** Biblical high priest (3)
- 10** Oceans (4)
- 12** Mature (5)
- 15** Mother's brother (5)
- 18** Not one (4)
- 20** Supplement (3)
- 22** Crowbar (5)
- 23** Greeting (5)
- 24** Result (11)

DOWN

- 1** Too (4)
- 2** Genre (5)
- 3** Dimensions (5)
- 4** World's largest democracy (5)
- 5** Farewell (5)
- 6** Builds (6)
- 11** To be unwell (3)
- 13** Pair (3)
- 14** Communal (6)
- 16** Assembly of witches (5)
- 17** Strange and mysterious (5)
- 18** First prime minister of 4 Down (5)
- 19** Thermoplastic yarn (5)
- 21** Ballot choice (4)

This competition is open to all residents of West Bletchley. When you have completed the crossword, fill in the entry form then cut it out and send it to us at West Bletchley Council, 221 Whaddon Way, Bletchley, Milton Keynes MK3 7DZ. All correct entries will be put into a hat and winners drawn out. The closing date for entries is **4th December 2020**. *(Winners names will be published in the next edition)*

Name

Address.....

.....

..... Post Code

Telephone

MEN IN SHEDS WEST BLETCHLEY

We were doing so well and looking forward to a successful year when along came Covid-19. Like others, we were required to shut down and isolate at home. Fortunately, we found ways to continue making things using members own facilities and a few planters were constructed. In addition, the Shed has purchased a pyrography burning tool, so your scribe took this home and filled several hours making wall plaques and finishing them with a yacht varnish coating.

Once Groups were allowed to meet up outdoors, we made use of the fine weather and met on the grass outside of the Shed in Rickley Park for a natter - socially distanced of course - and once groups were allowed back indoors, we set up a programme of extra opening so that all the Shed members could have the chance to start making things once more. We are therefore now meeting from Monday to Friday mornings and have a maximum attendance of 4-5 people each session. All attendees are expected to abide by the current Covid-19 guidelines. Hand sanitizer is available by the sign-in point, and a one way in, one way out regime has been introduced.

Paul Egerton, Shed Secretary



Do drop by and say
"HELLO" to us.

We have a number of new products which we have made to raise funds including dog feeding stations, garden trugs plus our now traditional garden planters.

SANTA'S COMING TO TOWN!

Saturday 12th December 2020 | 2-4pm | Frank Moran Centre, Melrose Avenue, MK3 6PA



Christmas may be a bit different this year but Santa will still be dropping by Melrose Avenue on his sleigh. Bring the kids along to give him a socially distanced wave and help raise money for charity... he may just have a present in return!



Call Mick and Jenny at the Frank Moran Centre on 01908 370348 for more info



NOTICEBOARD



Have you lost your job? Do you need support?

Our FREE advice service and online workshops are open to everyone.

How we can help

- One-to-One Advice on the phone or online
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- Job Searching Advice
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Get in touch today to register

Phone: 07852 965134 (Kelly)
or 07852 963744 (Tracy)

Email: info@worksforus.org.uk

Website: worksforus.org.uk

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Future Meetings

West Bletchley Council is a very busy organisation. It holds committee meetings and all councillors meet together bi-monthly.

All meetings of the council are open to the public. We welcome residents coming along and try and involve residents where legally able and practically possible to do so.

Meetings usually start at 7.30 pm except for the Planning & Environment Committee which starts at 7 pm.

Committee Meeting dates from October 2020

Due to the current Government Restrictions all Council meetings will take place using Zoom. Joining instructions can be found on the agenda for the meeting.

Those wishing to join the meeting will also, in the meantime, need to sign up to a Zoom account, which can be accessed, free of charge at: zoom.us

Monday 9th November	Planning & Environment
Monday 16th November	Community
Monday 30th November	Finance & General Purposes
Monday 7th December	Parking Sub (TBC)
Tuesday 15th December	Full Council
Monday 11th January 2021	Planning & Environment
Monday 18th January 2021	Community
Monday 25th January 2021	Parking Sub
Monday 8th February 2021	Finance & General Purposes
Tuesday 23rd February 2021	Full Council

West Bletchley Council Statement

West Bletchley Council's acceptance of any advertisement with the Open Door newsletter shall under no circumstances be considered an endorsement of the products and/or services advertised.

