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### WELCOME BACK

It seems incredible that we have only been back at School for a fortnight, as so much seems to already have happened! Hopefully over the holiday you will have seen the lovely full-page [article](#) about our 'Lost Words' Art & Poetry exhibition in the local press.

Since the start of term, 28 children have received an offer of a place in our Reception class, meaning that, unusually, at present we have 2 vacancies for September.

This week, all our staff will be attending a full day of First Aid training on Thursday, which is why we are closed to pupils on this day.

I am sure you are all feeling, as I and all the staff are, extremely frustrated about the prospect of School being a polling station twice in less than a month because of EU elections. Of course, if Parliament does agree a deal for leaving the EU before polling is scheduled on 23/05/19, polling will not go ahead and School will open as normal. In the meantime, if you wish to raise any concerns, elected members for Leeds City Council (not Otley Parish Council, or indeed our MP) are ultimately responsible for the decision of where to designate for polling.

Just before the end of last term, we were notified that we have achieved Bronze level accreditation for our work on sustainable School travel. Thank you to everyone who chooses walking, cycling or scooting to School on a regular basis.



Helen Carpenter  
Head Teacher



**HELP US** raise FREE funds with your everyday shopping online through #easyfundraising. Over 3,600 big-name retailers such as Argos, John Lewis, Boden, Apple, Confused.com, ASOS, even

Amazon and eBay all give free donations when you **HELP US** raise FREE funds with your everyday shopping online through #easyfundraising. These retailers all give **free donations** when you make an online purchase with them. THIS IS FREE MONEY for us, so make sure we don't miss out when you shop online! We are approaching £300... and that's with only 37 supporters. Imagine if more Westgate families joined and made it an everyday part of how they shop online!

This 60 second video shows you how #easyfundraising works:

<http://efraising.org/cv1Wj5Bman>

Sign-up using this unique link and when you raise your first £5, #easyfundraising will match it! <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/invite/4OK2Z3>

### HEALTH AND WELLBEING FORTNIGHT

Information will be coming out later this half term about this year's Health & Wellbeing Fortnight. Once again, Mrs Hooper, our PE & Sport Leader, is planning lots of exciting activities. Children will be pleased to hear that we have another half-day at PHGS on the big play equipment - details to follow! Don't forget that tickets will also be available on a first come first served basis for extra sessions after School, too!

### FRIENDS OF WESTGATE



**FOW Bingo and Pizza** night will take place on **Friday 17/05/19** - Thank you if you have already returned your slip to say you will be joining us for this fun family evening.

Elsewhere, FOW volunteers are beavering away to begin preparations for costume and prop making, ready for our **Carnival** entry in June! The theme the School Council chose as the winner was **Totally Tropical Westgate**, suggested by the Coleman family. Here's hoping for a sunny, warm day to complement our theme! All help from willing hands to prepare and make costumes and props will be gratefully received: Clea Beanland and Laura Boddy are the masterminds with the grand plan this year.

### WESTGATE WINDFALL

March's winners were:

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Alison Heppenstall & Andrew Ross (£136)
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Kari Swettenham (£34)
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Karen Mellor (£17)



We currently have 68 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. This term, Westgate School Fund will pay for or subsidise: Y3 & Y4 Iron Age Experience

### ECO TEAM NEWS



Last week we reviewed our progress on the action plan we wrote last term. We have managed to reduce our electricity usage compared with last year January- April, just by turning things off more when not in use! We also carried out a litter survey in the playground and found that there is now hardly any litter in the School grounds, thanks to the new style bins that stop litter blowing about. We would just like to remind everyone that only food waste that is bio-degradable should go in the green playground bins - food wrappers should go in the ordinary bins.

Thank you! *From Eco Team*

### SUSTRANS THE BIG PEDAL



Thanks to everyone who took part in this the week before the School holidays. Nationally, 2,299 Schools took part. I can announce that our overall position for our category (small primary Schools) was **205<sup>th</sup>**, with an average of 72.47% for pupils and 69.12% for supporters (families and staff). Not bad for a first attempt! This compares with local Schools who took part as follows: **37<sup>th</sup>** Otley All Saints (89.2% & 83.1%) **354<sup>th</sup>** Otley St Joseph's (61.45% & 46.84%) So next year, it will be best foot forward to see if we can beat our local rivals, All Saints! More than anything though, we hope that it has given more people a taste for the benefits that ditching the car for the School run can bring.

