



# WESTWOOD NEWS

## Autumn Term (2) 2021



Dear Families,

What a busy half term we have had—we have packed so many exciting things in to the last 7 weeks! We have had Parents Evening, Odd Socks Day for Anti-Bullying Awareness, Remembrance Day, Children In Need and of course our Christmas celebrations, including our beautifully decorated Community Christmas tree!



A huge THANK YOU to our PTFA for organising and supporting so many events this half term. We raised £223 for the Rainbow Hamper raffle tickets and almost £50 on drinks at the Christmas concerts—all of this money goes back into events for the children throughout the school year such as the online panto and a range of school trips. Our Community Leaders also raised a super £172.50 for Children in Need and £71.20 for Alzheimer's Society on National Elf Day. Thank you families for your kind and generous donations.

As in previous years, the Food In School Holidays (FISH) team, are providing FREE hot meals to families across Lowestoft again this holidays. This is a hot, 2 course meal, for the whole family. All you need to do is private message on their Facebook page to get booked in: <https://www.facebook.com/lowestoftfish>

We are very pleased to announce that both Mr Stent & Mrs Bayfield's new babies have arrived! Mr Stent and his wife welcomed their first child, a gorgeous little boy, in November and Mrs Bayfield and her husband welcomed the newest addition to their family, a beautiful baby girl, at the beginning of December. We wish Mr & Mrs Stent and Mr & Mrs Bayfield and big sister, Alice, all the very best!

We were very sad, however, to say farewell to Mrs Ruth Freeman who has made the decision to retire after 28 years of working at Westwood and supporting many, many children within our community. Mrs Freeman, we thank you for everything you have done for children, families & staff over the years - you will be so missed but we hope you enjoy every moment of your retirement.

Once again, thank you for your continued support of our school, it really is our pleasure teaching your children and working with our local community.  
We are so Proud to be Westwood!

Enjoy the Christmas break and we look forward to welcoming the children back on Tuesday 4th January.  
Mrs Aldous & Mrs Barnes



## Nursery & Reception

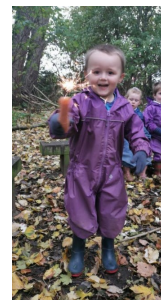
### Nursery and Pre-School

In Nursery, we have been learning about 'Into the Woods'.

We have read the stories, We're going on a Bear hunt, Owl Babies and Bear Snores On.. We enjoyed celebrating Bonfire Night and Diwali. We won the reading tube challenge and had a class party to celebrate.

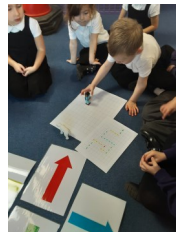


We have enjoyed going to the woods and outdoor learning. We had sparklers, made our own stickmen and created water ramps.



### Reception

Reception have been working hard learning about directions to go on a bear hunt and working on our fine motor skills, which helps with our writing. We celebrated Diwali and learnt how to do traditional Diwali dances.



We also had a trip to Hundred River Farm where we found out where Christmas dinner comes from and made our own Christmas wreaths to take home.



Our Christmas performance was a great success! We all enjoyed singing to you! We wish you a very safe and Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!





## Years 1 & 2



Key Stage 1 have had a fantastic half term, learning all about Seasons. We enjoyed using shapes and lines to make Christmas cards and we have worked extremely hard on our phonics and reading this half term too.

We have been exploring the adventures of the Badger in Tidy by Emily Gravett and writing our own instructions for Mr and Mrs Claus.

We have been practicing our Christmas concerts and loved being able to sing and dance together, we hope you enjoyed watching it. We have also enjoyed a delicious Christmas lunch and, of course, Christmas jumper day.



We hope you have a wonderful Christmas break and look forward to seeing you all in the new year.

## Years 3 & 4

This half term, Lower Key Stage 2 have studied Ancient Egyptians. Our trip to Norwich Castle really was a highlight and the children behaved to an exceptional standard. The children learnt about mummification and created their own Egyptian style necklaces.



Our Year 3s have worked hard in their whole class ukulele sessions. They performed some Christmas carols which sounded fantastic. Keep working hard – we can't wait to hear what you play next term.



On Christmas Jumper day, we enjoyed the Santa Dash to celebrate the day. We have also been working hard on practicing our Christmas performance.

