



Volume 17, Edition 10, 10th May 2021
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PARENT RESPONSES



Thank you to everyone who has already responded to our review of our school aims. Having been written about 20 years ago, it's clear to us that the review is needed and our 150th year seems a very good reason to do it now. This is a comprehensive review, in which children, staff, parents and governors are all being consulted in a variety of ways. Changes to format, wording, emphasis are all under consideration to make sure it is up to date, clear and relevant.

Everyone's voice is valued so please consider responding [here](#) if you haven't already. At the end of this week, we will also be writing to you about our annual general parent survey, in which every entry received is eligible for a prize draw to win £40 of [Love to Shop](#) vouchers. This survey helps to evaluate our work and informs our plans for the year ahead, so your response is important.

Helen Carpenter
Head Teacher

Anything in a red box in this newsletter may require action on your part. Thank you 😊

ROAD SAFETY



Astrid Copeland & Nikki Michelsberg, two of our Y5 parents, are leading a campaign to improve crossing facilities for pedestrians from Inglewood/ West Chevin Road, which Westgate fully supports. We recently had two meetings about the issue. Firstly, Astrid met Cllr Colin Campbell and Andrew Richardson from Leeds Highways department, and then last week Astrid and I met Cllr Ryk Downes, to discuss the difficulties for pedestrians attempting to cross using the refuge at the bottom of West Chevin Road. It seems that the safest option would be to install a second pedestrian crossing between the two roundabouts on Bradford Road. We asked about traffic calming measures at the bottom of West Chevin Road, but were told this would not be a preferred option due to night time noise disturbance for residents. In addition, it seems that a request for a 20mph limit on Bradford Road near school is unlikely to succeed due to the fact it is a main road and a bus route.

Astrid is collecting signatures on a petition about the issue and all are welcome to sign it. A copy of the petition is in the school office if you would like to add your signature. You can also email pedestrianwestchevin@outlook.com with concerns, reports of any near misses. All your responses will be collated and passed on to elected members and the highways department. Alternatively, you can make your views known directly to our elected Leeds City councillors. [Their contact details can be found here](#), under our ward (Otley & Yeadon). I would urge anyone with an opinion on this issue to get in touch with Astrid, Nikki or our councillors, to bring about change.

MUSIC STOP PRESS



Just over a week ago we sent out offers of places for peripatetic music tuition for next year. We still have one place for each of **flute and clarinet** with the fabulous Mr Nash: contact Mrs Bleasdale if you would like to enquire for your child next academic year!

LATERAL FLOW DEVICE (LFD) TESTING FOR PUPIL HOUSEHOLDS



Just a reminder that if your child begins to display COVID-19 symptoms, you should book a full PCR test: LFD tests are only for routine,

twice-weekly testing for *adults* with no symptoms. **They should not be used on children and are not a substitute for a full PCR test if an adult becomes symptomatic.**

Thank you ☺

SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL



Unfortunately Mrs Hoare, our school crossing patrol officer (lollipop lady) is expected to be away from work for several months, due to family circumstances. I am waiting for information from

her team about the possibility of a replacement while she is unable to work and will keep parents updated. In the meantime, please ensure your children know how to cross the road safely using the crossing, without her.

Finally, I am sure you will all join with me in sending Mrs Hoare our love and very best wishes at this difficult time.

WESTGATE WINDFALL

March's winners were:

1st: Mrs J Parry (£128)

2nd: Dr AK Biggs (£32)

3rd: Mrs A Copeland (£16)



As of April we have 65

members. If you would like to join the monthly draw, please contact [Mrs Bleasdale](#) in the office for application details. You can pay by standing order or cash/ cheque in advance. **We would really like to increase our membership this term, and the more members we have the larger the prize fund to be won!** All proceeds go to Westgate School Fund. Current projects we are seeking funding for include: upgrading pupil laptops; climate-proofing the outdoor spaces through planting; improvements to the kitchen facilities for EYFS/ pupils.

