

Weekly Newsletter



Autumn Term Week 2: Friday 11th September 2026

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



Message from Mrs Kidd

Welcome back everyone and welcome to the first newsletter of the year.

A warm welcome to those of you who are new to Westgate. I hope that you all had a lovely summer and, most importantly, that your child/ren have had a good start to the new school year.

In addition to our new pupils, we also have new members of staff to welcome to the Westgate family: Mrs Vaughan, Mrs Peters and Miss Golding.

Open Classroom

On Tuesday 22nd September, we look forward to welcoming you into school for our first Open Classroom Session of the new year. Gates will open as normal at 3.25pm and you will be able to go into your child's classroom to look at their books. The class teacher will also be there for you to say hello to and have an informal chat with, should you wish to do so. Gates will then close at 4pm.

There is an open classroom session each half term and it is always lovely to welcome you into school. Parents Evenings will take place at the end of October – information will be sent out nearer the time.

If you would like to speak to your child's class teacher, please speak to them to arrange a time or email the school office: admin@westgatecp.co.uk.

Teachers are available at the start and end of the day but we would ask that where at all possible, you wait until the end of the day if you need to speak to them.

Assembly

This week's assemblies have linked to our Golden Rules, but in particular kindness.

We are proud of our children – they consistently demonstrate their kindness, patience and compassion.

There is a 'Kindness Tree' in the main hall and whenever acts of kindness are spotted, a leaf is added to the tree. I have enjoyed seeing more leaves on the tree and reading what our children have done to get their names added.



What learning has been taking place this week?

The children have now had their first full week in school. They have had time to settle back into their new routines and we have had a lovely start to the new school year.

Our first assemblies have focused on our Golden Rules and Learning Behaviours, why they are important and what they look like at Westgate.

Our 3 Golden Rules are:

- Be kind in what you do and say
- Follow instructions
- Look after our school

Our 4 Learning Behaviours are:

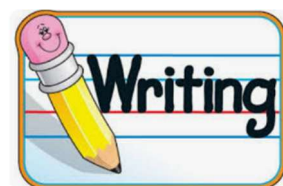
- Pride
- Courage
- Resilience
- Teamwork

This week has been all about building relationships, establishing routines and recapping and revising previous learning. There has been a wonderful calm, purposeful working atmosphere around school and the children are enjoying being back at school.

Our Reception children have had a good start to school and have settled in really well. An important part of Early Years is to develop social skills and it has been lovely to see them playing well together, sharing items, using their imagination and just enjoying their time, being at school. They are all getting to know each other and are also learning about families. We are very lucky with the space we have at Westgate and the children are making the most of it - they love exploring the outside area!

In Key Stage 1 (Year 1 & 2), the children enjoyed their English and Maths lessons. They are recapping their learning from last year and practising their handwriting. They are working hard to follow Westgate's 3 Handwriting Rules, as are other pupils in the school:

- All letters sit on the line.
- Tall letters touch the line.
- Short letters are short.



In Key Stage 2 (Years 3, 4, 5 & 6), the children are also settling in well and showing a good work ethic and a wonderful positive attitude to learning. They have completed some grammar and writing sessions, as well as some Maths lessons, practising their number skills. The children have also enjoyed some Art, PE and Music lessons.



Year 6 – Applications for a secondary school place (September 2027)

It is now time for you to apply for a secondary school place for September 2027. The School Office has sent an information letter that gives all the information you will need to do this.

Please note that you MUST apply by the closing date of Saturday 31st October 2026.

All of the information you need to help you make your decision is available on the Suffolk County Council website at www.suffolk.gov.uk/admissions from 12 September 2026.

If you require any support in completing the form, please contact the School Office.

Lunchtime Play

We continue to develop our lunchtime provision for our children. Many of you will have seen the new stage, completed over the summer holiday.

A huge thank you to Goodwin Carpentry & Construction Ltd who built the stage and to the PTA for purchasing it for the children. It is already a huge success and the children are enjoying performing on it.



We are always looking to add to our lunchtime resources, so if you have any of these items that you wish to donate, please contact the School Office.

- Lego/ large construction toys / Duplo
- 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



Thank you in advance for your support.

Westgate Shout Out

Our Celebration Assembly will start again next week. Don't forget to send any medals, trophies, certificates etc in for your child to share during the assembly.



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.

Individual Photos

The School Photographer is in school on Monday 21st September. They will be taking individual and sibling photos. As in previous years, there will also be the opportunity to have family group pictures of any children in the family who are under 18 years old. Look out for the information coming out soon.

Easy Fundraising

Did you know that your everyday online shopping could help raise money for Westgate CP School — at no extra cost to you?

