

Weekly Newsletter



Westgate C.P.
School
Inspire · Create · Learn

Autumn Term Week 5 Friday 3rd October

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

Message from Mrs Kidd

Another week done and dusted. We now find ourselves in October but what happened to September?!! It has been a wonderful start to the new academic year and I am sure the next 3 weeks up to half term will be equally successful.



Next week, Kittle Photographers will be back in school to take individual and sibling photos of any children who were not in school for their previous visit. They will be in school from 1pm to 3pm on Thursday 9th October.



On Tuesday 7th October, parents of children in our Reception Classes (Ladybirds and Butterflies) are invited into school for a 'Learning Together' workshop. The workshop starts at 9.15 and runs until 10.30am



During the workshop, you will have the opportunity to play with your child and see how the Early Years team support literacy skills within the child initiated play sessions. At the end of the workshop, the class teachers will teach a short phonics lesson for you to watch. This will help you to support your child with their reading skills at home.

We look forward to seeing you there.

A reminder that it is the school disco on 16th October. You can now book your tickets on Arbor.

To do this click find the activities tab and then select trips.

It will say upcoming trips.

Select Autumn Disco.



Harvest Week

We will be celebrating Harvest Week during the last week of Half Term (wb 20th October). This year, we will be collecting donations to go to a local foodbank.

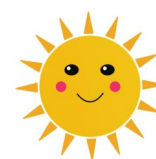
Food banks take longer life products that they can store for those in need - fresh food can spoil quickly and not all banks have chiller facilities. As such, we will be asking for donations of cereals, rice and pasta, and tinned food (soup, beans, vegetables, tuna, meat, fruit etc).

For those wishing to donate, we will be asking for non-perishable items to brought into school during the week beginning 20th October.



Hello Yellow - Wear yellow to school

Friday 10th October is World Mental Health Day and we are joining in with other schools across the country in wearing something yellow.



Yellow is a colour that often represents sunshine and happiness. It is important for us all to know that to be happy we need to be both physically and mentally healthy.

Children and staff are invited to wear something yellow in exchange for a £1 donation which will be given to the Young Minds charity. You could wear a yellow piece of clothing or wear a yellow item such as socks or a hairband.

Thank you for your support

Christmas Cards

It is a little bit early to start mentioning Christmas but ... Christmas has come early to Westgate for a short time!

Following the last year's success, we have once again partnered up with school fundraiser to help us raise money this Christmas. Our pupils have all designed a festive/winter picture and you can buy your child's personalised products to give as gifts and to help support Westgate.

The children will soon bring home a Class Fundraising flyer. This will show your child's personal design and give you details on how you can order items from the online shop. There is an organisational code specifically for Westgate CP and also a design code that is unique for each child.

There are 3 simple steps to ordering items. All payments must be made online when you place your order. Anything ordered is delivered free to Westgate and will arrive in plenty of time for Christmas!



Look out for more information coming your way soon.

Playtimes

As you are aware, we are currently working on improving our playtimes for all children.

We are currently putting together a list of items that we can buy using the Easyfundraising money and the Tesco Stronger Starts money.

Can you help?

Before we go and buy the things on our list, we wanted to share that list with you just in case you are able to help us source any of these items.

Here is our wish list:

- Plastic crates
- Wooden pallets
- Fabric (Sheets , curtains, saris)
- Large Buckets and containers
- Dressing up clothes / items (in good condition), especially for older children.
- Small toys (farm animals/ dinosaurs / dolls / cars / Lego/ wooden toys)
- Pots, pans, metal or plastic bowls, plates, spoons, spatulas
- Guttering
- Tyres
- Sand pit toys, such as buckets and spades
- Top soil



If you are able to help in any way, please come and speak to us or send in the items via the front office or your child's class teacher.

Thank you in advance.

Coming soon – Westgate's own newspaper!

Twenty of our Y5/6 pupils are keen to start a Westgate Newspaper.

Work will start next week on this. The first stage will be to come up with a name and get some ideas of what we want to put in our newspaper.



More information to come soon!

Important: Parking



The safety of the children, parents and staff is our priority. As such, please remember that you should not be bringing a car onto site at the start or end of the day at all unless you:

- ◇ have a disabled badge
- ◇ have made a prior arrangement with the office and have a Westgate 'Free Parking' badge
- ◇ are dropping off for Breakfast Club/collecting from After School Club.

Please come and speak to us if you believe you may be entitled to a Westgate 'Free Parking' badge.

Not only are we a car free site but a **one way system** is also in operation. We have had an increasing number of reports of parents ignoring the **No Entry** sign and parking their cars in the old ambulance station. This is not a parking area and as a result of parents trying to park here having come down the road the wrong way, there have been at least **three near misses**. Three Westgate pupils have almost been hit by cars travelling wrong way down Brooklands Close.



We urge you to park at the top of the road and to walk down to the Car Park / Early Years gates **or** to park in the free car park near the Tesco store and walk across to the Spread Eagle gate.

Mr Marsh regularly monitors this, at both ends of the day. We would be grateful if you could continue to help keep our site safe.



Thank you for your support with this.

Therapy Dog in school

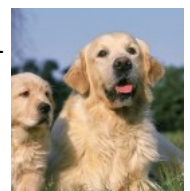
As some of you are already aware, Westgate is signed up to the Pets as Therapy (PAT) charity group, where dog owners volunteer with the PAT group and visit a range of establishments, such as schools, to help improve confidence and self-esteem and improve literacy skills. The aim of the PAT groups is to enrich lives through regular visits.

We were lucky enough to secure a Therapy Dog as part of the PAT 'Read 2 Dogs' scheme and have welcomed Opie, a golden retriever, and her owner Suzanne into school every Monday afternoon as part of the Read 2 Dogs scheme.

We are delighted to be able to welcome back Suzanne and Opie this year. So that more children can access Opie and Suzanne, they will visit each class to read to them.

We understand that some children may be allergic to dogs or nervous around them - please speak to your child's class teacher or to the School Office about this.

Please refer to the letter sent out yesterday.



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

21st and 23rd October = Parents Evenings

16th Oct = PTA Disco

27th – 31st Oct = Half Term

14th Nov = Children in Need

11th Nov = Open Classroom Session (3.30pm – 4pm)

18th Nov Flu immunisations

21st Nov = Y2 Skills Escalator Day at West Suffolk College (more info to follow)

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

