



Westwood News

Spring Term (2) 2025



Dear Parents & Carers,

We have had a fabulous half term here at Westwood – the sun has been shining meaning we have been able to open the field, and we have had some fantastic learning opportunities happening throughout the school. We have continued our community work thanks to our pupil leadership groups, including raising over £150 for Red Nose Day, during which we enjoyed a Westwood's Got Talent assembly & a Soak the Teacher fundraiser at lunchtime, as well as marking National Epilepsy Day by wearing purple and National Autism Awareness Day by wearing blue.

Our dance troupe represented us brilliantly at the Suffolk Dance Festival – a big THANK YOU to Ms Gillings & Mrs Lark for working with the dancers to put together their super routines.

Thank you to all the families who joined us for parents' evenings – the teachers loved the opportunity to update you all on the progress the children have made and show you the work in their books. We hope you enjoyed the scavenger hunt around school which was intended to help you see areas of the school you may not have visited yet, particularly if your child is in the lower year groups. All correct entries received a prize in assembly this morning – the answer was "We are Westwood".

Thank you also to everyone who joined us for our Science & Literacy shares – it is always great to see the children taking the lead explaining their learning to their families.

You should have already received an email with information about the new lunch menu which begins after the holidays with the baguette option returning for the summer term, as well as the new club timetable with all the options for after school clubs that your child can get involved in. The termly newsletter from The Active Learning Trust has also been sent out to you which showcases some of the things going on in all 19 schools that are part of our Trust.

Our PTFA have continued their hard work, organising some super Easter themed competitions – they have been working tirelessly to make links with companies & businesses in our community so if you have any great contacts, please do let them know. Thanks to their work, we received almost 100 new books for our school library from Clays!!

We hope you have a wonderful break and look forward to welcoming you back on **Tuesday 22nd April**.

Thank you for your ongoing support.
Mrs Barnes



Diary Dates

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

Events in purple are the ones we would love families to join us in school for.

Friday 4th April	Last day of term
Monday 7th – Monday 21st April	School Closed – Easter Holiday
Tuesday 22nd April	Children return to school
Friday 25th April	Year 5 & 6 at Pig Heart Boy, Norwich Theatre Royal
Monday 28th April	Year 3 & 4 Waveney Boat Trip
Wednesday 30th April	Year 5 & 6 Suffolk Council Waste Management Workshop
Thursday 1st May	Year 3 & 4 Suffolk Council Waste Management Workshop
Monday 5th May	Bank Holiday – School Closed
Monday 12th – Friday 16th May	Year 6 SATs week
Friday 23rd May	Last day of term
Monday 26th – Friday 30th May	School Closed – May Half Term Holiday
Monday 2nd June	Children return to school
Tuesday 17th June	Years 1 to 6 Running Races
Tuesday 24th June	AM – Nursery Sports Share PM – Reception, Years 1 & 2 Sports Shares
Wednesday 25th June	PM – Years 3 & 4 Sports Shares
Thursday 26th June	PM – Years 5 & 6 Sports Shares
Monday 30th June	Year 5 & 6 Hautbois Hall Trip
Monday 14th – Friday 18th July	EPA Transition Week (Year 6)
Wednesday 16th July	2pm – 4pm Summer Fair
Friday 18th July	Last Day of Term 12pm – 1pm Whole School Picnic 1:15pm – School Closes
Monday 21st July - Friday 29th August	School Closed – Summer Holiday
Monday 1st & Tuesday 2nd September	Staff training (PD) days – no children in school
Wednesday 3rd September	Children return to school

Attendance

One of our whole school priorities is to raise our pupils' attendance levels above the national average of 95% and we have set ourselves the challenge to hit 98%.

Each week our Attendance Officer (Mrs Fairweather) calculates the attendance for each class and the winning class has the chance to play Attendance-opoly where they can win prizes for their class.

