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## BUSY TIMES AHEAD!

Thank you for supporting our Harvest Assembly last week. The weather was kind to us and the children sang beautifully. Mr Wardman has taken the generous food contributions to Caring For Life this week- we know the food will make a difference to people who are supported by the charity. The new term has been very busy but we have all taken the time to make our new children and staff very welcome. Year 6 had a very lucky week, weather wise, completing their Level 2 cycle training.

Unfortunately two members of staff will be leaving us at half-term. Sarah Cook, based in Year 4 has been successful applying for a promotion as a Higher Level Teaching Assistant at Bardsey Primary School. Sarah has worked at Westgate for over 10 years and we wish her every success in her new position. Mrs Mullens will also be leaving at half-term to complete major surgery but will be back in the new year. Diane Cook, who already works with Year 2 on Thursdays, will be temporarily taking her position as class teacher and we have every confidence that the Year 2 children will find the transition smooth and seamless! We wish Mrs Mullens all the best, I know she would much prefer to remain teaching Year 2!

As usual, there are lots of diary dates at this time of year which indicate how busy we all are Westgate. Clubs start next week, the first Learning Logs have gone out and we are starting preparations for our Black History Month Assembly later next month (see dates on previous newsletter). The Key Stage One toy library opens next week, Tuesday & Fridays in the Shared



Area and is £1 membership for the whole year. Our first Parent's Evenings are booked in for the end of October, Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> 5pm to 7:30pm and Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> 3:30pm to 6pm. This also coincides with our Scholastic Book Fair which runs after school during this week. We will announce our competition, which runs alongside this event, during an assembly this week. There is a £5 book voucher for each year group winner.

Daniel Hackney  
Deputy Head Teacher

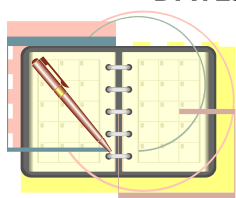
## PARENT INFORMATION MEETING ABOUT SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS and DISABILITY (SEND)



A new SEND Code of Practice has come into force this term, following the Children and Families Act being passed by parliament. It means some changes to what parents can expect from schools if their child has a special education need or disability. While parents at Westgate should not notice wholesale changes for their child, as the way we work already is very much in keeping with the new Code of Practice, we would like to invite parents to attend an information meeting, led by our SENCo, Mrs Mitchell, who will run through key changes and what you can expect from us and other

professionals. The meeting is open to anybody but will be particularly useful to those parents whose children receive additional support in school. The meeting will be on **Wednesday 15/10/14 at 18:00 in the Mezzanine**. Refreshments will be available and parents and carers will have the opportunity to ask questions as well as hear about the new legislation and what it means for them. Please let the School Office know if you intend to come along so that we can plan seating etc. Thank you!

### DATES FOR THE DIARY



*Please note the following on your calendar:*

15/10/14 SEN

Information meeting at 18:00

For information:

#### Next academic year

07/09/15 School opens for pupils

23/10/15 Half term

02/11/15 Back to school

18/12/15 Break up for Christmas

04/01/16 Back to school

12/02/16 Half term

22/02/16 Back to school

25/03/16 Bank Holiday – Good Friday

28/03/16 Bank Holiday - Easter Monday

29/03/16 School opens

01/04/16 Break up for Easter

18/04/16 Back to school

02/05/16 Bank Holiday

03/05/16 School opens

27/05/16 Half term

06/06/16 Back to School

22/07/16 Break up for Summer

*Please note that we have 2 further training days to set within these dates.*

Holidays in term time are not usually authorised and unauthorised absences can be referred for a fixed penalty notice.

### PARENT/ CARER SURVEY RESULTS

At the end of this newsletter, please find a summary of the annual survey which was conducted last term. Thank you to everyone who responded; it is a valuable exercise for us as a school. The winner of the prize draw is ticket 487: if you hold that ticket, please pop into the School Office with the ticket to claim your prize!

### WESTGATE WINDFALL

August's winners were:

1<sup>st</sup>: A Farnaby

2<sup>nd</sup>: R. Gilray

3<sup>rd</sup>: T. Minns

September's winners were:

1<sup>st</sup>: C. Ogilvie

2<sup>nd</sup>: L. Martin

3<sup>rd</sup>: K. Burnett

We currently have 48 members. If you would like to join the monthly draw, please see Mrs Finlay 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.

### TEACHING ASSISTANT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Our TAs have been working towards a level 2 or 3 qualification in 'Children and Young People's Workforce' and alongside this



they have also been working on their functional skills in Maths, English and ICT. An NVQ assessor has regularly observed them undertaking their duties and carrying out research tasks to make sure that they have the knowledge required to complete the course. Everyone has shown an excellent level of commitment and dedication to the course and has worked extremely hard. We are very lucky to have such great TAs who are so skilled and take on CPD with so much commitment and enthusiasm.

