

# WESTWOOD NEWS

## Spring Term (1) 2019

A message from  
Mrs Aldous, Mrs Barnes & Mr Wilkes

Dear Families,



This half term has seen a number of changes take place in and around our school, including our curriculum, rewards systems and even the building itself!

Our teaching teams have been busy developing our new Curriculum and this half term's topics - Polar Regions, Australia and China - have been extremely successful. Keep an eye on our school website, Facebook and Instagram pages for overviews of each topic, as well as examples of the children's learning and our engaging environments.

We have introduced some new rewards this half term and changed the format of our Celebration assemblies. It has been wonderful to see so many families join us for our Friday assemblies where children are awarded with Wonderful Worker, Star of the Week and Outstanding Homework certificates. The highlight of each assembly is finding out which house team has won the most points and could go on to earn a treat at the end of each half term.

Our new roof is almost finished and the scaffolding should be down by the time we come back from the half term holidays! We will then be able to make sure the outside of our school is up to our usual high standards. Thank you for your understanding and patience while this important work has been carried out.

Sadly, we must say 'Goodbye' to our site manager, Mr Moore. He is going to be joining Mrs Moore in their family business developing Woodland School in more schools both locally and in Norwich. We would like to take this opportunity to say a big 'Thank You' to him for all his hard work keeping us all safe and improving our school. We would like to give a warm Westwood welcome to Mr Osborn who will be our new site manager.

We look forward to sharing your child's learning with you at our Parents' Evenings on Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th March. Appointments are booked via ParentMail - if you have any problems, pop and see Miss Brinded in our main office and she will be happy to help.

Enjoy the half term break and we will see all children on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February.

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### Nursery

Nursery have been using our new cameras this term, they have been helping each other explore how to use them. The Nursery have had a visit from 'Supertato and the Evil Pea', to go alongside our Talk For Writing theme this term. We have learnt to retell this story by learning some actions. The Pre-School has helped the Gruffalo this term, as he lost his friends from the story. The children went on a hunt around the school and managed to reunite them all, they then used the characters to retell some key phrases from the book. A huge thank you to all families that attended our Family Café this month, the child really love to share their learning with you!

### Reception

The Reception class have had a fantastic half term filled with lots of exciting learning. In Maths the children have explored both adding and subtracting through a number of various maths challenges and inputs.

Our Talk 4 Writing space hook this half term, produced some super writing from the children and ignited an interest in the wider world for some.

The children have continued their creative flare in the deconstructed area with brilliant weekly creations from a volcano, vets surgery to a greengrocers to name just a few. We have also introduced Group Reading this half term, which has seen the children develop their love for stories and reading further. And also a big thank-you to our parent helpers who support our Reception children with their reading on a weekly basis. The Reception children also enjoyed a superhero training day as their reading tube treat, what fantastic costumes!

Our family café was another success continuing the children's interests of superheroes. The Reception children are growing and learning so much, we look forward to seeing what next term has to offer!

### Year 1

Year 1 have been really excited about their topic: The Polar Regions. The children have used atlases and globes to locate Lowestoft and the Polar Regions, as well as finding out about polar animals, their habitats and how they survive. The children conducted a scientific experiment about Blubber, which was lots of fun. Also, the children have been busy learning poems, which they performed to their friends with confidence. Year 1 have now filled their second reading tube, so will be receiving a special treat! Big well done to all the children that read at home.

Keep up the fantastic work!



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### Year 2

This half term has been very exciting as we have been exploring our new topic of "The Polar Regions" we have looked at where we live and located Lowestoft and local towns and cities on maps of the United Kingdom. Also, we have looked at Europe and the continents of the world. The children have enjoyed using maps and finding out where their peers have been on holiday. This half term, we have been taking part in lots of science experiments; one which let the children experience how blubber keeps animals warm in cold countries. The children tested this by putting their hands in cold icy water: with bare hands and with their hands covered in lard. They found out the lard acted like blubber and kept their hands warm. We are all very excited to become real scientists and take part in more exciting experiments.

### Year 3

We have been working hard this half term in Year 3. In Literacy, the children have produced some excellent explanation texts about how to look after our class parrot, Petal. In Maths, we have learnt formal methods for subtraction and multiplication.

We have started our Australia topic and the children have learnt lots about the UK and Australia. Our map skills are improving and the children are enjoying comparing the two countries. The highlight of half term was our trip to Sizewell, as part of our electricity topic in science. The children learnt about how electricity is made and we practised fair tests with jelly and chopsticks. Thank you to the PTFA who funded the trip.