This half term our winners have been:

Week 1	Nursery & Year 6	98.6%
Week 2	Year 6	99.5%
Week 3	Year 6	97.1%
Week 4	Year 4	100%
Week 5	Year 3	97.0%
Week 6	Year 3	95.7%

This table shows the weekly percentages for each class, as you can see there is still some work to hit that 98% target!

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6
Nursery	98.7%	92.0%	88.2%	88.1%	91.8%	83.3%
Reception	96.5%	94.5%	96.5%	97.0%	87.8%	95.6%
Year 1	97.0%	99.1%	92.9%	99.2%	95.8%	92.1%
Year 2	94.6%	91.5%	95.3%	90.0%	82.8%	95.0%
Year 3	91.3%	87.9%	93.3%	88.8%	97.0%	95.7%
Year 4	98.5%	97.7%	92.7%	100%	96.5%	93.8%
Year 5	97.2%	94.8%	84.8%	96.8%	90.8%	92.4%
Year 6	98.6%	99.5%	97.1%	97.1%	96.8%	93.2%

We also play Spin to Win, where one lucky pupil, who has had 100% attendance that week, wins a £10 Amazon voucher.

We then spin again a pupil from each class gets to join Mrs Gillings & Mrs Barnes for juice & biscuits!

THANK YOU for your support in ensuring your children attend school each day:
if they aren't here, we can't teach them!



Nursery & Reception Spring 2



This half term in Nursery we have explored the topic 'Dinosaurs'. We have talked about what happens when we feel angry and whether a dinosaur would be a good pet. We read *Dinosaur Bones* and talked about how dinosaurs were alive a very long time ago. We used clay to make our own fossils.

In Maths we have focused on describing and creating AB/ABC patterns. We compared height using taller and shorter, weight using heavier and lighter and capacity using full and empty. We have continued to use numbers in our play.

We were lucky enough to have a visit from some furry friends ahead of our farm topic next term!

In the woods we have been reading stories and searching for different bugs. We have found spiders, slugs, snails, bees, ladybirds and worms.

It has been an amazing six weeks!



This term in Reception the children took part in learning about healthy food. The children have been learning about the importance of a balanced diet, where food comes from, and how it is grown and farmed. The children took part in growing their own carrots, writing their own recipes and preparing their own food for our Teddy Bears Picnic. The children enjoyed a healthy eating workshop from Co-Op and walked to the local shop to buy their ingredients.

In Phonics we recapped our sounds and learnt the new harder to read words when, what, said, so, have, were, like, out, come, some, there, little, do, one, children and love. We have been practicing reading these in words spotting the digraphs before we read the words.

In Maths we have been exploring patterns, looking at patterns in nature and exploring a variety of patterns rules. We have recapped our learning on shapes, combining shapes to create pictures.





Nursery - Farm Summer 1



Personal, Social and Emotional

Working with others to build houses
Selecting our own resources to build houses and make maps
Talking about whether Hefty Hugh and Lanky Len made the right choice
Taking part in familiar role play
Beginning to understand how the other animals made the hen feel when they didn't help her
Using words to describe how the characters felt

Communication and Language

Listening to animal and farm stories
Following instructions
Discussing our own experiences
Learning to blend phonemes to make words
Using words to describe positions and directions
Exploring the different ways we can move our mouths
Passing sounds around a chain
Blending phonemes to find an object

Physical Development

Using large and small movements to build houses
Collaborating with others to make maps using different media

Literacy

Sequencing the story of the Three Little Pigs
Using our early writing skills to write CVC words.
Reciting the repeated refrains from traditional stories
Recognising our sounds satpinmdgo etc.

Maths

Problem solving in play
Creating and recognising patterns
Finding the longest / shortest
Building with shapes
Choosing the correct blocks for a particular purpose
Combining shapes
similarities and differences of shapes
Recognising that each counting number is 1 more than before
Recognising and creating AB/ABC patterns

Understanding the World

Maps
Where food comes from
Different types of animals
Using directions to direct a rabbit around a grid
Learning about the life cycle of a chicken
Sequencing the life cycle of a sunflower
Learning about different types of houses
Building houses using different materials

Expressive Arts and Design

Looking at maps.
Using different media and materials to make our own maps
Using junk modelling materials to build our own scarecrows



Reception- Once Upon a Time Summer 1



Personal, Social and Emotional

To be confident to tell each other about their work sharing their stories.

