



WESTFIELD NEWS

February 2018

Edition 5

Dear Parents and Carers,

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

Affinity Water Workshop

At the end of January, Year 4 had a visit from Affinity water. It was a fun filled morning investigating the water system. First we investigated how water travels and whether the length of pipe or height of water source affects the speed of travel. We had to record our results in a table which we then turned into a graph. The second session was even more fun as we got to plot the water routes for a town. We were given 30 minutes, and all the piping and connections we needed. It was great to problem solve and try to work out the best route. At the very end we got to test them to see which ones worked well.



Year 6 perform at the O2!

On Thursday 1st February, Year 6 had the fantastic opportunity to sing at the O2, with a choir of over 7,500 other children as part of the Young voices choir. Last term, the children worked extremely hard learning the songs and dance moves which they proudly performed to parents. The children also enjoyed performing with Zara Larsson from Clean Bandit, Magnet and Street Dance Company Urban Strides. We look forward to welcoming Andy, the founder of this inspirational dance company, back to Westfield later this term.

Well done to all of our Year 6 children who were ambassadors to



Westfield and demonstrated impeccable behaviour during the day. We were extremely proud of you all!



The children thoroughly enjoyed this amazing memorable experience. Here are just a few of their comments...

"I loved it when the lights went out because our torches looked like a starry night"

"Urban Strides were EPIC!"

"The amazing sound we made as a Young Voices choir."

"Singing 'Symphony' with Zara Larsson!"

Here's what some of our Parents said...

"Can I just say a massive thank you."

"What a great experience for the children to be a part of."

"Thank you for enabling the children to attend this event. it was truly magical and a day the children will never forget!"

"The children had an amazing time and it was fantastic to see how happy they were singing and dancing!"

Inspirational Assembly with Olympic Triathlete Stuart Hayes

Last week we had the privilege of an inspirational assembly by Olympic triathlete Stuart Hayes.

Stuart's dream came true when he was selected to represent Great Britain at the 2012 Summer Olympics in the men's triathlon alongside brothers Alistair and Jonathan Brownlee. He was selected to be a domestique role for the Brownlee brothers. Concentrating on his cycling so that he could protect the brothers. Stuart lead the whole of the bike at the Olympic Games which meant that he was too tired to run as fast as the others, he had done his work for his team. He finished in 37th place, however in this race he was there to help the two Brownlee brothers, a job he succeeded in as Alistair finished in gold medal position and Jonny in bronze. Stuart was very proud to have represented Great Britain and work as a team with the two Brownlee brothers.



RSPB Big Schools Bird Watch

The Eco Team took part in RSPB's Big Schools Birdwatch. They worked in groups looking for wild birds on the school field, the playground and in the Wildwood for one hour in total. Some birds were easy to identify, such as the robin which regularly visits the Wildwood, but others were trickier so we used binoculars to see them more clearly.



We recorded every different type of bird that we saw, counting the highest number of birds that we saw of each type at the same time. The results were sent to the RSPB, which collects information from schools and individuals all over the country. This helps them to find out what is happening to bird populations over many years, and helps them to look after birds and other wildlife.



Last year we saw lots of sparrows, but this year we didn't see any. We were lucky enough to see blue tits, pied wagtails, thrushes and a pair of tiny wrens as well as pigeons, gulls, crows, starlings, magpies, a blackbird and our robin.

Feel Good week 2018!

As you are aware at Westfield we pride ourselves in promoting wellbeing and children's mental health. As part of this we enjoyed a very successful Feel Good Week after half term when the children took part in Yoga, Netball, Table Tennis and a whole school Skip to be Fit Challenge. We enjoyed assemblies delivered by Andy from Urban Strides who challenged



us all to 'Grab it and Grow' and John from Skip to be Fit who inspired all the pupils and staff to challenge themselves in a two minute skipping challenge. It has been lovely to see that this has started a skipping craze in the playground as each child now has their own skipping rope and their enthusiasm has spread further to our community as at least 20 skipping ropes have been purchased from the office.

Thank you to Soraya and her Yoga team, Mighty Netball and Ashlyns School Table Tennis Team who demonstrated their skills on our new outdoor tables.



Year 1 Inter schools Sports Competition: Well done to Year 1 who earned a well-deserved 2nd place at the inter schools sports tournament at Sportspace.



Safer Internet Day 2018

The focus this year for Safer Internet Day was: Create, connect and share respect: A better internet starts with you!



The assembly was aimed at the children thinking about how different scenarios made them feel, and to show that everyone is different.

Following the assembly classes took part in various different activities thinking about online safety, and also respecting others when sharing information and photos online.



This month's Sporting updates....

Football:

Westfield Boys v St Bartholomew's	0-3
Westfield Boys v Chaulden Junior	4-3
Westfield Boys v Nash Mills	6-0
Westfield Girls v Hobletts Manor	3-3
Westfield Girls v Grove Road	4-0
Westfield Girls v Brookwood	2-0
Westfield Girls v St Albert The Great	5-0
Westfield Girls v Potten End	2-0

We are very proud of both teams as neither had the opportunity to train and play together before the tournament. The girl's team are now through to the Semi Finals and we wish them good luck. Thank you very much to all the parents who have supported the children and given up their time to transport, support on the side-lines and wash the kit!

Cross Country

Beechwood Park School

A team of year 5 & 6 Pupils represented the school on a cold and muddy Friday afternoon. Both year groups ran together over the 2,000m course and of particular note were Josh 31st, Isaac N 33rd, Ella H 20th, Maybelle 22nd, Lucy B 5th and Leon a well-deserved first place. The boy's team came 8th out of 16 teams whilst the girls came 4th overall. Congratulations to all of our runners.



Herts Schools Athletics Association



A smaller team were selected to run in the Primary School Championships in St Albans. Again our pupils demonstrated our school values of determination, effort and resilience in a very difficult course. Leon came first which qualifies him to run at the National schools cross country final in Loughborough. We wish him the best of luck for the National Final. Lucy B only very narrowly missed out on qualifying. Well done to Ella H 34th, Maybelle 53rd, Isaac N 21st, Joshua 70th, Jacob 97th and Jack 99th. There were over 150 entrants in each event.

Lacrosse

In PE lessons Pupils from year 4 and year 6 have really enjoyed being taught Lacrosse. Mr Jones Sports Explorers Club also offers a similar activity if your child is interested in developing their skills next term.



Storm Basketball

On Monday 22nd January we had an inspiring assembly from Storm Basketball who offer two clubs in school. There are currently spaces in both clubs so please consider offering this to your child. Ashlyns School have a very successful basketball team so it would be great for those in year 6 to get a head start.

Out of School Sporting Achievements

Well done to Jack R who competed in the Herts Major League Swimming gala winning a gold medal in the 50m Freestyle and an overall Bronze medal for the team.

Well done to Isaac N who competed in a Dacorum & Tring Minithon winning a bronze medal in the Shot put and Charlotte P who achieved a gold medal in her Tap Exam.

Leon has also achieved success in his running club, Chiltern Harriers, he also won the Chiltern Cross Country League which is a series of 5 cross country races for runners from clubs across 7 counties.

Thank you for your continued support.
Kind regards
Suzanne Stace and the Westfield team

Congratulations to the following children for Big Write:

Reception:

Caitlyne

Kaito

Baen

Edward

Laura

Sophia

Olivia

Toby