



WESTFIELD NEWS

October 2017

Edition 2

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you and your children had a fun packed half term and enjoyed getting out and about in the Autumn air and the children had the opportunity to recharge after another busy month. Outlined below are some of our October highlights....

Parent Home-learning workshop

On Tuesday 3rd October we held a Home-learning parent workshop where all teachers shared a variety of fun and engaging ways to support their child's learning at home as well as supporting them with weekly homework. Thank you to the parents and carers who attended this workshop. We hope that you have already had the opportunity to share these ideas with other parents who weren't able to attend.



Thank you also for your very positive feedback. Here are just a few of the comments we received...

'Ingenious ideas on the Foundation Stage table! I'm looking forward to trying out some of the suggestions. And thanks for the help with the Christmas shopping!'



'Great workshop full of engaging ideas. It's made me realise I need to be more imaginative!'

'Brilliant! Thank you. A huge bank of ideas, presents, stocking fillers for my children. Every parent should have these ideas to hand! Very enthusiastic and helpful staff.'

'Very interesting ways to learn when out and about to make it fun without making it feel like learning.'

Year 6 learn how to keep themselves and others safe

Y6 Riley and Nevelson visited Hemel Hempstead Fire Station where they had an interesting morning learning about how to keep themselves and their families safe in a range of situations that they may encounter in everyday life. They learnt about road safety, electrical hazards in the home and the environment, drug safety, and how to put someone into the recovery position. It was a lot to absorb in a short amount of time but many children said they were happy that they now know more about the risks around them and how to deal with such situations.



Transition to Secondary school

On Wednesday 4th October, Mr. Shapland the Head of Ashlyns Secondary school visited our Year 6 children to personally invite them to their Open evening and to give the children the opportunity to meet him and ask any questions about life at Ashlyns and what to expect in Year 7. Mr. Shapland was extremely complimentary of our Year 6's and commented that Ashlyns would be very lucky to have them join in Year 7. Well done Year 6 we are very proud of you!

Rotary Shoebox Appeal



On Thursday 5th October we welcomed Mr Reg Cornthwaite from the Rotary Club to explain their Shoebox Appeal to the children. By giving the gift of a shoebox that contains toys, toiletries or household goods, our pupils are given the opportunity to demonstrate our school values of kindness and caring and sharing a drop of happiness with the people of Eastern Europe who are less fortunate than themselves this Christmas. For many, it will be the first present that they have ever received and it lets them know that somebody, somewhere cares. Thank you to all our children and families who have very kindly supported this appeal and helped spread a little happiness this Christmas. More information about the Shoebox Appeal can be found at: <http://www.rotaryshoebox.org/>.

RockSteady

Last year we introduced the opportunity for children to learn to play either the electric guitar, keyboard, drums or sing as part of a RockSteady band. We have been delighted to see how popular the introduction of this class has been and the number of children whose parents have supported their children to learn one of these instruments. This month we would like to say a VERY BIG well done to one of our Year 6 Bands 'Savage Silver Swag Samurais' who were chosen as the RockSteady band of the month and are featured on their website. Well done to Jacob, Samuel, Patrick and Luke. To see and hear them perform click on the following <https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/SavageSilverSwagSamurais>

We look forward to all of our bands performing on Friday 8th December in our special RockSteady assembly.

Greek Day

Team Picasso had lots of fun in October taking part in Greek day as a culmination of their topic work. All of the children took part in a variety of activities including decoding messages written in the Greek alphabet, working out the family tree of the gods, playing Greek god top trumps, creating clay pots and tasting a variety of Greek food. There was even time for a mini Olympic competition although the weather wasn't as agreeable as Greece! The day was enjoyed by everyone.



Year 6 Wild Child taster day



Team Nevelson and Riley has a taste of the 'Wild Child' adventure they will be experiencing for their residential trip in June 2018. Everyone agreed it was a fantastic day. The children tried out their tracking skills, enjoyed a scavenger hunt in the woods and chased each other down the toboggan run. It's safe to say that they can't wait for June to come!



House Captains

Well done to all of the Year 6 children who certainly put themselves in the stretch zone this month when they presented to their Houses why they felt they would make a good House Captain. All of the staff and children were extremely impressed by the quality and delivery of the speeches this year where a record number of children put themselves forward and the final votes were very close.

