



# What's On at West

growing future stars



## This Week in School

**Family Fun Egg Decorating Competition:** Thank you so much for all the amazing entries – they've brought so many smiles to our children, staff and visitors to school this week! Judging was honestly one of the most difficult tasks I've done all year! Keep an eye out on the Facebook page for our Egg Gallery! The winners were as follows:



Most unique: Madison - Class 2, Harrison - N, Josh - Class 9

Best representation of a book character: Aoife – Class 1, Fletcher – N, Archie – Class 2

Best representation of an animal: Billy – Class 5, Trudie – Class 2, Riley - N

Best representation of a member of staff: Lily – Class 6, Leela – Class 6, Oliver – Class 9

Best representation of a famous person: Darcie – Class 10, Naseem – Class 8, Holly – Class 10

**Miss Ellison:** Huge congratulations to Miss Ellison who is expecting a baby in August. I am sure you will join me in sending our best wishes to her.

**Year 3 Visit to Gibside:** As we have now paid the balance of this visit to Gibside, all outstanding payments need to be cleared by the end of this week – as stated in a recent newsletter. This will also mean that payments cannot be refunded if your child decides they no longer wish to go.

**Payment Arrears:** I am becoming very concerned at the amount of arrears certain parents are accumulating on their accounts – mainly lunch payments. The majority of parents and carers pay on time but there are a few parents who consistently have to be contacted by the school office to be reminded to pay their debts. I feel we are lenient at Prudhoe West compared to other schools, and we try to be understanding when parents cannot pay, but this is unfair on the parents and carers who do pay regularly and on time.

Moving forward, from 16<sup>th</sup> April 2018, all arrears must be cleared. If parents are unable to clear their arrears by this date, then they should make an appointment to speak to me in person. Lunch payments must be made one week **in advance**. If you have not paid on the Monday, we will send you a reminder text and will continue to do so daily until the payment is made. This is in line with procedures in other schools in the Trust. Parents who still fail to pay will be referred to the finance department at Wise Head Office, who will take formal action to recover the debt. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Shining Stars: the majority of parents and carers pay online as they book sessions, but I would like to remind those parents who book via telephone or pay with vouchers, that they too must pay in advance or on the day of the session **at the latest**.

**Lateness:** I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that you have a legal responsibility to ensure your children attend school regularly and on time. As well as monitoring attendance, we also monitor lateness and there are a few children who are consistently late for school. Lateness results in children missing out on valuable learning time, and those minutes each morning mount up to hours and days over the school year. Since September 124 hours (that is a month of school days!) of education have been missed across school due to lateness!

A few schools in the country have now started to fine parents of children who are frequently late; we would rather not go down that route but feel we need to take a stronger stance before the situation escalates. We will be sending out 'late' letters and text messages to the parents of those children this applies to.

## Coming Up

**Prudhoe West Academy Choir present "The Greatest Show!":** Following requests from parents and children, our school choir will be putting on a performance for parents, friends and members of the public on the evening of Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2018 at 6.00pm. This will be a great opportunity for people to come along and hear the songs the children have been learning, whilst raising much needed funds to support the choir,

(including the payment of coaches, backing tracks, sound equipment etc.). Tickets will be on sale soon after the Easter break. Further information to follow.

### Parent Meetings:

Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2018, 3.50 – 6.50pm	Whole School (including nursery)
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2018, 9.00 – 11.50am	Nursery Only
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2018, 3.50 – 6.50pm	Whole School (including nursery)
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2018, 9.00 – 11.50am	Nursery Only

Booking of appointments is being done online and the system is already open. As always, please ensure you keep us updated with any changes to contact details. If you think you have entered the correct information on the parents' evening booking system and still are unable to book an appointment, or if you do not have access to a computer, contact the school office. If you are unable to attend on these dates, please contact your child's teacher directly to arrange an alternative.

**PTA Meeting:** The next PTA meeting will be held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April, 3-4 pm in the staff room. All welcome, crèche will be available.

**Robinwood Meeting:** There will be a meeting on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2018, 3.15 – 3.45pm for the parents of children who are visiting Robinwood in May.

**Dinner Money:** Next term is a 6 week term. Dinner money for next half term will therefore be £10.00 per week or £58.00 for the half term (Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2018 is May Day bank holiday). **Year 4 parents only:** If your child is going to Robinwood please deduct £6.00 from this amount.

**Year 4 Swimming Payments:** Swimming payments for next half term will be £25.50. If your child is going to Robinwood, deduct £4.25 from this amount. Please contact the school office if you are unsure about how much you owe.

**Year 4 Parents:** Next term; please try not to pay too far in advance as it is difficult for us to issue refunds at the end of the term if you have overpaid. Contact the school office if you are unsure about credits or arrears. Thank you.

**Space Day at Prudhoe West:** Years Reception – Year 4 will be involved in this exciting event on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2017. The Centre for Life will be bringing their 'Planetarium' to our sports hall to take the children on a tour of the night sky including: stars, constellations, planets and the moon. We are asking for a £2.00 donation towards this event. Please send your child's donation to school in a **named envelope**.



**OPAL:** This is the link for our parent questionnaire for playtime, Please could parents and carers take the time to answer the survey in order to support our development of play times.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6JRJWQL> We would also appreciate any donations of: Small world toys - cars, dinosaurs, dolls, train sets etc (not lego or duplo); Loose parts - Tyres, crates, pallets, planks/logs of wood; Dressing up items; Items for role play such as; pots, pans, bags.

Please drop off items in the yard near the Year 3 entrance so they can be checked and sorted. Thank you in advance.

A reminder that will school will close for the Easter holiday today, Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018 and will reopen on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2018. Tomorrow, Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March is a Teacher Training Day and Shining Stars will be open 7.30am – 6.00pm if you would like your child to attend. £20.00 per full day, £12.00 for a half day. I would like to wish you all a Happy Easter and thank you for your ongoing support.

### Congratulations to Class 7 who had 98.03% attendance last week.

Well done to all the classes who achieved our 95% target.

Last week our overall attendance was **96.8%**.

Please make every effort to ensure your child gets to school each day to help us improve even more.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>% Attendance</b>	<b>96.01</b>	<b>95.01</b>	<b>97.19</b>	<b>95.79</b>	<b>96.93</b>	<b>97.7</b>	<b>98.03</b>	<b>97.12</b>	<b>97.12</b>	<b>97.99</b>

Poor punctuality means your child misses valuable learning time and that lessons are disrupted for all other pupils.

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### **School Meals Menu**

The week after Easter will be the  
**Week 1 Menu.**

Please see the school website for more details