

WESTWOOD NEWS

Autumn Term (2) 2018



A message from Mrs Aldous, Mrs Barnes & Mr Wilkes

The Autumn Term has certainly been a very busy one at Westwood with lots of progress being made by children across the school.



A big thank you to all the families who joined us for Parent Interviews in October. It was a fantastic opportunity to inform you of your child's progress and to discuss any concerns you may have had. Please remember, we have an open door policy, so if you need to speak to a member of staff, please come in at the start or the end of the day and we will be happy to meet with you. Many of you completed one of our parents evening questionnaires; we really value your feedback as it allows us to see what we can improve on as a school as we continue to push to be outstanding.

Our Key Stage 2 'Online Safety' family cafes were very well attended with lots of useful advice shared for ways to help our children stay safe. If you were unable to attend and would like more information, please see Miss Bircham (Year 6 teacher) as she is our Online Safety Lead.

The PTFA have been very busy organising the after school discos and the Christmas fayre. Both events were extremely successful and raised lots of money which will all be spent on the children here at Westwood. Our School Council have also held a number of charity fundraisers including going spotty for Children In Need and slipping into slippers for the Dell Care Home Dementia Garden. A big THANK YOU to all who supported these events!

There will be a few changes to staffing in January as we say goodbye to some staff and welcome others to Team Westwood:

Miss Read has already left to start her maternity leave and we are all looking forward to welcoming her baby to the Westwood family in the New Year. To cover her during this time, Mrs Barnes will be the Acting Deputy Head and Mr Wilkes will be the Acting Assistant Head. We are sad to say goodbye to our Key Stage 2 teacher Miss Woodyard but we are very happy for her as she has secured a job closer to her home.

We are pleased to say that Mrs Dorward has been appointed as a Higher Level Teaching Assistant and will be joining the Key Stage 2 team. Miss Carlill and Miss Sherwood have already started working with us as Teaching Assistants in EYFS & Key Stage 1 and Mrs G Lark will be joining them in January.

We hope you all have a relaxing holiday and we look forward to seeing all children on Monday 7th January 2019.

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Nursery

Nursery have had a really busy half term, focusing on shape, one-touch counting, rhyme and listening games. We have also filled our first reading tube and the children have had their treat of a movie morning and a tea party. Thank you to the parents that joined us for our family cafe and our Christmas performance, the children love to show you what they have been learning. Next term, we will be going on a number and shapes walk around the local community, so if you would like to help us, please let a member of staff in Nursery know.

Year 1

Year 1 have had a fantastic term. The children thoroughly enjoyed their visit to Hundred River Farm and were great role models for the school. The children handled and fed different farm animals which included pigs, goats, chickens, guinea pigs and an owl. The children also collected seeds from the field and made pine cone bird feeders to take back to school. As well as lots of fun at the farm, Year 1 have had a surprise in the classroom! An Elf door appeared and Eric the Elf has left treats and a challenge for the children to write a letter to Santa. Have a great break and the Year 1 team look forward to seeing you in January.



Reception

This term the Reception children have been engrossed in their learning. In Maths, we have explored 2D shapes and their properties, using lots of mathematical language to talk about them. For Talk 4 writing, we found a dinosaur egg in our garden - the children created wonderful stories about what could have happened and where it had come from.

Our deconstructed area has continued to be a success with the children using large boxes and loose parts each week to change it into imaginary play, we have had a rocket, fire engine, & a pirate ship. With the introduction of reading books going home and children working so hard on their phonics we have filled our reading tube and the Reception children went on their first school trip to Waveney gymnastic club for a fun session. Towards the end of the term the children got into the festive spirit by decorating a tree and performing their Christmas version of Stick Man, as well as having a party with all our of Dell Care Home friends.

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Year 2

This half term the children have been working really hard and making lots of progress. A highlight was our trip to Hundred River Farm where the children learnt lots about keeping livestock, living on a farm and how to dissect owl pellets. The children showed great Westwood manners and asked lots of fantastic questions. Also, the children have been really enjoying our creative area where they have been learning about a variety of different artists. a favourite this half term has been Paul Klee who has inspired many stories and research based around his pictures and life. The children have also been applying their maths skills by taking part in our super maths challenges which have allowed the children to apply all the skills they have learnt so far. We are so proud of them!

