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CARNIVAL TRIUMPH!

What a beautiful sunny day we had for last weekend's carnival. It is a lovely day for the whole of the local community, seeing groups from all the local schools and other groups come together in the sunshine. Zoe Hollis pulled together a great entry based on Esther's original proposal and the judges clearly appreciated the hard work and detail, as we were awarded the overall winner's prize for the second year running! As ever, we had a fantastic turn out of children and parents, reflecting our whole school community. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped to make costumes, to everyone who took part and of course to Zoe for bringing the whole idea to life and organising it so well. Well done Westgate!

Yesterday we welcomed the parents of our new Reception class to school for an induction meeting- we are looking forward to welcoming them all to Westgate in September! If you were unable to come for any reason, I will be in touch to offer an opportunity to catch up on the information you have missed this week.

Finally, on Monday 26/06/17 the Yorkshire Ridings Maths Hub will be filming at Westgate to showcase the work we have been involved with to develop our maths teaching through school, ever since we welcomed our Shanghai maths teachers to Westgate back in February 2015. Exciting times!

Helen Carpenter
Head Teacher

COMMUNICATION

Please can all parents ensure that they read letters that are sent home? We will always email a copy, even if a hard copy is required because of a return slip, as this is the only way we can guarantee it has reached you and not got lost in transit. Recently, we have had a number of parents claiming not to have known about clearly stated deadlines for returning replies to letters, or not to have read letters containing important information. We don't always get it right, but we do try very hard to send you the information you need. If you haven't read it after we have sent it, there is a limit to what we as a school can do to rectify that.

On a related matter, we recently had some concerns from parents who had not received text messages sent via the school's messaging service. We have raised the issue with eSchools who in turn have worked on this so the issue should now be resolved. Sometimes different mobile phone carrier companies experience delays in the text messages being delivered. The safest way to ensure you receive all texts and letters home remains to download the eSchools app onto your iPhone or Android smartphone. It's free from the App Store or Google Play. Once you have downloaded it, all your texts and emails will be sent to the app (together with a notification alert), rather than to your message inboxes.

And finally - we cannot send a message if we don't have an up to date mobile phone number for you listed on your child's records, so please notify us immediately of any changes. Thank you!



SPORTS DAY & HEALTH WEEK



Our Family of Schools have agreed a universal Health Week for week beginning 10/07/17. During the week, children

will have access to a range of different sporting, emotional wellbeing and healthy eating activities. In addition, we will of course have our annual Sports Day. For Nursery, this will be at 12:30 on Wednesday 12/07/17. Children from morning/ afternoon/ flexi 1 and flexi 2 should all be brought to Grove Hill Park, where friends and family are invited to stay and watch while the children complete their activities. On Thursday 13/07/17 it is the rest of school's turn: Reception and KS1 at 10:00 and KS2 at 13:45. Again, friends and family are invited to join us. There will be a parents' race at each event! Finally, if you do come to watch, please don't bring extra drinks or snacks to give to your child during Sports Day, as this is unfair to other children. The staff will take care of the children; you should just sit back and enjoy being a spectator. Thank you ☺

SCHOOL UNIFORM- SHOES

A polite reminder that children should not be wearing trainers to school, but instead school shoes (black) or sandals (mainly black, red or white). There are 7 and half weeks in this half term and uniform expectations are the same as they are throughout the year. We are seeing an increase in trainers in school in KS2 and these are not allowed. Thank you for your understanding.



FRIENDS OF WESTGATE

As mentioned above, this year's Carnival entry, 'Westgate's African Wilderness', triumphed on Saturday! Monday evening saw FOW out in force

again, as Laurel Chambers organised a summer disco for the children. Everyone seemed to have a ball (even if they did get a little hot) and the profit from the event is in the region of £175! Thanks to

Laurel and her team of helpers on the night.

Today's Bag2School collection weighed a whopping 270kg which should generate £108! Thanks everyone for their donations.

You might be wondering what the money raised is used to purchase. Well, this summer, Friends of Westgate will be match-funding school to enable us to buy a bank of iPads for school use. They will also be fully funding the purchase of some mobile cooker units, to enhance our curriculum resources for Food Technology. And we have a small list of proposals for future funding projects in the coming 12 months!

WESTGATE WINDFALL

May's winners were:

- 1st: Karon Osborne (£106)
- 2nd: Mr & Mrs Cockerham (£26)
- 3rd: Michele Smallshaw (£13)



We currently have 53 members. If you would like to join the monthly draw, please see someone 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. IN the current climate of squeezed school budgets, it make a valuable contribution to what we can offer our children, so please consider joining. Thank you!

FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

From September, don't forget that if you want your child to receive milk you will need to have registered online with Cool Milk. The School Office will no longer be dealing with any aspect of School Milk from September. A letter will come home next week with more information for Reception to Y5.