A very special well done to the following children who were selected –

Air	
House Captains	
Evie	Emily

Earth	
House Captains	
Jessica.T.	Ebony

Fire	
House Captains	
Lucy.R.	Max

Water	
House Captains	
Leon	Lucy.B.

This Month's Sporting Updates

Our Year 6 girls football team were very successful, winning 5-0, in their first match against Greenway.



In our first Network Cross Country event, Year 3 & 4 pupils ran a tough race in very soft ground with Will (Y4) finishing 10th and our Year 3 children, Ryan.H, Luke and Brooke finishing 5th, 6th and 7th respectively. The Year 5 & 6 pupils were very successful with Leon and Lucy coming first in the Year 6 events, Josh 7th and Ella 6th and in Year 5, Isaac came 5th. Some of these pupils will be competing in the District races. Well done to all the children who took part and did themselves and Westfield proud.

Well done to all of the Year 5 and 6 children who applied to become a Sports leader this year, we were extremely impressed with the quality of the applications. This year's Sports leaders are:

Year 5	Year 6 Nevelson	Year 6 Riley
Saffron	Maybelle	Leona
Hannah	Lucy	Jenson
Cody	George	Eila
Riley	Reece	Calum

We look forward to presenting you with your Sports leader t-shirts when they arrive and for you to work closely with Mrs Ayles our PE co-ordinator and Mr. Jones in further promoting a healthy lifestyle and sport at Westfield.

Outside sporting achievements this month - Well done to Leon (Yr 6) and his brother Will (Yr4) for competing in the Moor Park X country competition where they both had a fantastic run and did themselves and Westfield proud, Leon winning his race and Will coming tenth. Leon also competed in another X country race this time in Oxford where again he had a fantastic run and came third. Well done boys for continuing to inspire our Westfield children to run the Daily Mile!

Well done to all of the children who continue to take part in a range of sports outside of school including gymnastics, judo, football, dance, squash, swimming, diving just to name a few.

Please let us know if your child would like to share their sporting achievements and interests outside of school in our Friday celebration assembly as we loving hearing about them.

Parents evening

Thank you to all of the parents and carers who attended Parents evening, we hope you found these meetings informative and left with further ways you can support your child with learning. Thank you for your positive post-it feedback on what is particularly working well for your child this year. This feedback is currently displayed in our entrance hall.

Thank you also to everyone who has logged on to Ofsted Parent view questionnaire over the past two weeks and completed the online survey. If you haven't had chance to do so, we would really appreciate it if you could spare a few minutes to complete this which can be accessed here: <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/give-your-views>. Thank you, your feedback is important to us.

Harvest Festival



Thank you to all the parents and carers who joined us at St Mary's Church for our Harvest celebration on the last Friday of half term. Well done to all of the children who reminded us of the important message of harvest through song, poetry and art work. Thank you to Jonathan for inviting us back to St Mary's church and to Mrs O'Brien for attending to support the choir. Thank you also for your generous harvest gifts which will be gratefully received by the Samaritans and DENS (Dacorum Emergency Night

Shelter) to support homeless people and disadvantaged families in Dacorum. More information about DENS can be found at www.dens.org.uk.

Thank you for your continued support, we look forward to another busy half-term full of rich learning opportunities leading up to Christmas.

Regards

Suzanne Stace and the Westfield team

OCTOBER AWARDS

Congratulations to the following children who have received awards this month.

Headteacher's Awards

Year 1	Year 3	Year 6 Nevelson	Year 6 Riley
Daisy Mbali Lucy Isla Connie	Frank	Jessica.T. Jacob Luke Ella-Mae Leon Neve Reece George Lucy Jack Jamie Daniel Evie	Beth Leona Jenson Calum Patrick Daniel Samuel

Values Awards

Respect

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6 Nevelson	Year 6 Riley
Maya	Poppi	Sienna	Ryan.H.	Arin	Louie	Maybelle	Calum
Sophia	Mbali	Henry	Ellen	Tilly	Frankie	Kaitlin	Isabelle.S

Honesty

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6 Nevelson	Year 6 Riley
Laura	Thomas	Megan	Alex.H.	Alice	Martha	Jack	William