



# WESTFIELD WEEKLY

1<sup>st</sup> December 2023

Edition 12

## Key Dates

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December**

- Choir - The Hospice of St Francis Carol Service

#### **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December**

- Football Match (Home)

#### **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December**

- Year 1 Christmas Assembly – Start time 9:30am
- W1SPA Christmas Fair 3-6pm

### Advance Notice ....

#### **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December**

- Child Shows Parent – 8:35am to 9:15am

#### **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December**

- Rock Steady Concert – 9am – Parents welcome
- Reception Christmas Sing Along - 2:30pm - Reception Parents welcome

## A message from Miss Leach...

I've been so proud of the children across the school this term who have been so welcoming and receptive to all of the visitors that we have had in school. We continue to welcome a variety of people and have more planned over the coming weeks. The children show positive learning behaviours and are very polite to visitors who often comment on this. We continue with the value of kindness for the rest of the term.



Christmas is starting to arrive at school, and I would like to thank the WISPA team for running "Elfridges" - A lot of wrapping paper and sellotape being used in the dinner hall! Don't forget it's the Christmas fair next week - we're still looking for volunteers so please sign up!

I am very much looking forward to hearing the choir sing in St Albans Cathedral on Sunday, then Christmas will really be here!

Have a good weekend,  
Miss Leach

# Leadership corner



## A message from Mrs Goodchild

It has been brilliant to return to Westfield this week after being off on maternity leave since January. I have thoroughly enjoyed popping into the classrooms to see all the children and meeting many of the new families who have joined. It has also been great to get to start working with Miss Leach and I am excited for the school moving forward under her leadership.

As we approach Christmas, I look forward to hearing from you through your class reps at Parent Forum.

In the meantime, if I haven't seen you this week, please do come and say hi. I am very much looking forward to working with your children over the coming months.

## A little about me personally

I live with my husband, two children and golden retriever, Bracken. Come rain or shine, you'll find us outside, walking the dog although maybe going a little slower than we used to with a buggy and balance bike in tow!



## A little about me professionally

I joined the Westfield team as Deputy Headteacher back in 2017, prior to which I had worked in Camden and Tottenham. As well as the role of Deputy, I have taken on many other roles in that time including Class Teacher, Maths Lead and Key Stage 1 and 2 lead.

The staff team may have changed a lot since I joined Westfield, however the one constant of everyone who works here is their dedication and passion for working with our children. Through fostering a love of learning, we work together to ensure that each child achieves their full potential.

## Get in touch

We always welcome suggestions and like to work in a solution focused way. Please get in touch [admin@westfieldprimary.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@westfieldprimary.herts.sch.uk)

**W1SPA Events next week and beyond**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** Please click over to <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/w1spa/> to sign up to volunteer for the Westfield Christmas Fair. We are very low on numbers and will not be able to run all the planned stalls without your help!

**Christmas Fair – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> Dec**

**Xmas Jumpers and Cakes Collection**

Donations gratefully accepted next week for Xmas Jumpers and Cakes Stall  
Additional donations of sweets and teddies/soft toys are also required 😊

**Raffle Tickets**

Please purchase or sell to family and friends for your chance to win incredible prizes this year!  
Return the money and stubs to the W1SPA postbox in the school’s office by drop off FRI 8th Dec.  
Additional tickets are available from the office.

**COME TO THE FAIR!!**

Friday 8th December - after school until 6pm

Food & Drink, Games & stalls, Stories with Santa!

Book Stories with Santa at <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/w1spa/>

**BUY TOKENS & VOLUNTEER NOW** <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/w1spa/>

**Santa Sleigh with Berkhamsted Rotary**

Saturday 9th December 4 to 8pm

Volunteers needed to support this magical event that raises funds for Westfield.

**VOLUNTEER NOW** <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/w1spa/>

**Elfridges**

A big thank you from W1SPA for all your generous donations and our volunteers today. The kids had a great fun and festive morning choosing and wrapping their presents. They will be coming home with them today 😊

**Woods Garden Centre – save your receipts for Westfield!**

Remember to turn in your receipts from Woods Garden Centre in Berkhamsted so we can collect for the school!  
Please drop them into the W1SPA postbox in the school’s office.

Get in touch! Join our Facebook Group [www.facebook.com/groups/wispawestfield](http://www.facebook.com/groups/wispawestfield) or follow us on Instagram [www.instagram.com/wispa\\_pta\\_group](http://www.instagram.com/wispa_pta_group) for all the latest.