### DECORATE AN EASTER EGG COMPETITION



Congratulations to **Ethan**, who was the overall winner of this competition just before the Easter weekend!

Pictures of all entries can be viewed in the news section of the School website. Well done to everyone who took part.

### FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE



About half of our families are now signed up to our electronic payment system- thank you! Please note that, if you are signed up, you will no longer receive texts about School meal balances, as you can log on and check your exact balance now through SIMS Pay. Thank you to everyone who settled outstanding balances at the end of the financial year last month - it has made preparation for the new financial year much more straightforward. Bills are now payable for Music Tuition for this term, and you should have also received bills for Nursery and WOOSH fees, if applicable. If you haven't already, please consider signing up to SIMS Pay as the convenient, safe way to pay. Thank you ☺



## DATES FOR THE DIARY

Please find below a reminder of all the dates we have planned so far for next term. They are also to be found on the calendar when you log on to the VLE. Dates in **green/ bold** are new or changed since dates were first circulated.

02/05/19 Training / Polling day- School Closed to pupils

06/05/19 Bank Holiday

09/05/19 Class photos\*

13/05/19 w/b Y6 test week

17/05/19 Wake Up Shake Up School competition

17/05/19 FOW Bingo & Pizza Night

21/05/19 Whole School Maypole Dancing 09:15\*

23/05/19 School closed to pupils if EU Election goes ahead

24/05/19 Y3 Iron Age visit to Herd Farm

24/05/19 Break up

03/06/19 Back to School

06-07/06/19 Y5 Whitby Residential

15/06/19 Otley Carnival

17/06/19 Y4 Iron Age visit to Herd Farm

17/06/19 Y5/6 Scooter training

18/06/19 Y2 Class Assembly 09:05

18/06/19 Reception Induction meeting 19:00

24/06/19 Whole School Activity afternoon at PHGS Rec- Y6

25/06/19 Nursery Induction 15:45

27/06/19 Sports Day: Rec/ KS1 10:00;

Nursery\* 12:30; KS2 13:45

01/07/19 Y5 High School Experience Day

01/07/19 Meet the Teacher Y2/4/6

02/07/19 Y6 Mini-Olympics afternoon

02/07/19 Meet the Teacher Y1/3/5

04/07/19 Whole School Pedestrian training

05/07/19 Y5 Whitby Assembly 09:05

09/07/19 Reception Class Assembly 09:05

18/07/19 Leavers' Play/ Party 18:30

22/07/19 Talent show 14:00

23/07/19 Leavers' Assembly 09:00

24/07/19 Break up 15:15 WOOSH is available after school on this day.

### Next year:

02/09/19 Training day- School closed to pupils

03/09/19 Training day- School closed to pupils

04/09/19 School Opens

25/10/19 Break up for half term

04/11/19 Back to School

20/12/19 Break up for Christmas 15:15 WOOSH is available after school on this day.

06/01/20 Training day- School closed to pupils

07/01/20 School Opens

13/02/20 Break up for half term

14/02/20 Training day- School closed to pupils **Please note however that this will be moved to Polling Day if we are designated a polling station by the local authority in 2019-20.**

24/02/20 Back to School

03/04/20 Break up for Easter 15:15 WOOSH is available after School on this day.

20/04/20 Back to School

04/05/20 Bank Holiday- School closed

22/05/20 Break up for half term

01/06/20 Back to School

17/07/20 Break up for the summer 15:15 WOOSH is available after School on this day.

20/07/20 Training day- School closed to pupils

### \* NURSERY CHILDREN

*If your child would not normally attend Nursery at this time/on this day and you would like him/her to be part of this event, please speak to the class teacher to confirm their attendance. Thank you ☺*