Average monthly prizes last academic year were £142.17, £35.54 and £17.77!

GO THE EXTRA MILE FOR WESTGATE



Friends of Westgate's whole school sponsored event this year is GO THE EXTRA MILE FOR WESTGATE. 'Go the Extra Mile' is a sponsored event that encourages children to think of a challenge or activity that they would like to complete themselves or together as a family by the end the term! This could be anything from completing a physical challenge, helping people in the family or community or committing to learn a new skill. Of course, this is also open to individual adults too, so if you fancy taking on a new challenge for the summer, this could be for you! Challenges should be completed by the end of this month.

Let us know how you get on!

There will be prizes awarded for the best physical, helpful, skilful and most inventive challenges! Please send an email to extramile@friendsofwestgate.uk when you have finished with your name, class and details of your challenge. We would also love to see any photos or videos of you completing your challenge – to be included in a special assembly next term!

Go the Extra Mile Sponsorship

Please ask friends and family to sponsor you to complete your challenge by giving them the link to our Just Giving page for the event:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/westgate-extra-mile>

Sponsorship money can also be dropped into the office in a named envelope by Friday 11th June at the latest please. If you have a printer, you could also use the form that has been emailed to you- or *ask the school office for a printed copy.*

If every pupil managed to raise £20 in sponsorship, we would be able to replace at least 17 pupil laptops. Good luck everyone and let's see how well we can do as a school!



DATES FOR THE DIARY



Please find below a reminder of dates for the rest of the year. **Dates for our larger events are all provisional, subject to the restrictions due to**

the COVID-19 pandemic.

17-21/05/21 Walk to School Week

17/05/21 Y5 Pedestrian Training

18/05/21 Y4 Pedestrian Training

11/06/21 Y5 Whitby day trip

17-18/06/21 Y6 Herd Farm visit

22/06/21 Nursery Induction mtg (for Sept 21)

15:45 & 17:00

23/06/21 Reception Induction mtg 19:00

06/07/21 Friends of Westgate mtg 19:30

08/07/21 Sports Day KS1/ Rec 10:00; Nursery

12:15; KS2 13:45

13/07/21 Y3 Leeds Organ visit

14-16/07/21 Y6 to Y7 transition (PHGS)

02/07/21 Talent Show entry deadline

15/07/21 Y2 Skipton Castle visit

16/07/21 Whole school transition day

21/07/21 Y6 Leavers Play & Party

23/07/21 Y6 Leavers Assembly

23/07/21 Break up for Summer Holiday

We have also set next year's training days/ term dates as follows:

06/09/21 Training day- school closed to pupils

07/09/21 Back to school

12/10/21 Whole school Team Teach training after school- **no afternoon WOOSH on this day**

25/10/21 Break up for half term

01/11/21 Back to school

11/11/21 Whole school Team Teach training after school- **no afternoon WOOSH on this day**

17/12/21 Break up for Christmas

04/01/22 Training day- school closed to pupils

05/01/22 Back to school

18/02/22 Break up for half term

28/02/22 Back to school

01/04/22 Break up for Easter

19/04/22 Back to school

27/05/22 Break up for half term

06/06/22 Back to school

22/07/22 Break up for summer

25/07/22 Training Day- disaggregated

26/07/22 Training Day- disaggregated

27/07/22 Training Day- disaggregated

*** Green events are new or amended since the last newsletter.**



FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

Thank you to everyone who has installed the **SIMS Parent app**, through which you are able to complete and return your child(ren)'s data collection sheet, thus ensuring your child's school records are up to date. Your SIMS Parent app is the same login as your SIMS Pay details, but you still need to log in to SIMS Pay through a

browser, as the Parent app does not handle payments. Finally, a polite reminder that music fees are now due.