**Attendance – Every day at school counts!**

Attendance & Number of Late Arrivals: 20 <sup>th</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup> November 2023						
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
97.5%	96.88%	91.07%	86.11%	96.55%	96.08%	96.12%
2	11	1	9	4	5	15

**Our target is 95%. Being in school each day, 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**

**Bad Weather Procedures**

In the event of severe weather conditions, it is occasionally necessary for us to close the school, for the safety of our children, their families and staff. Decisions about closing the school or sending children home early will not be taken lightly and we will always endeavour to open the school when we are safely able to do so.

In the event of snow or bad weather, a decision will be made by the Headteacher and/or members of the Senior Leadership Team and Site Manager regarding whether it is safe to open the school site. If the decision is made to close the school this will be communicated asap via Arbor to parents and carers.

## Parking at Farm Place

Further to our notice in last week's edition of Westfield Weekly with regard to parking at Farm Place, I have regrettably received a further complaint from a resident informing me that parents and carers are still parking there on a daily basis at school drop off and pick up times. There is clear signage at the entrance to Farm Place confirming that this area is Private Parking for residents only and we would therefore remind you that parents and carers should not be parking here at any time of the day. Thank you for your support and co-operation.

## Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day - Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December

We are looking forward to celebrating our Christmas lunch with the children on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December. Children may wear a Christmas jumper to school if they wish alongside their normal school uniform and will be able to choose from the following lunch options:

### Christmas Lunch

Sliced Turkey Breast with Chipolata Sausage Sage and Onion Stuffing and Gravy

Or

Quorn Fillet (v) with Veggie Sausage (v) Sage and Onion Stuffing and Vegetarian Gravy

Roast Potatoes

With a Choice of Seasonal Vegetables

and

A Choice of Christmas Desserts

Please note there is no packed lunch (yellow) option on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December.

Children will be able to choose from the above options at registration on the day and the payment will appear on your Arbor Parent Portal the same day (after 1pm). The price of the meal is £3.20 (same price as a normal school provided lunch) for children in Years 3-6. Thank you.

## Change to Lunch Menu – Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December

As we will be enjoying our Christmas Dinner on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December, the menu for Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December has been changed to the following:

Red Choice – Chicken Pie

Green Choice – Mild Vegetable Curry

Yellow Choice – Cream Cheese Sandwich

## Child Shows Parent

On Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December, you are invited to our 'Child Shows Parent' session which will take place from 8:35am until 9:15am. This is an opportunity for your child to proudly show you their work in their books.

Please enter the school through the external classroom doors and if you have more than one child at Westfield, you can move between classrooms internally through the school.

We look forward to seeing you and we know that the children will enjoy being able to show you their fantastic work they have done this term.

## Christmas Tree Place Competition

The Christmas Tree Place is running a competition again this year with the chance for us to win £200! So if you're thinking of buying a Christmas tree, please go along to the Christmas Tree Place (Chesham Road, Berkhamsted HP4 2SZ) with the flyer sent home today and we could be in with a chance of winning. The school with the highest number of leaflets returned will receive £200 and runner up schools will receive prizes ranging between £35 and £100. The closing date is 20<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you for your support.

## DSPL8 Parent/Carer Newsletter; Dacorum SEND courses, support & information for families

The latest 'DSPL8 Parent/Carer Newsletter: Autumn Term' & 'Dacorum Parent/Carers courses and support' newsletters are available to download from their website via the following link:

<https://dacorumdspl.org.uk/online-resources-for-parents-and-carers/>

This fortnights newsletter includes:

- Update DSPL8 Communications
- Job opportunities to develop whole family SEND work in Hertfordshire
- DSPL8 Dacorum Families SEND Information Fayre: 07.12.2023
- ADD-vance Drop-in Consultations: 10.01.2024
- SEND Surgery: 23.01.2024
- DSPL7 & DSPL8 Emotional Based School Avoidance coffee mornings. For parents and carers with children (Year 7 - 11): 25.01.2024
- DSPL8 EBSA Coffee Morning: 30.01.2024
- Anxiety Unravelling Course by Bounce Forward: 28.02.2024-13.03.2024
- Spring Term DSPL8 Parent/Carer Support

Dacorum Parent/Carer courses and support from various local providers:

- Parenting Courses and Support in Dacorum Spring Term 2024
- HAPpy Camps
- SPACE Hertfordshire: December Activities
- Potential Kids: December Activities
- New Herts Haven Café for young people's emotional wellbeing opens in Hemel Hempstead
- Relationship Support for parents
- Neurodiversity Support Hub
- SEND Drop-in sessions

