



Volume 16, Edition 9, 22nd April 2020
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A NEW TERM



On Thursday last week, parents of children who will be 4 before 1st September received their offers for school places for Reception. There has been a higher demand than anticipated across our area, meaning that schools are full and two 'bulge' cohorts (with additional classes) have been created at The Whartons and Bramhope. We are currently working on our plans for induction, given that there is a strong possibility we may not be back at school for most or all of this term. In the meantime, families who have been offered a place at Westgate should access the [online form here](#) to get in touch with us while the school office is closed, and then we will contact you by telephone to talk about this in more detail. We are looking forward to welcoming our new children and those who have been part of our Nursery: I will be working with the Nursery and Reception team to ensure that we do all we can to support you in preparing your child for school over the next few weeks in these strange times. If you have not secured a place at Westgate, you can ask to go on the waiting list: sometimes there is movement between offer day and September. In this newsletter, I have tried to include lots of hyperlinks to take you to useful activities, information and resources. Happy clicking!

Helen Carpenter
Head Teacher

VIRTUAL COMMUNICATION- STAYING SAFE ONLINE

At the end of this newsletter is further information about Zoom, which I know is proving a very popular way for children and families to stay in touch with each other. You may have read about cases of **zoombombing**, which is a real risk to children, so please ensure you read this information carefully. In addition, the following summary advice has been received from Leeds Safeguarding team:



From 5th April 2020, Zoom are forcing users to password protect their meeting room. This is an important first step. Other things to do to protect your Zoom space are:

- Use a new meeting room each time (ie. don't use the personal meeting ID);
- Don't allow attendees to join before host;
- Mute attendees on joining;
- Turn screen sharing off;
- Set up a 'waiting room';
- Lock your meeting room after you have started;
- Don't publicise your meeting's link on social media;
- Don't share the screenshot of everyone, especially when it shows the meeting ID;
- Try to have someone whose job it is to 'manage the room' and focus just on doing that;
- Tell people what the Plan B is (ie. if you do have to abort the meeting where will the meeting move to and how can people rejoin).

Additionally,

- Avoid sharing personal information;
- Turn off your video and microphone, unless it's needed.

HARDSHIP AND FOOD POVERTY



From Monday 20th April, families eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) have chosen either to continue with a daily packed

lunch, or opt for either a weekly food hamper, or weekly food vouchers for use in a range of supermarkets.

If you think that, due to changes in your circumstances, your child(ren) may now be eligible for FSM, please contact us via info@westgateprimary.co.uk so that we can run an eligibility check. You can check the qualifying criteria [here](#).

We also know that there will be families who are not eligible for FSM who may still be struggling. Please don't hesitate to contact school and ask to speak to Ms Carpenter in confidence, as we can refer to Otley Food Bank and there may be other ways we can help too. There is also this information from Leeds City Council:

ARE YOU FINDING IT HARD TO ACCESS FOOD?

In light of COVID-19 we are putting additional support in place to ensure everyone is able to access the food they need.



Am I eligible for help?

If you are finding it difficult to access food due to financial constraints, self-isolation or accessibility of food provision, then you are eligible for help.

When making the referral you will be asked questions about your personal situation which will enable us to determine what type of support you require.

How can I access help?

If you think you may be eligible to help from these scheme then you can contact a local keyworker or service who will make a referral for you.

This might be somewhere or someone you already have contact with such as a school, college, social worker, housing officer or it could be a provision in your local area such as a Community Hub.

Ideally a referral should be made through one of these support services, however if you are finding it hard to access these please make a self-referral by calling us on **0113 376 0330**. This is a free number.

What happens next?

Once a referral has been made, we will pass your information on to local volunteer coordinators, and you will be provided with a food parcel or a supermarket voucher.

This will be either delivered to a provision hub near your home for you to collect, such as a community hub, school, foodbank or a charity, or delivered to your home directly.

We want everyone to feel supported and will work with you to see what route is best for you.

For more information and guidance please contact the Local Welfare Support Team on 0113 376 0330.



At the very end of this newsletter, there is more information about support in Otley, too.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



While some families are enjoying having this extra time together, we also know that the lockdown may be

putting significant additional strain on family relationships. If you are experiencing domestic abuse of any kind, or if you are concerned about somebody else, there is help out there. [Leeds Domestic Violence and Abuse](#) webpage has lots of information that you can access without leaving an online trail, including emergency housing support. There is a 24 hour helpline 0113 246 0401 as well as daily online chat from 13:00-15:00 through [Leeds Women's Aid](#). Finally, if you are concerned about your abusive behaviour towards your partner, [Respect Phonenumber](#) (0808 8024040) can offer support to change.

