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www.westgateprimary.co.uk
admin@westgateprimary.co.uk

THANK YOU AND WELL DONE

Here we are at the end of a very strange year. I'd like to begin by saying many, many thank yous:

- Thank you to every family, for doing your best in very difficult circumstances to support your child's continuing learning during lockdown
- Thank you to every pupil, for trying your best with home learning and staying in touch with your teachers
- Thank you to every keyworker, for the essential work you have done throughout lockdown to keep us all safe and to keep essential services running
- Thank you to every teacher and teaching assistant, for adapting to an unimaginable situation, staying in touch with children throughout lockdown via the VLE, thinking carefully about the learning and how to provide it, learning new skills at top speed to enable this to happen; for communicating so clearly with each other so that each new class teacher is ready for their new class in September; for undertaking additional CPD online; for working together to think about the curriculum next year
- Thank you to the school office team, for working remotely, closing down the financial year, setting up the new budget, designing new online systems, managing admissions and generally ensuring that school continues to function in a logistical sense
- Thank you to our music teachers, for enabling children to continue their instrumental tuition despite school being closed
- Thank you to the cleaning and site team, who have made sure our school is safe and secure for everyone who has been here during lockdown
- Thank you to the kitchen staff, who have put together meals and hampers for families eligible for free school meals, and adapted to new menus and ways of working to cook for children in school during lockdown
- Thank you to our inclusion team for their additional work to support our most vulnerable children and their families throughout lockdown

♥ THANK YOU
& WELL DONE ♥

I am overwhelmed with what you have all managed to achieve. We can now be kind to ourselves and each other, take time to recharge, and look forward with optimism to September.

Please read the rest of this newsletter carefully as some items (boxed in red) may need action from you. Thank you!

Helen Carpenter
Head Teacher

BEING SEPTEMBER READY

Thank you to everyone for carefully reading my letter on Wednesday morning about the full reopening of school in September. A reminder:

THINGS ALL FAMILIES MUST DO BY THE START OF TERM

Ensure your child has the correct equipment for school:

- Named pencil (Y1 to Y6) & named blue pen (Y3 to Y6) which is left at school
- Named water bottle (Nursery to Y6) which allows the contents to be seen and drunk without removing the lid- taken home, washed and refilled every day

Ensure that your child is trained in, understands and always follows these routines, in and out of school:

- Thorough, regular handwashing (learn the NHS handwashing song)
- Catch it, bin it, kill it- use a tissue for coughs and sneezes and bin immediately, and if not possible, cough/ sneeze into the crook of their elbow
- Put the toilet seat lid down before flushing, particularly after a poo

Ensure that every day:

- Your child washes their hands thoroughly just before leaving the house
- You/ your child arrive/ leave on time to follow staggered starts
- Your child's hair is tied back if it is long enough to do so
- Your child wears full uniform on any non-PE days (there is no longer a requirement to observe additional hygiene around clothing, ie uniform does not have to be fresh on every day)
- Your child wears correct PE kit on the days they have a PE lesson- days to be confirmed by the start of term

Ensure that you:

- Choose your child's school meal using the weekly online menu by Friday morning each week
- Book WOOSH online by Friday morning each week
- Continue to protect your family and everyone at school by following the government guidelines about your activities, including restrictions to social groupings

Families should follow the latest government/ Public Health England guidance around face coverings in September. At present, the advice is clear that face coverings for children can cause additional problems, including increased risk of contamination, due to additional face touching. If government advice changes, we will write to you with updated expectations.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Will my child be able to bring a bag to school?

A: Children should only bring essential items to school, but a bag is allowed. Children will be using the cloakrooms to hang up coats and a bag if they need one. We recommend bookbags in Reception/ KS1 but they should have a maximum of 1 keyring attached (and preferably none).

Q: Should my child bring a pencil case?

A: No, pencil cases from home are not allowed.

Q: What will classrooms look like?

A: We will send photographs home before the end of the summer holidays for your child to see their classroom, in case they are anxious about returning in September.

Q: What should children wear on PE days?

A:

- Grey hoodie (school logo or plain)
- Grey or black jogging bottoms (not leggings)
- Black shorts
- Plain or school logo T shirt (white, or their House colour)
- Pumps or trainers (no requirements in place about colour/ brand)

Variations on these items will *not* be allowed.

Q: Will children need to come in PE kit on the first day back, as it is a Wednesday?

A No, there are no PE lessons on the first day back.

FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE- MEDICATION IN SCHOOL

Due to the sudden closure of schools back in March, we did not manage to ensure all pupil medication was sent home.



At the start of the new school year, as usual, we will be re-checking all the medical information held on file and will be sending home any allergy / medication forms for you to check, sign & return.

Any medication still left in school will be collated and sent up to the next class group as appropriate. If it has expired, then this will be sent home with your forms to enable you to update them with any new expiry dates.

Please ensure all medication and/ or medication forms are returned to school as soon as possible at the start of term **via the main office** to be checked.

TALENT SHOW



I think everyone will agree with me that Mrs Chilton did a stellar job of pulling together this year's Lockdown Talent Show.