Please also follow their social media pages for the most recent updates:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/dspldacorum>

Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/dspl\\_dacorum/](https://www.instagram.com/dspl_dacorum/)

## Wellbeing and Parenting Information

### Dr Kathy Weston Newsletter

Dr Kathy Weston's Newsletter this week 'Family Games' looks at the games children play from board games, computer gaming and 'rough and tumble' play and the useful tools that they can provide in your child's emotional, social and physical wellbeing and development. [Wednesday Wisdom | Family Games | Tooled Up Education](#)

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

### Neurodiversity Support Hub

A new Neurodiversity Support Hub has been launched and now rolled out across Hertfordshire thanks to funding from both Herts County Council (HCC) and the NHS. The Hub has initially been funded until the end of March 25 and ADD-Vance have been commissioned to run the Hub, which is open Monday - Friday 9am-1pm.

The Hub is staffed by experts by experience, they can answer any questions to do with Neurodiversity, however big or small, or just be a listening ear. Please note, no diagnosis is required to access the support. The Hub can be contacted by phone on 01727 833963, with an answerphone facility for out of hours or by email at [support@add-vance.org](mailto:support@add-vance.org) Please see the flyer below for more information.

## Local Events and Information

### Hemel Storm Basketball

Storm are back in action on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 7pm vs Reading Rockets. Tickets available online at [www.stormbasketball.net](http://www.stormbasketball.net) or on the night.

### Hemel Storm February Half Term Camp

Advance notice that Hemel Storm will be running a basketball camp on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February from 9am to 3pm at John F Kennedy School, Hemel Hempstead. Please see flyer below for more details and booking information.

### Lemon Jelly Performing Arts Academies

Lemon Jelly Performing Arts Academies have been running weekly classes at Everyone Active, Berkhamsted for over 3 years and are offering all children **2 weeks FREE** Performing Arts classes. These sessions typically cover Drama, Acting Techniques, Musical Theatre, Singing and Street Dance (plus the extra option to study for LAMDA drama examinations). Their classes are open to children from 3 years and older. Please see flyer below for more information and booking details.

### St Mary's Northchurch Nativity Service

On Sunday December 17th at 10.00am there will be the St Mary's Nativity Service led by the Music Group. It is an informal service with carols and reading the Christmas story. We do require volunteers, so if anyone would like to come dressed as Mary/Joseph, angels, shepherds, donkeys or sheep please come along and you can join the tableau. For more details please give Rev Jonathan a ring on 07752261679 or email [revjagordon@gmail.com](mailto:revjagordon@gmail.com)

### Fizzbug Multi Activity Holiday Club

This Christmas, Fizzbug are running multi-activity holiday camps at Everyone Active in Berkhamsted on 21-22 Dec; 27-29 Dec and 2-4 January 2024. Please see flyer below for more information and booking details.

### Ross & Andy Girls Only Football Club – Reception to Year 3

In the new year, Ross & Andy are starting courses to introduce girls who are interested in developing their football skills, whilst enjoying the fun element of sport, either starting their footballing journey or enjoy playing with their friends in a fun football environment. Sessions will be held at Everyone Active Sports Hall from 4:30-5:30pm from 8<sup>th</sup> January to 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024. For more information, please see flyer below or to book please follow this link: <https://forms.gle/h5CSg4KEqTyazTSw7>

## Letters/Flyers/Information sent home this week

- Cascade Kids Breakfast & After-School Club
- Year 6 Leavers Hoodies

**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 this half term is ..... Kindness**

WISPA PRESENTS:

# Westfield's Christmas Fair

**Friday 8th December, 3-6pm**

**You don't need to book to come, but do visit**  
[www.pta-events.co.uk/wlspa](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/wlspa) to....

- Buy your tokens in advance (instead of using cash on the day)
- Book your child(ren) into Stories with Santa (free, donations welcome)
- Sign up for a volunteer slot for an hour (or more!) - we simply cannot put the fair on for our children without your help - please help spread the load!

*Thank you for your support - see you there for festive stalls and games, food & bar, tombolas and more!*

WISPA is Westfield Primary School's Parents Association, and every Westfield parent is a member  
[wpa@westfieldprimary.com](mailto:wpa@westfieldprimary.com)  
[www.pta-events.co.uk/wlspa](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/wlspa)

WISPA

## 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/wlspa/index.cfm?event=volunteers](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/wlspa/index.cfm?event=volunteers)  
 or scan the QR code

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[www.pta-events.co.uk/wlspa](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/wlspa)

WISPA PRESENTS

## