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WELCOME BACK

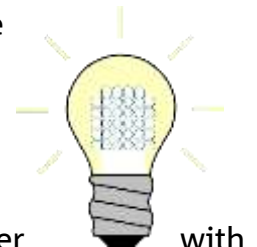
It's been lovely to see everyone back at school after our not-Easter Easter holiday, and also to welcome our new starters to Nursery and Miss Taylor who is working in Reception and Key Stage 1 as our new teaching assistant. Children in Nursery have now received their offers for Reception, where applicable, and almost everyone has been offered their first choice. Last week was a very busy week, as we welcomed lots of colleagues from other schools to Westgate. We are currently hosting some writing intervention training, to which colleagues from 12 schools came for the second time on Tuesday. Also on Tuesday, teachers from other schools in the Family of Schools came to work with us on our approach to teaching mathematics, and observed a lesson in Y3. On Wednesday all of our staff took part in Child Protection training and we also welcomed some colleagues from the Family of Schools to that training. Finally, on Thursday we hosted 20 teachers as part of a 3 day course on reasoning in mathematics and during the morning visitors took part in mathematics lessons in Years 1, 3 and 4. I am very proud of the way our staff are sharing their learning and development to support other colleagues and the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. It also great that we can work so closely together as a Family of Schools to our mutual benefit. This weekend sees Otley welcome the Tour de Yorkshire. The Women's Race is first and I am sure lots of you will turn out in the morning to see Lizzie Armitstead, who visited school earlier this year and inspired our children, race in her home town. Go Lizzie! The Men's Race follows in the afternoon and we are delighted that 15 Westgate children will cycle a short part of the route along with children from every Otley school, prior to the start of the race. Look out for our children as they cycle from the Civic Centre to Beech Hill Car Park!



Helen Carpenter
Head Teacher

LIGHTING IN SCHOOL

If you have been into school since term started you may have noticed that we have had our lighting replaced. By taking advantage of a government-backed scheme, we have been able to replace almost all of our lighting with energy-efficient LED lighting, and will pay for the installation purely from the subsequent reduction in our energy bill over the next few years. Children have commented on how much better the light is in their classrooms and we hope this will improve the learning environment for them as a result. Together with the solar panels which we had installed last summer, this should also help us to significantly reduce our carbon footprint and so be better for the environment as a whole.



FRIENDS OF WESTGATE

The Friends of Westgate will shortly be writing to all families inviting you to participate in this year's carnival entry. The winning theme chosen by School Council this year is **A Country Garden**,



suggested by Mia in Y6. The creative team are, as I write, coming up with designs for costumes and a centre-piece. Tomorrow sees the Friends' inaugural **Film Night**, which if successful we hope will become a regular fixture in the Friends of Westgate calendar. Finally, after half term there will be another **Ragbag** collection for all your unwanted clothing.

WESTGATE WINDFALL

April's winners are:

1st: D Clough (£106)

2nd: F&G Burke (£26.50)

3rd: B&M Gray (£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.



DATES FOR THE DIARY



A reminder of the dates that were sent out before Easter, together with some new ones!

28/04/16 FOW Film Night 17:30
02/05/16 Bank Holiday: School closed
05/05/16 Y5 class assembly 09:05
05/05/16 Polling day: **SCHOOL CLOSED TO NURSERY ONLY**
09-12/05/16 Y6 test week
18/05/16 Y6 Junior Safemark training
19/05/16 NSPCC assemblies
21/05/16 Otley Show
23/05/16 Leeds Book Awards (Y6)
23/05/16 Y3 class assembly 09:05
24/05/16 Y5/6 NSPCC workshops
25/05/16 Nursery (am & flexi1) Maypole dancing 11:15
26/05/16 Whole School Maypole dancing 14:00
27/05/16 Break up for half term
06/06/16 Back to school

07/06/16 FOW Ragbag collection
09/06/16 Y1 class assembly 09:05
09/06/16 Otley Road Safety Quiz 18:45
13/06/16 KS1 Phonics check
13-15/06/16 Y6 Robinwood residential
15-16/06/16 Y5 Whitby residential
16/06/16 Reception class assembly 09:05
18/06/16 Otley Carnival
21/06/16 Reception Induction meeting 14:00
22/06/16 Y6 PHGS mini-Olympics afternoon
23/06/16 Polling day: **SCHOOL CLOSED TO NURSERY ONLY**
23/06/16 Y5 PHGS High school experience day
23/06/16 Y2 class assembly 09:05
27/06/16 Y5/6 Sikh visitor
27/06/16 Y6 Junior Band Day at PHGS
30/06/16 Y6 Robinwood assembly 09:05
05/07/16 Y5 Whitby assembly 09:05
07/07/16 School induction day
07-08/07/16 PHGS Y7 induction days
13/07/16 Nursery Sports Day 12:30
14/07/16 KS1 Sports Day 10:00
14/07/16 KS2 Sports Day 13:45
18/07/16 School Talent Show 13:45
19/07/16 Y6 Leavers' Play and party 18:30
21/07/16 Y6 Leavers' assembly 09:00
22/07/16 Break up for the summer 15:15
No WOOSH after school today.
05-06/09/16 Training Days
07/09/16 Back to School

FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

Summer term music fees are now due: £30 per term for tuition and £15 for instrument hire (£25 for cello hire). Cheques should be made payable to Westgate Primary School. Milk money (£4) for all children who are aged 5 or over is also now due for the summer term if you have not already paid-cheques payable to Leeds City Council.

INCREASE IN CHARGES NEXT YEAR



From September 2016, we will be decreasing the amount by which we subsidise school milk and school meals from the school budget. This means that the charge for milk will rise to **£7 per term** and for school meals in KS2 to **£2.30 per meal, or £11.50 per week**. Changes to school funding mean unfortunately that current subsidy levels are not sustainable. Thank you for your understanding.