



WESTFIELD WEEKLY

13th October 2023

Edition 6

Key Dates

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 17th October

- Parents Evening (Late appointments)
- Year 4 Trip to Verulanium Museum
- Years 3 & 6 Cross Country Event at Ashlyns School

Wednesday 18th October

- Parents Evening (Early appointments)

Thursday 19th October

- Year 3 Trip to Celtic Harmony
- New to Reception September 2024 Parent Tour
- Harvest Celebration at St Mary's Church for Years 1 to 6

Friday 20th October

- Home Learning Celebration for children in class

Advance Notice

Friday 3rd November

- Open Learning Morning – Parents welcome (please see information below)
- W1SPA Halloween Disco

Attendance – Every day at school counts!

Attendance & Number of Late Arrivals: 25 th – 29 th September 2023						
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
95.31%	92.13%	98.28%	93.3%	98.27%	88.89%	92.48%
0	5	0	5	1	0	7

Our target is 95%. Being in school each day, 91.03% if well, gives your child the best chance of learning and making good progress both educationally and socially. Please support the school by ensuring that your child attends school regularly and arrives ready to learn and on time. Thank you

Parent Consultation Meetings

Reminder: Our first Parents' Evening Consultations of the year take place on Tuesday 17th October (4pm – 7:10pm) and Wednesday 18th October (3:30pm – 5:30pm). **The booking system is now available via the Arbor Parent Portal and will close on Monday 16th October at 9.00am.**

We would kindly ask that children do not attend the consultation meetings, however, if you are unable to arrange alternative childcare, we will provide a colouring activity for children to do in the dining room. **Please note, however, we are unable to provide any adult supervision for the children that may attend.** Thank you.

Events next week and beyond

- **Friday 3rd November - Halloween Disco** - tickets on sale now at www.pta-events.co.uk/w1spa - ticket sales close midnight Thurs 2nd Nov and we won't be able to take bookings on the door! You can also sign up to volunteer whilst you're there (see poster attached for more info)
- **After half term** we will be asking you to bring in any leftover Halloween sweets, as well as asking for donations of toys, teddies, bottles etc in preparation for our Christmas fair - keep an eye for more info here / on whatsapp groups / at the meeting place
- **Friday 17th November - 'Bag2School' collection** - have a half term sort out and bring unwanted clothes / bags / shoes etc to raise money for W1SPA (see poster attached for more info)
- **Friday 8th December 3-6pm - Christmas Fair** - save the date - more details to follow soon
- **Saturday 9th December - Santa's Sleigh** - sign up to help at www.pta-events.co.uk/w1spa - we can't run this without support, and it's super fun and festive!

Thank you.....

- For supporting our Halloween costume swap, and the Year 6 cake sale today
- For those who have signed up to help at the Halloween disco

Can you help? We're looking for....

- Storage space to store items between now and the Christmas fair - could be a garage, storage unit etc - please email wispawestfield@gmail.com if you can help or have any ideas
- Just one or two volunteer slots left to help at the Halloween disco - sign up at www.pta-events.co.uk/w1spa
- Help with Santa Sleigh - sign up at www.pta-events.co.uk/w1spa
- General help with events / Christmas fair planning - please speak to a W1SPA team member, or email us on wispawestfield@gmail.com if you'd like to get involved
- Join our Facebook Group www.facebook.com/groups/wispawestfield or follow us on Instagram www.instagram.com/wispa_pta_group for updates

Harvest Celebration and Donations to HOPE Food Bank

For our annual celebration of Harvest, children in Years 1 to 6 will be walking to St Mary's Church on Thursday 19th October. The celebration will be held at 10:30am and parents are welcome to attend, however, please note that seating is extremely limited in the church and may be standing room only. Our Reception children will remain at school and have their own harvest celebration in class.

As detailed in last week's newsletter, we are supporting HOPE Food Bank as part of our Harvest celebrations and would be grateful to receive donations to help support them provide food parcels for local families. Please refer to the list below for suggested items and please send donations into the school office by Friday 20th October. Thank you for your support and generosity.

