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### TIME FLIES!



It's hard to believe how quickly this term is flying by... School never stands still! This half term, we have welcomed new staff to Westgate: While we said farewell last month to Mrs Cardwell after 12 years at Westgate, we are delighted to have recruited Miss Chilton as a new TA and lunchtime assistant in KS1 and Miss Osborne as a lunchtime assistant. We have also welcomed Mrs Merryweather as our new WOOSH leader. She will be sharing this role with Ms Wilson (Tues- Thurs am), leading the club after school and on Monday & Friday mornings. She will also be supporting Mrs Pollhammer to deliver our PE curriculum on Wednesdays.

This half term also sees us continuing to work with Mr Short, ahead of him taking the reins at Westgate in January. He will be popping over to us regularly and it's been great to begin working with him closely over the last month so that the transition is as smooth and positive as possible. In the meantime, we have lots to look forward to; Christmas is the busiest and most special time of year in a primary school, and Westgate is no exception. I hope to see you at one or more of our special events before the end of the term.

Helen Carpenter  
Head Teacher

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

### FRIENDS OF WESTGATE \*\*FOLLOW US ON YOUR SOCIALS!\*\*



[@friendsofwestgate](https://www.instagram.com/friendsofwestgate)



[FOW Friends of Westgate](https://www.facebook.com/FOWFriendsOfWestgate)



<https://www.justgiving.com/friendsofwestgate>

We are delighted that the new **iPads and headphones** that we purchased for school are already well-used by children at school and that our **ScrapShed** subscription is making a real difference to children's play at lunchtimes. Both of these important investments were possible because of your fantastic support last year. This year, we are raising funds for our regular £1K contribution to replenishing story books for classrooms, updating pupil laptops, among other things!

Congratulations to Mersana who won the **Hallowe'en Trail**, and to Millie W whose display was voted the best in the trail. Last week, our **Beetle Drive** was a great success, enjoyed by everyone who came along. We'd love to see even more of you at the next one, for a couple of hours of frantic fun, good-humoured competition, prizes, a few drinks and pizza! Next up we have our **Cake Sale on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> Nov** - please help by baking a cake and/ or coming along and buying something delicious. After that, we have a **Xmas jumper sale/ swap on 29/11/24**. We will be running a **mulled wine & chocolate tombola stall at the Victorian Fayre**- find us on Westgate near Little Munchkins. Then finally this half term we will be hosting a **Film Night on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> Dec** - look out for the letter for more information. We also have handmade Christmas decorations available for sale from the school office- pop your money in the honesty box if something takes your fancy!

You can contact Friends Of Westgate directly on [FOWotley@gmail.com](mailto:FOWotley@gmail.com) with suggestions or offers of help. **Our next meeting is next week at 19:30 on 21/11/24 at The Black Horse- all are welcome!**

### WESTGATE WINDFALL

September's winners were as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup>: V. Mirfield (£120)
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: N. Atkinson & D. Green (£30)
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Z. Hollis (£15)

October's winners were as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup>: M. Gibbs (£120)
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: D & R Davies (£30)
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: M. Simpson (£15)

As of October we have **60** 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, which would not be possible without the contribution that Westgate Windfall makes. **Average monthly prizes last academic year were £134, £33.50 and £16.75!**



### GOVERNOR VACANCIES



**We currently have 2 co-opted governor vacancies.** Do get in touch if you think you or someone you

know might have relevant skills, not necessarily in education: business, HR, communications, finance, project management, safeguarding and community work are all relevant fields, and a fresh perspective is always helpful. This a crucial time for our school, as we move on to our new head teacher, and the strategic challenge and support from governors is essential to Westgate's success. To find out more, contact our chair of governors, Dr Andrew Ross

[a.ross@westgateprimary.co.uk](mailto:a.ross@westgateprimary.co.uk) .

### WILDLIFE ARTS FESTIVAL

We were delighted to take part in this now-annual Otley event. Each class took part, creating an artwork on a given theme, which we displayed in our school art exhibition on Monday 21/10/24. Neil Griffin from Wildlife Friendly Otley chose a winner from each class and their work was displayed as part of an exhibition at Otley Courthouse the following weekend. Well done to our winners:

Nur: Eli  
Rec: Seth  
Y1: Henric  
Y2: Aleanah  
Y3: Ted  
Y4: Jacob G  
Y5: Calder  
Y6: Noah M



### CHILDREN IN NEED



School Council has decided that to raise funds for this national charity, we will come to school on Friday in **pyjamas**, with a teddy or other cuddly toy, in return for a donation to Children in Need. We're looking forward to a cosy day and raising lots of money!

### VICTORIAN FAYRE



This Otley institution will take place on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December, under new leadership. This year, the Fayre begins with a parade at 11:45. Friends of

Westgate will be running their mulled wine and chocolate tombola stall - this year we will be situated on Westgate near Little Munchkins. Come and support us as part of your visit! Westgate choir will be singing onstage in the Market Square at 15:30.

### FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE



A reminder that music fees are due for the Autumn term and are payable on Gateway.

If you have not yet booked your regular WOOSH sessions for this half term, please ensure you do this as we are already full for some sessions.

### DATES FOR THE DIARY



Please find below a reminder of all the dates we have planned so far for this term. 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!

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/ via Tapestry.

13/11/24 FOW Cake Sale 15:15 – 16:00

14/11/24 Y1 Otley Science Fair visit

12/11/24 Consultation evening 17:00 online

14/11/24 Consultation evening 15:45 in person

15/11/24 Children in Need day- PJs & teddy

19/11/24 Nursery Stay & Play 10:30

20/11/24 Reception Stay & Play 09:00

21/11/24 Nursery Stay & Play 14:15

22/11/24 Non-uniform for Chocolate Tombola

**26/11/24 Y5/6 choir Winter Voices concert**

**29/11/24 FOW Xmas jumper sale/ swap**

01/12/24 Otley Victorian Fayre- FOW stall/ choir perform at 15:30

02/12/24 IPM review bookings open at 18:30- pupils with SEND only

05/12/24 FOW Xmas Film Night 18:00 – 20:00

06/12/24 Choir concert at Christmas Tree Festival

**11/12/24 FS Xmas performance 11:00**

12/12/24 KS2 Xmas performance 18:45

**12/12/24 FS Xmas performance 14:15**

13/12/24 KS2 Xmas performance 13:45

16/12/24 KS1 Xmas performance 14:00

17/12/24 KS1 Xmas performance 10:00

**18/12/24 School Xmas Dinner- wear a Xmas/ favourite jumper for Martin House Hospice**

**20/12/24 Xmas Parties- party clothes**

14/12/24 Break Up

06/01/25 Training Day

07/01/25 Back to School

15/01/25 IPM meetings

11/02/25 Safer Internet Day

03/02/25 Booking opens for consultation evenings at 18:30

14/02/25 Break up for half term