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### INFORMATION FOR PARENTS



On Friday, Mrs Colannino hosted a Parents Forum meeting to involve parents in the review of our SEN policy. This was a very useful meeting but one of the issues raised was that many parents are not aware of the wealth of information available on our school website, freely available to all. This includes key policies; information about SEN- what we provide, how children are identified, the professionals we work with; information about how we spend the PE & Sport grant and Pupil Premium funding; as well as newsletters, information about Governors and latest news... not to mention information about the curriculum, the school day, school food and much, much more! If you find yourself with a question about an aspect of school life, it's worth clicking around the school website first- if it's not on there, contact me via the school office and we can look at adding the information you require/ improving the navigation to key content. Of course, as a parent or carer of a child at school, you also have a login which then enables you to view your child's class page which tells you more about their current learning, and often includes photos of recent events in your child's class too. Once logged in, you will also be able to see the calendar of events which is personal to your child, and all messages and letters home which we have sent to you. We try hard to make sure the information is up-to-date but inevitably we will miss something, so if it's out of date- let me know. I hope you find this reminder useful when seeking information about school.

Helen Carpenter  
Head Teacher

### MINDMATE FRIENDLY SCHOOL



We are very proud to have received the first Mindmate Friendly accreditation of any school in Leeds. You can read the report at the end of this newsletter, which reflects our commitment as a school to supporting the Social, Emotional and Mental Health of all our pupils.

### PACKED LUNCHES

We are now almost 7 months in to the implementation of our school packed lunch policy. While there have been a few teething issues, I would like to thank families for their implementation of the policy. There has been a significant and observable improvement in the packed lunches across school and children have been positive about the changes. At our recent Governors day in school, children commented to governors that they were happy with their lunches and had tried more foods as a result. Children can have as many green foods as they like each day; we ask parents to use their judgement with amber foods and limit their frequency over a week; red foods are not allowed. We have seen an increase in food classed as 'green' (fruit, vegetables, dairy, protein, carbohydrate) and a reduction in amber foods. Red foods are now rarely seen (high in fat and sugar, low in other nutrients). Just to remind parents: plain or fruited cakes and biscuits are classed as amber (not red as mentioned to me a few times recently), as are cereal bars, provided they don't contain chocolate or have sugar icing. Please raise any issues with school directly to be resolved.

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

Please find below some reminders for your diary or calendar:



18/04/17 Back to School  
 18/04/17 National Offer Day for Reception 2017  
 26/04/17 Class Photographs  
 27/04/17 Orchestral Day at Harrogate Ladies College  
 01/05/17 Bank Holiday- School Closed  
 04/05/17 Friends of Westgate meeting 19:30  
 08/05/17 start of Y6 test week  
 08/05/17 Learning Log 5 goes out today  
 16/05/16 Leeds Book Awards (Y6)  
 20/05/17 Otley Show  
 24/05/17 Maypole dancing Nursery am/ Flexi1 11:15  
 25/05/17 Whole School Maypole dancing 14:00  
 26/05/17 Break up for half term  
 05/06/17 Back to School  
 08-09/06/17 Y5 Whitby Residential  
 12-14/06/17 Y6 Robinwood Residential  
 15/06/17 Otley Road Safety Quiz  
 17/06/17 Otley Carnival  
 21/06/17 Y6 PHGS Mini-Olympics 13:00  
 23/06/16 Y4&6 to Ilkley Tennis Club  
 27/06/17 Nursery Induction meetings  
 03/07/17 Meet the Teacher Y2/4/6  
 04/07/17 Meet the Teacher Y1/3/5  
 05-07/07/17 Y7 Induction days at PHGS  
 06/07/17 Whole school induction mornings  
 12/07/17 Nursery Sports Day 12:30  
 13/07/17 FS/ KS1 Sports Day 10:00  
 13/07/17 KS2 Sports Day 13:45  
 20/07/17 Leavers Play and Party  
 21/07/17 Talent Show  
 24/07/17 Y6 Leavers Assembly  
 25/07/17 Break up for Summer: no WOOSH after school  
 26/07/17 Training Day  
**Looking Ahead to Next Academic Year:**  
 04-05/09/17 Training Days  
 06/09/17 School opens to children  
 20/10/17 Break for half term  
 30/10/17 Back to school  
 15/12/17 Break up for Christmas  
 02/01/18 Training Day  
 03/01/18 Back to school  
 08/02/18 Break up for half term  
 09/02/18 Training Day  
 19/02/18 Back to school  
 29/03/18 Break up for Easter  
 16/04/18 Back to school  
 03/05/18 Polling day- school closed to Nursery ONLY  
 07/15/18 Bank holiday- school closed  
 24-25/05/18 Y5 Whitby residential

