

Newsletter



Autumn Term 2024 - No.4 - Friday 27th September 2024

 Upcoming Events	
2nd Oct	9:10am Woodpecker Class Assembly (parents invited)
2nd Oct	6:30pm - 7:30pm Reading Workshop
3rd Oct	9:30am - 10:30am Prospective Parent Session
8th Oct	9:30am - 10:30am Prospective Parent Session
11th Oct	9:30am - 11:30am Discussing Neurodiversity Workshop (details attached)
15th Oct	3:45pm - 6:45pm Parents Evening
16th Oct	9:10am Owl Class Assembly (parents invited)
17th Oct	9:30am - 10:30am Prospective Parent Session
17th Oct	3:45pm - 6:45pm Parents Evening
<u>23rd Oct</u>	Flu Immunisations
<u>23rd Oct</u>	10:00am - Chit-Chat, Tea and Cake at Westfields Junior School (Anxiety)
<u>25th Oct</u>	WISPA Mufti Day and Mad Hair Day
<u>25th Oct</u>	3:15pm—School Finishes for Half Term

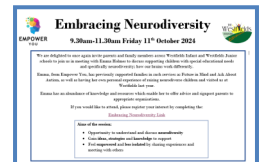
Dear Parents,

Can you believe that next week sees the start of October already? The term seems to be racing away and we are being sure to make use of every minute with exciting learning and events at WIS. Overleaf, each year group has shared some details regarding what they have been doing this week. I must also mention an uplifting highlight for me which was meeting each of our new Reception pupils, talking about their ambitions for when they grow to create a year group display - their responses were varied, enlightening and heart-warming; it was such a treat to begin to get to know our newest pupils, what a super bunch!

For my first **Parent Forum** at WIS, I was pleased to welcome at least double figures of parents(11!) and I was delighted to share our range of successes at WIS and across the Federation throughout the last academic year. With those who attended, I welcomed the opportunity to review our progress as well as discuss suggestions to further improve our policy and practice which we will look forward to reviewing and actioning with our stakeholders (parents, staff, governors, local community members) to build upon our existing successes. I wish to thank those who joined me - your support and engagement is greatly valued. For anyone who missed this, the document shared in our meetings is now on our website and on display in the front reception. So please do take a look as there really is so much to celebrate particularly in these challenging times.

On Wednesday morning we were a little more popular with 21 visitors for our first **Prospective Parent Session** for our September 2025 intake into Reception. Following a brief introduction in the hall, Miss Redmond and I had the pleasure of sharing our provision with prospective families on tours of the school and grounds. As ever, classrooms and shared areas were buzzing with engaging learning and of course our fantastic children were the best ambassadors for our school.

We have two valuable **parent workshop opportunities** coming up; may I take this opportunity to remind you that our Reading Workshop will be taking place next Wednesday evening (further details and the link to book a place overleaf). As previously communicated, this is sure to be an informative hour so please do join us if you can as we hope to continue to work in partnership with you on the imperative learning skill of reading. In addition to this, hosted at WJS, we wish to invite parents to an **Embracing Neurodiversity Workshop** led by a professional from Empower You. Please see the attached flyer for further details and follow the link to book a place: [Embracing Neurodiversity Link](#).



I must apologise that in the name of fundraising, your child(ren) may have mentioned to you that this week in school they have been creating Christmas cards! I wish to assure you that there is certainly method in the madness of this **Christmas Card Fundraiser**, namely a better commission rate so seemed silly not to take advantage of this... We are using the same provider across the Federation, so this year IQ cards have collected the children's designs and in due course we will share a proof with you (similar to how school photographs work) for you to then decide if you wish to order any cards, tags, wrapping paper and other personalised items. Over the years this has been a fantastic fundraiser and any support you are able to offer is greatly appreciated.

Finally, I would like to encourage you to take a look at the attached **Action for Happiness Calendar** for *Optimistic October*... particularly fitting with the truly wild weather we have been experiencing. I hope you, as well as our children and staff, will find these daily positive reminders useful.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,

Miss Jo Redman, Executive Headteacher



A few reminders...

- For Health and Safety please ensure your child(ren) do not go on the bank/field or any of the play equipment at the beginning or end of the school day. Thank you in anticipation of your support.
- For children who bring a packed lunch, please be mindful of healthy choices and size of items due to choking hazards in your child's lunchbox and remember we are a NUT FREE school.

What have we been learning?

Reception

This week in Year R we have been exploring traditional tales and have so far enjoyed Jack and the Beanstalk and The Three Billy Goats Gruff in our imaginative Drawing Club sessions. We have also been attempting to make our own bridges to escape the gruesome troll! The children have wowed us with their artistic abilities when painting self-portraits, using mirrors to focus on their facial features. We have all been very excited to start learning our Makaton signs of the week. Please do ask your children to share these with you so we can all learn together.