Online Safety – Personal Information



This week in assembly we talked about personal information and whether it is safe to share online. Personal information is any data that can be used to identify a specific person, such as full name, birthday, address or school. We talked about what to do if someone online asked for personal information and how it is important to not share then information and to tell a trusted adult.

Please see further information below including '10 Tips to keep your children safe online'

School Photographs

If you would like to order your child's school photograph, please note the closing date for **free delivery to school is Wednesday 18th October**. You can order through the Tempest website using your unique link or visit www.tempest-orders.co.uk

If you need any assistance in ordering your photos, feel free to contact Tempest on 01736 751555 (option 3).

Year 6: Secondary School Applications

Reminder: The deadline date for Secondary School applications for children in Year 6 is 31st October 2023. Applications can be made online at: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions Any applications received after the above date will be considered as late. We would therefore strongly recommend that you apply before the deadline or you may not get your first choice of school.

Home Learning Celebration

Our first home learning celebration will take place on Friday 20th October where we will be celebrating with the children in class any work they have completed from the suggested home learning activities. If you need a reminder of the home learning activity grids, these are available on the class pages on our school website. We look forward to seeing the amazing work that the children have completed this half term.

Open Learning Mornings

Parent Event

We look forward to welcoming parents and carers to our first Open Learning Morning on Friday 3rd November. Please drop your children off following our normal morning routine and then come to the hall for a short introductory session, before then being able to visit your children's classes where you will have the opportunity to engage with your child in some interactive teaching activities. If you have more than one child in the school, we suggest that you start by visiting your youngest child's class and then move from one class to the other within the time available.

British Legion Poppy Appeal

To support this years' Poppy Appeal, we will be selling poppies and a selection of 'poppy' themed items in aid of the Royal British Legion. Suggested donations are between 50p and £1 and the children will be able to buy items each day in school after half term. Thank you for supporting The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

Reception Places – September 2024

If you or anyone you know has a child who will be starting Reception in September 2024, you are very welcome to attend one of our upcoming school tours. They are running on Thursday 19th October, Wednesday 1st November, Thursday 16th November, Tuesday 28th November and Monday 8th January 2024. Please contact the school office if you would like to book a place.

Lost Property – Please label all personal belongings

Please can we remind you to **ensure that all personal belongings are marked clearly with your child's name** so that any lost property can be returned to its owner. Staff spend a lot of time trying to find lost property items so please help us by **labelling all of your child's property including 2nd hand uniform**. Please also regularly check the uniform your child brings home – it is easy for items of uniform to get mixed up. If your child brings home something which doesn't belong to them, please return it to school and we will reunite it with its owner. Thank you.

Dr Kathy Weston Newsletter

Dr Kathy Weston's Newsletter this week 'Music Advantage' looks at the importance of music in our lives and highlights how exposure to music, music instruction and the experience of playing music can have far-reaching and extraordinary impacts on children's cognition, emotional, social and academic development.

<https://members.tooledupeducation.com/wednesday-wisdom/music-advantage>

Previous articles are also available via the tooled up website: <https://www.tooledupeducation.com/tooled-up/wednesday-wisdom/>

Berkhamsted Fireworks

Tickets are available to buy for the Berkhamsted Rotary Club Fireworks display on Saturday 4th November. Tickets are available through the Arbor Parent Portal at a reduced price of £9 for an adult, £6 for under 16's and a family ticket (2 adults, 2 children) for £23. Children under 5 are free. If you have already purchased a ticket, we will be sending tickets home after half term. Every ticket sold will earn commission for the school so thank you in advance for your support and helping to raise money for our school.