LOCKDOWN AND CHILDCARE



While this lovely weather lasts, it's easy to remember what a beautiful place we live in, here in Otley, and appreciate all the different routes we have to exercise.

Thank you to everyone who is keeping strictly to the rules, eliminating all non-essential journeys, exercising for up to an hour a day, maintaining social distancing at all times and not visiting other households or otherwise meeting up with friends/ relations. It is really hard for us all, but the impact this will have in stopping the spread of COVID-19 and protecting the NHS- and all our critical keyworker families- is real. The childcare hub for Westgate, St Joseph's and All Saints has now been running for just over a fortnight. We are all proud to be able to help critical workers carry out their important work and have put in place stringent measures to make it as safe as possible. By enforcing the lockdown restrictions, every family is also helping us to keep our keyworker families, and each other, safe.

Thank you.

THE ARTS



Just because we are locked down, it doesn't mean you can't still enjoy some culture. Maybe you're fed up of the 'same old, same old' on TV? Or perhaps

you've never been to a theatre before and fancy seeing a production for the first time? Either way, a number of organisations are offering activities and shows online. Here is a small selection: Sadlers Wells Theatre are running [Family Dance Workshops](#) for 2-6 year olds, via their Youtube channel- about 20 minutes long, lots of fun and really easy to join in with! They are also showing full-length ballets, available for seven days at a time, as [Facebook Premieres](#).

The National Theatre is streaming acclaimed previous performances through the [National Theatre At Home](#) (via YouTube), with a different play available each week.

Each weekend, a full performance of a different Andrew Lloyd-Webber musical will also be available for 48 hours, through [The Shows Must Go On](#).

Finally, Welcome to Yorkshire has put together a whole host of [activities and resources](#) for families to make the most of the place in which we live.

WESTGATE WINDFALL

March's winners were:

1st: G Fisher (£144)

2nd: G Walker & M Heath (£36)

3rd: S Taylor (£18)

We currently have 72 members. If you would like to join the monthly draw, please email 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. Last term it paid for the whole school to see Mimika, subsidised the Y3/4 Roman Experience Day, and part-funded new resource stations for the Early Years outdoor area.



SPANISH



¡Hola amigos! We've been working hard to get some online learning organised so that you can keep practising your

Español. Everybody who has a Purple Mash login (Reception to Y6) can now use the same login details to access their own personal Rockalingua account. Go to <https://rockalingua.com/user?destination=node/10> and enter your details. There you will find a range of specially selected activities and resources that are right for your age. For children in Reception and Y1, you will also find some Spanish activities to try on your child's class page of the VLE (as there is less on Rockalingua for our youngest learners). Thank you to Ms Fuller in the office and Isabel Ruiz our Spanish teacher, for their hard work in setting this up.

MUSIC



Mrs Durrant is continuing to add to her YouTube channel! [You can find it here](#) or search for *Mrs Durrant rhymes with currant* to see her in action- and join in at home!

The Woolpack Studios in Otley are offering a range of community musical events online, on a 'pay as you can' basis. More information is available [here](#). Of particular interest may be the ukulele/ guitar sessions aimed at newer players- don't forget to keep in mind all the online safety guidance offered in this newsletter:

LIVE STREAMED UKULELE OR GUITAR SESSIONS AIMED AT NEWER PLAYERS

led by JEN PUGH and RICHARD SABEY
[Otley Ukulele Orchestra, Roundhay Ukulele Group]

FUN AND ACCESSIBLE SONGS TO PLAY ALONG WITH
STRAIGHT TO YOUR LIVING ROOM!

