



Volume 19, Edition 1, 9th September 2022
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WELCOME BACK

An extra special welcome this month to the children and families who are new to Westgate: as well as children starting in Nursery & Reception, we have also welcomed Zlata to Y6, all the way from Kharkiv in Ukraine. At lunchtimes, we are welcoming Mrs Bibby and Miss Chilton to our team of supervisors, and finally, Mrs Dawrant is now known as Ms Wilson. We've received a few awards over the summer, which reflect some of the things that are really important to everyone at Westgate:



**Artsmark
Silver Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England

First of all, we heard that we have been awarded an Eco-Schools Green Flag- with distinction, no less! This is testament to everyone's commitment to sustainability, learning about and looking after the environment. Then last week we were notified that Westgate has been awarded another Gold School Travel Award! This recognises everyone's efforts to reduce car use on the school journey, so the award really belongs to all of our families who have responded to our work to promote cycling, scooting and walking. Finally, this week we heard that we have achieved Artsmark Silver, which recognises the quality of our Arts education for all our pupils. We are really proud that our curriculum has been recognised in this way.

Helen Carpenter
Head Teacher

ANYTHING BOXED IN RED IN THIS NEWSLETTER MAY REQUIRE ACTION ON YOUR PART. THANK YOU 😊

		
Milk (UHT)		Rice
Tea Bags		Pasta
Instant Coffee		Cous Cous
Fruit Juice (long-life)		Noodles
Soup		Instant Mash
		Dried Fruit
Tinned Tomatoes		Pasta Sauces
Tinned Spaghetti		Jam
Tinned Baked Beans		Sugar
Tinned Meat or Fish		Breakfast Cereals
Tinned Vegetables		Biscuits & Snack Bars
Tinned Fruit		Crisps
Tinned Rice Pudding		
Tinned Sponge Pudding		

Thank you for your support!

HARVEST FESTIVAL

This year we will be visiting the Parish Church as a school (Reception to Y6) and parents will be welcome to join us in person, or follow the service on the church's livestream online: a link will be sent out the day before. We will be collecting food for the festival, which will be donated to [Otley Food Bank](#). Non-perishable items such as tins, jars, packet and dried goods are all welcome and should be brought to school at the beginning of the school day on Thursday 06/10/2022. The food bank has experienced lower donation rates in recent months so everything you can give will be very gratefully received.

Thank you 😊

SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS



We continue to use electronic means as our main method of communication. It is therefore essential that parents check emails regularly: we can ensure that letters are emailed to you but we can't make you read them! The SIMS Parent Lite app is essential to ensure you can easily update contact and medical details Letters which require a response will include a hyperlink to complete an online form, rather than requiring a return slip.

Please note that parents should not email teachers unless it is absolutely essential.

Any messages during the school day should come via the school office as teachers will not ordinarily pick up emails while teaching. School policy is that emails are only sent, read or responded to between 08:00 and 18:00, weekdays only during term time. Teachers are usually available at the beginning and end of the school day and are often able to return telephone calls during breaks.

Thank you ☺

RECYCLING AND SUSTAINABILITY AT WESTGATE

Just a reminder that you can continue to **recycle**:

- Crisp packets (via the bin adjacent to the car park)
- Printer cartridges (at the office)
- Batteries (via classrooms/ The Big Battery Hunt boxes)
- Clothes/ textiles (termly FOW Ragbag)

at Westgate, and help us raise money and win prizes for school at the same time. Try asking friends & neighbours, or at work, to boost our collections!

In school, we recycle as much of our paper, card, metal, glass and plastic as possible, as well as our food waste. Help us to reduce plastic use by trying to eliminate single use plastic from lunchboxes (cling film, plastic food bags) wherever you can. Thank you!

Thank you for your support!



Eco Team

VOLUNTEERING AT SCHOOL

We are delighted to be able to welcome volunteers into school once more, and we are recruiting! If you would like to help in school, for example by hearing children read, we would love to hear from you- and your support would be very valuable! Ask in the school office if you'd like to find out more.