Mrs Wilson, Year R Class Teacher

Year 1

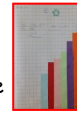
This week we have enjoyed sharing the book 'The Gruffalo's Child'. After reading the story, we sequenced the key events and then described the character of the Big Bad Mouse using some fantastic adjectives. In Maths we have been finding different ways to make numbers up to 5 practically with counters and by recording in different ways. Our Science work has focussed on investigating a range of materials, and in Geography we have looked at and drawn our own simple maps. What a busy time we are having!



Mrs Grey, Year 1 Class Teacher

Year 2

We have watched a video clip called 'The Girl with the Yellow Bag'. It is about a magic bag that when boring things are put in, they come out more amazing. We have been practising using powerful adjectives. In Maths we have been learning to measure the length of different objects. We have measured things around the classroom and we have had a go at ordering lengths of paper from shortest to longest. In Geography we have been looking at maps and learning that a key can be used to show where human and physical features are. We created a map of our own imaginary islands with a key.



Mrs Goddard, Year 2 Class Teacher



WISPA THANKS...

Bags2School
Thank you to everyone for your kind donations to this term's collection - they are all gratefully received. I would also like to thank Mrs Buck for co-ordinating the drop off point.



WIS Reading Workshop for Parents

Wednesday 2nd October 6.30pm - 7.30pm

As mentioned during our Meet the Teacher sessions, we are excited to invite you all to a reading workshop/briefing which we are sure will be a valuable opportunity to support your child(ren)'s development of this essential life skill. We will be talking about:

- Why reading is important
- The reading journey our children go on at Westfields Infant School
- Some useful tips and advice to support your child with reading at home.



We will also be able to answer any questions you may have about reading.

To enable us to prepare refreshments and resources please book by clicking here:

[Parent Reading Workshop 2024](#)



You are invited!

Please be aware you are invited to WJS's Open Morning and Evening events to find out a little more about what school life is like in Key Stage 2 ahead of the Junior School Application Deadline of: **Monday 15th January 2025.**



Westfields JUNIOR SCHOOL UNITE - INSPIRE - EXCEL VISIT US AT WESTFIELDS JUNIOR SCHOOL

OPEN MORNING
9th October at 9.30am

OPEN EVENING
23rd October at 6.00pm

You are invited to visit our school with your child to meet our Executive Headteacher, Miss Jo Redman and the rest of the staff at Westfields Junior School. There will be an opportunity to have a tour of our site, explore our outstanding facilities and see school life in action. Please RSVP by booking a space via the following link:
[Booking Form for Open Morning and Evening 2024](#)

We look forward to meeting you.

Tel: 01252 406218 ... a school where everyone in the community is inspired to learn with and from each other, where there is mutual respect and self-belief in the pursuit of excellence for all.
www.westfields-jun.hants.sch.uk

Community News...

SPOTLIGHT RAY OF HOPE DISCOUNTED FAMILY PASSES
BEALE PARK, PANGBOURNE

BEALE WILDLIFE PARK
VARIOUS DATES AVAILABLE

Spotlight UK are offering discounted days out to Beale Park for all families weekdays and weekends available throughout October including half term

£5 PER PERSON ON FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS

THIS IS AN EXCLUSIVE BOOKING FOR SPOTLIGHT UK
Please send booking enquiries to jessicariley@spotlightuk.org
www.spotlightuk.org Reg. Charity 1129258

Harvest PARTY
BUNNY CATTLE FOOD CRAFTS CHILD ZONE SWEET HEATS
SATURDAY 5TH OCTOBER
4:30 - 8:30PM
ST PETER'S CHURCH, VATELEY
FREE OF CHARGE - FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY
DONATIONS WELCOME

Free tickets are available from Wayfinders, Who Let the Dads Out, or scan the QR code to send us an email

For more info, please call 01252 912761

LET'S CELEBRATE...

As ever, our fantastic pupils have worked hard throughout this week in terms of their learning so our Learning Superstars were presented with certificates for showing various exceptional learning behaviours (copies are on display in the entrance area). This week's proud award winners are:

Year R: Ellie Rutherford, Omar Koriem and Alex Harrison

Year 1: Harvey Jones, Alice Al-Dabagh and Lennie Taylor

Year 2: William Trevatt, Fenrir Stacey and Imogen Norris

Congratulations to you all, what shining WIS stars!

Out of School Achievements

We are excited to share another array of out of school achievements we this week... Well done to **Chloe Moorshead** who received her 'Know Myself' and 'Have Adventures' Rainbow Certificates.

Congratulations to **Rudy Sanghera** who received a medal for taking part in the Twilight Runway Challenge.

Well done to **Hugo Jones** who has received a cricket medal from his club.

Attendance Awards

This week our attendance winners are...

Badger Class 

... with a superb 100%.

Well done, a perfect score!