



Volume 15, Edition 7, 5th March 2018
www.westgateprimary.co.uk
admin@westgateprimary.co.uk

THE COLD WIND DOTH BLOW...



Well, last week didn't pan out quite as planned, did it? Thank you to everyone for your understanding about our decisions to open and close each day during the snow last week. I'm sure you will appreciate that each decision was taken carefully and after much consideration, based on the information available at the time and the need to give parents adequate notice wherever possible. It felt good to be able to open on Friday and be snug and warm in school, getting on with our core business. Some children were understandably off poorly on Friday, but 194 out of 210 children attended school, which is brilliant! I hope that, while it was undoubtedly very inconvenient, that you did also manage to have a fun time with the unexpected snow fall while we were closed. I am sure everyone will also join me in thanking **Mr Wardman**, who did a **fantastic** job of making the site safe on Thursday afternoon, helping us to be able to open on Friday as normal.

You will also by now have received and read our Ofsted report. Our next inspection will be a full, two day inspection. Because Ofsted left it such an unusually long time since our last full inspection (5 and a half years!), the law says that our next full inspection must occur before the end of the 5th academic year following the last full inspection. This therefore means that they will be visiting us again before the end of the summer term! I wanted to let you know this in order to reassure parents so that you aren't alarmed when the inspectors return next term. A two day inspection will allow us to share all the fantastic things we do as a school in more detail with the inspectors, as well as the progress we are making with our target area of writing.

Helen Carpenter
Head Teacher

FRIENDS OF WESTGATE



We're looking forward to joining parents this evening for an all-you-can-eat, two course buffet at **Westbourne Spice**. If you're coming along, don't forget your ticket and keep it somewhere safe, as you can use it later on to claim 10% off your next food bill at Westbourne Spice!

Our big event this half term is of course the **Easter Fair**. Our pre-fair taster event, the **Toy Sale**, will now take place on **Wednesday** this week after being postponed due to the snow last week. Make sure you come along and grab a bargain - and we are still accepting donations up until the day of the sale, too. We are also looking for donations for the **tombola** and **raffle prizes**, and of course we will be sending out a 'bare little plate' nearer the time for you to fill with **baked goods** for the cake stall at the fair. It's also really important that we get as many volunteers as possible to man stalls on the day - just 30 minutes of your time can make the difference between the fair running or not. Look out for the sign-up sheet in the school playground after school or ask in the school office! Our fundraising at the moment is focused on helping school to replace the climbing equipment in both playgrounds, so your support, donations and money are all really appreciated - by the Friends of Westgate and by everyone at school too!

WESTGATE WINDFALL

February's winners were:

1st: Louise Archer (£128)

2nd: Richard Sells (£32)

3rd: Emma Savin (£16)



At the moment we have 64 members. If you would like to join the monthly draw, please see Mrs Bleasdale in the office for application details. You can pay by standing order or cash/cheque in advance. All proceeds go to Westgate School Fund, which is used to purchase resources, to fund visitors to school and to subsidise trips for all pupils. Later in this newsletter, for example, you can read about a **Forensic Science Workshop** which is being wholly funded by School Fund; Y3/4's **Roman Day** and Y5/6's **Ancient Greek Day** were also similarly funded entirely by contributions made to School Fund. Thank you for your support!

OTLEY FOOD BANK

-emergency help for local people

[Otley Food Bank](#) is a partnership between 'Churches Together in Otley' and the wider community. They help people in crisis situations from



Otley and surrounding areas such as Pool, Farnley, Menston and Guiseley. People can find they need the help of a food bank for many different reasons and there is no judgement or stigma attached to asking for help. **If any family finds themselves at the point where a Food Bank voucher would help, Westgate can make a referral on their behalf.** Ask to speak in confidence to Mrs Eley, our Learning Mentor, or Ms Carpenter about your worries, so that we can help before things get worse.

FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE



Please, if you have not yet returned your data collection sheet, could this be done as soon as possible, even if only to confirm there are no changes? Thank you.

Following last week's unplanned closure, we will be reissuing revised nursery bills reflecting this later this week, for families whose child's attendance was affected by this.

SPORTS REPORT



On Thursday 22nd February, Hugo, Lizzie M, Ted & Rowan (Y5), Emma, Jacob, Alex (Y3) and Holly (Y4) went to St. Mary's to take part in a Mini Tennis competition.

They played 3 matches each against children in their age group. In the Y3/4 category Westgate came a very respectable 2nd place against some tough competition, and in the Y5 age group Westgate were delighted to come 1st, having won all but one of their matches. As always, I was so proud of their sportsmanship and positive attitude; well done to all and good luck to the Y5 children who go through to the Leeds North West final.

