



WESTFIELD NEWS

November / December 2022

Edition 2

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we say goodbye to 2022, It has been lovely to feel the school calendar returning to normal this half term. We have really enjoyed welcoming you into the school to be a part of your children's learning journey and to watch them in their assemblies and concerts, I think you'll agree, they have done Westfield and yourselves proud!

Rabbi Visit

The Rabbi visited school in assembly and also visited Year 1, 2 and Year 4. In Years 1 and 2 he told the children a story to explain why Jews celebrate Hanukkah. In Year 4 he gave the children a great insight into Jewish culture and history. The children were able to compare what they knew about Christianity and explore pictures of important Jewish landmarks. They were even able to try on some traditional Jewish garments and headwear!

Remembrance Day 11th November

This year as well as sharing with the children the reasons for us celebrating Remembrance Day, wearing a poppy and why money is donated to the Poppy appeal, the KS2 children joined an online live assembly with thousands of children from schools around the country in partnership with the Royal Legion.

We were also very proud of Hector in Year 5 who spent from May to November knitting poppies, raising money to support the Poppy appeal this year – what a wonderful random act of kindness!

We raised an impressive £233.07 from the poppy appeal for the Royal British Legion.



Cool to be Kind week 14th-18th November

As part of anti-bullying week where we focused on the importance of children hearing the important message to reach out and speak to an adult to stop bullying, we also celebrated by focusing on the importance of demonstrating our value of kindness. We encouraged children to think about ways that they could carry out random acts of kindness both in school and within their homes. Well done to the children who put a smile on someone's face by either sending a positive message, making a Christmas card of Hope, baking a cake, donating food for the food bank, helping around the home or in any other way.

Well done to the School Council who also organised a dress down day for Children in Need, raising £139.50. Thank you to all of the children, parents and carers who kindly supported us with a donation.

Hertfordshire's Just Talk week- 21st 27th November

As part of our continued focus on mental health and wellbeing, we shared with the children in assembly this year's Just Talk campaign messages.

The key focus this year was 'Look beneath the surface' where we shared with our children in assembly the following messages-

Have you ever shouted or snapped at someone because you were feeling upset or worried? Keeping emotions like sadness, fear or frustration locked up inside can sometimes cause them to come out in other ways, like outbursts of anger, being grumpy, or isolating yourself from people you care about.

Just Talk Week's theme for 2022 was to 'Look beneath the surface', to be patient with others, as we can't always know the challenges that someone may be facing.

That's why, more than ever, it's so important we don't jump to conclusions about people or judge them unkindly. It's important to understand that if you see a friend, family member or someone else you know acting unusually or not their typical self, they may be having a bad day or going through a difficult time.

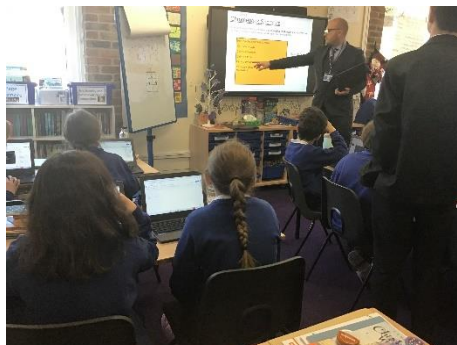
We emphasised the importance of talking to a trusted adult to identify where their feelings come from and for them to be able to learn to express these emotions so that they aren't suppressed and get stuck. If they don't find a way to release these emotions they build up inside them making it harder to cope with managing these feelings in the future. Our hope is to help them identify their feelings early they are able to use strategies, including talking to move them out of the yellow or blue zone and more towards the green before entering the red zone.

You can find out more details by going to : [Just Talk Week 2022 \(justtalkherts.org\)](https://justtalkherts.org)

Please refer back to the e mail with additional resources that were sent out to you or on our website.

Computing Ambassadors

Year 5 had an enjoyable morning with 5 computing learning ambassadors from Ashlyns School year 8, Mr McDonald Head of Year 7, and Mr Roberts Assistant Headteacher. The children were shown how to access documents and add to them, how to make a good password and remember it, and used Google Classroom. All the children had use of a Chromebook and played a quiz at the end to see what they had remembered from the session.



Sports updates

Tag Rugby Tournament

On Wednesday 9th November Year 5 participated in an inter school event at Camelot Rugby Club in Hemel. The event was attended by over 15 schools in the area and the pupils really enjoyed the experience to compete against others. Some feedback from Y5:

"It was fun, and everyone was really supportive and encouraging."

"It was very active, involved teamwork, the people were friendly and there was no shouting."

Y1 Footgolf

The Y1 class attended a Footgolf event at Berkhamsted Leisure Centre organised by Dacorum School Sports Network and assisted by Ashlyns' Sports Leaders. The pupils ball skills were challenged in seven different activities during the afternoon testing the skills they have learnt in PE this term. Thank you to the adult helpers who accompanied the class enabling them to take part.