Being at home certainly seems to have brought out children's creativity and talents in a wider way than ever before! I thoroughly enjoyed watching all of the entries, and have been eagerly waiting for the results. I am pleased to announce the winners and runners up as follows:

KS1/ EYFS

1st: Crimea

2nd: Frances = Heidi (*tied*)

3rd: Emelia

KS2

1st: Johnny = Jacob, Lily George & Isabel (*tied*)

2nd: Avy & Elizabeth

3rd: Evie & Martha

Huge congratulations to everyone who took part, as the entries were of such a high standard, and thank you to everyone who voted. **Most of all, a huge THANK YOU to Mrs Chilton, who made the whole thing possible!**

VIRTUAL SPORTS DAY



We were delighted that so many Westgate children in and out of school

took part in the West Yorkshire Schools Virtual Sports Day. The results are in! Out of **217** schools who took part, we came **42nd** in the rugby challenge, **35th** in the Netball, **10th** in the Keepie Uppie and **7th** in the Speed Bounce. That's an amazing result! Well done to everyone who took part- hope you all enjoy staying active over the summer holidays.

Mrs Hooper
PE & Physical Activity Leader



You may find yourself buying things

online more than usual at the moment. If so, consider signing up to Easy Fundraising. By [clicking here and signing up](#), you can agree to support Friends of Westgate at no cost to yourself. We are now approaching a total of **£650** raised- every penny helps!

WESTGATE WINDFALL

June's winners were:

1st: Drs Heppenstall & Ross (£144)

2nd: Mr & Mrs Cockerham (£36)

3rd: Ms E Cochrane (£18)

We currently have **72** members. If you would like to join the monthly draw, please email 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. It is also making a significant contribution to the refurbishment of the EYFS outdoor area this summer.

July and August winners will be announced in September.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Please find below a summary of all the dates we have planned so far for next year- *with the*

caveat that some may not be able to go ahead due to ongoing restrictions: for example, at the moment it is looking unlikely that we will be able to put on any shows at Christmas... but we live in hope!

They will also shortly be found on the calendar when you log on to the VLE. Please make sure you transfer all relevant events into your diary or calendar as soon as possible! We will provide regular updates for any further events as bookings etc are confirmed.

16/07/20 Pupils break up for summer holidays
17/07/20 Training Day- school closed to pupils
20/07/20 Training Day- school closed to pupils
07/09/20 Training Day- school closed to pupils
08/09/20 Training Day- school closed to pupils
28/09/20 Booking for Consultation Evening opens at 16:00

28/09/20 Y6 Bikeability all week
14/10/20 Rec Curriculum evening 19:00

12/10/20 Individual School Photos

20/10/20 Consultation Evening 17:00

22/10/20 Consultation Evening 15:45

23/10/20 Break up

02/11/20 Back to school

13/11/20 Children in Need day

16/11/20 w/b Anti-Bullying Week

17/11/20 Nursery Induction mtg 15:45

20/11/20 Takeover Day

06/12/20 Otley Victorian Fayre

07-13/12/20 Hour of Code (Computer Science Education) Week

08/12/20 LSMA Xmas concert

09/12/20 FS Xmas performance 14:00

10/12/20 KS2 Xmas performance 19:00

11/12/20 FS Xmas performance 11:15

11/12/20 KS2 Xmas performance 13:45

14/12/20 KS1 Xmas performance 14:00

15/12/20 KS1 Xmas performance 10:00

16/12/20 School Xmas Dinner

18/12/20 Xmas Parties

18/12/20 Break Up

04/01/21 Back to school

12/01/21 Y6 Herd Farm/ SATs mtg 18:30

18/01/21 Y5 Whitby mtg 18:30

08/02/21 Booking for Consultation Evening opens at 16:00

09/02/21 Safer Internet Day

12/02/21 Break Up

22/02/21 Back to school

22/02- 05/03/21 w/b Fair Trade Fortnight

25/02/21 Nursery Induction mtg 15:45

09/03/21 Consultation Evening 15:45

11/03/21 Consultation Evening 17:00

04/03/21 World Book Day

27/03/21 FOW Easter Fair

31/03/21 Easter Concert 14:00

01/04/21 Break up for Easter

02/04/21 Bank Holiday

19/04/21 Back to School

03/05/21 Bank Holiday

10/05/21 w/b Y6 test week

22/05/21 Otley Show

27/05/21 Maypole 09:15

07/06/21 Back to school

08-09/06/21 Y5 Whitby residential

15/06/21 Reception Induction mtg 19:00

16-18/06/21 Y6 Herd Farm residential

19/06/21 Otley Carnival

22/06/21 Nursery Induction mtg 15:45

28/06/21 Meet the Teacher Y2/4/6

29/06/21 Meet the Teacher Y1/3/5

20/07/21 Talent show 13:45

21/07/21 Leavers' Play/ Party 19:00

23/07/21 Leavers' Assembly 09:00

23/07/21 Break up

26/07/21 Training Day- school closed to pupils

27/07/21 Training Day- school closed to pupils

Green events are changed or new since last time.

Blue events involve Nursery- if your child does not normally attend on that day, please let Miss Robinson know if your child will attend for this event.

Please note that we still have one more training day to confirm.

SCHOOL RESOURCES



You will know that when school closed, we sent home learning packs with the children. Some of the contents are

consumables, and the items sent varied from class to class. However, please note that we expect Maths No Problem textbooks & workbooks to come back to school, along with school reading/ library books, and child scissors. Items such as these that are not returned, or returned in an unusable condition **will be chargeable**, as they will have to be replaced. If you can send crayons/ pencils back when we return that would also be great, but we understand that these might have been used up/ worn out by then! Thank you for looking after school's resources.