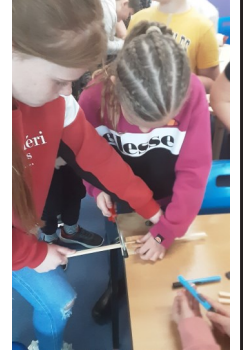
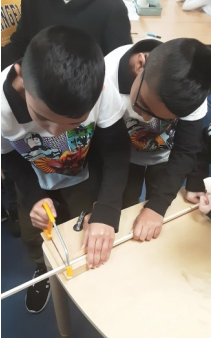


The whole of the Year 3 and 4 team wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.



## Years 5 and 6

It has been a very busy half term for the pupils in Years Five and Six. They have experienced storytellers, an online Science production, a school visit to West Stow and, not to mention, all the wonderful festive celebrations that have taken place in school too. The pupils have been enjoying lots of wonderful learning across all curriculum areas which can be seen on our school Facebook page. Here are a few of our highlights.



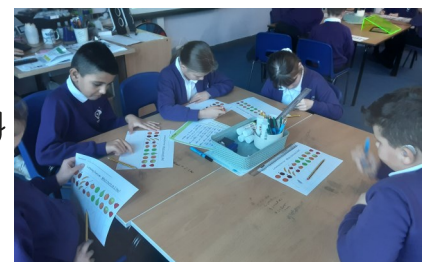
### Our Design and Technology project

This half term, the children have been planning and designing their own controllable toy car. They have gone through the design process and have had the chance to use saws both safely and responsibly. They evaluated their final product against the design specification and will try them out to see which design is the most successful.



### Visit to West Stow

The children have been learning about the Anglo-Saxons during their History lessons this half term. To further their understanding of this time period, the children visited West Stow Anglo-Saxon Village. Here, they were able to explore the site of an early Anglo-Saxon village, occupied from AD 420-650, over 400 years before the Norman Conquest. It is a reconstructed village that the pupils explored with a number of buildings, including a farmer's house, a weaving house and the main hall building. The children were very engaged and thoroughly enjoyed their visit.



Wishing you all a Merry Christmas!



Have a great break with your families.



Look forward to seeing you all in 2022.

## Sporting Success

During this half term, we have not been able to participate in as many tournaments as normal—the weather & Covid restrictions have been against us! Despite this, the teams put their all into the games they could play and we look forward to many more sporting opportunities in 2022.

### ALT Tournaments



Well done to our Year 4 football teams for taking part in the Ipswich Town FC ALT Cup held at Red Oak. Our Advanced team came 5th in their competition and our Beginners Team came 4th in their competition. They all played with resilience, showing some excellent footballing skills and had such a fantastic attitude towards the game.



### Sports Clubs

This half term was very busy with a large number of before school, lunchtime and after school sports clubs on offer. All clubs had a full register with at least 5 children on the waiting list! It was great to see so many children joining in and keeping active.

### Sports Leaders

Our Sports Leaders have been doing a great job keeping everyone active at lunchtimes. They plan, resource and run these sessions, making sure there is something for everyone year group—it has been fantastic to see so many children participating this half term.



### Upcoming Fixtures

We have 3 confirmed tournaments for next half term and are hoping to add more to the fixtures list as they become available. We will, of course, keep families updated and endeavour to include as many children as possible in these events.

Friday 28th January	15:45-17:30	UKS2 Quicksticks	Red Oak
Wednesday 2nd February	15:00-17:30	Year 6 boys 3v3 basketball	EPA
Friday 11th February	15:45-17:30	LKS2 girls football	Red Oak

#BETHEBESTTHATYOU CAN BE



### Diary Dates

There will be more events taking place and we will let you know as soon as possible!

Friday 17th December	Last Day of the half term
Monday 20th December – Monday 3rd January	Christmas Holidays
Tuesday 4th January	Children return to school
Thursday 13th January	Happy Smiles workshops
Wednesday 19th January	James Campbell author visit
Thursday 17th February	Last Day of the half term
Friday 18th February	SCHOOL CLOSED – Additional Bank Holiday
Monday 21st February – Friday 25th February	Half Term Holiday
Monday 28th February	Children return to school

### READING

Our class reading tubes have been filling up well throughout the term and some year groups have already received rewards. Different phases need to fill their tubes a different number of times before receiving a treat to reflect their age: EYFS = 1 tube, KS1 = 2 tubes, KS2 = 3 tubes.

So far, Nursery have enjoyed a class party & Reception celebrated with a trip to the farm.

### HOUSE POINTS

The totals for this half term are:

**Diamond** = 1200

**Sapphire** = 1093

**Ruby** = 1082

**Emerald** = 999

Congratulations **Diamond**, your house captains are busy organising your treat!

### ATTENDANCE

Each week, our office team calculates the attendance for each class and the winner is announced in our Celebration assembly.