### Year 4

Year 4 have had a fantastic half term learning all about Australia. We have taken part in bush tucker trials, interpreted a range of maps such as climatic, political and physical maps. We have discussed and compared the similarities and differences between Australia and the United Kingdom. We have really enjoyed exploring Australia and we will soon be looking at the Great Barrier Reef's ecosystem. In Science, we have performed an investigation to discover the impact of sugar, plaque and acid on our teeth. Through our investigation we were able to find out that sugar and plaque make acid. We tested how this acid attacks the enamel on our teeth by performing an experiment. We will now be learning how to look after our teeth and investigating how toothpaste protects our teeth.

### Year 5 & 6

This half-term Years 5 and 6 have started their exciting new topic - China. We have been developing our map skills, looking at compass points and grid references and are now looking at specific cities within China, ready to compare them to life in Lowestoft. In Literacy, we have been focusing on the darkly brilliant fairy tale, Hansel and Gretel. We have taken inspiration from the text to create our own spooky settings and begun to look at characterisation to improve our own writing.

### Pupil and Parent Support Advisor.

Mrs Dawn Williams is our Pupil and Parent Support Advisor and is available to speak to parents, carers and families on a daily basis. She is very experienced and can provide advice on a range of different parent and family matters. If you need any help, advice or just a listening ear, please contact her through the school office.



### CONTACT DETAILS

Please ensure we have your up to date contact details. This includes current address and telephone numbers. We often contact parents by text.



### WOODLAND SCHOOL

Please remember your child will need an old coat and a pair of wellies to wear each week for woodland school. Both items will need to be named to prevent them from getting lost.

### WEBSITE

Please keep an eye on the school website.

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

You can also follow us:

Twitter : @Westwood  
School  
Facebook : Westwood  
Primary School



### Arriving at School

The school doors are unlocked at 8.30am. From this time you may bring or send your child into their classroom. Teachers will be waiting for the children in the classroom from 8.30am where learning activities will be take place.(8.45am for Nursery and Reception children)

Please do not hesitate to come into the classroom to speak to your child's teacher at the beginning or end of the school day.

We have a breakfast club available from 8.00am every morning at a cost of £1.50 per day.

### PE Kit

Please ensure your child has, in school every day, the following PE kit:

- Black shorts
- White T Shirt
- Trainers
- Sweatshirt/  
Jogging Bot-  
toms (optional)

Please ensure all items are named.

Earrings must be removed or covered with tape.



### LOST PROPERTY

Please ensure you have labelled your child's school uniform. It is much easier to find the owners and return items quickly if they are labelled.

At times we have an extensive range of lost property which we cannot keep for more than a term.

### School Uniform

We have a strict School Uniform Policy. Please ensure your child is dressed in the following named school uniform:

#### Boys

- \* Black tailored trousers or shorts (no jogging bottoms etc.)
- \* White polo shirt
- \* Westwood Primary School Sweatshirt with logo
- \* grey,/black/navy socks
- \* Black shoes (No trainers)
- \* School Book Bag

#### Girls

- \* Black tailored dress, skirt or trousers
- \* Purple checked summer dress
- \* White polo shirt
- \* Westwood Primary School Sweatshirt
- \* Westwood Primary School Cardigan
- \* grey/black tights or white socks
- \* Black shoes (No trainers or boots)
- \* School Book Bag



- For further information about school uniform requirements please contact the school office.
- Sweatshirts/Cardigans/Book Bags/PE Bags/Water Bottles are available from the school office.
- School uniform bursaries will be given at the discretion of the Headteacher



### Diary Dates

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

15th February	Last day of term
18th—22nd February	February Half Term
25th February	All children return to school
1st March	Year 5 Football Tournament @ Red Oak Primary
4th & 5th March	Parent Interviews 3.30pm-6.00pm
4th-8th March	Readathon Week, double cubes for reads at home!
5th March	Pancake Day Lunch Menu
7th March	World Book Day: dress up as your favourite book character
7th March	Year 3 Skittleball Tournament @ Pakefield High School
19th March	Class Photographs
22nd March	Year 5 & 6 Girls Football Tournament @ Red Oak Primary
25th March	Year 3 & 4 Able Maths Day @ Carlton Colville Primary
25th March	Years 1, 2, 3 & 4 Gymnastics Tournament at Waveney Gymnastics Club
28th March	Year 3 Kwik Cricket Tournament @ East Point Academy
28th March	Bedtime Stories: 5pm-6pm (Don't forget to bring your own mug from home for a hot chocolate provided by us)
5th April	Last day of term
8th-22nd April	Easter Holidays
23rd April	All children return to school

## People who can help

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



*Mrs Rae Aldous*  
*Executive Headteacher*



*Mrs Lauraine Barnes*  
*Deputy Headteacher*



*Mr Joshua Wilkes*  
*Assistant Headteacher*



*Mrs Dawn Williams*  
*Parent and Pupil*  
*Support Advisor*



*Mrs Jackie Cutchey*  
*Chair of Governors*



*Mr Stephen Clarke*  
*Safeguarding Governor*