



WESTFIELD NEWS

November 2017

Edition 3

Dear Parents and Carers,

November has been another very busy month of learning at Westfield, here are some of the rich experiences the children have taken part in

'Cool to be Kind Week'



Well done to all of the children who carried out a random act of kindness in the local community again this year. We have received very positive feedback and we are very proud of all of the children who have put a smile on someone's face by demonstrating our value of kindness. We hope that this has inspired the children to continue to offer random acts of kindness throughout the year.

Children in Need

Well done to the School Council for organising a successful cake sale this year to support Children in Need. Thank you to all of the families who supported us by baking and purchasing cakes on the day. We raised a grand total of £349.80 for this worthy charity.

Prospective parents tours

Well done to a group of Year 6 children who proudly showed our prospective Reception parents around the school during their tour. We were delighted to receive very positive feedback from our visiting parents....

"The two girls gave a detailed tour around the school and answered all of our questions in detail and with confidence. The school has a lovely feel to it. Very calm and hardworking."

"Focus on mental health is a huge attraction. Children were articulate and clearly very happy, safe and secure. The aura was calm and stable."

"Our tour guides were just lovely, universally impressed!"

"The children were very engaging, well organised and clearly very happy."

Children step back in time and re-live the past to bring their historical learning to life

Year 3 Stone Age Day

Year 3 stepped back in time to the Stone Age where they dressed up in authentic clothes and during the day had a taste of experiencing what it would be like to live thousands of years ago. The children experienced what it would be like to belong to a tribe and acted out how to prove themselves as young warriors ready to hunt. The children were also involved in preparing for a feast which included making their own bread and butter. At the end of the afternoon, during their Forest school session, they enjoyed tasting this around the open fire in our Wild wood.



Year 2 Trip



Last half term we went on our class trip to Mountfitchet Castle. The castle is the only wooden reconstruction of a medieval motte and bailey castle, built on its original site, in the world! This gave the children a fantastic insight to what life was like after the invasion of William the Conqueror in 1066. We enjoyed a hands on experience, where the children were able to freely walk



around the site, touch equipment and armour and explore the buildings. We particularly enjoyed trying out the stocks!

Year 4 trip



On Tuesday 28th November, Year 4 visited the Verulamium Museum in St Albans. The trip was fantastic - we learnt about the importance of Verulamium in the history of Britain before exploring lots of Roman artefacts. Trying to work out what the Roman's used things for was much more tricky than any of us had realised! Afterwards, we visited the Roman Gallery, finding out more information about Roman life in Britain. Finally we walked through the park to the remains of a Roman Hypocaust and Mosaic. The children were all a credit to Westfield and we would like to say thank you to all the adults who joined us.

Year 5 trip

On Tuesday Year 5 took a trip back in time to the 1940s. The 1940s Experience at the Lincolnsfield Centre, in Bushey, gave us the opportunity to visit wartime Britain. The class enjoyed visiting the 1940s house where they learned about day to day life in WW2



England, they visited the site of an unexploded bomb in the Blitz after an exciting ride in an army vehicle, had the pleasure of listening to Stan Ellis talk about his experience as a 19 year old soldier in action, were introduced to the Dig for Victory initiative and the reasons for it and spent time hearing about the evacuee children and heard the first-hand experience, as an evacuee, of one of the volunteers. Throughout the day Team Picasso experienced being in a public air raid shelter, a garden Anderson



shelter and an in house Morrison shelter. The children had a fascinating, informative and enjoyable day.

Forest school



As the leaves fall from the trees in the Wildwood, children have been observing seasonal changes and noticing the wide variety of fungi, minibeasts, plants and other living things. They have spotted squirrels leaping through the branches, worked out the age of a tree by counting tree rings, noticed birds nests which until recently were hidden by foliage, and speculated about what is digging holes in the meadow (clue: we found some acorns at the bottom of one hole!). They are learning to respect and care for our precious woodland and also to use the resources which it offers.



Their fairy houses and dragon traps were amazingly creative. They have learned how to use a range of small hand tools, including loppers, bowsaws and hand drills, to make necklaces and decorations out of different woods. They are learning to assess risk and keep themselves and their friends safe when using tools, constructing shelters, climbing the stumps and moving around the woodland. As well as all of these skills, they are developing our school values of co-operation, resilience, determination, friendship and many others.

This month's Sporting updates

Football Results

Girls		Boys	
Greenway	Won 5-0	St Cuthbert Mayne	Lost 2-3
Lime Walk	Won 7-1	Holtsmere End	Lost 3-4
Grove Road	Postponed	Lime Walk	Won 9-0
The Reddings	Postponed	The Reddings	Won 6-0
		Greenway	Lost 1-7

Cross Country

Well done to Lucy, Ella, Maybelle, Leon and Josh who took part in the District Cross Country in Hemel Hempstead. Leon achieved another first place and Lucy fifth. Ella, Maybelle and Josh finished within the top 15. Congratulations also to Isaac North in Year 5 who competed against Year 6's and finished 34th out of over 100 participants.

Sporting achievements elsewhere

Well done to :

- Isabelle who competed in a Dance Choreography Competition and was awarded 6 medals in total, 2 Gold, 2 Silver and 2 Bronze!
- George who was selected to compete for Dacorum Diving Club in the Club Championships diving competition.
- Maisie who achieved her Grade 5 in Ice skating – a Westfield first for this sport.

Please let us know if you have successfully taken part in a sporting event outside school. We are aware that many of our pupils enjoy sport outside school such as swimming, dancing, martial arts, hockey etc.

Daily Mile

We have introduced an additional challenge to our Daily Mile – The Daily Mile Marathon. Pupils will aim to run 26 daily miles in order to achieve Marathon Status. A Westfield Marathon Wristband will be awarded to those who are successful.

Mindfulness Course

This term we offered an 8 week Mindfulness course for our parents and teachers across the town. We would like to thank Mel from Mindful Herts for delivering this at Westfield and for the positive feedback we have received ...

"Very informative, well delivered enjoyable course. Would highly recommend"

"A good opportunity to consider the world in a different way – a positive experience"

"Allowed me to get less stressed about things I can't control and be a better me"

"I thoroughly enjoyed attending this course and learnt a lot about helping myself which in turn will help my children"

We would also like to take the opportunity to thank Mrs Plenderleith and the team of parents for all of their hard work, energy and commitment to get us into the final of The Aviva Community Fund competition and the chance to win £25k for an amazing music and arts classroom. Thank you all for supporting this by rallying voters to vote for our school. We came third nationally and hope to hear soon whether we are the lucky winners!

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

Suzanne Stace and the Westfield team

NOVEMBER AWARDS

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

Headteacher's Awards

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 6 Nevelson	Year 6 Riley
Dex Maisy Thomas	Ophelia Lola Charlotte	George Seb Ryan Alexa Ellen Jack Martha Renee	Alice Arin	Annie Luke.G. Maybelle Olivia.H. Bethany Ella-Mae Josh Sammy Kaitlin Isaac Logan Joseph Maisie Neve	Jessica.P. Sarah Emily.G. Jessie Jack Ebony

Apologies if your child's name has been missed as a couple of children weren't recorded in our book ... sorry

Values Awards

Co-operation or Peace

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6 Nevelson	Year 6 Riley
Avery	Caitlin	Katie	Jack	Emma	Cody	George	Isabelle.S.

Courage

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6 Nevelson	Year 6 Riley
Ella	Tyra	Nina	Poppy	William	Hannah		Ella
Baen	Jack	Eryn	Seth	Chloe	Lucy	Jessica	Sami