Dacorum Family Services - Family Life on a Budget Workshop

Dacorum Family Services are running a FREE workshop for parents covering ideas to keep within your budgets including ... supermarket spending, eating for less, food banks and local charities, days out, energy saving, tax free childcare and more! The session will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday 18th October 2023 from 10:30am to 12pm. For more details and to book, please email: jnethercoat@hobbshillwood.herts.sch.uk

Dacorum Family Services also have a number of upcoming workshops which include: Helping Your Child to Manage Anger; Anxiety & Attendance; Parent & Carer Wellbeing; Managing Worries & Anxiety and Moving onto Secondary School. Please see the flyer below for more details.

Local Events and Information

Herts Balance & Ride

Learn to Balance and Ride and Developing Better Bike Control courses are being held at Tudor Primary School in Hemel Hempstead on Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th October. The sessions are suitable for children aged 3.5 to 11 and last one hour. The cost for two sessions is £32 or £19 for one session. Balance bikes and lightweight pedal bikes are provided for each child. Group size is normally a maximum of 5. For further information and to book, please visit: www.hertsbalance.uk/public-schedule-booking

Toy Hub

Toy Hub is back again for 2023 providing support to local families with the provision of unwrapped gifts for their children to open on Christmas day. Last year they sorted, packed and delivered bags full of unwrapped gifts for 474 children who live locally, ranging in age from 0 - 18 years. The bags were complete with toothbrushes, toothpaste, wrapping paper, sellotape and chocolates. Toy donation points will open on Friday 3rd November and are located in the same places as last year. For full information, please see the flyer below or visit: www.toyhub.org/2023info

October Half Term fun at Discover Bucks Museum

From 23-28th October, Discover Bucks Museum in Aylesbury is holding a fun-filled family-friendly week of arts and crafts topped off with a spooky family Halloween day on Saturday 28th October. Parents can also put on their leg warmers and take a trip back to the 1980s and visit their nostalgia-filled exhibition! To find out more, please see the flyers below or visit: www.discoverbucksmuseum.org

Seriously FUN Swimming Schools

Please see the flyer below for details of upcoming swimming lessons for children aged 3 to 12 years of all abilities with Seriously FUN Swimming Schools. For more information, please visit: www.seriouslyfun.com

Lemon Jelly Half Term Workshops

Lemon Jelly is running an October holiday workshop at Berkhamsted Pre Prep from 23rd-27th October. Children will be able to enjoy an exciting mix of Drama, Dance, Film Making, Prop and set design and musical theatre activities. The minimum age for the workshops is 5 years and individual days can be booked. For more information or to book, please visit: <https://www.lemonjellyarts.com/holiday-workshops>

Letters/Flyers/Information sent home this week

- Years 3-6 Herts Music Service
- Dance Club flyer

Copies of all letters sent home can be found in the letter rack outside the office and can also be accessed from our website within the '[Letters Home](#)' page

Our School Value for this term is Respect

Kings Road Church, HOPE FOOD BANK - Harvest Donations

FOOD		
Breakfast cereal	Longlife milk	Tinned potatoes
Mashed potato	Sweetcorn	Peas
Carrots	Tomatoes	Pasta Sauce
Curry sauce	Tuna	Meatballs
Hotdogs	Chili con carne	Chicken curry
Other tins of meat 'meals'	Tinned ham	Corned beef
Gravy granules	Soup	Baked beans
Jam	Custard	Rice pudding
Fruit	Teabags	Coffee
Sugar	Squash	Biscuits
Pasta	Rice	
HYGIENE PRODUCTS		
Shampoo (adults/children)	Shower gel	Toothpaste (adults/children)
Toilet roll	Soap (bar or liquid)	Toothbrush (adults/children)
Deodorant	Shaving gel	
HOUSEHOLD		
Washing up liquid	Clothes washing powder/liquid/tablets	

WISPA PRESENTS:

HALLOWEEN DISCO

Friday 3rd November

4:30-5:30pm - younger disco for Years R, 1 & 2

(parents/carers MUST stay with reception children)

- £5 per child (siblings £4)
- Pre-book face paint / glitter tattoos with ticket
- DJ & quiet crafts & sweet treat included
- Costumes welcome (age appropriate please!)
- Bring your own water bottle



