

WESTWOOD NEWS

Autumn Term 2018

A message from:
Mrs Aldous, Miss Read & Mrs Barnes



Dear Families,

What a busy first half term we have had with lots of excellent learning taking place throughout the school and at home. It was great to see so many of you working alongside your children at the Lower School family café sessions so thank you to everyone who came along.

This term, we have welcomed Ms Chillman and Miss Foster to our teaching team as well as trainee teachers Miss Goldsmith and Miss Spry. The classrooms and Key Stage areas are looking fantastic and the children are excited about their learning. The display boards in the hall have been updated with examples of the children's work so do come in and take a look around.

We have already had some very interesting visitors come to see us including a python, a tarantula and a meerkat! As well as singers from the Snape Maltings choir and rugby coaching sessions.

The class reading tubes are filling up nicely so it won't be long before classes start earning treats and we have handed out our first certificates for reads at home in our Celebration assemblies.

Our Woodland School sessions have started up again and the children have been busy exploring how things have changed since the Summer term - it is certainly getting muddier each week!

We have had lots of sporting success already this year and we came away with a silver medal from the Lowestoft In Bloom Awards ceremony so there is plenty of silverware in the trophy cabinet along with examples of the brilliant work you have been completing at home with your children.

We look forward to seeing you all at Parents' Evenings during the first week back after half term but if you have anything you want to ask or share before then, please do pop in and speak to one of the team. We really do value your feedback.

As always, thank you for your ongoing support. Have a lovely half term holiday - we will see all children on Monday 29th October.

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Nursery

This term as well as making sure that all children have a smooth transition into the nursery, we have been focusing on key basic skills allowing the children to become independent, learning to put coats and shoes on, using utensils at snack and helping others with pouring drinks and toileting. We will be supporting and encouraging the children with these skills during nursery and we would be grateful if this could continue at home. We have also been and visited the woods for a couple of sessions now and have had our first family cafe of the year - Thank you to the parents that joined us!



Year 1

Year 1 have had a wonderful half term. The children have settled brilliantly and have been busy exploring all our learning areas. We have started our Castles enquiry and were really excited when we dug up artefacts found in our woods! As well as learning about Castles, we have been thinking about adventure stories and have really enjoyed retelling 'Whatever Next'. Well done for a fabulous start to the year.



Reception

The Reception children have settled nicely into the Autumn term. We have focussed lots on establishing routines, making new friends and becoming confident to say how we feel.

The Reception children have been consolidating their number skills this half term, with counting and recognising numerals 1-20 and some children have been enjoying our maths chilli challenge too.

Our Talk 4 Writing saw the children being very imaginative when the children discovered the fruit had been eaten... they enjoyed developing their own adventures, through drama and displaying them on paper.

The outside is an important provision in Reception and the children have enjoyed exploring, developing their climbing on the cargo net, collecting autumn treasure for us to look at and talk about, as well as getting muddy in the mud kitchen and digging for worms.

This term we have also launched our 'Growing Together' programme with Dell Care home. Some children have had the opportunity to visit the care home on a weekly basis, making friends with the residents and enjoying different craft activities, like making musical instruments and sensory playdough.

We are looking forward to another exciting term after the half term break.

Love the Reception Team.

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Year 3 & Year 4

Years 3 and 4 have made a fantastic start to the new school year and have really enjoyed the new style of learning in class. The children have completed some fantastic pieces of work such as cracking codes to open padlocks, solving maths problems to create their own zoo, completing 100 word challenges and designing art in woodland school inspired by Andy Goldsworthy. We have also started our new enquiry on deadly animals where a local zoo came to visit. The children are answering the question: What is more dangerous, a mosquito or a shark? We would love to hear what all the parents think.



Year 5 & Year 6

Year 5 and 6 have had a fantastic first half term kicking off their Enquiry work with a brand new theme of Natural Disasters. We were challenged with identifying which disaster is the most disastrous. We began by looking at videos and photos of tsunamis, hurricanes, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions and tried grading them from least to most disastrous. However, we soon found out this is very tricky - how can you measure this? Perhaps the amount of houses destroyed, cost in repairs or how often they happen?

To help us, we have spent the last few weeks finding out how each one happens, how the strength of them is measured and researching famous natural disasters that took place in the past. We are very close to coming up with an answer to our question.

Important Information

We now send all means of communication through ParentMail, this includes parent evenings, trips, tournaments, general events within school, etc. If you are not registered, it means you are missing out on a lot of important information and not keeping up to date with all the goings on here at Westwood. If you are having difficulties registering, please speak to a member of staff in the office and they will try their best to assist you. If you are unable to access ParentMail at all, again, please speak to a member of staff in the office and ask them to print you off a paper copy of any upcoming correspondence they send out - this is only available upon request, otherwise we assume you are receiving everything we send. The school office must have your email address to be able to send you a link for you to then register, please pop in and check if you are unsure as to whether you have given us your email address or not.