We can also support volunteer placements as part of a learning support qualification you are pursuing.



LEARNING MENTOR



For those who do not know me I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and tell you a little about my role in school. My name is Caroline Eley and I am the Learning Mentor at Westgate Primary. Hopefully you will have seen me in the playground as you drop your children off. My job is to work alongside the other adults in

school and parents to identify anything that may be stopping children from having the very best school experience. These things may include friendship issues, changes in family circumstances, family bereavement, self-confidence and self-esteem issues and difficulties with emotional regulation. I work with children 1-1 or in a small group in our Nurture Room and support children in the playground. I also teach PSHE (Personal, Social, Health & Economic education) & Mindmate (lessons supporting children's emotional and mental well-being) lessons to whole classes across the school. If you would like to get in touch to discuss any worries or issues with your child you can email me at c.eley@westgateprimary.co.uk, call or text my school phone on 07712 214563 or leave a message with the office and I will call you back.

At Westgate we pride ourselves on really getting to know each individual child and their family. When we work together your children have the best school experience. In previous years I have offered a drop in sessions for parents who had concerns or just needed to chat. This could be a great way to start getting to know other parents, especially if you are new to the school or would just like some company. Parenting is the most difficult job we do and sharing and supporting one another through our worries and triumphs with people going through the same thing is so important. If this is something you would be interested in please text the number above with your name and the name and year of your child/children. I look forward to sharing your child's journey through Westgate with you.

Thank you ☺

HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME AND ATTENDANCE

A reminder for parents thinking ahead already to family holidays in the coming year, that holidays taken in term time are not usually authorised and parents taking children on holiday in school time risk a fine, in line with government and local policy. In addition, where a child has been reported as absent due to illness and we have good reason to suspect that in fact, he/she was on holiday, parents will be asked to provide proof that he/she was in fact poorly. Fines are issued on a 'per parent, per child' basis.



When requesting time off from school for any reason, parents must fill in an absence request form (available from the school office) and this should be done as far in advance as possible. It must be done via the school office rather than the class teacher, even if it is 'just' a request to leave before the end of the school day.

Please also note that children's attendance is calculated by our information management system on their presence at registration. Absences for any reason other than an approved school activity that mean a child misses registration (morning or afternoon) will affect their overall attendance record. This is standard procedure for schools.

WESTGATE WINDFALL

July's winners are:

1st: R McLernon (£132)

2nd: L Rich (£33)

3rd: KL Mellor (£16.50)

August's winners are:

1st: R Tucker (£132)

2nd: R Sells (£33)

3rd: D Walker (16.50)

As of August we have **66** 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. 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. **Average monthly prizes last academic year were £132.50, £33.13 and £16.56!** School Fund contributes to the cost of trips, visitors, special events and equipment, which would not be possible without the contribution that Westgate Windfall makes.



FRIENDS OF WESTGATE



We are looking forward to a full calendar of social and fundraising events this year. First up is on our calendar is a family barbecue with children's

activities run by West Leeds Activity Centre-go karting and large inflatables, no less!. From 13:00 till 15:00 on Sunday 25/09/22. Your family can join us in the playground and school hall to celebrate our school community. There will be a barbecue and a licenced bar for your to buy refreshments and the activities will be free to all Westgate children who attend!

After the success last year, we will be running a Christmas Jumper sale again later this term: you can bring in any outgrown festive knitwear to the school office.

This year we are making a substantial contribution to the school to refresh reading books for children right across school.

Our next meeting is on **Thursday 22/09/2022 at 19:30 in the Black Horse.** Come along and find out what we do!