Well done to everyone



who is using Times Table Rockstars & Numbots regularly each week. They are important tools to help children develop automatic recall of essential number facts- and they are fun too. The following table shows the **proportion of children engaging** in each class over the last 3 weeks:

Class	22.04.21	29.04.21	06.05.21	
Rec	20%	17%	24%	Num bots
Y1	13%	20%	17%	
Y2	21%	66%	86%	Times Table Rockstars
Y3	39%	58%	35%	
Y4	13%	93%	80%	
Y5	89%	81%	85%	
Y6	11%	96%	14%	

Children are expected to spend **10 minutes every day** practising on either Numbots or TT Rockstars as part of their mathematics homework.

FRIENDS OF WESTGATE



Don't forget you can raise funds at no cost to yourself using [Easy Fundraising](#), [Amazon Smile](#) and <https://www.easy2name.com>

We are about to launch a competition to decide what to include in a **time capsule** to celebrate school's 150th birthday! More details to follow.

We are also currently working on a **school tea towel** which you will be able to purchase before the summer holiday. Our next Friends of Westgate meeting takes place on **06/07/21**... Possibly in person at the Fleece! More details to follow. It will include our AGM, in which we report on all our activities over the last year, as well as planning for the year ahead. Our main focus remains on fundraising to support school to upgrade all the pupil laptops currently in use in school.

PARENT TRAVEL SURVEY WINNER

Congratulation to **Amy Verity** on being the winner of the prize draw of the travel survey. She receives £20 of Love to Shop vouchers. Thank you to everyone who took part.

SCHOOL TALENT SHOW



We are resigned to the fact that we are unlikely to have whole school indoor gatherings this term, so we are planning to run our annual school talent show in the same way as last year. Children should film their entry (**maximum length 3 minutes**) and email them to Mrs Chilton on j.chilton@westgateprimary.co.uk, who will then create a film of all the entries for each class to watch and vote on before the end of term. Last year we showcased a brilliant variety of creative talents and we hope this year will be at least as good! **The closing date for entries is Friday 02/07/2021.**

BIRD BOXES & FEEDERS

A big thank you to [Wildlife Friendly Otley](#), who have used a recent successful funding bid to provide us with wildlife equipment, including bird boxes and feeders. It's been fun deciding where to site them around school and we are looking forward to seeing who decides to visit Westgate and make their nest with us in the coming year!



LIVE MUSIC AT WESTGATE- HELP STILL WANTED!



As a Music Champion school, we usually invite musicians to play to the children as part of our assembly schedule, so that all children get to experience a wide range of live music. In the last two

terms we were lucky enough to receive a number of musical assemblies from parents, grandparents and former pupils, covering a wide range of genres. We would love to fit a few more in before the end of the academic year. We are looking for musical parents or connections who would be willing to film up to 20 minutes to share with children as an online assembly. This could be solo or in an ensemble (if you are able to make music together safely). The children would love to see and hear real musicians, explaining how their instrument makes its sound, how their ensemble works, playing some music and talking about why they enjoy making music- basically anything you'd like to share with the children! **We are open to all instruments and all genres.** If you think you could help out and share your music-making this term, let me know via the school office or by email, head@westgateprimary.co.uk.

Thank you!

STOP PRESS- SCHOOL TRAVEL AWARD



We are delighted that we have just been notified that Westgate has been given a Silver Modeshift

Stars award for our work on sustainable school travel. Thank you to every family that has supported this work by choosing to reduce or eliminate their car use for school journeys! This year we have seen a further increase in cycling, scooting and walking, and a significant increase in Park & Stride. Well done everyone!

RECEPTION PLACES 2021

At the moment we still have a small number of spaces in our Reception class for September, due to a lower than predicted demand for places across our town. Any parent now wishing to request a place at Westgate for September should **contact the admissions team as soon as possible** and ask to be put on the waiting list as 'topping up' from waiting lists begins later this month. Please note that school is unable to offer a place directly to any family, as Reception admissions are managed centrally by the local authority.

DESIGN A BADGE FOR TRAVEL TRACKER

Children are invited to enter a competition to design one of next year's Travel Tracker badges: they can ask their class teacher for an entry sheet. Entries must be returned to the school office **by 21/05/2021**. Thank you!