

Weekly Newsletter



Westgate C.P.
School
Inspire · Create · Learn

Autumn Term Week 11 Friday 21st November School Website: <https://www.westgatecp.co.uk/>

Message from Mrs Kidd

As November gets closer to December, the cold weather has arrived. Luckily, the snow did not reach us. Many of the children were disappointed not to get a coating of snow but it may still make an appearance this winter. Details on what happens in the event of a school closure features later in the newsletter.



On Tuesday, some of our Y3 and Y4 pupils visited Angel Hill to see their decorations on the Christmas tree in the town centre. For the second year running, Westgate's handmade Christmas decorations have taken pride of place on the Christmas tree on Angel Hill. I am looking forward to heading down there in the next few weeks to see for myself.



Today, our Year 2 children went to a Skills Escalator Day at West Suffolk College. The day is designed to celebrate the West Suffolk Business Festival and to give children an insight into the world of work. There was a range of sessions run by professionals from a variety of industries such as BT, Suffolk Police and the Royal Air Force. The children had a great day and were a credit to our school.



On Friday, our KS1 and KS2 enjoyed watching a pantomime in school. The panto was Beauty and the Beast, The children absolutely loved it - they sang along, clapped, cheered and laughed in all the right places. It is not too late to pay a £1 donation towards the cost if you have not yet done so. This can be done via Arbor.



Back in October, the children brought home their Christmas card design, which showed their personal design and gave you details on how to order items from the online shop. For those of you who missed out or would like to buy more items, the online shop reopens on Friday 21st November right through to 1st December.

Ordering should be simple for you to do. All payments must be made online when you place your order. Anything ordered is delivered free to Westgate and will be delivered within 10 days of the shop closing. There is a code specifically for Westgate CP and also a design code that is unique for each child. The codes remain the same if you wish to order again.

If you have lost the code, click on the following link: https://shop.classfundraising.co.uk/pages/lost-codes?mc_cid=386702df13&mc_eid=db00981227

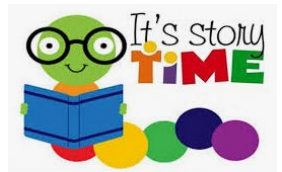


Please contact the School Office if you have any questions or need support with this.

This week's learning

As always, there has been some wonderful learning going on this week. It is a highlight for me to visit each classroom to see what the children are doing - and they are always keen to share their work with me.

In Reception, the children have enjoyed reading and talking about their books with the adults. At the end of each day is story time and the children particularly like this part of the day, listening to their class teacher reading them a story. In Maths, they continue to work on number and enjoy counting. This week, they were keen to show me the playdoh faces they were making!



In Year 1 and 2, the children have enjoyed reading Stanley's Stick and have based their writing on the story. Whilst the Year 2s enjoyed their day at West Suffolk College, the Year 1 children continued work based on the story Stanley's Stick. They explored the outside and each looked for their very own stick, which they decorated to make their very own version of Stanley's Stick. There were some very imaginative designs!



In Year 3 and 4, the children have enjoyed reading Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. This week, they have written some wonderful retells of the story. They have started their sentences in a range of ways and have used some powerful and imaginative vocabulary in their writing. The children are very proud of their efforts.



In Year 5 and 6, the children have enjoyed planning and writing their Non Chronological reports about World War 2. They have lots of information to add as they are also learning about WW2 in their topic lessons. The children are really engaged in their lessons and have already produced some thoughtful and emotive writing on the subject.



Christmas

There are now only 4 weeks until the end of term and there is lots in the diary relating to Christmas. A letter will be sent out very soon detailing all the information you will need.

28th November = Non Uniform day - donation of chocolate for the chocolate tombola

5th Dec = Christmas Fair from 3.30pm

11th Dec = Christmas Jumper Day / Christmas Dinner Day / KS2 Christmas Carols (2.45pm)

16th Dec = Reception Christmas Performance (9.30am) / KS1 Christmas Performance (2pm)

17th Dec = KS1 Christmas Performance (9.30am)

19th Dec = Christmas Service at St Peters (for children)

19th Dec = last day of term – children are invited to bring in toys/games from home



Westgate Shout Out

This week's **Shout Out** goes to Evan K, who is a Year 1 in Wagtails. Evan has won the Suffolk Wildlife Trust winter jumper competition with this wonderful design of a snowy kingfisher. The design was inspired by visits to Lackford Lakes.

