

Weekly Newsletter



Autumn Term Week 6: Friday 9th October 2026

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

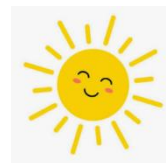
Message from Mrs Kidd

It has been another busy week in school, with lots of learning taking place across all year groups and our children continuing to demonstrate our Westgate values of Pride, Courage, Resilience and Teamwork.



On Thursday, it was wonderful to see so many families join us in Reception for our first Learning Together Phonics Workshop. The children enjoyed having their grown ups spend some time with them in the classroom. There was a lovely atmosphere, and it was wonderful to see the children so excited to share their learning with their grown-ups. Thank you to everyone who was able to join us and support the children as they begin their phonics journey.

Today, we celebrated World Mental Health Day. Children and staff wore yellow to show their support for mental health awareness and the importance of looking after our own wellbeing and that of others. It was lovely to see everyone getting involved and helping to remind us that talking about how we feel and supporting one another really matters.



Our sponsored afternoon was also a great success, and the children had a wonderful time taking part in their class and year group challenges! Thank you so much for sponsoring the children and supporting our school. Please could all sponsorship money be sent in by Thursday 22nd October. Thank you again for your generosity and support!

Harvest Week (wb 20th October)

We will be celebrating Harvest Week during the last week of this half term and will once again be collecting donations to go to a local foodbank.



Food banks take longer life products that they can store for those in need - fresh food can spoil quickly and not all banks have chiller facilities. As such, we will be asking for donations of cereals, rice and pasta, and tinned food (soup, beans, vegetables, tuna, meat, fruit etc).

For those wishing to donate, we will be asking for non-perishable items to brought into school during the week beginning 19th October.

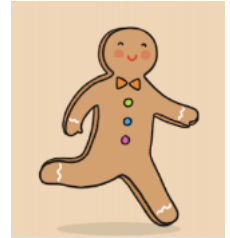
What learning has been taking place this week?

It has been another busy week in school, with lots of wonderful learning opportunities. Today, we ended the week marking World Mental Health Day and children completed a sponsored challenge in school. They had a great afternoon completing their class/year group challenge.

Early Years (Reception)

The children continue to read traditional tales. This week, they have been looking at the story of 'The Gingerbread Man' and have particularly enjoyed joining in with the story: Run, run, as fast as you can ...

Another highlight for the children was making their own gingerbread playdoh and using it to make their very own gingerbread men!



Key Stage 1 (Year 1/2)

In English, the children have been reading 'Where The Wild Things Are' and have written some lovely retells about Max's adventures. The children are focusing on the basics, such as finger spaces, letter formation and punctuation, as well as including time words, adjectives and capital letters for proper nouns. The children are doing a great job too of reading back over their work to check it makes sense and to correct any mistakes they happen to spot.



Lower Key Stage 2 (Y3/4)

Our Year 3 and 4 children have been writing instructions on how to make a delicious fruit salad. They have included 'bossy verbs' (otherwise known as imperative verbs!), adverbs and time adverbials.

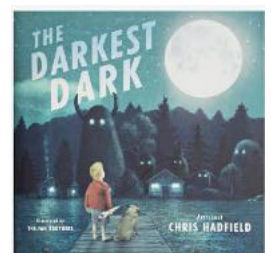
In Maths, the Year 3s have been counting in 10s and the Year 4s have been working on their times tables knowledge.

The children continue to learn about rainforests in their topic lessons. They have located rainforests around the world, learnt about what rainforests are like and discovered what lives there.



Upper Key Stage 2 (Y5/6)

Our Year 5 and 6 children have been writing a retell of the book 'The Darkest Dark' and have been experimenting with short sentences for impact. In Maths, they have been consolidating their understanding of addition and subtraction. Our Y6s spent some of Friday in the Computer Suite, using Learning by Questions (LbQ) – log in details were sent out last week and a letter has also been sent out giving parents more information about the LbQ programme.



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

Applications for a secondary school place for September 2027 are open but those of you with a child in Year 6 who has not yet applied must do so by **Saturday 31st October 2026**.

All of the information you need to help you make your decision is available via this link:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-places/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place-2027-2028>

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

Applications for a primary school place (September 2027)

It is now time to apply for a primary school place for September 2027. If your child was born between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023, you must apply for a full-time Reception Year school place by **15th January 2027**.

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-2027-2028>

Our next school tours for prospective parents are on the following dates:

- Wednesday 14th October at 9.30am
- Wednesday 4th November at 9.30am
- Tuesday 1st December at 1.30pm
- Wednesday 6th January at 9.30am

If you know anyone who has a child due to start Reception in September 2027, please share the dates with them.



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

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 & Workhouse – 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

10th Dec = 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 = Chinese Lion Dance workshops

9th Feb = Safer Internet Day

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

15th – 19th Feb = Half Term