Individual texts about dinner money are being sent out as we come to the end of the school year, with information about your balance. Please ensure this is paid promptly. Thank you ☺



TRANSITION DAY(S)

Y6 have 3 days of transition visits to PHGS on Wednesday to Friday, 05-07/07/17. Meanwhile, on Thursday 06/07/17 all of our children will spend the morning in their new class, with their new teachers and teaching assistants. Children should go straight to the door of their new class on this day. They will return to their usual class at 12:00 (12:25 for KS2). Just before these transition days, you have the opportunity to drop in and meet your child's new teacher informally: Y2/4/6 teachers will be available after school on Monday 03/07/17 and Y1/3/5 teachers on Tuesday 04/07/17.



SPORTS REPORT



On the last Friday of half term, Westgate held their annual Wake up Shake up Competition where children competed in teams to create and perform their own exercise routine to music. Our judges (Mrs Charlesworth and two of our

Sports Leaders, Dylan Bibby and Henry Silverwood) had a very difficult job to choose the winners but well done to our KS1 winners; Milli, Iseabail, Mischa, Summer, Paige, Lois, Niamh, Alice, Rachael and Ava, and in KS2; Lucy, Livia, Carys, Cerys, Lola, Skye, Merle, Demi and Rheyra. Both these groups will now take their routines to the Leeds North West School Sports Partnership WUSU competition TODAY to compete against other schools. Good luck Westgate!

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

Our *Anyone Can* day last half term saw the whole school working to challenge the lazy, limiting gender stereotypes that surround us in everyday life. The children voted for the best presentation and the winners were Y5! A group of Y5 children will therefore be joining groups from all of the other schools in our Family to share the presentation at Otley Courthouse, on the afternoon of 30/06/17, where we will launch the Family of Schools' Equalities Charter.

ELECTION DAY SECURITY



This year more than any year, recent terror attacks led me and many other head teachers to question the practicalities and safety issues involved with having a polling station on-site, particularly when the school, like Westgate, remains partially open. At Westgate, I requested additional security arrangements for polling day, with the support of the governing body - not a request I've had to make before. Head teachers across Leeds have asked for a full review of polling station use. **There is a consultation which ends tomorrow, Thursday 22nd June.** If you would like to respond and request that our school is no longer used as a polling station, you can read more here: <http://www.leeds.gov.uk/council/Pages/Polling-District-and-Community-Governance-Review-2017.aspx> or email pdreview@leeds.gov.uk with your objections and, if possible, a suggestion for an alternative venue.

WESTGATE ELECTION RESULTS



On Thursday 8th June, children across school got the chance to cast their vote in our own election, after hearing manifesto presentations from the Conservative, Green, Labour and Liberal Democrat Parties. Y6 campaigned for their respective party and the final ballot (including postal votes from those of us who were on residential) was as follows:
Conservative: **19 votes**
Green: **72 votes**
Labour: **88 votes**
Liberal Democrat: **25 votes**
Turnout was an excellent **98.1%**.
Thank you to Mrs Hooper, Y4 (polling station officers) and Y6 (political campaigners) for a great day!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



We hope this information will help busy parents! Make sure you have all the relevant dates on your calendar/ in your diary.

21/06/17 Y6 PHGS Mini-Olympics 13:00
 23/06/17 Y4&6 to Ilkley Tennis Club
 26/06/17 Y4 trip to Herd Farm
 27/06/17 Reception class assembly 09:05
 27/06/17 Nursery Induction meetings
 28/06/17 Y6 Junior Band Day PHGS
 30/06/17 Y6 Robinwood class assembly 09:05
 30/06/17 Y3 trip to Herd Farm
 30/06/17 Equality & Diversity Celebration at Otley Courthouse
 03/07/17 Y5 High School Experience Day
 03/07/17 Meet the Teacher Y2/4/6
 04/07/17 Meet the Teacher Y1/3/5
 05-07/07/17 Y7 Induction days at PHGS
 06/07/17 Whole school induction mornings
 11/07/17 Y5 Whitby class assembly 09:05
 12/07/17 Nursery Sports Day 12:30
 13/07/17 Rec/ KS1 Sports Day 10:00
 13/07/17 KS2 Sports Day 13:45
 20/07/17 Y6 Leavers Play and Party
 21/07/17 Talent Show
 24/07/17 Y6 Leavers Assembly
 25/07/17 Break up for Summer: no WOOSH after school
 26/07/17 Training Day
Please note that, contrary to previous information, school will be open to Nursery children on the last day of term (25/07/17).

Looking Ahead to Next Academic Year (new additions in bold):

04-05/09/17 Training Days
 06/09/17 School opens to children
 20/10/17 Break for half term
 30/10/17 Back to school
30/10/17 EYFS Training Day: School closed for Reception & Nursery ONLY
 15/12/17 Break up for Christmas
 02/01/18 Training Day
 03/01/18 Back to school
 08/02/18 Break up for half term
 09/02/18 Training Day
 19/02/18 Back to school
 29/03/18 Break up for Easter
 16/04/18 Back to school
03/05/18 Polling Day- school closed to Nursery ONLY*
 07/05/18 Bank holiday - school closed
 24-25/05/18 Y5 Whitby residential
 25/05/18 Break up for half term

04/06/18 Back to school
13-15/06/18 Y6 residential
 24/07/18 Break up for summer
 25/07/18 Training Day

** In light of national security issues, this is currently under review and may affect more year groups. Parents will be advised of any changes in due course.*