His jumper is now available to buy online and he will be given one as a prize. To see, or even buy, the jumper, visit the Suffolk Wildlife Trust's online shop via: <https://suffolkwildlifetrust.teemill.com/product/kids-snowy-kingfisher-jumper/>



Book Fair - Thursday 27th November to Tuesday 2nd December

The Scholastic Book Fair will be back in school from next week.

The children will have a chance to have a look at the books on offer with their class.

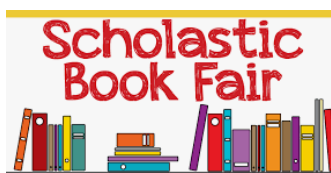
The Book Fair will be open to parents from Thursday 27th November up to and including, Tuesday 2nd December. It will run in the main hall from 3.30pm to 4.15pm.

If you would like to come along, please collect your child(ren) first and come in via the computer suite (down the slope from the early years gate) and exit school via the main office.

You can also browse titles online.

There are over 200 books to browse and for every book bought, you help to earn free books for our school! You can also browse titles online.

As always, thank you for your support.



SCHOLASTIC TRAVELLING BOOKS

FREE BOOKS
for your school
when you buy at
the Book Fair!

Come to our
BOOK FAIR

A pop-up book-store
with hundreds of
books from
JUST £2.99

What are you waiting for?

Come find us at your Book Fair!

TIME: 3.30-4.15

DATE: Thursday 27th November
Friday 28th November
Monday 1st December
Tuesday 2nd December

LOCATION:
The main hall

Find these characters and
EVEN MORE BOOKS online

The PTA Christmas Fair

We look forward to welcoming to you to the Westgate Christmas Fair on Friday 5th December from 3.30pm.

There will be a raffle, tombola, Santa's Grotto, face painting and lots more.

More information will be sent out very soon, including how to book for the Santa's Grotto slots.

On Friday 28th November, we invite all children (and staff) to wear non-uniform for the day and ask that you send in an item for the tombola. We ask that everyone brings in something sweet and chocolatey such as chocolate bars of all sizes, biscuits, selection packs, boxes of chocolates or chocolate figures etc.

How else can you help?

- * Raffle – if you have any items that can be used in the raffle, please send them in to school. Also, if you know of anyone who may be able to donate a prize, please speak to them or ask them to contact the School Office.
- * Volunteers - if you are free to help run a stall on Friday 5th December, please email the School Office. The PTA and members of staff have volunteered but we could do with a few more bodies so all offers of help are gratefully received.

More information about the Christmas Fair will be sent out soon.



Adverse Weather

The weather has been milder but this week the temperature has definitely dropped. Weather forecasts have already mentioned the possibility of snow, although hopefully that will be further north. If it does reach East Anglia, let's hope that it is only a smattering!

However, as we approach winter, it is a good idea to remind everyone of what happens if snow forces school closures.

In case of school closure due to adverse weather, here are the procedures:

Local radio (BBC Radio Suffolk and HEART) will broadcast information from 7.30am onwards and notices will be placed on the school website. We will contact parents/carers via Arbor.

Information about school closures is available on the Suffolk County Education website:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-closures/>





Westgate School's CHRISTMAS FAIR



FRIDAY
5TH
DEC

- Santa's Grotto
- Chocolate Tombola
- Games & Prizes
- Homemade Treats
- Face Painting
- Much more!

The fun starts at 3:30 PM -
bring the whole family!

Raffle Prizes & Bake Sale Donations Welcome!



❖ You're Invited! ❖

Tea, Coffee & Chat
with PINS - Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in
Schools

📅 Date: Tuesday 2nd December

🕒 Time: 2-3.30

📍 Venue: Westgate CP School

Come along for an informal get-together with other parents and carers.

This is a safe space to:

- 🗣️ Share experiences
- 👂 Hear about PINS and what it means for our school
- 🤝 Connect with staff and families

What is PINS?

PINS is all about inclusion. It brings together health, education, and parent carer teams to build knowledge and understanding across the whole school - staff, parents, and carers - so every child can thrive.

Everyone is welcome - whether your child is neurodivergent, or you think they might be, or you'd just like to learn more.

We look forward to seeing you! ❤️

Applications for a Reception Place - September 2026

If your child was born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022, you must apply for a full-time Reception Year school place by **15th January 2026**.

