



Volume 14, Edition 9, 26th April 2017

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WELCOME BACK!

It has been a busy start to the term ('When is it not?' you may ask). Reception places were offered at the start of last week and we are pleased that this year everyone has been offered a place in an Otley school, even though I know a small number of families didn't get their top preferences. Over the coming term, our Foundation Stage staff will be working with colleagues across Otley and beyond to ensure smooth transitions for all of our children as they get ready to move into full-time school placements.

We are delighted too that last week we welcomed Harry into Y1. I know the staff and children have been busy making him welcome and I very much hope that Harry and his family will very soon feel a proper part of our school community. Of course, we also have some children joining nursery for the first time this term and we welcome these children too, at the very beginning of their school journey. On Monday this week it was also a pleasure to welcome Mrs Amy Bleasdale to the school office, as our new senior administrator. I am sure many of you will meet or speak to her over the coming weeks as you contact the office or pop in. Later this half term we have statutory tests for Y6. The children have worked hard and been well-prepared and I am sure they will take the week in their stride. Then later on this term we have arrangements to support children with transition to their new class and/or school. All children will take part in a transition morning with their new teacher in their new classroom. Y6 this year have 3 full days at PHGS. And for children who need additional support around transition, a range of extra measures will be put in to help everyone to feel confident about the move upwards in September.

Finally, there is lots of fun stuff to look forward to as well: Residential for Y5 and Y6; school trips; Maypole dancing; and of course Otley Carnival! Y5 are collaborating with the Woolpack Arts Centre on a Music Project this half term and we have Sports Day to look forward to in July. Here's to another great term!

Helen Carpenter
Head Teacher

SCHOOL MEALS

We have had information from Leeds catering Agency about charges **from September**. Children in Reception & Key Stage 1 continue to be eligible for a free school meal. Charges for KS2 will be £2.40 a day or £12 a week for Key Stage 2.

In the last two terms, we have made further improvements to school meals, further reducing frozen and pre-prepared vegetable and other ingredients and using fresh produce wherever possible. We have also improved the puddings on offer and introduced Fun Fruit Friday. We are confident that our school meals are nutritious, balanced and above all, tasty! Of course, children are also welcome to bring a packed lunch if you wish, and copies of our packed lunch policy are available on request.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Please find below some reminders for your diary or calendar:



27/04/17 Orchestral Day at Harrogate Ladies College
 01/05/17 Bank Holiday- School Closed
 02/05/17 Y3 Tennis Festival
 03/05/17 Choir sing at Leeds Mindmate launch
 02/05/17 Y4 SRE parents meeting
 04/05/17 Friends of Westgate meeting 19:30
 08/05/17 start of Y6 test week
 08/05/17 Mindmate presentation assembly
 08/05/17 Learning Log 5 goes out today
 15/05/17 Walk to School Week
 16/05/16 Leeds Book Awards (Y6)
 19/05/17 Y5 Kwik Cricket at Pool CC
 20/05/17 Otley Show
 23/05/17 Rec trip to Abbey House Museum
 23/05/17 Anyone Can... Day
 24/05/17 Maypole dancing Nursery am/ Flexi 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
 08/06/17 Y1 Class Assembly
 08/06/17 Polling Day- SCHOOL CLOSED TO NURSERY ONLY
 08-09/06/17 Y5 Whitby Residential
 12-14/06/17 Y6 Robinwood Residential
 13/06/17
 13/06/17 Y3 Class Assembly
 15/06/17 Otley Road Safety Quiz
 17/06/17 Otley Carnival
 21/06/17 Y6 PHGS Mini-Olympics 13:00
 23/06/17 Y4&6 to Ilkley Tennis Club
 26/06/17 Y4 trip to Herd Farm
 27/06/17 Rec Class Assembly
 27/06/17 Nursery Induction meetings
 29/06/17 Y6 Robinwood Class Assembly
 30/06/17 Y3 trip to Herd Farm
 03/07/17 Y5 High School Experience Day
 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
 11/07/17 Y5 Whitby Class Assembly
 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
 07/05/18 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

NURSERY FROM SEPTEMBER

We are currently in the process of finalising the details of what we will offer for parents of Nursery children in September. This is to enable us to move to offering up to 30 hours of free, flexible Nursery provision for eligible families, opening up WOOSH to Nursery children, and offering parents who wish to access hours over their free entitlement the option to purchase additional hours. We hope to be able to confirm our offer within the next week or two. If you have not yet informed school of your preferred attendance pattern, please contact the school office asap. Thank you ☺



SCHOOL MILK

From September, we will no longer be managing school milk through the school office. Instead, parents who

wish their child to receive school milk beyond their child's 5th birthday will need to sign up to Cool Milk, who will manage payments and ensure the correct amount of milk is provided to school each day. Cool Milk will deal with any queries you may have: look out for further information about how to sign up later this term.

FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

Payments for this term are now being received as follows: School milk £7; music tuition £35; instrument hire £15 or £25 for cello; flexi lunches (£20 flexi1 or £24 flexi2). School dinner money forecasts will be sent out this week.



MEDICINES IN SCHOOL

Just a reminder to all families that any kind of medicine, whether it is to be taken orally or as a topical cream, must be sent into school via the school office and a medication form completed, and never sent into school in a child's bag. This ensures that all medication is supervised by an adult, administered appropriately and is not accessible to children for whom it is not intended. Thank you for your understanding.



FRIENDS OF WESTGATE

The big event for this term is of course, **Otley Carnival**. Esther's winning theme of **Westgate's African Wilderness** is currently being brought to life by Zoe Hollis and her team. Coming home with this newsletter today is a letter for you to return if your child would like to take part, as well a list of items that would be gratefully received and the opportunity for you to volunteer to help. Every year, Westgate has the most amazing turn-out of any school and we hope that this year will be no exception!



SPORTS REPORT

On Tuesday 28th March Westgate was represented by Johnny, Hollie, Lucy, Henry and Tyler from Y5, and Louis from Y6, at the Wharfedale Schools Table Tennis festival, which was held at Aireborough Leisure Centre. The children took part in small group coaching activities, as well as competitive skills activities. Henry and Tyler came 2nd overall in the skills activities, a fantastic achievement that means a trophy now takes pride of place on their mantle pieces at home. Well done both! All the children enjoyed the event, and were an absolute credit to the school.

WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK 2017



Week beginning 15th May it is Walk To School Week. Children will be encouraged to walk to school every day that week and will be rewarded accordingly: Each class will keep a record of the number of children who walk to and from school each day. There will be stickers given out during our walk to school week and there will be rewards and certificates for the winning class. If you usually drive to school, you could consider swapping the car for the week, or parking further away and walking part of the journey- to encourage physical activity and reduce our collective carbon footprint. Thank you for your support.

ANYONE CAN...

In 2009 Otley Family of Schools signed an Anti-Racism Charter which involved Westgate working on the theme of racism in school, performing some music and dance at the courthouse and signing the Anti-Racism Charter. The family of schools would like to revisit this, but the focus this time is going to be broader issues of equality and diversity. On the 23rd May, Westgate are having a focus day on gender stereotyping. Our school theme will be 'Anyone can...' day. Classes will produce art work, poetry, collages, reports etc based on this theme. One class will then be chosen to go to the Courthouse on Friday 30th June to perform with groups from each school in our Family.