Y2 Multiskills

On 1st December Y2 attended a Multiskills event at Berkhamsted Leisure Centre where they joined 6 other schools to try out some different games and challenges. Assisted by Ashlyns' Sports Leaders the pupils had a lot of fun and reported that they would like to return next year. Thank you again to the adult helpers who accompanied them to the event.

Y5/6 Mixed Football League

On 6th December Westfield met Boxmoor at home and after a very exciting match scored the final goal to win 4-3. Well done to the team and their coach PJ. Unfortunately, due to the recent weather their final match had to be postponed.

Clubs at Westfield

Thank you to PJ, Ace Sports and Ross and Andy who have run sports clubs throughout the term for our pupils. Please encourage your child to attend a club if one is offered for next term as these provide opportunities to be active and healthy and to be sociable with peers. Unfortunately, if minimum numbers aren't met, we will no longer be able to offer them.

Parent's / Carer's events this half term...

Open Learning Morning

On Friday 18th November it was lovely to welcome so many parents and carers in to school to join us for our first Open Learning morning since the pandemic. We were pleased to be able to share with you how we support your children to recognise their feelings and manage their emotions choosing the zones of regulation to help them to do so. We hope that by us using the same language both in school and home we can support your children to develop their emotional literacy vocabulary and learn ways to self-regulate.

Thank you for taking the time to share your positive feedback which is displayed in our entrance. We are glad you found the session useful, here are just a few of the comments we received

'An amazing session. Thank you so much for teaching all of this to our children and to us.'

'Really helpful to have a wheel of emotions to refer to. Very happy the school talk about and explain emotions at an early age.'

'Mrs Stace your talk was so incredibly helpful! Thank you! It is so helpful to know how we can help our children to talk about their emotions at home.'

'Love this being such a foundation at the school, you see the happiness shine through the children. Thank you Mrs Stace and the staff at the school.'

'Great to see that the school makes mental well-being a priority. Good mental health is key to creating resilient and happy children – thank you so much!'

Online Parent Safety Parent workshop

Unfortunately, despite a small number of parents signing up for our Online Parent Safety workshop on Wednesday 9th November, sadly only one parent attended. Due to this it was cancelled and wasn't recorded as we had hoped it would be in order to share with parents who weren't able to attend.

As we feel it is vitally important these Online safety messages are shared with parents and carers in order to ensure your children access the digital world safely at home, we have made the decision that this will form the focus of our next Open Learning morning on Friday 27th January.

Please make a note of this date in your diary / on your calendar if you haven't already done so.

Ashridge lights

Thank you to all of the parents and carers who entered our raffle to win tickets to the Ashridge Management College Christmas lights. We would also like to thank the Management College for offering this to our Westfield Families. Congratulations to Miss Islip for winning the prize and for sharing some of the wonderful photos.



Raising funds to support our Kenyan community

The amount raised for Kenya from the fun run and preloved sale was **£182.23**. This comprises of £100.13 for the preloved sale and £82.10 for the fun run. Thank you for supporting these events.

Musical celebrations....

Choir spread some Christmas cheer

On Sunday 4th December we were very proud to take our Westfield Choir to St Albans Cathedral to sing as part of a wider Christmas choir with Greenway and St Thomas More Primary schools and the Dacorum Music School. Well done to all of the children who took part, spreading Christmas cheer throughout the cathedral and for helping to raise money for the Hospice of St Francis who have supported some of our Westfield families in recent years.



Year 1/ EYFS Christmas play

On Thursday 15th December, the children in Year 1 and Early Years treated us to their fantastic Christmas performance, where they performed 'Hey You!' to their parents and carers. The children all looked fabulous in their costumes and treated us to some amazing singing and fantastic acting. We would like to thank all the teachers and teaching assistants for all their hard work in the lead up to the show. A very BIG thank you also to Mr Bray for his support.



Rock Steady

Well done to all the Rock Steady bands who entertained us on Friday 16th December with their end of term performances. We were very impressed with the children's musical skills on the electric guitar, drums and keyboard, accompanied by the vocalists.

Christmas Fair

Thank you to WISPA for all of your support in organising our Christmas fair after school on Friday 16th December. It was a great success with snow on the ground and a visit from Father Christmas! Thank you for coming to support it, WISPA fundraising helps to pay for enriching experiences for your children throughout the year.

Christmas celebration at the Church

It was lovely to be able to return to St Mary's church this year to hold our Christmas celebration of song. Well done to the Year 4 children who re told the Christmas Nativity story, to the choir and all of the classes for spreading some Christmas cheer. Thank you to all of the parents and carers who supported us to walk the children to the church and to everyone who joined us.

Finally, I am so sad not to have been able to be in school for the last week of term, but would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and healthy Christmas and New Year.