During this half term, Year 4 have earned their second breakfast.

Reception, Year 3 & Year 6 have also won awards this half term.

## EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We have had a fantastic range of lunchtime and after school clubs available for the children to enjoy this half term.:

Sewing, art, media & fashion, rock choir, board games, Spanish, art & DT, debating, chickens, singing & signing, ukulele, Lego, computing and history detectives.



## WEBSITE

Please keep an eye on the school website as we update this regularly.

The address is: [www.westwoodprimary.org](http://www.westwoodprimary.org)

You can also follow us on:



Twitter: @Westwood School



Facebook: Westwood Primary School



Instagram: westwoodprimary

## ALLERGY INFORMATION

As you will already be aware, we are a nut-free school - we have children who have allergies to a variety of different nuts as well as peanuts - and ask that parents check the ingredients of items in packed lunches, avoiding anything that states it contains nuts.

## CONTACT DETAILS

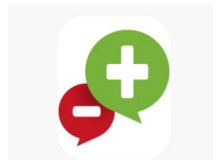
Please ensure we have your up to date contact details. This includes current address and telephone numbers.

We MUST have two contact telephone numbers in case of an emergency.



## PARENTMAIL

Please ensure you sign up to ParentMail, this is how you will receive ALL means of communication.



Please speak to the school office, if you have any problems - paper copies may be available upon request.



# SEND NEWS



## Meet the team!

Let me introduce myself... I am Mrs Kate Grey. I have worked across Norfolk and Suffolk schools for the past 18 years. I have lots of experience teaching many subjects and key stages – leading a variety of subjects. I trained as a science specialist and also support the science team across Westwood and Grove. Having three children of my own and a variety of animals, any free time I have is spent relaxing with family and friends. Please reach me on [kgrey@westwoodprimary.org](mailto:kgrey@westwoodprimary.org).

I am Caroline Bardsley. I have worked at Grove for 3 years now. In this time, I have worked across all key stages. I lead the learning in the Pod and thoroughly enjoy that no day is the same. I am currently working towards my SENDCo qualification. Please reach me on [c.bardsley@groveprimaryschool.org](mailto:c.bardsley@groveprimaryschool.org)



## JARGON BUSTER (What does it all mean?)

The areas of identified need.

SEMH- Social and emotional and mental health- The SEMH needs of individual pupils may present in a variety of ways, including: being withdrawn or isolated, as well as displaying challenging or disruptive behaviour; being anxious or low; difficulties with attachments, difficulties with attention.