Show resilience and perseverance in the face of challenge- talking through resolving problems with others.

Think about the perspective of others and discuss books exploring how characters feel and overcome challenges.

Communication and Language

Start conversations with an adult or a friend.

Learn and use new vocabulary.

Use talk to work out problems and organise thinking.

Talk about the problems and find solutions together.

To form a sentence and hold it in memory to write it.

Physical Development

In P.E we will be looking at Gymnastics. To develop balancing, creating shapes, jumps and rocking and rolling.

Health and Self-Care

We will be taking part in lessons which will focus on Relationships, Growing and Change and The Effects of the body.

Literacy

Write short sentences with words with known sound letter correspondences using capital letters and full stops.

To begin to use story narratives in sentences to write their own fantasy stories.

Read common exception words. Read simple phrases and talk about what they have read.

Maths

Measuring capacity (full/empty)

Measuring weight (heavy/light)

Composition of 10 (part, part, whole)

Comparison of numbers to 10

Sharing

Halving

Understanding the World

To talk about past and present looking at buildings from the past-castles.

To make observations and draw information from maps. To draw our own maps.

Compare and contrast characters from stories, talking about figures from the past and traditional tales.

Expressive Arts and Design

Create collaboratively sharing resources and ideas working together to problem solve to create a bridge to cross a moat.

Develop storylines in their play-using props and making costumes to support narratives.



Years 1 & 2 Spring 2

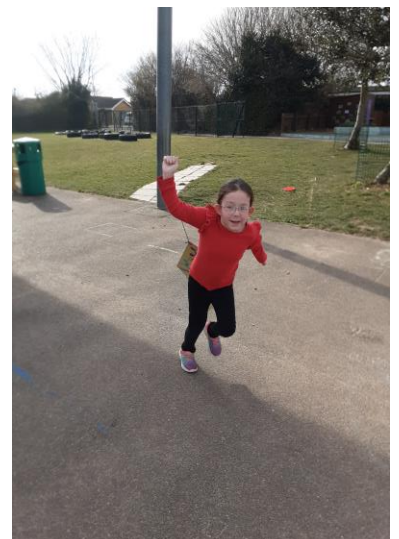


We have had a fantastic time exploring new topics across the curriculum, and we are excited to share the highlights of what the children have been learning.

Our focus in Literacy has been character descriptions and non-chronological reports using the book *Beegu*. The children have enjoyed describing Beegu's appearance, personality, and feelings, using exciting adjectives and adverbs to then create a new alien friend for Beegu. We have also started writing non-chronological reports about a planet from our solar system that our new alien's might have come from. We have organised facts into subheadings and used expanded noun phrases to engage the reader. It has been wonderful to see their creativity and growing confidence in writing! Parents then had the wonderful opportunity to join their children at school for a special character-making activity using felt. This interactive session encouraged creativity and teamwork as families worked together to craft the children's unique characters. Seeing their parents actively participate in a school activity brought excitement and joy to the children, making the day a memorable and enriching experience for all involved.



As part of British Science Week, parents recently joined their children at school for an exciting kite-making activity using paper. This hands-on session encouraged creativity and scientific exploration as families worked together to design and construct their own kites. Children learned about the principles of aerodynamics and wind resistance, while parents actively participated in the fun. The event not only sparked curiosity about science but also strengthened family-school connections. Seeing their kites take flight brought joy and a sense of achievement to both parents and children, making it a memorable and educational afternoon.





Years 1 & 2

Summer 1



Literacy

Next term our focus text will be the Last Stop on Market Street which we will be using to support us develop our ideas to write a setting description and a diary entry.