Mrs Hattersley has been the link teacher for the courses and it has been really lovely to hear all the great things the assessor has had to say about our staff. Congratulations to Jayne Chilton and Linda Rich who completed their Children's and Young People's Workforce NVQ level 3 last term, and to Katherine Divers, Heidi Ingle and Fiona Simpson who will complete theirs later this month, along with Lynne Piercy who will complete a level 2 qualification.

### FRIENDS OF WESTGATE

Autumn is a busy time for us! Events are coming thick and fast. First of all, many thanks to Hannah Morley and Charlotte Evans, for volunteering for the vacancies of publicity officer and treasurer respectively, without which FOW could not function. On the horizon are the following events:  
**Family Orienteering** on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October. You will have received a letter about this event, where for a donation of £5 per family you and your children can complete one of 2 courses, suitable for all children and have some real fun on the Chevin. Come along, get out there and get muddy! Thanks to Sarah Fuller for organising. If you've been clearing out wardrobes recently, hang on to the clothes you are disposing of and donate to our **Ragbag** collection which is on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October. This is your opportunity to have a

good clear out and recycle outgrown or unwanted clean clothes, shoes and linen while raising funds for school at the same time. Bags will be sent home from school nearer the time so start sorting! Thanks to Jo Newell for organising. Parents and carers- don't forget we will be selling tickets before half term for the **Westbourne Spice Curry Evening** on 4<sup>th</sup> November- £12 a head for all you can eat (and no bad pub singer this year!). Cathy Macdonald is also running our annual **Scholastic Book Fair** in the last week of this half term- more information to follow but remember to ask your child about this year's competition! Finally, the **Uniform Sale** was a big success last month. We still have a good stock, so if you are looking for the odd item, please feel free to put a request in via the school office before you hit the shops. We stock a range of sizes and styles of boys' and girls' trousers, skirts, pinafores, summer dresses, along with PE kit, school logo jumpers, cardigans, hoodies and coats. Thank you Gail Brogden for organising. Otley AC have again organised a school's cross country league and you will have been sent a letter about this yesterday, please contact your child's class teacher if you have not received a letter or email.

#### FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE



Music fees & hire are now due for the Autumn term. Cheques should be made payable to Westgate Primary School. If you have not yet paid milk money please forward to the office ASAP. Thank you.

#### BOOK CORNER



This half-term- in conjunction with Ilkley Literature festival- the Year 2 children will be meeting up with children's author and illustrator Catherine Rayner both at Ilkley and here at school where she will be running a workshop

for the class. We are all very excited about this visit. Which Catherine Rayner books have you read? Abigail is one of her most popular books.

Abigail loves to count. It is her very favourite thing. But when she tries counting Zebra's stripes and Cheetah's spots, they just won't sit still. It's hopeless! What will Abigail do?

## Westgate Primary School Questionnaire for parents and carers: Summer term 2014

Number of responses: 115 (43.4% of school population)

Where percentages do not total 100 exactly this is due either to rounding (where the total exceeds 100%) or due to non-responses to individual questions (where the total is less than 100%)

	(please tick)	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1	My child feels safe at Westgate.	90.5%	9.6%		
2	My child is making good progress at Westgate.	71.2%	27.8%	0.9%	
3	Westgate meets my child's particular needs <i>(for example through: support when needed; challenge when needed; group and individual intervention when needed; seeking additional advice from professionals when necessary; providing care and guidance).</i>	69.5%	27.0%	1.7%	
4	Westgate ensures my child is well looked after.	83.5%	15.7%		
5	My child is taught well at Westgate.	80.9%	18.3%	0.9%	
6	Westgate helps my child to develop skills in communication, reading, writing and mathematics.	78.3%	20.9%	0.9%	
7	There is a good standard of behaviour at Westgate.	80%	19.1%	0.9%	
8	My child's lessons are not disrupted by bad behaviour.	66.1%	33.9%		
9	Westgate deals with any cases of bullying effectively. (Bullying includes persistent name-calling, cyber, racist and homophobic bullying).	63.5%	30.4%	1.7%	
10	This school helps me to support my child's learning <i>(for example through: Curriculum newsletters; Maths Information Evening; Literacy Information Evening; Learning Logs; Reading books and homework).</i>	69.5%	29.6%		
11	Westgate responds well to my concerns.	68.7%	27.8%	1.7%	0.9%
12	Westgate keeps me well informed <i>(for example through: discussions at parents evening; communication via, letter, email, text and the school website; sharing individual Education Plans (IEPs) if my child has SEN; Walk the Walls; Open Door policy).</i>	67.8%	32.2%		
13	My child is encouraged to be an active, responsible citizen in the local community and beyond <i>(for example through: School Council; Investors in Pupils; Fundraising events for good causes; The school's work on equality and diversity related to the Stephen Lawrence award; Visits and visitors to and from the local community; Being encouraged to take personal responsibility).</i>	72.2%	24.3%	0.9%	
14	I have opportunity to contribute to the school's development through consultation <i>(for example through surveys; meetings; invitations to join working parties; giving feedback to staff which is acknowledged).</i>	62.6%	34.8%	2.6%	
15	I would recommend Westgate to another parent.	Yes	99.1%	No	0.9%