Year 5 & 6

This half-term, due to it being the centenary of World War 1, Year 5 and 6 have focused their literacy topic around war. We created Cinquain poems that require the children to really think about word choices to fit the syllable pattern required. Do come and take a look at the display just outside our classrooms. We then produced a piece of flashback writing based on the memory of a war veteran. We had so much fun using drama to pretend to be the veteran himself and created some poignant and emotive pieces.

Year 3

We have had a fantastic half term in Year 3. The children have successfully transitioned to Key Stage 2 and are enjoying a more structured day. They have produced some amazing instructional writing and continue to embed learning with our challenges. A particular highlight was the code breaking challenge in maths, the children showed great resilience and teamwork to solve the challenge. They are showing us what grown up and independent learners they are!

Year 4

Year 4 have had a brilliant half term and are really looking forward to Christmas. The children continue to enjoy their Maths and English challenges and have produced some fantastic pieces of work. They have been looking at poetry and using metaphors to make their poems more exciting. Check out one of our fantastic poems by Caitlin:

The Storm

The storm is a sneaky wolf,
Ferocious and deadly,
It pounces and runs across the landscape
like a dog chasing mice,
The air rumbles with the sound of its
ferocious howl,
It slashes the air and rips apart trees
with its razor sharp teeth,
With its giant claws it breaks into
buildings,
Completely untameable it will stop for
nobody,
Loud, howling and wild,
Huge, fierce and terrifying.

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Sports News

This half-term has seen more children from Westwood representing our school in different events. On 7th November, Year 3 went to Pakefield High School for a Matball tournament - they played brilliantly and showed great teamwork throughout the event. On 16th November we saw a mixed Year 3 & 4 team take part in a Uni-Hoc tournament at Red Oak Primary. Mr Hepburn had been doing some coaching and the children really enjoyed having a go at a new sport, he felt really proud of them at the event.

Year 4 had a great time at the Uni-Hoc tournament at Pakefield High School as did Years 5 and 6 who represented the school in a basketball tournament at Red Oak Primary .

Look out for a new clubs timetable which will be starting on Monday 7th January 2019, you will be able to sign your child up to attend the morning and after-school clubs. Lots of these morning/after school clubs and lunch time clubs run to support the children in readiness for sporting events and so they can try out different activities. Finally, the Year 6 sports leaders have been doing a great job out on the playground at lunchtimes. They play with a range of different equipment and involve children from different year groups in games and activities.

School Council

The school council have been busy raising money this term, for Children in Need our drawing competition and cake sale raised £290 and 'Slip into sSippers' raised a fantastic £85 for our friends at Dell Care Home for their new dementia garden. The school council hope to follow this through with helping to plant and develop the new garden. Next term the school council will be meeting with the kitchen staff to discuss our school dinners.

Woodland School

In woodland school this term we celebrated Halloween in the woods, we've been practising safe fire lighting, celebrated national tree week and made stick men. The woods are now looking Christmassy, so the animals, elves and fairies of the woods can celebrate Christmas too! It's been a fabulous term full of activities, some structured activities, wild play and lots of exploration of the woodland environment. We have already started planning for next term, upcoming activities include: celebrating national garden bird week, bird box building, art in the woods and parent cafes to follow in the spring. We are hoping to work with the PTFA to sell the made bird boxes to families in Easter so lots to look forward to.

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

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.



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!

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| 19th December | Last day of Term |
| 20th December - 4th January | Christmas Holidays |
| 4th January | Staff Training Day: School closed to all children |
| 7th January | All children return to school |
| 11th January | Year 4: Football Tournament at Red Oak Primary |
| 23th January | Year 6: Indoor Athletics at Waterlane Leisure Centre |
| 30th January | Year 3 & 4: Able Writers Day at Carlton Colville Primary |
| 30th January | Year 6: Basketball Tournament at Pakefield High School |
| 1st February | Year 5: Hockey Tournament at Red Oak Primary |
| 6th February | Boccia Tournament at Waterlane Leisure Centre |
| 8th February | KeyStage 1: Matball Tournament at Red Oak Primary |
| 18th-22nd February | February Half Term |
| 25th February | 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*