NOTICEBOARD

OPEN HOURS

West Bletchley Council

Office opening hours:

Monday to Friday 9.30 am to 4 pm

E-mail: Clerk@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

Main Office, The Clerk, 221 Whaddon Way
Bletchley, Milton Keynes MK3 7DZ

Telephone: 01908 648257

www.westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

MP'S SURGERY



MP's Surgery

Our local MP, Iain Stewart would like to hear from you.

He holds regular surgeries by appointment across the constituency. To book a surgery appointment:

Please call: 01908 686830

Please email:

iain.stewart.mp@parliament.uk

Please write to: Suite 102
Milton Keynes Business Centre
Foxhunter Drive
Linford Wood
MK14 6GD

MILTON KEYNES COUNCILLORS

Councillors Legg, Townsend & Long Bletchley West Ward



If you need to get in contact with these Councillors their contact details are:-

Councillor Legg – Tel. No. **07920 103239**
or email: mick.legg@milton-keynes.gov.uk

Councillor Townsend - Tel. No. **07599 886744**
or email: lauren.townsend@milton-keynes.gov.uk

Councillor Long – Tel. No. **01908 376141**
or email: nigel.long@milton-keynes.gov.uk

Councillor Wales Bletchley Park Ward



If you need to get in contact with Councillor Wales, please call:
07963 143664

or email:

elaine.wales@milton-keynes.gov.uk

Councillors Rankine & Nazir Bletchley Park Ward



If you need to get in contact with either Councillor their contact details are:-

Councillor Nazir – Tel. No. **07786 660025** or email:
nabeel.nazir@milton-keynes.gov.uk

Councillor Rankine -
email: allan.rankine@milton-keynes.gov.uk

WEST BLETCHLEY COUNCILLORS

If you need help you can contact any one of the councillors listed below or you can contact the West Bletchley Council Office

Castles Ward



Gladstone McKenzie
01908 648915

cllr.gladstone.mckenzie@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

Finance & General Purposes
Planning & Environment

Vacant

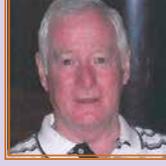


Sue Long
01908 376141

cllr.sue.long@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

Community

Fairways Ward



Derek Hircock

cllr.derek.hircock@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

Planning & Environment



Matthew Burn

cllr.matthew.burn@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

Community
Finance & General Purposes
Planning & Environment



David Ashford

cllr.david.ashford@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

Community
Parking Sub
Planning & Environment

Abbeys Ward



David Gibb
07895 064862

cllr.david.gibb@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

Finance & General Purposes
Planning & Environment



Geraldine Helder

cllr.geraldine.helder@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

Planning & Environment



Kit Power
07747 098767

cllr.kit.power@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk



Pete Lindop
07803 083720

cllr.pete.lindop@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

Community
Finance & General Purposes
Parking Sub



Ian Revell

cllr.ian.revell@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

Finance & General Purposes
Parking Sub



Paul Moore

cllr.paul.moore@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

Community
Finance & General Purposes
Parking Sub

Poets Ward

Scots Ward



Barbara Moore
07872 624412

cllr.barbara.moore@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

Finance & General Purposes



Felicity Cockbaine

cllr.felicity.cockbaine@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

Community
Finance & General Purposes



Iain Layden

cllr.iain.layden@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

Community

Church Green Ward



Nabeel Nazir

cllr.nabeel.nazir@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

Community
Finance & General Purposes



Jim Kearon

cllr.jim.kearon@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

Finance & General Purposes
Planning & Environment

Vacant

Counties Ward

Racecourses Ward



Paul Harvey

cllr.paul.harvey@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

Planning & Environment



Mick Legg
07920 103239

cllr.michael.legg@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

Parking Sub
Planning & Environment



Nigel Long
01908 376141

cllr.nigel.long@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

Finance & General Purposes



Elaine Wales

cllr.elaine.wales@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

Finance & General Purposes
Parking Sub



James Butson

cllr.james.butson@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

Parking Sub
Planning & Environment

Rivers Ward

Saints Ward



Veronica Belcher
01908 371802

cllr.veronica.belcher@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

Chair of Council



Naomi Sinclair

cllr.naomi.sinclair@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

Community
Planning & Environment



Shery Delfani
07979 794010

cllr.shery.delfani@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

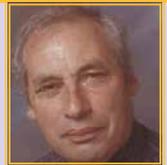
Community
Finance & General Purposes
Parking Sub
Planning & Environment



Sally Crockett

cllr.sally.crockett@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

Parking Sub
Planning & Environment



Ernie Thomas
01908 379748

cllr.ernie.thomas@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

Vice Chair of Council