

# WESTWOOD NEWS

January 2018

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



Happy New Year to all our families,

We have had a very busy start to 2018 with lots of exciting trips and activities taking place to launch our new enquiries. Our whole school theme is 'On the Move' and each phase has interpreted this in different ways. Years 1 & 2 went on a mystery journey involving a train, boat and bus and are now finding out about how these vehicles move. Years 3 & 4 had a sleepover in the school hall which saw them cook dinner in the woods and build their own dens. They will now be learning more about explorers and what they would need for an expedition. Years 5 & 6 arrived at school to discover suitcases had appeared in their classrooms and are now investigating the many different reasons why people travel. All of our children's learning will come together to create 'The Westwood Travel Museum' which will be open to families from Wednesday 7th March - look out for your invitation.

Following last term's successful pilot, Lindsey (our Woodland School Instructor) has worked with each class teacher to plan a block of sessions for this term. The needs of each class have been carefully considered to make sure these sessions support the children's learning in school and link to their lines of enquiry. Each Woodland session will end by sharing a page from the book 'The Lost Words' which we have decided to champion as a school. This is a beautifully illustrated collection of words which are disappearing from the English Language, such as magpie, bluebell and otter. At Westwood, we are determined that our children will not only recognise these birds, plants and animals but be able to talk about them too. We look forward to sharing the children's learning at our family sessions which will take place later in the term.

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It has been great to see so many children attending the Key Stage 2 Homework Club during Wednesday lunchtimes. This is an excellent opportunity for the children to complete their homework with a member of the teaching team on hand to support them. The library is also open every lunchtime so children can change their reading book and either read to themselves or to the adult on duty. There's no need to sign up to either of these clubs and children can stay for as long as they choose. What a great way for our children to learn to organise their own time and take responsibility for their learning.

**\*\*Breaking news\*\*** - Year 1 have become the first class to reach the top of Mount Westwood and earnt themselves a class treat. This is part of our new behaviour token system which rewards children (and staff) for using our 5 Learning Behaviours: resilience, risk-taking, resourcefulness, building relationships and being reflective. Be sure to ask your children about it!

We have signed our school up to ParentMail which will offer a faster and more effective way for us to keep in touch with you. If you haven't already registered, information is attached to explain how to do so.

Finally, we have listened to your feedback and are pleased to announce that we are introducing special lunches where families can join their children at lunchtime and enjoy a school dinner together. These will be ongoing throughout the year and more details will be coming soon.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

## E-SAFETY

**Ditto** - Free Online Safety Magazine for schools, organisations and parents to keep up to date with risks, issues, advice and guidance related to keeping children safe online.

**"Ditto"** - Stay Safe, Have Fun, Repeat!



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## Reading at Home

Well done to all of the children that have been reading at home!

Please continue to support your child to read at home. Our data shows that children who read regularly at home make good progress in all aspects of their learning.

Every time your child reads at home and it is recorded in their reading record, they receive a cube in the tube.

Remember, cubes mean free school trips, so keep on reading everybody!!!