Take care

Suzanne and the Westfield Team

NOVEMBER/ DECEMBER CELEBRATIONS

Birthday celebrations – Happy Birthday wishes went to....



| Nursery | Rec | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
|---|--|---|---|-----------------|-----------------|---|---------------|
| George Jacob Jack Khalil Hollie Amaira Izzy | Sophie Ezra S Ezra M Poppy Edie Tabitha Luna Jake Florence Bella Maisie Aston | Miriam Lilly-Belle Ethan Khloe | Antanas Matilda Riya Beau Hamza Harry Tyler | Camille Ryan | Lexie Oliver | Jessica Lyla Baen Sophia S Maya Caitlyne Ronnie Ella P Laurie | Kadin Emma |

*Apologies, but the Nursery and Reception birthdays were missing from the Sep/Oct Newsletter, but they have been added here.

Congratulations to the following children who have received the following Head teacher's awards

| Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
|--------|--|---|---|--|---|
| | Elsie-Mae Freddie Amelia T Jenson Laurel Marina Harrison Daniel Harry Celeste Tianna Holly Ria | Sofia Finn Amelia C Izzie Livvy Camille Edward Elisia Scarlett Shazain Ava L-T Harrison Amelia C Amelia T-C Jessica Jack Ava D | Abigail Finley Sophia C Josh Lorelie Edward Lyra Sophia s Tessa | Ronnie Sian Archie Will Hector Sienna Djayden Cora Sam Frieda Kaito Lyla Sian Ella C Baen Alicia Olivia Sophie Avery Jayden Laura Ella P Edward P Maya Josh Caitlin | Imogen Charlotte Connie Shenaya Poppy Maisy Jessica Rachel Katie Kadin |

Reading Certificates



Well done to all of the children who have been working hard at their home reading and achieved their next certificate

| Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 |
|---|--|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Jay Elodie Eleanor Ethan Fred Jessica Holly Elissia Mia Ezra Theo Betty Freddie C-K Miriam Elodie Freddie B | Antanas Hamza Freddie Holly Daniel Astrid Henry Harry Celeste James Ivy Amelia T | Scarlett Gracie Amelia T-C | Noa Chayse Lexie |

Values Awards-

Appreciation

| Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
|--------------------|---------|------------------|--------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Jay Whole class | Harry F | Ollie Camille | Louis | Laura Djayden Will | Jessica George Akshar |

Peace

| Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
|--------|--------|---------|-----------|--------|---------|
| Mila | Nula | Abigail | Annabelle | Lyra | Jessica |

Courage / Peace

| Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
|--------|--------|----------|--------|-------------|---------|
| Ezra | Laurel | Scarlett | Josh | Whole class | Frankie |

Understanding and Forgiveness

| Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
|---------------|-------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Esme David | Freddie Astrid | Team Matisse Chloe | Hallie-Mae Gabiella | Cora Tessa | Caitlin Kadin |

Maths Wizards



Congratulations to all of the children who have been working SO hard with their mental Maths fluency skills. A special well done for the following children who have received their next certificates, some achieving more than one -

| Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|

| | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| Laurel Antanas Marina Holly Tyler Henry James Freddie Hamza Monty Jenson Hamza Riya Ivy Celeste Daniel Astrid Amelia T Freddie Nula Alfie Harry | Mila Elisia Finn Gracie Edward Shazain Ryan Aariz Isaac Leo Sofia Jack Camille Amelia T-C Izzie Douglas Isaac Bobbi-D Olivia Sofia | Finley Eva Gabriella Anya Hallie-Mae Eva Safi Noa Martha Ruby S Chayse Charlie Kimmy | Maya Jude Tessa Laura Sophia C Avery Frieda Olivia Baen Laura Lorelie Lyra Jude Avery Ronnie Frieda Sam Ella P Kaito Will Edward | Emma Kadin Imogen Bella Rachel Connie Maisy Charlotte Dylan George Akshar Frankie Max Isla Caitlin Lucy Shenaya |
|--|---|--|--|---|

Times Table Rock stars

1st places – Year 5 Year 2

2nd places- Year 5 Year 6

3rd places – Year 6 Year 3

If your child has a sporting or music achievement, which they have received outside of school we would love to celebrate this with them. Please ask your child to hand this in to the class teacher for their Friday celebration assembly.

Well done this month to



Antanas passed his first Musical Theatre exam



Outside Sporting achievements –

It is wonderful to celebrate so many outside achievements this term too!
Congratulations to the following children

- Tessa Yr 5 - LAMDA grade 1 Distinction
- Harry and Antanas Yr 2 - Karate
- Antanas – Musical theatre and Gymnastics
- Amelia T, Holly and Marina Yr 2 - Gymnastics
- Connie Yr 6 – Swimming Bronze and Silver award
- Elisia Yr 3 Gymnastics medal
- Cora Yr 5 - Grade 1 Ballet – distinction
- Freddie B Yr 1, Tyler Yr 2 , Ollie Yr 3 and Jayden Yr 5 – Ross and Andy Football awards
- Gracie Yr3, Shenaya and Bella Yr 6 – Gymnastic competition awards
- Daniel D Yr 2 – Football player of the week