If you'd like to support the work of Friends of Westgate without any cost to you, **Easy Fundraising** could be the answer! By signing up and using the app and/ or using the web browser reminder, you can get a wide range of retailers and service providers to donate to FOW when you shop online- money that comes from them, not you! So far we have raised **over £1200**. Our next big project is to support the school to update pupil laptops, and continue to replenish classroom reading materials. **Use this link to sign up and earn donations for FOW:**

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofwestgate/?invite=4OK2Z3&referral-campaign=s2s>

WOOSH



Just a reminder that Westgate Out of School Hours (WOOSH) provision is available to children in

Nursery to Y6, from 07:45 to 08:50 in the morning and from 15:15 to 18:00 in the afternoon. Charges are £3.00 for a morning session, and £8.50 after school, or £6.50 for further siblings. It may also be counted as part of your child's funded 30 hour Nursery entitlement, if you wish. **Both sessions must be booked online a week in advance, and bookings that are cancelled with less than 24 hours' notice will be chargeable.** Please complete the weekly form that comes via email each Tuesday if you want to make a new booking for WOOSH.

FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE



A reminder that some payments will soon be due: School meals in Nursery & KS2 (£2.44 per day/£12.20 per week for KS2, or £2.09 per day for Nursery); music tuition (£165 per annum or £55 per term); instrument hire (£17.50 per term/£25 per term for cellos). Please also ensure that we are informed promptly of any changes of contact details (address/ phone number/ email address) so that we can update our records and ensure you receive communications correctly. You can update these details easily using the SIMS Parent Lite app.

Dinner choices are sent out weekly via email on a Tuesday and should be completed by 5pm on Thursday. You may find it useful to set a weekly alarm on your smartphone to remind you to go through the menu with your child: involving them in the choices ensures you choose something they will eat and reduces food waste. If you do not respond by the deadline, your child will automatically be allocated 'red' choices for the week.

We are a cashless school: payments can only be made electronically via Pay360. Ask us if you need support in setting up your account (account information for new starters will be sent out via email shortly).

SCHOOL TRAVEL

Next week, we restart the [Travel Tracker](#) in Y1-6 (Reception & Nursery will start later this half term). Each morning, children complete a quick online survey in class to record their journey to school. They can earn a badge for every month where they walk, scooter, cycle or 'park & stride' at least once a week. The closure of Scarborough Road at the beginning and end of the school day, and Waitrose offering their car park for parents to use for 'Park & Stride' through the School Streets initiative has made it easier and safer than ever to choose a more sustainable school journey.



Coming up, it is national [Bike to School Week](#) beginning on 27/09/21. We would like as many families as possible to ditch the car for the week and walk, scoot or cycle to and from school. Good luck and have fun!

If you are unsure of the safest route for you to travel to school, please get in touch or check on our [website](#), as there are many safe ways to get to school while being active and improving our local environment and air quality.

SCHOOL INFORMATION



Just a reminder that you can find a wealth of information about our school on the main school website.

Whether it's information about the curriculum, school policies, special educational needs & disability (SEND), sustainability, school meals, or news about what is happening at school (or a host of other topics), almost anything you could wish to know is to be found at www.westgateprimary.co.uk. Happy browsing! If there's something you need to know which isn't on there, don't hesitate to get in touch via the school office.

In the parent survey last term, some of you told us you would like more information about what children are learning each half term: we are working on this and will be providing more information for you later this half term.



CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

If your child has achieved something outside of school- perhaps a sporting achievement, musical or other out of school activity, we like to recognise this in our weekly celebration assemblies. They take place on Fridays. Simply send a photo and brief blurb about their achievement to head@westgateprimary.co.uk and I will ensure that it is incorporated into the next celebration assembly!

DATES FOR THE DIARY



Please find below a reminder of all the dates we have planned so far. They are also to be found on the school website's calendar. Please make sure

you transfer all relevant events into your diary or calendar as soon as possible!