Saturdays 4pm-5pm
starting 11th April

ALL YOU NEED IS
Your ukulele or guitar
A computer / laptop / phone / tablet

**WOOLPACK
STUDIOS**
MUSIC AND ART FOR THE COMMUNITY

connection and sheet music links at
www.woolpackstudios.co.uk/streaming
PAY WHAT YOU CAN

CLASS HOME LEARNING

As term starts, class teachers will this week be uploading new learning activities for their pupils. The place to access these first and foremost is your child's class page on the VLE: each teacher will have spoken to the children about this. Resources and activities are available for every class from Nursery upwards and teachers will follow up as needed with children, checking in with children whom they haven't heard back from to see if everything is OK. We all know that families will be juggling many competing demands on their time, particularly in houses where there are several children, possibly parents still going out to work or working from home, with limited online access or shared devices. All we can all do is try our best. If you can try to ensure that every day as a minimum your child practises a little bit of writing, does some reading and practises some calculations/ maths facts, this will help to keep basics going. Encourage your child to use this time to find more out about the things that interest them, be creative and imaginative- and get out and about and be active! Use the activities their teacher sets where you can, be realistic about what you can achieve as a family and do not make unreasonable comparisons with other children/ families.



USING THE VLE



You may still be getting your head around using our eSchools online learning platform, where all class teachers are uploading their class

weekly and daily suggested learning tasks. To help, eSchools have a Youtube channel which provides short walk through videos for all types of user. Here are three helpful clips to get you started:

[Child's view](#)

[View class page as a parent](#)

[View homework as a parent](#)

To log on to the VLE, go to www.westgateprimary.co.uk and then the link to login is in the top righthand corner of the homepage.

SCHOOL RESOURCES



You will know that when school closed, we sent home learning packs with the children. Some of the contents are

consumables, and the items sent varied from class to class. However, please note that we expect Maths No Problem textbooks & workbooks to come back to school, along with school reading/ library books, and child scissors. Items such as these that are not returned, or returned in an unusable condition **will be chargeable**, as they will have to be replaced. If you can send crayons/ pencils back when we return that would also be great, but we understand that these might have been used up/ worn out by then! Thank you for looking after school's resources.



You may find yourself buying things online more than usual at the moment. If so, consider signing up to Easy Fundraising. By [clicking here and signing up](#), you will enter Friends of Westgate into a draw to earn £500! Then, when you are shopping online, by going through the Easyfundraising app on your smartphone or tablet, or by downloading the extension to your web browser on your computer, FOW will earn money every time you shop, and it won't cost you a penny. It works for most online retailers, and even takeaway delivery services such as Just Eat!

 **STAY AT HOME**

PROTECT THE NHS

 **save lives**



Founded in 2011, Zoom is one of the world's leading video conferencing software providers. It has a number of features, including video and audio conferencing, real-time messaging, screen-sharing and the ability to upload, share and search for content. Users can start their own meetings or they can join meetings set up by others. The app is available to use across PCs, laptops, tablets and mobile phones and is free to download on both the app store and on Android.



What parents need to know about zoom



ZOOM BOMBING

'Zoom bombing' is the term which has been coined to describe unauthorised people joining zoom meetings uninvited and broadcasting pornographic or inappropriate videos. An attacker can hijack a meeting if they know the meeting ID and it isn't reinforced with a password. Not taking preventative measures or implementing privacy controls could open up the risk of children witnessing sexual or inappropriate content with very little notice.



RISK OF PHISHING

The rise in popularity of Zoom has led to a rise in hacking operations and phishing campaigns. This is when participants are encouraged to click on links to join what they believe to be legitimate Zoom meetings via email, but which are in fact fraudulent. These scams aim to obtain sensitive information such as user login details, passwords and/or credit card information.



PRIVACY CONCERNS

Depending on how the app has been set-up, Zoom can offer very little privacy. In many cases, the meeting hosts can see detailed information about each participant including their full name, phone numbers and maybe even location data. Furthermore, depending on where the camera has been set up or where your child's computer is positioned, private or personal information could be stolen depending on what can be seen in the background.



LIVE RECORDINGS

One of the features of Zoom is the ability to record live meetings. By default, only the host of the meeting can usually record live sessions however other meeting members can also record if the host gives them access. Recordings can be stored on devices or on the cloud and can be downloaded and shared with no restrictions. This means that videos, audio clips and transcripts of recordings involving your children could be widely shared on the internet or between users without your authorisation or consent.



PRIVATE ZOOM MEETINGS

Zoom has a facility to set up breakout rooms, which enables a private meeting within the main Zoom session. The host can choose to split the participants of the original meeting into separate sessions. This gives children the ability to speak privately away from the main group to other users however chats aren't always monitored by the host and if the meeting has been made public, children could be more vulnerable to experiencing negative comments.