 **Attention**
all parents!

 **ParentMail**
Have you registered?

It's an easy, convenient way to receive school messages.

You can:

- ✓ Receive messages on your computer, tablet or mobile
- ✓ See all your messages in one handy, und cluttered feed
- ✓ Link to other schools or clubs that also use ParentMail
- ✓ Keep up to date with your school calendar
- ✓ Authorise trips or permissions online



Registering is really easy...

Ask your school office to send you a registration message

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Sports News

What a great start Westwood has had to the sporting fixtures this academic year. The year 6 tag rugby team travelled to Lowestoft Rugby Club on Wednesday 3rd October for a Tag Rugby tournament with 19 other schools and came 2nd overall, a fantastic achievement - well done! Year 3 took part in a multi-schools Football event at Red Oak Primary school and showed teamwork and sportsmanship in all the matches they played.

There are many events for various year groups across the school coming up, throughout the school year. Lots of the after school clubs and lunch time clubs run to support the children in readiness for these events so do look out for which clubs will be running after half-term to sign up.

Just a reminder that children who have their ears pierced should take their jewellery out for PE and school sports clubs - this is for safety reasons. If children have recently had their ears pierced then tape should be used as a protective measure. Once the advised time has passed, children should remove their own earrings and put them back in themselves - adults in school are not allowed to help children with their earrings.

School PE Kit: (boys and girls)

White T-Shirt, Black Shorts, White Socks, Plimsolls/Trainers, Black Jogging Bottoms (optional), Black Sweatshirt (optional).

Junior Road Safety

Sophie-Rose, Reagan, Ryan and Evie would like to thank all those that came to school on Friday wearing bright coloured clothing to remind everyone about the importance of staying safe when out and about, especially with the darker nights approaching.

BE SAFE, BE SEEN!

School Council

The School Council has been launched this half term, with 2 enthusiastic children from each class. The children have had their photographs taken, been given their school council badges and special notebooks.

Our first topic was to look at our school and things we may like to add to our school day to enhance our learning. The children had lots of ideas and we hope to put some into place very soon!

We will be launching some fun days soon, to help our school fundraise for some important charities.

Woodland School

In Woodland School, children have been turning sticks into play items and role playing the story of 'Not just a stick', making the woods look beautiful and colourful with Andy Goldsworthy's style of outdoor art. They have also been cooking up an autumnal delight for the animals of the woodland and enjoying a spot of mud painting too!

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 Bottoms (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!

19th October	Harvest Festival at St Marks Church—10am All Families Welcome
22nd-26th October	Half Term
30th & 31st October	Parents Evenings: (3.30pm-7pm) (3.30pm-5.30pm)
1st November	Autumn Disco: Morning Nursery, Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 (3.30pm-5pm) Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 (5.15pm-6.45pm)
2nd November	Reception's First Class Photograph in the Lowestoft Journal
7th November	Year 3: Matball Tournament at Pakefield High School
13th November	Year 1 & 2: Futsal Tournament at Raw Soccer
15th November	Year 6: Crucial Crew
16th November	Children in Need
16th November	Year 3 & 4: Unihoc Tournament at Red Oak Primary
26th November	Year 5 & 6: Able Maths Day at Carlton Colville Primary
30th November	Year 5 & 6: Basketball Tournament at Red Oak Primary
5th December	Year 4: Unihoc Tournament at Pakefield High School
10th December	Reception, Years 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5: Nasal Flu Vaccinations
11th December	EYFS: Christmas Performance
12th December	Years 1, 2 & 3: Christmas Performance
12th December	Year 5: Badminton Tournament at Pakefield High School
13th December	Years 4, 5 & 6: Christmas Performance
14th December	Christmas Jumper Day
19th December	Christmas Dinner & Classroom Parties
19th December	Last day of Term
20th December— 4th January	Christmas Holidays
7th January	All children back 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 are readily available to help you with any issue, if needed.



*Mrs Rae Aldous
Executive Headteacher*



*Mrs Jackie Cutchey
Chair of Governors*



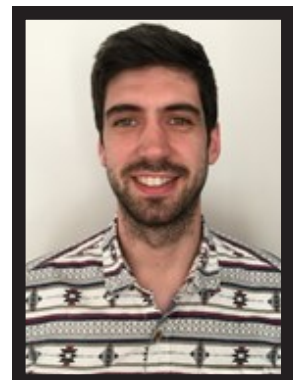
*Miss Kerry Read
Deputy Headteacher*



*Mrs Dawn Williams
Parent and Pupil Support Adviser*



*Mrs Lauraine Barnes
Assistant Headteacher*



*Mr Joshua Wilkes
Teaching & Learning Lead*