Maths

In maths year 1 will be investigating fractions and year 2 will be finishing fractions and investigating mass, volume and capacity,

Science

Our topic this term is Everyday materials. We will be investigating materials that float and sink and learning about materials that are waterproof and opaque.

Geography

Our focus this term will be looking at different places around the world and comparing them to where we live. We will focus on a rainforest, the desert, a city and another coastal town.

Music

Music will be exploring and investigation sound and pitch.

PSHE

This term our lessons will be around valuing difference and how we can always be kind and show empathy to others.

Art

For art our focus artist will be Paul Klee and we will be using his printmaking work as our inspiration to create artwork using clay and collagraph blocks.

Physical Education

Gymnastics will be our skill focus in PE working towards creating a sequence using apparatus.

Religion & World Views

For RWV we will be understanding Judaism and some of their religious festivals and teachings with a focus on Shabbat.

Computing

We will be looking at the technology around us and how this will help us in everyday lives. We will be exploring the components of a computer and developing keyboard and mouse skills.



Years 3 & 4 Spring 2



LKS2 have had another busy half term with more incredible learning opportunities. In Literacy we have been looking at balanced arguments and deciding if the 'big bad wolf' was guilty. We then created free verse poems about rivers. In reading we have continued reading 'How to train your dragon' and the story of 'Nothing to see here Hotel'.

In DT we have developed a recipe and cooked delicious flap jacks with a variety of ingredients. In Maths we have been looking at place value and masses. HSBC also visited us at school and we learnt how to budget if we were going on a long distance trip to the Arctic.



In Geography we have been exploring the journey of a river and comparing rivers in our local area to others around the world and in Science we have been looking at the water cycle using the correct terminology

In computing we used stop animation to create our own flip books.



In RWV we asked the Big question : What do Muslims believe about God? and we looked at growing and change in PSHE. In PE we have been doing gymnastics and moving our bodies safely and creatively. In woodlands we constructed Stone Age dwellings .

Well done for all of your hard work this term, have a fantastic Easter break!





Years 3 & 4

Summer 1



Literacy

As writers we will become Newspaper reporters and create a narrative about Pompeii

Maths

As mathematicians we will be using money and learning about time.

Science

As scientists we will be learning about animals including humans

Geography

As geographers we will be exploring mountains and volcanoes.

MFL

In Spanish we will be learning the names of fruits.

PSHE

In PSHE we will be valuing difference in our community.

Art

As artists we will be using textiles and creating block print patterns

Physical Education

As athletes we will be going outside for Tennis and Athletics.

Religion & World Views

In religion and world views we will be considering the big question 'What difference does being a Muslim make to daily life?'

Computing

In computing we will be branching databases.



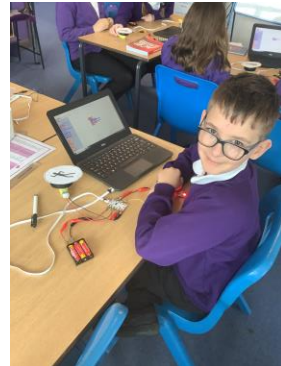
Years 5 & 6 Spring 2



Year 5 and 6 have had a great Spring term. We have found out about the Alps and decided if we would like to travel there. We have learnt how to say items of clothing in Spanish and In Literacy, we were inspired by the 'The Promise' to use figurative and descriptive language.

In maths we have used percentages to understand discounts and developed our knowledge of fractions. We also worked with HSBC to learn how to use money in the world of work.

In science we have classified organisms based on their specific characteristics and in computing we have created programmes with loop controls.



The children have created fantastic 'doodlers' in DT designing and making these concentrating on their form and function.

In RWV we have looked at what Christians believe in the story of the resurrection and in PSHE we have discussed our bodies and what happens during puberty.



We've also developed our football skills in PE and worked on compass directions and maps in Woodlands. Have a fantastic Easter break!





