Westgate Primary School

Autumn Term 1 Newsletter

Message from Mrs Crosley:

We've made it to week eight of term one and there are SO many things to celebrate: this newsletter is testament to that! As always, the children have settled back into school and already shown our school values of resilience and kindness. It has been such a privilege to spend time in the classes and have children visit me in my office to celebrate their work or home learning projects. It really does brighten my day to see their pride-filled faces.

From all the staff at Westgate, we wish our pupils and you a wonderful and restful half term.

Parent Consultation Evenings

Parent/Carer evenings will take place on the following dates:

Tuesday 12th November 3.30pm —5.30pm

Wednesday 13th November 4.00pm—6.30pm

Please login to your Arbor account to book an appointment. The bookings are now open and they will close on Thursday 7th November.

Meet our Governors

Please follow the link below to meet our current governing body and stay up to date with our current governor information.

Westgate Primary School - Our Governing Body

English as an additional language - Would you like to speak to a member of staff at Westgate, but worry about having to communicate in English as it is not your native language? Well, please don't worry. You can bring a friend to support you, or use google translate on your phone. We welcome feedback from all our parents so please do not hesitate to approach us if we can help you in any way.

After School Clubs

The following school clubs begin next term on the following days:

Mondays – Years 1, 2 & 3 – Lego Club
Monday – Years 1-6 – Profutures Dodgeball Club
Monday (Lunchtime) - Year 3-6 - Choir Club
Tuesday – Years 1, 2 & 3 – How to draw… Club
Tuesday – Years 4, 5 & 6 – Netball Club
Tuesday – Years 4, 5 & 6 – Dance Club
Tuesday – Years 5 & 6 – Micro:bit Club
Wednesday and Thursday – Years 1-6 – Healthy Eating Cooking Club
Wednesday – Years 4,5,6 – Profutures Football Club
Thursday - Years 1 and 2 – Band of Buddies
Friday – Gymnastics Club – Years 1-6

Please remember to collect your child at 4:15pm from the School Office. Due to the evenings getting darker earlier, **all children** must be collected from their club. **Children will not be allowed to walk home alone.**

Diary Dates

INSET Day – School closed on Monday 4th November

Y2 Cinema Trip – Wednesday 13th November

Y5 Cinema Trip – Tuesday 19th November

Individual School Photos – Wednesday 20th November

Flu Vaccination – Friday 22nd November

Y3 Cinema Trip – Friday 22nd November

Dartford Festival of Light – Friday 22nd November 6:00-7:15pm

Last Day of Term – Friday 20th December

What has been happening this term?

Unfortunately, our Chair of the PTA, Siobhan, has had to step down from the role. We would like to thank her for all the events she has helped to organise over the last few years. We are looking to appoint a new chair and to widen our PTA team. Look out for further information about a PTA coffee morning next term to find out more.

Join the PTA!

What has been happening this term?

Throughout the autumn term, our topic focus has been Geography; all children across the school have developed their Geographical knowledge and skills. New corridor displays have been created to publish and showcase their learning. Look out for them when you visit the school on parents evening 😊

Year 1 – Writing Postcards

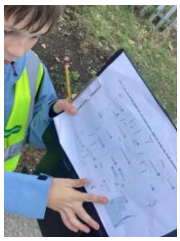
In Year 1, the children explored the school environment and drew their own maps of their classrooms. They also wrote messages on a postcard and enjoyed posting them home at our local post box.

Charlie – "I was SO excited when my postcard arrived back home!"

Year 2 – Local Walk around Dartford

Year 2 went on a local walk around Dartford to search for features in our local area. They followed a route on a map using their knowledge of directions and ticked the human and physical features they found on the way!

Hannah – "We saw the church, a library, shops, houses, flats and lots more!"



Year 6 – Trip to London Zoo

Year 6 visited London Zoo to develop their geography knowledge and understanding of world biomes. After finding out information, the children were able to discuss and describe different biomes, and used this to inspire their own home learning biome projects.

Fabulous DT Projects

Across this half term, the children have enjoyed learning new knowledge and skills in their DT lessons. Most classes have focused on 'structures', which has allowed them to use their prior learning to apply it to their new learning. The children designed windmills in Year 1, a chair for Baby Bear in Year 2 and Castles in Year 3. In Year 5, the children have learnt about electrical systems and they designed a 'Doodler' which can draw patterns once connected to a circuit with a motor. Year 6 also designed and made their own playground prototypes. What fun projects!

Our Student Leaders and Student Ambassadors

At the start of each new academic year, our Year 6 pupils are encouraged to apply for our Student Leader and Student Ambassador roles to develop their leadership skills working collaboratively across the school. Mrs Crosley and Miss Bethell received detailed applications, showcasing the talents and qualities of each pupil who applied, and thoroughly enjoyed reading them. It was a tough decision, but we would like to present to you our leaders and ambassadors for this year. We know you will all be fabulous role models for our school.

Well done everyone 👏 😊

Student Leaders

Wellbeing Ambassadors

Sports Ambassadors

Other Information/Reminders

Remember to login and check your child's Teams platform every week to find our **home learning** links. Please encourage your child to watch these educational videos and take part in the learning activities at home as this will support them with what they are learning in school. We love to hear about your child's achievements, and you are invited to post any photographs or comments under our 'Celebrations Channel' on Teams.

Please ensure that all of your child's clothing and **belongings are named**, including their PE kit.

Look out for our next pre-loved uniform sale, which the PTA will be hosting next term.

Keep up to date with what's happening at Westgate by **following us on Facebook** and interacting with our posts. We would love to hear from you.

Attendance

YR - 96.57%

Y1 - 96.08%

Y2 - 94.7%

Y3 - 95.35%

Y4 - 94.85%

Y5 - 96.45%

Y6 - 97.44%

Well done to Year 6 for achieving the best attendance this term.

Next term our value of the month will be …
How do you show respect?

Arrive on Time!

Please remember our school **gate opens at 8:30am** and our **register closes at 8:50am**. If you arrive after 8:50am, please ensure you accompany your child to the school office and sign them in using the electronic screen. This system will also be used if your child leaves the school during the school hours, e.g. an appointment.

Christmas Diary Dates

- KS2 Performance at Christ Church Dartford - Wednesday 11th December @6:30pm
- Christmas Jumper Day – Friday 13th December
- Christmas Lunch – Tuesday 17th December
- Reception Nativity - Wednesday 18th December @ 2:15pm
- KS1 Performances - Thursday 19th December @ 9:30am and 2pm
- Class Parties/Last Day of Term – Friday 20th December

Have a lovely half term break. 😊

We look forward to seeing you back at school on **Tuesday 5th November.**