

Weekly Newsletter



Westgate C.P.
School
Inspire · Create · Learn

Autumn Term Week 7 Friday 17th October

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

Message from Mrs Kidd

It has been another busy week in school and we find ourselves almost at Half Term. It is hard to believe that 6 weeks have already passed.



This week, Westgate marked this year's 'The Big Draw Festival' by having a whole school day of art. The Big Draw Festival is the world's largest celebration of drawing and this year, celebrated 25 years with the theme 'Drawn Together'. Staff planned a range of different art activities for the children to take part in. We were also inspired by the book 'The Dot'. Each child was given a paper plate and decorated it to make their own 'dot'. These will go on display in the main hall soon.

On Thursday, we had our first PTA disco of the school year. The Autumn Disco went really well and the children had a wonderful time. Thank you to the PTA for their hard work in organising and running it. Thank you also to the staff members who supported. Many also enjoyed a bit of a dance - but all were reluctant to have a try at limbo!!



If you are interested in joining the PTA, please contact the School Office.



Next week, we will be celebrating Harvest Week 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 are asking for donations of cereals, rice and pasta, and tinned food (soup, beans, vegetables, tuna, meat, fruit etc).

If you wish to donate, please send in non-perishable items. These items can be handed in via the School Office or the class teacher.

Thank you in advance.



Christmas Cards - Last Call - the shop closes on Monday 20th October

It is a little bit early to start mentioning Christmas but it 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.

This week, the children will have brought home their Christmas card design / 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.

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 arrive in plenty of time for Christmas!

If you need any help ordering your cards, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Year 6 – Applications for a secondary school place (September 2026)

It is now time for you to apply for a secondary school place for September 2026. 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 Friday 31 October 2025.

All of the information you need to help you make your decision is available from 12 September 2025 on the Suffolk website at: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-places/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place-2026-2027>

New Menu

There will be a change to the menus after Half Term. We will send out the new menus soon. These will also be available to view on our school website.



Open Classroom - Thursday 13th November (Please note change of date)

Our next Open Classroom session takes place on Thursday 13th November from 3.30pm to 4pm.

Gates will be opened at the normal time. Please walk around the outside of the school if you are visiting other classrooms.

There will be an opportunity for you to have a quick, informal chat with the class teacher. However, if you particularly want to speak to them or have any concerns and would like to arrange a meeting with them, please speak to them directly or email them via the School Office: admin@westgatecp.co.uk



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>



Dark Nights and Road Safety

With the dark nights drawing in, it is a good time to share this powerful image of the importance of wearing bright clothes in the evenings/at night. There is a child in each of the pictures below but the bright yellow jacket means the child in the top picture can be seen easily.



Westgate Shout Out

We enjoy celebrating the children's achievements, both in and out of school and would love to share some Shout Outs in our newsletter.



This week's Westgate Shout Out is for Ella B in Squirrels. There is a double celebration for her.

Last weekend, Ella won Player of the Day from her Rugby festival at Bury Rugby club. Ella and her team played multiple different teams from Sudbury, Colchester, Cambridge and Bramford. Well done Ella!

Ella has also moved to an advanced group at gymnastics this week too! She completed yet another level and obtained another medal to add to her ever-growing collection. Go Ella!!



Don't forget to send in any certificates, trophies, medals etc that your child/ren may have been awarded outside of school for us to share in our Friday Celebration Assemblies.

If you are happy for us to celebrate your child in the newsletter, please send a photo through with a short blurb to the School Office (admin@westgatecp.co.uk) and we can add it to the weekly newsletter.

Website

We have made a few changes to our website as the company that hosts it for us has changed. The same familiar pages are there but the look is slightly different. We hope the new format will be as intuitive as the old site but do let us know if you have any queries or need support with finding something.



School Policies can be found on the school website. Please note that those for this year will be uploaded to the website once they have been approved by the Governors.

May be of interest: Snow Dash at Nowton Park

The Snow Dash is returning to Nowton Park, Bury St. Edmunds!

Brave Futures, a local children's charity, is hosting its second snow-filled fun run on Sunday, 7th December. This 3K event welcomes participants of all ages and abilities, whether you choose to walk, jog, or sprint your way through. Expect a magical winter wonderland experience featuring two snow cannons, two festive coloured powder paint stations, lively music, and entertainment for the whole family.

To book your place, visit: <https://bravefutures.org/events/snow-dash-nowton-park-2025/>

Use the discount code SCHOOL20 at checkout to receive 20% off your entry.

Brave Futures
3k Snow Dash

Run, Walk or Jog
Visit bravefutures.org

Sunday 7th December 11am
Nowton Park Bury St Edmunds

FANCY DRESS ENCOURAGED
AND CHRISTMAS MEDALS
FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS

ADULT £15
(OVER 16)
CHILDREN £8
UNDER 5'S FREE
FAMILY TICKET £40
(2 ADULTS AND 2 CHILDREN)

GET READY FOR A SNOW-PACKED
RUN AND ENJOY FESTIVE
CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT.
REGISTRATION FROM 10AM
EVENT STARTS AT 11AM

TO BOOK PLEASE VISIT [BRAVEFUTURES.ORG/EVENTS](https://bravefutures.org/events) KINDLY SPONSORED BY: **ANTISTAT**
PSYCHOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS

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

21st and 23rd October = Parents Evenings

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