22/09/22 FOW meeting 19:30 Black Horse

25/09/22 FOW BBQ/ children's activity afternoon

26/09/22 w/b Y6 Bikeability training

26/09/22 Bike to School Week

05/10/22 Rec Curriculum evening 19:00

06/10/22 Harvest Festival

18/10/22 Consultation evening 17:00

20/10/22 Consultation evening 15:45

21/10/22 Break up for half term

31/10/22 Back to school

01/11/22 Individual photos

07/11/22 Booking for SEN reviews opens

14-18/11/22 Anti-Bullying Week

14-18/11/22 Otley Science Week

14/11/22 UK Parliament Week

15/11/22 Y1 Science trip

15/11/22 Nursery Stay & Play am

15/11/22 Nursery Induction 15:45

16/11/22 Reception Stay & Play am

17/11/22 Y5 Science trip

17/11/22 Nursery Stay & Play pm

18/11/22 Children in Need day

28/11/22 Choir Otley Xmas Lights pm

30/11/22 SEN reviews

06-12/12/22 Hour of Code (Computer Science Education) Week

07/12/22 FS Xmas performance 14:15- 14:45

08/12/22 KS2 Xmas performance 19:00

09/12/22 FS Xmas performance 11:00

09/12/22 KS2 Xmas performance 13:45

09/12/22 Choir Xmas Tree Festival pm

12/12/22 KS1 Xmas performance 14:00

13/12/22 KS1 Xmas performance 10:00

14/12/22 School Xmas Dinner

16/12/22 Xmas Parties

16/12/22 Break up for Christmas

02/01/23 Bank Holiday

03/01/23 Training Day- school closed to pupils

04/01/23 Back to School

04/01/23 booking for SEN reviews opens

10/01/23 Y6 Herd Farm/ SATs mtg 18:30

17/01/23 Y5 Whitby mtg 18:30

25/01/23 SEN reviews

06/02/23 Booking opens for consultation evenings

09/02/23 Break up for half term

10/02/23 Training Day

14/02/23 Safer Internet Day

20/02/23 Back to school

20/02- 05/03/23 Fair Trade Fortnight

21/02/23 Nursery Induction 15:45

22/02/23 Nursery Stay & Play pm

23/03/23 Nursery Stay & Play am

27/02/23 Reception Stay & Play am

02/03/23 Governors Day in School

02/03/23 World Book Day

06-10/03/23 Scoot to School Week

07/03/23 Consultation evening 15:45

09/03/23 Consultation evening 17:00

20/03-31/03/23 Big Walk & Wheel

21/03/22 FOS Poetry Slam event

25/03/23 FOW Easter Fair

29/03/23 Easter Concert 14:00

31/03/23 Break up for Easter

17/04/23 Back to School

24/04/23 Booking for SEN reviews opens

01/05/23 Bank Holiday

04/05/23 Class photos

08/05/23 w/b Y6 test week

18/05/23 SEN reviews

20-24/05/23 Walk to School Week

20/05/23 Otley Show

25/05/23 Maypole 09:15

26/05/23 Break up for half term

05/06/23 Back to school

14/06/23 Reception Induction 19:00

15/06/23 Clean Air Day

19/06/23 Nursery Stay & Play am

20/06/23 Reception Stay & Play am

20/06/23 Y2 Skipton Castle trip

22-23/06/23 Y5 Whitby residential trip

22/06/23 Nursery Stay & Play pm

17/06/23 Otley Carnival

19-25/06/23 Refugee Week

20/06/23 Nursery Induction 15:45

26/06/23 Meet the Teacher Y2/4/6

27/06/23 Meet the Teacher Y1/3/5

17/07/23 Talent show 13:45

19/07/23 Leavers' Play 19:00

20/07/23 Leavers' Party 19:00

21/07/23 Leavers' Assembly 09:00

21/07/23 Break up

24/07/23 Training Day (disaggregated)

25/07/23 Training Day (disaggregated)

If your child does not normally attend Nursery when a blue event is taking place, you are welcome to bring them along. Further details will be available from Miss Robinson.