5:45-7pm - older disco for Years 3, 4, 5 & 6

- £5 per child (siblings £4)
- Bring money for face paint / glitter tattoos / tuck shop
- DJ, quiet crafts included
- Costumes welcome (age appropriate please!)
- Bring your own water bottle



SCAN ME

Book at www.pta-events.co.uk/wispa or scan the QR code



WISPA is Westfield Primary School's Parents Association, and every Westfield parent is a member
www.westfieldprimary.co.uk
www.pta-events.co.uk/wispa

WISPA

BAG 2 SCHOOL

DONATE YOUR OLD CLOTHES AND SHOES!!



Bring your unwanted clothes, bedding, shoes and more for reuse - and WISPA will receive a donation for the goods!

NEXT COLLECTION DATE:

Friday 17th November '23

Please bring donations to school at drop-off

See bag2school.com/what-we-collect or scan QR code for what they will collect



WISPA is Westfield Primary School's Parents Association, and every Westfield parent/carer is a member
www.westfieldprimary.co.uk
www.pta-events.co.uk/wispa

WISPA PRESENTS:

Westfield's Christmas Fair

Save the date!

Friday 8th December
3-6pm

Save the date for our annual Christmas fair - there will be festive stalls and games, food & bar, tombolas, crafts and more!

We will also be asking for help to run stalls etc - just an giving just an hour means that everyone can enjoy the event with their children!

WISPA is Westfield Primary School's Parents Association, and every Westfield parent is a member
www.westfieldprimary.co.uk
www.pta-events.co.uk/wispa

WISPA PRESENTS:

SANTA'S SLEIGH

Every December the wonderful folk at Berko Rotary tour around the town with Santa's Sleigh. As usual we have been invited to join them on one of the days:

Saturday 9th December, 4-8pm

We need a small team of adult volunteers to walk with the sleigh and collect money from people as they come out to see the sleigh - it's great fun, festive and raises us loads of money!

Please register to help on the day at
www.pta-events.co.uk/wispa/index.cfm?event=volunteers
or scan the QR code

WISPA is Westfield Primary School's Parents Association, and every Westfield parent is a member
www.westfieldprimary.co.uk
www.pta-events.co.uk/wispa



**LEARN TO BALANCE AND RIDE AND
DEVELOPING BETTER BIKE CONTROL
COURSES** (HALF-TERM OCTOBER 2023)



One of the best skills children can learn, opening up opportunities for fun, independence, activity and health for a lifetime

LEARN TO BALANCE AND RIDE (L2BR)

- For children typically aged between 3.5 and 11
- 80% + of children are normally riding after 2 sessions
- 1 Instructor to max 5 children
- Balance bike and lightweight pedal bike for each child included in price
- 1 hour sessions

DEVELOPING BETTER BIKE CONTROL (DBBC)

- Follow-on course for new or inexperienced riders
- Covers key skills of starting, stopping, turning, looking, riding close to others, gears and signalling
- 1 Instructor to max 5 children
- Bike provided if required (extra £3.00)
- 1 hour sessions

Full course details at: www.hertsbalance.uk/course-descriptions

Monday October 23rd and Tuesday October 24th

Venue: Tudor Primary School, Hemel Hempstead. HP3 9ER

Thursday October 26th and Friday October 27th

Venue: The Ridgeway Academy, Welwyn Garden City. AL7 2AF

Cost: £32 for two sessions. £19 for one session.

For more information and to book, go to www.hertsbalance.uk/public-schedule-booking
email phil@hertsbalance.uk or call Phil on 07941 061717.

Private L2BR, DBBC and Bikeability sessions are available for children and adults
and families. Details at www.hertsbalance.uk/private-sessions

ONLINE CONTENT

10 tips to keep your children safe online

The internet has transformed the ability to access content. Many apps that children use are dependent on user-generated content which can encourage freedom of expression, imagination and creativity. However, due to the sheer volume uploaded every day, it can be difficult for platforms to regulate and moderate everything, which means that disturbing or distressing images, videos or audio clips can slip through the net. That's why we've created this guide to provide parents and carers with some useful tips on keeping children safe online.