Years 5 & 6
Summer 1



Literacy

In literacy we will be playing with language using the text 'The Giant's Necklace'

Maths

As mathematicians we will be learning about statistics.

Science

As scientists we will be exploring Earth and space.

Geography

In Geography we will be asking the big question – Why does population change?

Music

As musicians we will be creating pieces inspired by the solar system.

PSHE

As PSHE we will be valuing difference.

Art

In art we will be exploring print making and the artist Dale Devereux Barker

Physical Education

As athletes we will be learning how to play badminton and rounders.

Religion & World Views

In religion and world views we will be considering the big question ' How do Hindus make sense of the world?'

Computing

In computing we will be creating vector drawings.



Sporting Success



Tournaments

This half term we took part in the Key Stage 1 Skittleball tournament with an A and a B team. The B team came home with shining bronze medals and the A team came home with shiny silver medals!

Both teams showed resilience, great sportsmanship and made us very proud.



We also took part in the Marina Theatre Dance festival.

10 of our children bravely took to the stage to perform 2 dances on stage at the theatre. We were so proud of how brave and resilient the children were.



Sports clubs

The play leaders have a new uniform for the summer – green baseball caps – look out for them on the playground. They will have new activities in each of our new zones and we will be having surprise equipment out on a Friday! With the weather hopefully improving our After School clubs will be heading outside.

Upcoming fixtures and events

Lower key stage 2 Cricket Friday 25th April

Lower Key Stage 2 FA Shooting Stars Tuesday 29th April

Key stage 2 SEND Football Friday 9th May

Year 5 Girls Football Friday 16th May



Special Educational Needs & Disabilities



Westwood were invited to take part in the Multi-Schools Council meeting at Red Oak Primary School on Tuesday 1st April.

The pupils enjoyed discussing what they would change if they were the Mayor of Lowestoft. We are looking forward to the next meeting to be scheduled soon.



Anxiety continues to impact our families and young people, the following websites have some really useful resources to use:

www.cambscommunityservices.nhs.uk

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLFowEOaumCQ6lvyb61nPtrNGihESQ46yG>

<https://www.nsft.nhs.uk/parent-workshops/>

[Norfolk & Waveney - Mental Health Advice & Support for 0 -25's](https://www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/online-learning/)

<https://www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/online-learning/>

This term we have offered a parental workshop looking at the Zones of Regulation.

Please continue to contact:

sbayfield@westwoodprimary.org with any concerns

SEND Survey – open to all!
regarding SEN.

<https://forms.office.com/e/3Zbh7FK10U>

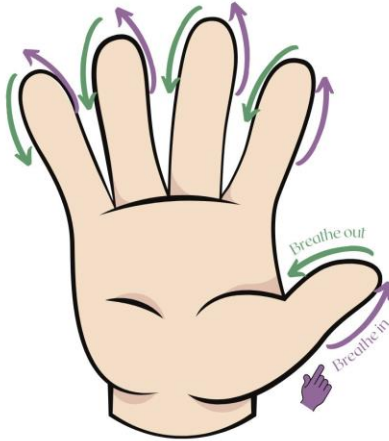


Safeguarding & Mental Health



Strategies to help when feeling anxious

5 Finger Breathing



The 5-4-3-2-1 Grounding Technique

Ease your state of mind in stressful moments.

Acknowledge 5 things that you can see around you.



Acknowledge 4 things that you can touch around you.



Acknowledge 3 things that you can hear around you.

Acknowledge 1 thing that you can taste around you.



Acknowledge 2 things that you can smell around you.



Where to access advice and self refer for support



Just One Norfolk is the 'go to' website for information about childhood health in Waveney. The information it includes covers (but is not exclusive to): - Pregnancy - Childhood illnesses - Staying Safe - Child Development and Additional Needs



If you need urgent mental health help, call 111 and choose option 2



Mental health crisis support 24/7 for people of all ages in Norfolk and Suffolk