



Volume 16, Edition 11, 17th June 2019

www.westgateprimary.co.uk

admin@westgateprimary.co.uk

LOCAL DEMOCRACY



A week ago today, Andrew Ross (a parent governor) and I met with Cllr Sandy Lay and Cllr Colin Campbell, to discuss further our ongoing concern and dissatisfaction at school's status as a polling station. During the visit, we were able to do a walk round of our site and talk in detail about the implications of polling days for our school- families, children and staff. We appreciated the opportunity to speak with our elected members, and to be listened to. The Councillors appreciated and understood our concerns. In addition, Cllr Campbell sits on the working group within Leeds City Council that oversees and reviews matters relating to polling in Leeds- including the designation of polling places. I will of course share with you any updates that I receive on the matter in the coming months, via this newsletter. In the meantime, if you have not yet voiced your concerns with elected members but would like to do so, please refer back to my earlier letter, which gives our ward's city councillors contact details. Alternatively, this information is also publicly available via Leeds City Council website.

Helen Carpenter
Head Teacher

HEALTH AND WELLBEING FORTNIGHT



Starting today, we have an exciting programme of activities and events for children right across school, including, for different classes: scooter & pedestrian training; bushtucker trials; basketball; balance bike training; Ilkley tennis tournament; tennis at Grove Hill; basic first aid; mindfulness; karate; wake up shake up; rounders; dance workshops; yoga; vegetable sculpture competition... and of course the highlights are Sports Day and our trip to PHGS to play on the big play equipment! Huge thanks to Mrs Hooper for organising this and to everyone who is volunteering to run or support an activity. We are still looking for volunteers to help walk up to PHGS on Monday afternoon so please do help if you can as it promises to be another brilliant afternoon.

SCHOOL DOG



A fortnight ago, we had a visit from Zoey, a school dog, and her owner Mrs Richardson. Zoey is a highly trained and very experienced school dog. She has previously worked at Kirkstall Valley Primary School, where Mrs Richardson was the head teacher, and is currently working 2 days a week at Temple Newsam Primary School. She works alongside children who may need emotional or academic support. From September, Zoey will be working with us one day a week! This will be fully risk assessed and she will be based with Mrs Eley and myself. We are very much looking forward to her joining our team and I think she will be very supportive to all of our children. (Safe) Contact with animals is proven to help us to alleviate stress and anxiety, and help with emotional regulation. No child (or adult!) will be made to spend time with Zoey however. Please come and talk to me if you have any further questions about Zoey's work with us next year.



FRIENDS OF WESTGATE

Huge thanks and congratulations to Laura Boddy, Clea Beanland and their band of volunteers who worked so hard to

make our **Carnival** entry, Tropical Westgate, such a success. Their efforts- and those of everyone who turned up on the day - were justly rewarded with 1st prize in our class (Schools' Walking Tableaux)! We were fortunate that the rain held off until the parade was long finished and much fun was had by all. This half term's **Rag Bag** made **£54.40**, making a total of £206.40 raised in this way this year! Thanks to everyone who has donated.

On **Friday 5th July**, we are running a **Family Beetle Drive**. Similar to our recent Bingo Night, there will be a bar and the opportunity to order pizzas for the break, and a ranges of prizes to be won! We hope to see lots of families there.

SCHOOL EQUIPMENT NEXT YEAR *PLEASE READ*

As we approach the end of the school year, you will inevitably start to look ahead to school supplies for September. We'd like to draw your attention to the following:

- Children **should not bring pencil cases** to school next year. School supplies pens, pencils, crayons etc. and pencil cases take up unnecessary space and provide distractions in the classroom- so please ensure your child leaves these at home.
- We have ongoing issues in KS2 cloakrooms with overloaded pegs. When choosing bags for your child for September, please ensure that **PE kit is in a traditional, drawstring-style bag**. Any other style – e.g. rucksacks, shoppers, oversized handbags - simply do not fit onto the pegs. Unsuitable bags will be sent home and replaced with a carrier bag in school until replaced. Similarly, when choosing a school bag, please ensure that this is **not oversized** and will fit comfortably on your child's peg. Typically, pegs are spaced 20cm apart, so anything much wider than this will not fit!

Finally, please make sure that everything-

PE kit, bags, uniform - is clearly labelled with your child's name! We have a real issue with unnamed, unclaimed lost property at the moment. Thank you ☺

WESTGATE WINDFALL

May's winners were:

1st: Mrs & Mrs Davies (£136)

2nd: Sarah Mumford (£34)

3rd: David Clough (£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.



ECO TEAM NEWS

Thank you to everyone who has already helped with our recycling initiatives. We are currently **recycling batteries and printer/ink cartridges**. Please carry on sending in your recycling items as we can raise money and/ or win prizes for recycling through the schemes that we are participating in- and more importantly, reduce the amount of recyclables going to landfill. If you fill up your battery box, simply empty it at school and then start filling it up again at home.

We recently reviewed our action plan and we are really pleased with the progress we have made - particularly with reducing our electricity usage and improving litter bin provision in the playground.

Thank you!
From Eco Team



SPORTS NEWS

Last week, Westgate entered 4 teams into the annual **Pool 5-a-side Football Tournament**.

Unfortunately there was no repeat of last year's sunny weather, with the players facing cold and wet conditions, as well as the opposing teams!

Westgate were represented by mixed teams from Year 3 and 4, as well as the Year 5 and 6 girls, and the Year 6 boys.

All the players were a credit to the school, showing fantastic teamwork and sportsmanship. It was great to see how all the children developed as the tournament progressed, supporting each other and working as a team, and a fantastic time was had by all.

*Mr Pollhammer
PE Assistant*



HELP US raise
FREE funds with
your everyday

shopping online through
#easyfundraising. **We've just passed the £300 mark, with 40 supporters and every penny helps!** Imagine if more Westgate families joined and made it an everyday part of how they shop online!

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 make an online purchase with them and doesn't cost you a penny. THIS IS FREE MONEY for us, so make sure we don't miss out when you 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>

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.



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
05/07/19 FOW Beetle & Pizza Night 18:00

09/07/19 Reception Class Assembly 09:05
18/07/19 Orchestra/Gym/Choir Performance 09:15
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
09/10/19 Reception Curriculum Evening
15/10/19 Individual School Photographs
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 **This will be moved to Polling Day (07/05/2020) 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
30/04/2020 Class Photos
08/05/20 Bank Holiday- school closed
22/05/20 Break up for half term
01/06/20 Back to School
04-05/06/20 Y5 Residential
10-11-12/06/2020 Y6 Residential
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 ☺



FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

We plan to move all payments to SIMS Pay in September, meaning we will no longer accept cash or cheques in the school office as payment in all but a few circumstances (such as charitable collections). In light of this, please ensure that you sign up for this facility if you haven't already, so that you are ready for this change and can try the system out before the end of term. This change is being made in order to increase convenience for parents, to increase efficiency and to improve financial security measures.