1 MONITOR VIEWING HABITS

Whilst most apps have moderation tools, inappropriate content can still slip through the net.



2 CHECK ONLINE CONTENT

Understand what's being shared or what seems to be 'trending' at the moment.



3 CHECK AGE-RATINGS

Make sure they are old enough to use the app and meet the recommended age-limit.



4 CHANGE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Make accounts private and set content filters and parental controls where possible.



5 SPEND TIME ON THE APP

Get used to how apps work, what content is available and what your child likes to watch.



6 LET CHILDREN KNOW YOU'RE THERE

Ensure they know that there is support and advice available to them if they need it.



7 ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING

Talk about what people might post online and why some posts could cause distress.



8 LEARN HOW TO REPORT & BLOCK

Always make sure that children know how to use the reporting tools on social media apps.



9 KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

If a child sees distressing material online; listen to their concerns, empathise and offer reassurance.



10 SEEK FURTHER SUPPORT

If a child has been affected by something they've seen online, seek support from your school's safeguarding lead.

NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday



APPLY | DONATE | VOLUNTEER

Toy Hub

A charity providing support to **OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY** this Christmas. Families within Berkhamsted, Tring and surrounding villages.

Our mission is to provide families with quality, ready to wrap, new and like new toys and gifts, ensuring that no child goes without.



Apply for support

From: Thursday 12 October

For those struggling to cover the cost of Christmas this year – We deliver new or like new gifts, complete with wrapping paper and tape, ready to wrap in time for Christmas day. Children aged 0-18. Find our application form and more info on our website: toyhub.org/apply

Donate toys & gifts

From: Friday 3 November

We're looking for donations of new & like new toys & gifts for children aged 0-18. For donation points and more info visit: toyhub.org/donate

Volunteer to help

Sign up from: Thursday 12 October

Volunteers needed throughout November
Find out more at: toyhub.org/volunteer

Toy Hub is a registered charity, No. 1198216



TOYHUB.ORG



Half term Workshops

OCTOBER

Be who you want to be

Discover a World of Fun and Creativity at our Holiday Workshop Week!
Get ready to dance, act, sing, and create in an amazing week of self-expression and enjoyment!

Mill Hill

Mill Hill School Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October

Berkhamsted

Berkhamsted Pre Prep Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October

Great Glen

Leicester Grammar School Monday 16th - Friday 20th October



Look forward to....

- Making new friends who share your passion for the arts.
- Gaining valuable life skills like teamwork and effective communication.
- Receiving expert guidance from our passionate and experienced instructors.
- Creating memories that will stay with you forever!



9am-4pm
Daily Booking
available



Spaces are limited, so don't wait too long to secure your spot.
If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to us: 01858 545459 or visit our website [here](https://www.lemonzellyarts.co.uk)
Let's make this holiday a time of discovery, creativity, and endless fun.

BOOK NOW

FOLLOW US: [@LEMONZELLYARTS](https://www.instagram.com/lemonzellyarts) [@LEMONZELLYARTS](https://www.facebook.com/lemonzellyarts)

**B Discover Bucks
Museum**
A Royal Dads Children's Gallery

Discover Bucks Museum
Church Street
Aylesbury HP20 2QH
[discoverbucksmuseum.org](https://www.discoverbucksmuseum.org)
01296 331441

October Half-Term

23 - 28 October 2023

Monday - Friday 10am - 2pm

Saturday 10am - 4pm

Join us this October half-term for a fun-filled family-friendly week of arts and crafts topped off with a spooky family Halloween day on Saturday 28 October.

Discover more at [discoverbucksmuseum.org](https://www.discoverbucksmuseum.org) or scan the QR code



**B Discover Bucks
Museum**
A Royal Dads Children's Gallery

Discover Bucks Museum
Church Street
Aylesbury HP20 2QH
[discoverbucksmuseum.org](https://www.discoverbucksmuseum.org)
01296 331441



Take a trip back to the 1980s in
this nostalgia-filled exhibition
and get ready to exclaim,
'I remember that!'