## Reading Challenge Tubes

Nursery; 2 tubes

Reception; 2 tubes

Year 1; 3 tubes

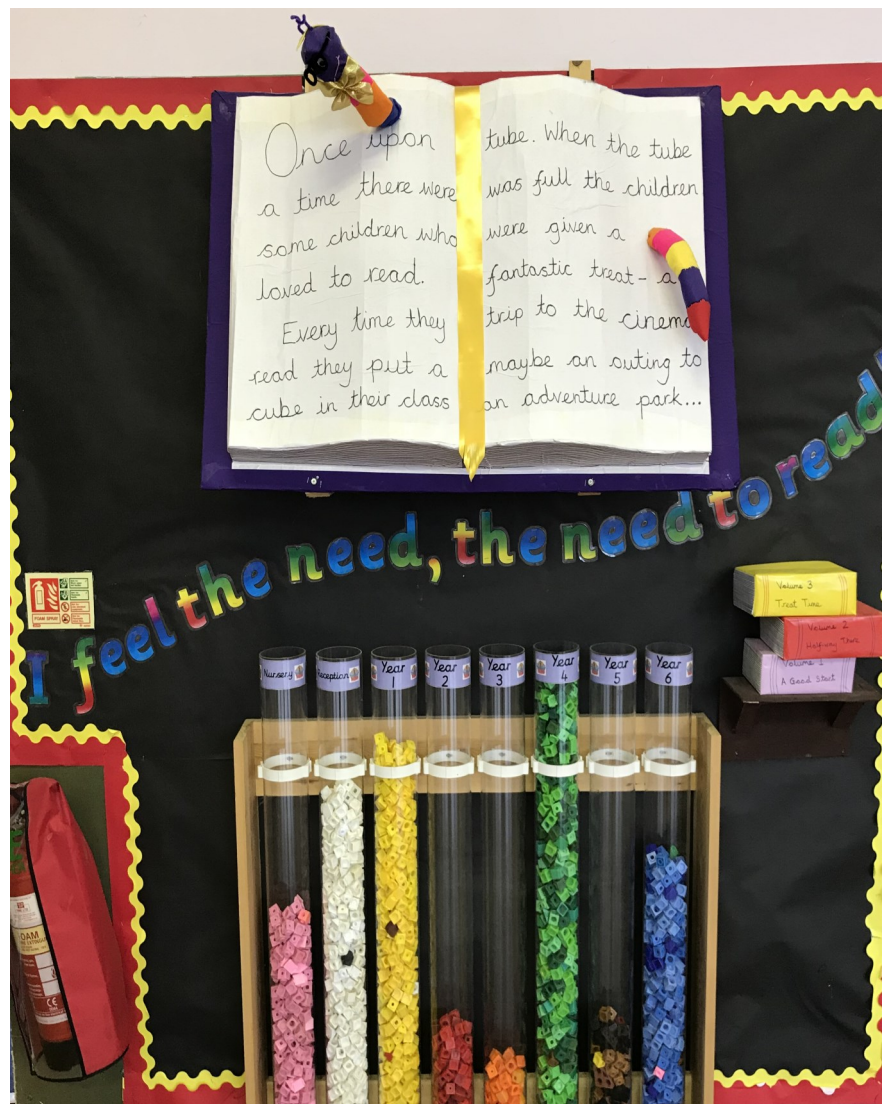
Year 2; 3 tubes

Year 3; 3 tubes

Year 4; 4 tubes

Year 5; 4 1/2 tubes

Year 6; 5 tubes





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## Nursery

All the nursery children have settled in really well to the new term and we'd also like to welcome our new Early Years Practitioner, Miss Rough. You may have heard the morning nursery children mention our new friend Oscar... he loves to go home with children from the nursery who have shown 'golden behaviour', to spend the weekend with them. I wonder who he will be going home with next? Both classes really enjoyed having 'Andy the Clown' in for their reading challenge treat. They were laughing their socks off all day! A big thank you to all those that attended our Family Café last week, it was so lovely to see you all there! The children really love showing you what they have been learning.



## Reception

Reception have been learning to retell the story of 'The 3 Little Pigs' and have had fun innovating the story too! We've had new characters created such as the 3 little monkeys and the mean, scary tiger. In our deconstructed role play area, we have created a 'Westwood Shop' and have been busy building up narratives in there. Soon we will be visiting Tesco and this will help us to develop our shop and role play even more! In maths, we have been looking at naming and describing 2D and 3D shapes and searching for these in the environment.



## Year 1 & Year 2

What an exciting start to our new EBL topic 'Transport'. Year 1 and Year 2 found a mystery letter inviting them on an adventure. The children found train tickets so embarked on a journey to Oulton Broad North railway station. They travelled via train to Reedham where they saw a ferry boat carrying both cars and passengers. After this, the children travelled by coach back to school. This inspiring day has led to lots of child initiated play, writing, role play, creating and researching. Well done key stage !!



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## Year 3 & Year 4

Year 3 and 4 have made a fantastic start on their new enquiry 'Explorers' which we kicked off with a sleepover in school. Everybody had so much fun becoming real-life explorers; cooking on a camp fire, building shelters, packing expedition bags and tracking animal footprints in the woods. We have continued our enquiry back in the classroom with children planning their very own expeditions to either a famous mountain or tropical rainforest. Children have begun using atlases to find their chosen locations and understand which continent they are in. In woodland school, we have continued to gain survival skills all explorers would need. Over the coming few weeks, the children will start to find out exactly how to get there, what they would need to take with them, the physical features that are there and any challenges they might face along the way.



## Year 5

It has been a busy start to the term in Year 5. Woodland school has now moved to a Monday and in their first session the children enjoyed listening to different bird songs and identifying the different types of birds - Year 5 are going to be making bird boxes this half-term which is really exciting. They have also been introduced to a wonderful book called 'The Lost Words' and they will be exploring this each week. On Monday 22nd January, Year 5 and 6 visited Duxford Imperial War Museum as part of their 'On the move' enquiry. It was a brilliant day! Highlights included seeing the live airfield in action, some of the planes even did some aerobatic displays which were great to watch, walking through Concorde and seeing the inner workings of the plane and exploring all of the many different types of planes in the different hangars at the museum.



