

Weekly Newsletter

Spring Term - Week 5 - Friday 6th February 2026

School Website: <https://www.westgatecp.co.uk/>



Message from Mrs Kidd

It has been a wet and dull week but the children have still been able to enjoy their time outside. We are so lucky with the outside space we have at Westgate and we continue to work on enhancing the children's experience at lunchtime.



Our Reception children enjoy having lunch buddies from Year 6 joining them each lunch time and it is lovely to watch them play together and to see the relationships that have been built.

We took a delivery this week of new equipment and resources for our children to use on the main playground. The playground is zoned into different areas, such as construction, loose parts, skipping, art and so much more. The children are free to move around the zones and have enjoyed trying out the new resources. It is lovely to watch them outside – teamwork, collaboration, sharing, discussing and lots of fun!

Lunchtime Resources - can you help?

We are looking for the following donations to add to our outdoor play resources. If you have any of these items that you wish to donate, please contact the School Office.

- Lego/ large construction toys
- Diggers/ trucks/ cars
- Small world animals/dinosaurs
- Keys
- Guttering
- Old keyboards
- Old clothes for dressing up- jackets, hats, bags
- Decking planks
- Tyres
- Steering wheels
- Traffic cones
- Kitchen utensils
- Duplo



Thank you in advance for your support.

What learning has been taking place this week?

Today, we have marked Number Day in school. This year, the theme of the day has been numbers in nature. Staff have planned a range of activities, including a 'Counting in Steps' competition for our Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children and for Years 3-6, a live Time Table Rock Star Assembly to crown a school champion!



The children have had a fantastic day and have been inspired by maths in nature. They have learnt about the Fibonacci sequence, measured, counted, multiplied, created bar charts and pie charts ... and so much more! It has been a wonderful opportunity for some fantastic, investigative maths. Look out for photos on our school website and Instagram page.

Mr Scott (our Maths lead) has relaunched Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS) for our Key Stage 2 children, which they can access at home. TTRS allows the children to practise their times tables, developing accuracy and speed. Please contact us via the school office (admin@westgatecp.co.uk) if your child cannot remember their username and password.

During Number Day, various TTRS competitions were held in school and lots of pupils have been inspired to keep practising so that they can improve their scores and timings. Mr Scott will be running a TTRS Club at lunchtimes that children will be invited to come along to.

What else has been happening this week?

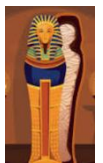
It hasn't just been Maths this week though. Our Reception children have been inspired by a recent music lesson and this week, took part in their very own dinosaur hunt. They had great fun outside, seeing if they could spot any dinosaurs.



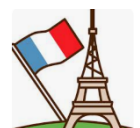
In Year 1 and 2, the children continue to learn about the United Kingdom. This week, they had a wonderful time following a set of instructions to make some Welsh cakes.



Our Year 3 and 4 children have been learning about mummification in topic lessons and in English this week, have written a set of instructions on the rather gruesome process!



In Year 5 and 6, the children have thought about desert exploration and what is needed to survive in a desert. In French, they have been learning about clothing.



Important: Site Safety – cars on site

Despite regular reminders in our newsletters, we continue to have a number of cars on our site. Unfortunately, some of these cars have ignored both the speed limit and no entry signs, putting our children and families in danger. There have been several near misses this week and we are liaising with relevant organisations to help ensure the safety of families bringing their children to school on foot, via Brooklands Close.



Our school site is extremely busy at the start and end of the school day. At these times, we ask that no-one drives down Brookland Close to park anywhere on the school site unless they have:

- a blue badge
- a Westgate Parking Permit (please speak to the office if you believe you could be entitled to one)
- made a prior arrangement with the office

Parents dropping off and collecting from Breakfast Club or After School Club may drive down Brooklands Close.

We ask that any car driving to park at the front of the school, follows the one-way system and does not exceed the 5mph speed limit. We expect all drivers to drive safely and to be mindful of other road users and pedestrians.



This is to ensure the safety of our school community, and in particularly the families who walk to and from school.

We understand that some families travel from further afield and therefore need to drive their children to school.

We ask that you park at the top of Brooklands Close and walk down. Please note that there are parking restrictions. We also ask that you respect local residents when parking on Hospital Road.



There is also a car park offering free parking next to the Horringer Road Tesco store. The nearest gate to this is the Spread-Eagle Gate.

Westgate Shout Out



If you have something that we can celebrate in our Westgate Shout Out, please email the School Office with some information and a photo, and we will celebrate it in our newsletter.

Don't forget to send any medals, trophies, certificates etc. in for your child to share in our Friday Celebration Assembly.

RHE Policy – consultation

We recently shared our draft Relationships and Health Education (RHE) Policy you as part of the consultation of the updated policy.

RHE is a statutory part of the primary curriculum and is designed to support children's physical health, emotional wellbeing, and understanding of positive relationships, in an age-appropriate way. We value your views and welcome your feedback on our draft policy, which can be found on our website via the following link:

<https://www.westgatecp.co.uk/attachments/documents.asp?id=1336>

If you would like to provide feedback or wish to discuss the policy further or require any clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us via the School Office. Consultation ends on Friday 27th February.

PINS Session – Tuesday 10th February (3.30pm – 5pm)

The next PINS (Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools) workshop take place at Westgate on Tuesday 10th February from 3.30pm to 5pm

PINS is a new initiative that brings together school staff, specialist health and education professionals, and parent carer teams. The aim is to build knowledge and understanding across the whole school community so that we can create more inclusive approaches that meet the needs of all children, particularly those who are, or may be, neurodivergent.

At the workshop, we will be learning about emotional regulation with a focus on how to support neurodivergent children with emotional processing and anxiety. It will also include information on how sensory issues may have an impact in this area.

This session is just for adults so unfortunately children are unable to join us. Please contact the School Office if you would like to book your children into After School Club.

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

10th Feb = Safer Internet Day

10th Feb = Y5 Buggy Malone at County High

10th Feb – PINS session for staff and parents (3.30pm – 5pm)

12th Feb = PTA Spring Discos

16th to 20th Feb = Half Term

5th March = World Book Day

13th March = Mother's Day Tea

17th and 19th March = Parents Evenings

20th March = Red Nose Day

24th March = Rocksteady Concert

28th March - 12th April = Easter Holidays

1st May = non-uniform day for Easter bingo

4th May = Bank Holiday Monday – children not in school

8th May = PTA Easter Bingo – note change of date

w/b 11th May = Y6 SATs Week

20th May (pm) – KS2 Sports Day

22nd May = Staff training day (children not in school)

25th—29th May = Half Term

1st June = Y4 trip to Whitlingham Country Park

2nd June = Y5 Construction Day at WSC

3rd June (pm) = KS1 Sports Day

4th June (am) = EYs Sports Day

11th June = EYs trip to Jimmy's Farm

12th June = Father's Day Tea

18th June = Y3 trip to Whitlingham Country Park

29th June – 1st July = Y5/6 Eaton Vale Residential

3rd July = PTA Summer Fair

Friday 17th July—last day of term