



Volume 13, Edition 6, 13th January 2016
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HAPPY NEW YEAR

First of all, a warm welcome to all the children joining Westgate in Nursery for the first time this half term, and also to Merle who has joined Y4. I am sure everyone will give all our new families a big Westgate welcome.

Applications for Reception school places must be submitted to Leeds City Council (preferably online) by 15/01/16. A late application may mean that your preferences are not considered until all on-time applications have been allocated so please make sure you have ticked off this important job if your child will be 4 before the 1st September 2016.

Staying in Foundation Stage, our new outdoor mud kitchen, raised planting beds and textured path are all now complete and being enjoyed by children in Nursery and Reception. We have an appeal for donations of kitchen equipment- see the next page for more details! I am delighted with the improvements we've been able to make to the outdoor area for our younger children and I am sure they are going to love using it!

Helen Carpenter
Head Teacher

FRIENDS OF WESTGATE TOY LIBRARY (Nursery to Y2)



Look out for the Toy Library every Thursday after school! Come along to the Y1/2 Shared area after you have collected your child and choose from a great selection of high quality, age-appropriate games which you can swap each week. The fee is just £1 to join for a whole year so it really couldn't be a better bargain. Sarah Drake

and Helen Jackson run the Toy Library and would love to see you there tomorrow! (Morning/ Flexi1 Nursery children can visit the toy library on Tuesday mornings in Big Room.)



PUNCTUALITY

I would just like to take this opportunity to remind families of the timings of the school day. Doors open at **08:50** for Reception to Y6 and children should be here for that time so that they can be ready for registration and to start the day. School finishes at **15:15**. Being late after 09:00 gives children a rushed and unsettled beginning of the day, often missing out on the important start to the first lesson of the day.

For **Nursery** children, morning sessions begin at **08:45** and end at **11:45**. Afternoon sessions begin at **12:25** and end at **15:25**. Punctuality in terms of drop off and pick up is important, both in terms of a positive start for your child and avoidance of distress at the end of a session. Staff have short lunch breaks and meetings after school so lateness collecting has a knock-effect for other aspects of their work too, including preparation for the next session. Thank you for your support in adhering to these times. I will be writing separately to families who are persistently late at the end of this half term.

SCHOOL SAVINGS CLUB



The Savings Club began yesterday morning! If you would like your child to join but haven't yet done so, you can get an application form from the School Office at any point. Children receive an annual dividend payment and collect rewards based on the frequency of their deposits, rather than the size of their deposits, in order to encourage regular saving and good personal finance habits. We are grateful to Karen Mellor for volunteering to run this great new initiative on behalf of Friends of Westgate.

FRIENDS OF WESTGATE

This Saturday sees families off to see the Snow Queen pantomime at The Carriageworks in Leeds- this is a new event for us this year.



Laurel Chambers is busy organising the School Disco which will take place on 21/01/16. You will already have received a letter about this. Later this term children will also receive information about the Carnival competition, when they get the chance to suggest our Carnival theme! Finally, and most importantly, the date for the Easter Fair has been set! Saturday 19th March will see school transformed into a series of fun stalls- old favourites and new recruits- from 10:00 till 12:00. Donations for the Tombola will be gratefully received later this term...

WANTED

DURABLE POTS, PANS, CONTAINERS AND UTENSILS FOR USE IN FOUNDATION STAGE'S NEW OUTDOOR MUD KITCHEN!



Unwanted kitchen and camping cookery items in good condition gratefully received by Foundation Stage.

THANK YOU ☺



FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE



A polite reminder that fees for Music tuition are now due for this term. The cost is £30 for tuition and £15 if your child hires a school instrument (or £25 for cello). Cheques for

music tuition should be payable to Westgate Primary School.

Milk money, if not already paid, is also due for the term (£4).

Dinner money forecasts are available from Ms Fuller in the school office. Cheques for milk money and school dinners should be payable to Leeds City Council.

The deadline for children wishing to join in Roast Dinner day on 21st January was this morning and we are sadly unable to accept slips after this.

WESTGATE WINDFALL

January's winners are:

1st: Mrs J Chilton (£106)

2nd: Mrs D Lee (£26.50)

3rd: Mrs A Kilmartin (£13.25)

We currently have 53 members.

If you would like to join the monthly draw, please see Mrs Finlay in the office for application details. You can pay by standing order or cash/ cheque in advance. All proceeds go to Westgate School Fund, which is used to purchase resources, to fund visitors to school and to subsidise trips for all pupils.



JOB OPPORTUNITY



We have a temporary vacancy for a level 1 Teaching Assistant to work mornings in

Nursery until the end of the academic year. If you or someone you know is interested in applying, all the details are available on the school website in 'Job Vacancies' under the 'Community' heading.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Here are the dates from last term's final newsletter, with some additions: make sure you put these dates on your

family calendar.

16/01/16 FOW Panto Trip
21/01/16 Y1 Class Assembly
21/01/16 FOW School Discos
25&26/01/16 Show Racism the Red Card
01/02/16 Y5/6 Scooter & Pedestrian Training
04/02/16 Y6 Class Assembly
09/02/16 Y2 Class Assembly
09/02/16 Walk the Walls
12/02/16 Break up for half term
22/02/16 Training Day: School closed to pupils
23/02/16 Back to School
23/02/16 Nursery Induction meeting
25/02/16 Governors Day in School
01/03/16 Parent/ Carer Consultation Evening
03&04/16 D:Side Drugs Education Reception to Y6
03/03/16 Parent/ Carer Consultation Evening
16/03/16 Y1/2 visit the Mosque
17/03/16 Y4 Class Assembly
17/03/16 Choir at Chevin Learning Partnership concert, Yeadon Town Hall
19/03/16 FOW Easter Fair
21/03/16 Nursery to Y4 Pedestrian Training
25/03/16 Bank Holiday: School closed
28/03/16 Bank Holiday: School closed
30/03/16 Easter Concert
01/04/16 Break for Easter holiday
18/04/16 Back to School
18/04/16 National Offer day for Reception places Sept 2016
27/04/16 Class Photographs
05/05/16 Local Election Polling Station: **School closed to Nursery only**
09/05/16 Y6 SAT test week
18/05/16 Y6 Junior Safemark Training
27/05/16 Break up for half term
06/06/16 Back to School
13/06/16 KS1 Phonics Screening Check week
13-15/06/16 Y6 Robinwood Residential
15/06/16 Y5 Whitby Residential
27/06/16 Y5/6 Visit to the Gurdwara
21/07/16 Last day of school for Nursery
22/07/16 Break up for the Summer Holidays
05/09/16 Training day: school closed to pupils

06/09/16 Training day: School closed to pupils

07/09/16 Back to School