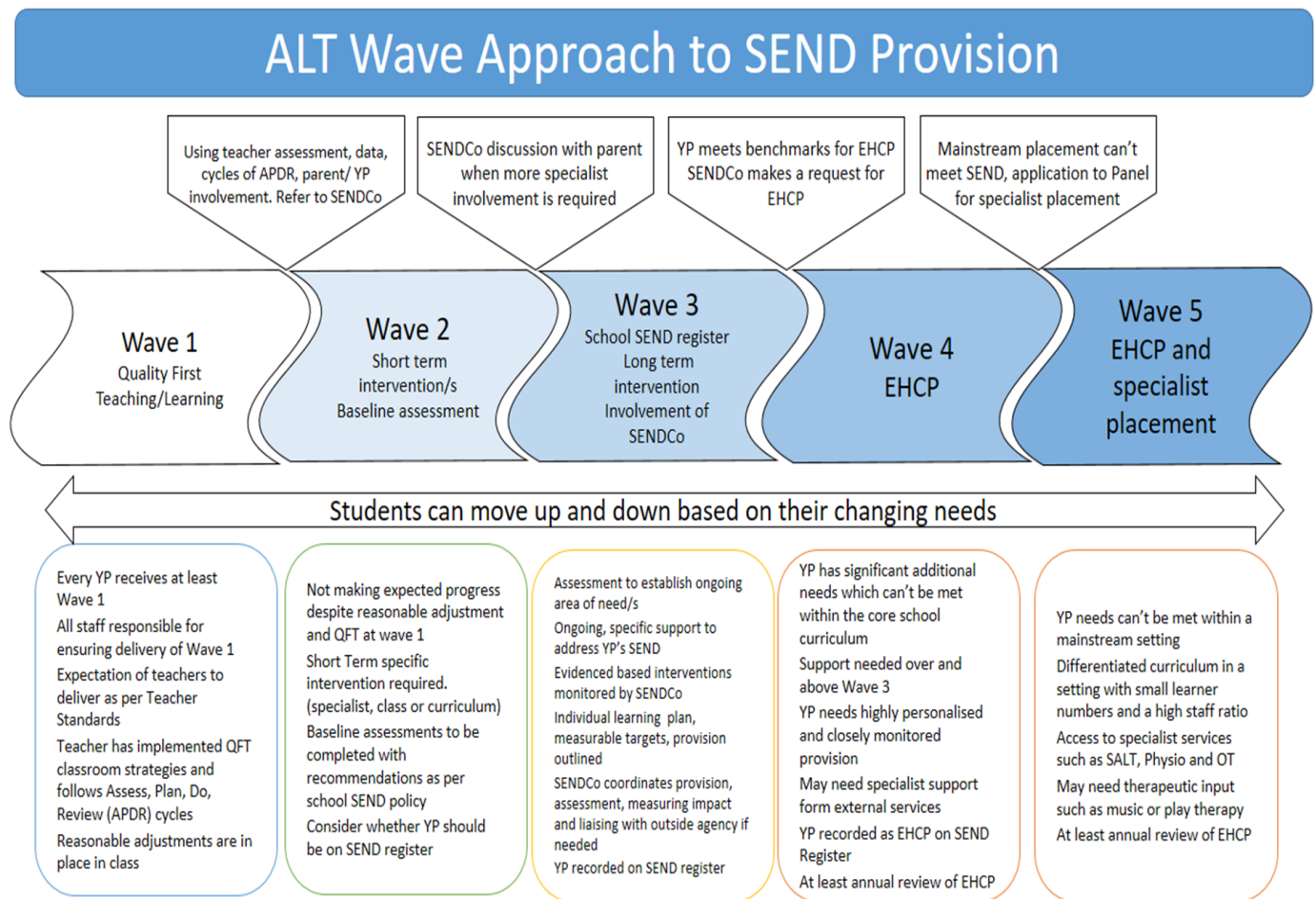
C AND I- Communication and Interaction- Difficulties with social communication and making or maintaining friendships, understanding and regulating emotions, difficulties around inflexible, thinking, difficulties communicating effectively with others.

C AND L- Cognition and Learning- Difficulties with reading, writing, and recording work, difficulties with spelling and phonics, difficulties with maths and counting, lower than age expected ability in specific curriculum areas or Topic work, moderate to significant learning difficulties, diagnosed medical conditions which may affect abilities to learn, difficulty with

**ASD AND ASPERGERS-** If you have concerns around these areas you will need to make an appointment with your GP. Teaching staff can provide a teacher contribution form to take with you.

## What if my child has been identified as having SEND needs?

Our school's trust has a graduated response to SEND and follows a series of 'waves'. The diagram below summarises these.



## What do I do if I am worried about my child?

Please speak to your child's class teacher if you have concerns about your child.

Please book an appointment with a member of the SEND team by emailing directly or through the school office.

As a parent or carer of a child with identified SEND needs, you will have received a copy of their APDR cycle (Assess, Plan, Do and Review). This is a document that outlines the support your child will receive additionally in class with clear targets set.

Pupils may remain on this cycle until the identified need is no more. However, if after two cycles it is felt that more intervention is needed, your child may move to Wave 3/4 of the graduated response.

Wave 4 - At this point specialist support will be sought and referrals will be made by the SEND team with your permission.

Moving to Wave 4 may involve the writing of an individualised educational health care plan (EHCP). These plans set clear outcomes that your child will work towards.

## Need independent support as a parent?

Contact SENDIASS for free advice and support.  
<https://suffolksendiass.co.uk/education/sen-support/>

Watch the following ypu tube video:  
<https://youtu.be/9Zk129Rwpxs>

## Problems with Speech and language?

Just One Norfolk 0300 300 0123  
<https://www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/>





# Safeguarding and Mental Health News



## Who to contact if you have a concern about a child:

If you are worried about a child's safety please contact our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) immediately.

Miss Chloe Mansi  
Safeguarding Lead &  
Pastoral Support Advisor

Email: [cmansi@westwoodprimary.org](mailto:cmansi@westwoodprimary.org)



## Place2Be = Parenting Smart Website

The children's mental health charity, Place2Be, has launched a new website aimed at helping parents with typical situations they can find themselves in with their children. Advice can be found on over forty topics including:

*"Supporting healthy gaming habits"*

*"My child is anxious"*

*"The importance of boundaries and consequences"*

*"My child has trouble going to sleep"*

The Parenting Smart website can be found here:

<https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/>



## Urgent Mental Health Support Helpline

We appreciate that Christmas isn't always a pleasant experience for everyone and would urge anyone struggling to seek support during this festive period.