'LIVE STREAMING' RISKS

At its very core, Zoom facilitates live streaming. That means it inevitably carries some of the associated risks that live streaming brings. These are likely to be minimal within a controlled environment (for instance when used in a classroom setting for remote learning). However, live streaming means that content isn't always moderated and children who use the app unsupervised or with limited security settings, may be more at risk of exposure to viewing inappropriate material. Other risks can include downloading malicious links, sharing personal information or even potential grooming.



Safety Tips For Parents

REPORT INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Remind your child that if they do see something that makes them feel uncomfortable or upset then they need to talk about it and report it. Parents can report unwanted activity, harassment, and cyberattacks to Zoom directly. To help your child, you could try setting up a checklist before they go online, with an agreed set of rules and what they should do if they see something inappropriate.



USER PRIVATE MEETING IDS & PASSWORDS

It is always better to set up a meeting with a random ID number generated by Zoom than by using a personal number. This means it is harder to guess and less likely to be hacked. It's important to never share meeting IDs with anybody you don't know and always set-up a password function to allow other people to sign-in. This should already be a default setting that is applied on Zoom.



PROTECT YOUR PERSONAL DATA

It's important to discuss with your child that they should not share personal information on Zoom. This includes passwords, their address, phone number, etc. Create your child's account under a false name or pseudonym and always set a custom background to help hide details in your home. Zoom allows you to turn on virtual backgrounds and select your own image to appear behind you.



BEWARE OF PHISHING EMAILS

Every time you or your child gets a Zoom link, it's good practice to ensure it has come from the official platform and is not fraudulent. Signs of a phishing email include an unrecognisable email address, an unofficial domain name or a slightly distorted logo. The email itself might also be poorly written or contain suspicious attachments.



TURN OFF UNNECESSARY FEATURES

If your child is using Zoom, there are a number of features that you can turn off to make the experience safer for them. For instance, disabling the ability to transfer files or engaging in private chats can help to limit the risk of receiving any malicious attachments or receiving any inappropriate messages. In addition, you can turn off the camera if it is not needed or mute the microphone when not in use.



USE THE 'VIRTUAL WAITING ROOM' FEATURE

The waiting room feature on Zoom means that anybody who wants to join a meeting or live session cannot automatically join and must 'wait' for the host to screen them before entering. This is now a default function and adds another layer of security to reduce the likelihood of zoom bombing.



KEEP YOUR VERSION UPDATED

It's important to ensure you are using the latest version of Zoom available and always update it if you get a prompt. These updates are usually to fix security holes and without the update you will be more vulnerable to an attack. Check the official website to see what the latest version is and compare it to your own.



HOST IMPLEMENTED PRIVACY CONTROLS

If your child is part of a larger group meeting, then it's important to make sure that the host is abiding by Zoom's Terms of Service. This includes the fact that they have gained everybody's permission for the session to be recorded. The host should also have set screen sharing to 'host only' and disabled 'file transfer' to help keep the live stream secure.



Meet our expert

Emma Davis is a cyber security expert and former ICT teacher. She delivers cyber awareness training to organisations nationally and has extensive knowledge and experience of managing how children access services and apps online.



#WakeUpWednesday

National Online Safety®



SOURCES: <https://zoom.us/privacy> | <https://zoom.us/> | <https://zoom.us/docs/doc/School%20Administrators%20Guide%20to%20Rolling%20Out%20Zoom.pdf> | <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2020/apr/02/zoom-technology-security-coronavirus-video-conferencing>

Otley Response to COVID-19

**STAY SAFE
GET HELP
MAKE CONTACT**

If you are over 60 and need support, phone

OTLEY ACTION FOR OLDER PEOPLE

01943 463965

10am – 4pm Monday to Friday

If you are under 60 and need support or you want
to volunteer to help, phone

OTLEY COURTHOUSE

01943 467466

10am – 4pm Monday to Friday

For the most up to date information please visit:
HM Government: www.gov.uk

Currently we all face a unique set of challenges caused by the worldwide outbreak and spread of the coronavirus. Our main priority remains the safety and wellbeing of all residents, businesses and the general public.

A group of local organisations including Otley Action for Older People, Otley Courthouse, Otley Churches Together, Otley Food Bank and Otley Town Council have come together to offer support to those who need it at this time.

We recognise that we are in this together. We want everyone to stay safe and to look after one another.