With Easyfundraising, hundreds of retailers will make a small donation to our school when you shop through their website. From your weekly shop and children's clothes to holidays and gifts, your normal online purchases can help us raise valuable funds.

It's free, it's easy and every donation adds up! 🐼

If you haven't signed up yet, please consider joining and supporting Westgate. Every time you shop, you could be helping us provide even more opportunities and resources for our children.

Sign up today and shop, save and support Westgate!

Turn your daily shopping into everyday magic for us with easyfundraising

You shop, brands donate to us. It won't cost you any extra!



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- 3 Your favourite brands donate to us whenever you shop with them

Shop with 8,000+ brands including:



May be of interest

WOULD YOUR CHILD LIKE TO PLAY IN THEIR OWN ROCK BAND AT SCHOOL?

ROCK
STEADY

Hi Parent or Guardian,

Do you want your child to experience the magic of playing music in their very own band? Rocksteady Music School is the leading provider of in-school rock and pop band lessons for primary age children – and we're delighted to let you know we're teaching in your child's school!

How does it work?

With Rocksteady, children learn to play an instrument through weekly band lessons. It's the perfect way to learn new musical skills, make friends and have fun – all at school! Rocksteady lessons are also shown to boost confidence, wellbeing social skills and even academic achievement.

Your child will learn to play songs instantly through listening and playing. There's no music theory involved and lessons are designed to be fun, inclusive and accessible. They will be making progress in every lesson and can also achieve an Ofqual-regulated Trinity Music qualification, without having to take a single exam!

Here's what else you need to know:

- Most lessons take place during the school day. There's no experience necessary and all instruments for lessons are provided.
- You can choose if they shine on vocals, keyboard, drums, guitar or bass.
- Proudly watch as your child performs in their end of term concerts, showing just how far they have come!
- Rocksteady band leaders are professional musicians who inspire a passion for music and support your child every step of the way.

Places are offered on a first come, first served basis. There's a money-back guarantee for the first month and you can cancel at any time.

For more details on availability and cost, visit rocksteadymusicschool.com and find your school on the sign up page or call 0330 113 0330.

Best wishes,

Rachel Hawker | Director of Education



0330 113 0330
(Mon-Tues 9am-5pm, Fri 9am-6pm, local rate)
rocksteadymusicschool.com

Find out what parents say about Rocksteady

STAGE COACH

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DISCOVERY DAY

Discover the magic of **STAGECOACH!**

SINGING
Find your voice

DANCING
Move, express yourself

ACTING
Use your imagination

13TH SEPTEMBER

11.30 – 1PM

90 MINS

VENUE:
HOWARD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Come and join us for a fun-filled session!

WHATSAPP TO BOOK
07931 292293

www.stagecoach.co.uk/burystedmunds

COME ALONG, HAVE FUN
AND DISCOVER YOUR STAGE!

Pre-loved uniform sale

in the top hall on
Monday 14th September
from 3.30-4pm.



Everything
£1



Dates for the Diary (new dates added / dates to be confirmed are shown in red)

21st Sep – School Photographer in – more info to follow

22nd Sep = Open Classroom Session (3.30pm – 4pm)

7th Oct = Flu Immunisations

9th Oct = Mental Health Day

12th October = The Big Draw

14th October = PTA Autumn Disco

20th and 22nd October = Parents Evenings

23rd October = Young Carers / Service Children session in school

26th – 30th = Half Term

3rd and 4th Nov = Indian Dance Workshops

3rd Nov = Y5/6 trip to Gressenhall Farm & Work house – please note corrected date

13th Nov = Children in Need

19th Nov = Open Classroom Session (3.30pm – 4pm)

27th Nov = Non-Uniform Day for Rainbow Raffle

4th Dec = Christmas Fair

8th Dec = Rocksteady Concert

10th Dec = Christmas Jumper Day / Christmas Dinner Day

11th Dec = Young Carers / Service Children session in school

15th Dec = Reception Christmas Performance (9.30am)

15th Dec = KS1 Christmas Performance (2.15pm)

16th Dec = KS1 Christmas Performance (9.30am)

17th Dec = KS2 Christmas Carols (2.45pm) – hot drinks served from 2.15pm

18th Dec = Carols at St Peters

18th Dec = Last day of term – children are invited to bring in toys/games from home

20st Dec – 4th Jan = Christmas Holidays

5th Jan – Children back to school

21st Jan = Young Voices at the O2

27th Jan = Open Classroom session

1st and 2nd Feb = Chines Lion Dance workshops

9th Feb = Safer Internet Day

12th Feb = Young Carers / Service Children session in school

15th – 19th Feb = Half Term