Mrs Hooper

DECORATE AN EASTER EGG COMPETITION



Our annual competition is upon us! Children across school are invited to enter our 'Decorate an Easter Egg' competition.

The only rules are that the entry must be children's own work and that it must contain real egg(s) - blown or hard boiled please!

Entries must come to school on **Monday 25/03/18** for 09:00. Children can be as creative as they wish and the work should be their own. We are looking forward to some egg-cellent entries!

WRITING COMPETITION SUCCESS

National Story-telling Week was at the start of last month and as part of this special week, Y5 entered a writing competition run jointly by Celsian Education and [The Children's Literacy Charity](#). Children had to write a story set in the Town of Tall Tales. We are delighted to announce that Noah in Y5 won the whole competition, with his comical story, **Super Agent Tim and the Haunted Mansion!** Noah has won an interactive story-telling afternoon for the whole school with [Eden Ballantyne](#). Well done, Noah!



ROMAN DAY

On Monday last week, Y3 & Y4 had a Roman Day led by 'Roman Tours'. This was a fun and interactive day which involved being taught by a Roman soldier and a Roman civilian. The children found out what it was like to live in Roman times, what Romans did for us and how the Romans got to be so successful in battle. They all enjoyed taking part in our own Roman battle in the school hall!



ANCIENT GREEK DAY



Linked to their history topic, Y5 & Y6 enjoyed a visit from an Ancient Greek on 22/02/18! During the day, they

learned about Greek weapons, armour and warfare between Athens and Sparta, took a trip to a Greek theatre and learned more about Ancient Greek myths, had a go at Ancient Greek puzzles and games and learned about the birth of democracy. A great day was had by all!

NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK, 9-18 MARCH

To mark this event, Mrs Cable, our Science Leader, has organised for each class from Y1 to Y6 to take part in a forensic science workshop on 12/03/18. Here is some information about the workshop, which sounds very exciting!

"A crime has been committed and it is the responsibility of each class to work together to piece together the evidence. Once inside our crime scene our young investigators must tape off the area in order to protect any evidence that may be found. Clues and evidence must be identified, collected, interpreted and analysed.

This includes finding, developing and characterising fingerprints, investigating tool marks and other impressions, identifying hairs and fibres and investigating blood, bones and DNA."

The workshops are suitable for all primary school children; however, younger investigators are always reassured that the story is make believe.



RUBBISH!



As of this week, we will be recycling our food waste. This means that I must ask that food waste only (peel, apple cores, half-eaten biscuits etc) goes in the large red bin in the playground, and that only non-food waste (wrappers, coffee cups, other litter) goes in the wall-mounted black bins in the playground. Our food waste (including kitchen and meals waste) is being collected on a weekly basis and being used to make electricity!

Did you know:

- 32 recycled banana peels can power a home for one hour;
- 22 recycled teabags can power a vacuum cleaner for 10 minutes;
- A kitchen caddy full of food waste could produce enough energy to power a fridge for 18 hours!

DATES FOR THE DIARY



Please find below a reminder of all the dates we have planned so far for the next two terms. They are also to be found on the calendar when you log on to the VLE.

05/03/18 FOW Curry Evening
07/03/18 FOW Toy Sale *Rescheduled*
12/03/18 Reception Farm Trip
12/03/18 Forensic Science workshops Y1-Y6
13/03/18 Nursery Farm Trip
13/03/18 Y2 Class Assembly 09:05
20/03/18 Chevin Partnership concert at Yeadon Town Hall
22/03/18 Y1 Class Assembly 09:05
24/03/18 FOW Easter Fair 10:00 to 12:00
28/03/18 Easter Concert 14:00
29/03/18 Break up for Easter
30/03/18 Bank Holiday (School closed)
16/04/18 Back to School
03/05/18 Polling Day - Nursery Closed
07/05/18 Bank Holiday(School Closed)
10/05/17 Class photos
14/05/18 w/b Y6 test week
19/05/18 Otley Show
22/05/18 Maypole (Whole School) 09:15
Please note change in time to previous years
24-25/05/18 Y5 Whitby residential
25/05/18 Break up
04/06/18 Back to school
13-15/06/18 Y6 Herd Farm residential
16/06/18 Otley Carnival
19/06/18 Reception Induction 14:00
26/06/18 Nursery Induction 15:45
02/07/18 Y5 High School Experience Day
02/07/18 Meet the Teacher Y2/4/6
03/07/18 Meet the Teacher Y1/3/5
05/07/18 Sports Day - 10:00 KS1
05/07/18 Sports Day - 12:30 Nursery
05/07/18 Sports Day - 13:45 KS2
10/07/18 Whole School Induction am
19/07/18 Leavers' Play/Party 18:30
20/07/18 Talent show 14:00
23/07/18 Leavers' Assembly 09:00
24/07/18 Break up