## Year 6

What a busy half term this has been for year 6! We have been writing character descriptions in literacy. "Over the ragged rocks came a massively messy man. Who was he? What did he want? He appeared as strong as a blacksmith; as tall as a tree and his bushy beard was as wild as a lion's mane. His hair was as black as soot and his eyes were as dark as the night sky." Elyse describing Hagrid's arrival. The children have used descriptive devices to explore famous literacy characters. In maths the children have been consolidating their understanding of fractions - they can simplify, find equivalents and calculate with fractions. Our recent trip to Duxford was a fabulous learning experience for the children and they enjoyed exploring the history, science and purpose of aviation.



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## Junior Road Safety

This month the JRSOs have had a special visit from Norman, the local PCSO. He presented an assembly on the importance of Road Safety and the children had lots of questions to ask him. Norman will be returning next month and will be taking the JRSOs out of school to do some special work, so keep your eyes peeled for next month's newsletter!



## School Council

The ideas shared in pupil questionnaires and discussions last term have now been used to create a pupil development plan which outlines the improvements we will focus on achieving this year. Soon this will be shared with all classes! We have a meeting with our school caterer coming up in February to discuss each class' views on school dinners.



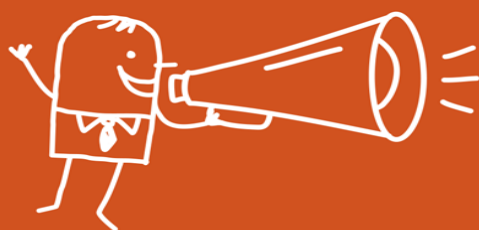
## Sports News

This month some Year 4 children took part in a Football Tournament at Red Oak Primary School. Mr Wilkes accompanied the children and said that they really enjoyed themselves! It's great to see our children trying their best and showing such good sportsmanship! Some of our Year 6 children also attended an Athletics Tournament at the Waterlane Leisure Centre. Miss Aylott accompanied the children this time and she said that she was very impressed by how well behaved they all were. The boys' 4 x 1 relay won their heat and the girls' team narrowly missed out on winning. Overall, it was a great afternoon and our children were fantastic at cheering each other on. Well done Westwood!!!



## Woodland School

Lots of exciting sessions are happening at Woodland School this term. Last week, the children learnt about the birds that make the woods their home. We watched them on the new bird feeder and made friends with a group of robins. Nursery & Reception children will have a visit from the Owl sanctuary to follow on with their bird theme this month. Years 1 & 2 are going to follow step by step instructions to make bird nesting boxes. Years 3 & 4 are developing their survival skills, including learning different knots & how to purify water. Years 5 & Year 6 are also making nest boxes but will be using their Maths and D.T. skills to design their own ones in small groups. The woodland area is gloriously muddy at the moment and we go out in all weathers so please remember to keep wellies and a warm coat in school at all times!!



# Attention all parents!



## 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, uncluttered 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

### 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.



### 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!*

2nd February	Year 5 Hockey Tournament at Red Oak
9th February	Last day of Term
12th-16th February	Half Term (13th, 14th & 15th February Year 6 Booster Sessions)
19th February	All children back to school
27th February	Year 6 to Pakefield High School to watch their performance of 'We Will Rock You'
28th February	Year 3 Skittleball at East Point Academy
1st March	World Book Day (Fancy Dress)
2nd March	Year 5 Football Tournament at Red Oak
9th March	Years 3 to 6 Cross Country at Worlingham
13th March	Year 6 BT Tower Trip
16th March	Morning and Afternoon Nursery to Africa Alive
16th March	Year 5 Football Tournament at Pakefield High
W/B 19th March	Family Woodland Week
20th March	Class Photographs
23rd March	Year 5 and 6 to the Marina Theatre to watch Royal Philharmonic Orchestra
23rd March	Year 5 and 6 Girls Football Tournament at Red Oak
23rd March	Year 3 and 4 Short Tennis Tournament at Saint Felix
26th & 27th March	Parent Interviews
29th March	Last Day of Term
30th March— 13th April	Easter Holidays
16th April	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*



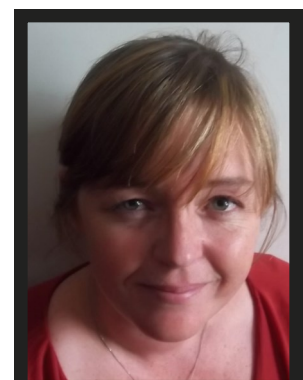
*Miss Kerry Read  
Head of School*



*Mrs Dawn Williams  
Parent and Pupil Support Adviser*



*Mrs Lauraine Barnes  
Assistant Headteacher*



*Miss Louise Creed  
Senior Teacher  
&  
Upper School Lead*