80s fun for all ages

21 October 2023 - 16 March 2024

Discover more at [discoverbucksmuseum.org](https://www.discoverbucksmuseum.org) or scan the QR code



Children's Weekly Swimming Lessons

Amersham - Wycombe - Aylesbury - Gerrards Cross - Maidenhead - Slough

Weekly lessons run year round!

50% OFF*

Code: GET50
*50% off initial payment when you book online

£58 per month (per child)

Maximum 6 children per class

Children aged 3 to 12 years

Beginners, Improvers & Advanced

Book Online:

www.seriouslyfun.com

Call: 01753 364 364

Teachers required • Join our team



Kids Swimming Lessons

Join 1000's of children learning to swim with us every week!

Max 6 per class

FREE Welcome Pack includes swim bag, awards file & sticker chart!

Amersham: The Beacon School (HP6 5PP) Mon to Fri after school & Sat morning

Wycombe: Oakton Wood School (HP13 5HB) Wed/Thu after school

Aylesbury: Aylesbury Grammar School (HP21 7RP) Mon/Tue/Wed/Fri after school & Sat morning

Gerrards Cross: Thorpe House School (SL9 8QA) Mon to Fri after school & Sat/Sun morning

Maidenhead: St. Peter's School (SL6 7LJ) Fri after school & Sat morning

Slough: Tokyo Japanese School (SL2 4QS) Mon to Fri after school & Sat/Sun morning

✓ **Monthly payments**

£58 per month (per child) for one 30 minute lesson per week (in line with school terms)

✓ **Small classes**

Max 6 children per class to ensure your child gets special attention and assistance

✓ **Siblings swim together**

Different class levels at the same time so siblings of different abilities can swim together

✓ **Water safety lessons**

Every child takes part in our age specific water safety lessons every term

✓ **FUN Awards Scheme**

A structured, progressive and FUN awards scheme tracking your child's progress

✓ **Friendly, caring teachers**

Our caring, FUN and fully trained teachers are DBS checked and qualified lifesavers

Teaching YOUR child to swim in a safe and FUN Way!

Book Online:

www.seriouslyfun.com

Call: 01753 364 364

@seriouslyfun @seriouslyfunswim



Family Life on a Budget

Date Wednesday 18th October 2023

Time 10:30 to 12:00 pm
Session will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams

Join us for some money saving tips!

A **free** workshop for parents covering ideas to keep within your budgets including...Supermarket spending, Eating for less, Food banks and local charities, days out, energy saving, tax free childcare and more!



For more details and to book, please email:

jnethercoat@hobbshillwood.herts.sch.uk

Please include contact details and name of child's school when booking

Tel: 01442 401222 Ext: 5



FREE Workshops

For all parents/carers*

Sessions will be held either online via MS Teams or face to face at Hobbs Hill Wood Primary School HP3 8ER

Life Event	Date	Time & Location
Family Life on a Budget	Wed 18 th October 2023	10:30 to 12:00 pm Online
Helping your Child to Manage Anger	Wed 15 th November 2023	9:30 to 11:00 am Hobbs Hill Wood
Anxiety & Attendance	Tues 9 th January 2024	10:00 to 11:30 am Online
Parent & Carer Wellbeing	Wed 20 th February 2024	9:30 to 11:00 am Hobbs Hill Wood
Managing Worries & Anxiety	Wed 15 th May 2024	10:00 to 11:30 am Online
Moving onto Secondary School	Thurs 20 th June 2024	10:00 to 11:30 am Online

To book your place, please contact

Jan Nethercoat on:

jnethercoat@hobbshillwood.herts.sch.uk

Tel: 01442 401222 Ext: 5 (Term time only)

Please include contact details and name of child's school when booking

*All present sessions can only be offered to parents/carers of those children/YP who attend a DfES North & East Partnership School