25/05/18 Break up for half term  
 04/06/18 Back to school  
 24/07/18 Break up for summer  
 25/07/18 Training Day

## DECORATE AN EASTER EGG COMPETITION



Our annual competition is upon us! Children across school are invited to enter our 'Decorate an Easter Egg' competition.

The only rule is that it must contain real egg(s)- blown or hard boiled please! Entries must come to school on Thursday 30/03/17 for 09:00 (or by 15:25 on Wednesday 29/03/17 for children in afternoon / flexi 1 Nursery). Children can be as creative as they wish and the work should be their own. We are looking forward to some egg-cellent entries!

## SENIOR ADMINISTRATOR



I am delighted to tell you that on 24/04/17 Mrs Amy Bleasdale will join us as our new senior administrator. Amy performed very well over a rigorous selection process and will quickly become a key part of our staff team, I am sure. She has previous experience of working in school offices, and joins us from Ilkley Grammar School. Thank you to all our families for your understanding this month while we have been short staffed in the office.

## FRIENDS OF WESTGATE



Saturday sees the annual fundraising and family fun highlight, the **Easter Fair**. All your favourite stalls will be in place, and this year we have a new stall to appeal to the cycling fans- Roller Racing! The children know how fun this is because of the sponsored event last November. If you fancy having a go- pop along to Blue Room (Reception) with 50p and pedal your way to glory!  
**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March** sees the **Stew & Oyster social evening**- you can order tickets from the school office for just £7.50 a head.  
 The money FOW raises will be helping school to buy new mobile cookers for

children to use in D&T next term, and make a contribution towards a small school bank of iPads, and we also have plans for the Foundation Stage outdoor area... every penny you spend helps us to help school to provide the very best for your child in times of reducing school budgets. Thank you for your support!

#### FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

Thank you to everyone who has returned the data collection sheets being sent out. If you have received a data collection sheet but haven't yet returned it, please ensure it comes back to the school office as soon as possible. Thank you.



#### WESTGATE WINDFALL

March's winners are:

**1<sup>st</sup>: Amy Gregory (£114)**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Elaine O'Halloran (£28.50)**

**3<sup>rd</sup>: Gill Mullens (£14.25)**

We currently have 57 members. If you would like to join the monthly draw, please see someone 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.



#### CHEVIN LEARNING PARTNERSHIP



Last Thursday, almost 40 children from Westgate took part in a concert at Yeadon Town Hall alongside almost 200 children from All Saints, Ashfield, Bramhope, Pool, PHGS and The Whartons. Children in Choir and Orchestra performed in front of a packed audience and the whole evening was a fantastic reminder of the talent of the children and the collaboration in our Family of Schools. Mrs Durrant and Ms Carpenter were very proud of all of our performers.

#### SPORTS REPORT



Last half term we asked children in Years 5 and 6 to apply for the position of Sports Leader. Sports Leaders will be Westgate school ambassadors for sport and physical activity, will help organise and lead events and will assist Mrs Hooper and Miss Ingle in the choice and upkeep of resources. We received lots of entries and after a lot of deliberation the following children were chosen: Dylan Bibby, Nell Postlethwaite, Isobel Wilks, Lola Manson, Carys Bownes, Jack Wilks, Henry Silverwood and Oliver Lister. Congratulations to them and a big thank you to everyone who applied.