### **Local NHS urgent mental health helpline for Lowestoft:**

Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust  
[0808 196 3494](tel:08081963494)

Help is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

If you call, you'll speak to a professional in your local NHS mental health service.

They can discuss your current mental health needs and provide access to further support if needed.

Calls to NHS urgent mental health helplines are free.

## NSPCC 'Speak Out. Stay Safe' Assembly

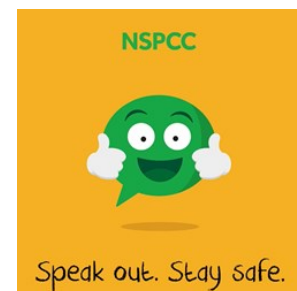
As part of ensuring that safeguarding themes are integrated as part of our curriculum, this term we delivered the NSPCC's 'Speak Out, Stay Safe' assemblies and activities to all children from Y1 to Y6.

The assemblies covered a range of themes with the aim of helping children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse in a child friendly, interactive way.

Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a trusted adult or Childline.

All children participated with enthusiasm in the assemblies, contributing great thoughts and ideas to our group discussions.

For more information on how you can support your children on this topic at home, please click [here](#).



## Online Safety

Due to the rise in children accessing online games and social media platforms, it's important to consider how we can keep them safe whilst online.

This website will help you to understand how to customize the privacy and safety settings on devices/apps and whilst detailing how to block unwanted activity and report this:

<https://oursafetycentre.co.uk/safetysettings/>

This website offers age appropriate games/apps that children can use over the festive period.:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/13-great-apps-to-keep-your-kids-amused-in-the-school-holidays/>



## People who can help

In addition to your child's class teacher, who should always be your first point of contact, the following people are readily available to help you with any issue, if needed.



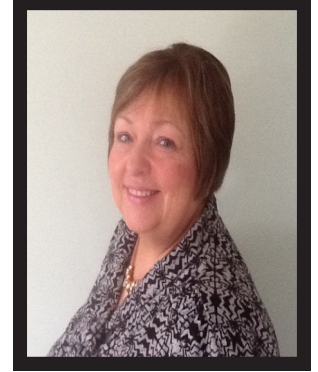
*Mrs Rae Aldous*  
Executive  
Headteacher



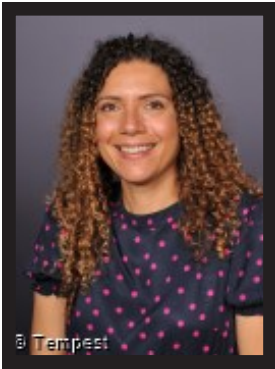
*Mrs Lauraine Barnes*  
Westwood  
Head of School



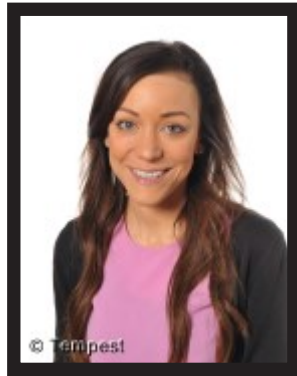
*Ms Louise Creed*  
Grove  
Head of School



*Mrs Jackie Cutchey*  
Chair of Governors



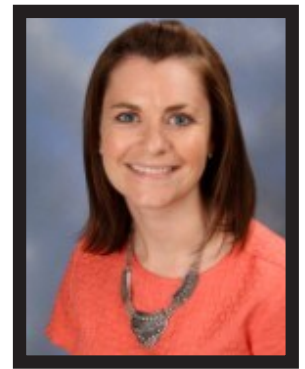
*Mrs Danielle Gillings*  
Assistant Headteacher  
EYFS Lead



*Miss Beth Jones*  
Assistant Headteacher  
KSI Lead



*Mrs Rachel Kounnas*  
Assistant Headteacher  
LKS2 Lead



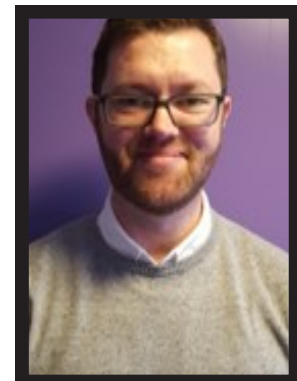
*Mrs Kelly Hough*  
Assistant Headteacher  
UKS2 Lead



*Mrs Kate Grey*  
SENDCo



*Miss Chloe Mansi*  
Parent and Pupil  
Support Advisor



*Mr Stephen Clarke*  
Safeguarding  
Governor