You must make an application even if your child already has a sibling at the school or is attending a pre-school next to the school site.

For more information, contact the School Office or visit the Suffolk County Council Admissions page:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-places/apply-for-a-primary-school-place-2026-2027>

The deadline for primary school
place applications is 15 January

SCHOOL

GOV.UK

**If your child was born between
1 September 2021 and
31 August 2022,
you must apply for a full-time
Reception Year school place by
15 January 2026**



You **must** make an application even if your child already has a place in a nursery class, pre-school or family hub

To apply for a place or for more information you can visit:

www.suffolk.gov.uk/admissions

Information is also available from:

- The Admissions Team on **0345 600 0981**
- Your local school

Christmas Raffle 2025



We are happy to announce this year's Christmas raffle proceeds will be used to create resource packs. These packs will then be donated to schools within the West Suffolk area who have Deaf children and children who struggle with verbal communication. These will be distributed during deaf awareness week in May. They will include materials such as sign language books.

Some of our current prizes;

- *Restaurant, cafe and bakery vouchers*
- *Nail, Hair, Barbershop and Beauty salon vouchers*
- *Family days out tickets (Jimmys Farm, South Angle Park Farm, Shepreth Wildlife Park)*
- *Spa treatments (Bannatyne Spa, The Kejoeaku Japanese head spa, Newmarket Thai spa, Relief Chiropractor clinic)*
- *Leisure activities (Family skate, yoga sessions, gyms and fitness classes)*
- *Butchers Vouchers*
- *Cinema vouchers*

AND SO MUCH MORE ...

Tickets are now available to purchase and will remain on sale until Friday 28th November. Tickets will cost £1 each and can be purchased via facebook or email. We will be drawing the raffle at our Christmas event on Saturday the 29th.

Contact us via;



West Suffolk Deaf Children's Society- WSDCS



Info@wsdcs.org

May be of interest

A Hilarious Family Christmas Show

For all the family!

So much fun!

Duggie Dug Dug's

Nativity Delivery

2pm Saturday 6th December
at Risby Village Hall IP28 6RT
Free entry but please pre register at:
risby6dec@gmail.com

May be of interest



Come and make.... *Completely free!*

Christmas Crafts

for children aged 5 - 13yrs

Bake your own Christmas goodies
Design your own Christmas cards
Discover the meaning of Christmas
Make Christmas decorations
And much more.....

Saturday 6th
December

10 am to 12 noon

Lancaster Gospel Hall
Tollgate Lane

To register call or text
Paul & Caroline Coe
Tel: 07563 855173

Come and join the fun



Come and make.... *Completely free!*

Christmas Crafts

for children aged 5 - 13yrs

Lancaster Gospel Hall
Tollgate Lane, Bury St Edmunds. IP32 6DF

To register call or text
Paul & Caroline Coe Tel: 07563 855173

There is no charge for the craft activities, but you do need to register your child's place.
Don't delay-register today!

All of our children's workers have been checked against the new DBS system and we work to a child protection policy according to CSS guidelines. Christian Safeguarding Services

lancastergospelhall.org.uk



Dates for the Diary (new dates added are shown in red)

2nd Dec = Rocksteady Concert

5th Dec = Christmas Fair

10th Dec = Flu Immunisations – catch up

11th Dec = Christmas Jumper Day

11th Dec = Christmas Dinner Day

11th Dec = KS2 Christmas Carols (2.45pm)

16th Dec = Reception Christmas Performance (9.30am)

16th Dec = KS1 Christmas Performance (2pm) - please note change of date

17th Dec = KS1 Christmas Performance (9.30am)

19th Dec = Christmas Service at St Peters (for children)

19th Dec = last day of term – children are invited to bring in toys/games from home

20st Dec – 5th Jan = Christmas Holidays

5th Jan -- Staff training day (children not in school)

6th Jan – children back to school

6th Feb = Number Day

10th Feb = Safer Internet Day

12th Feb = PTA Spring Discos

16th to 20th Feb = Half Term

5th March = World Book Day

13th March = Mothers Day Tea

17th and 19th March = Parents Evenings

20th March = Red Nose Day

24th March = Rocksteady Concert

27th March = PTA Easter Bingo

28th March - 12th April = Easter Holidays

w/b 11th May = Y6 SATs Week

25th—29th May = Half Term

Friday 17th July—last day of term

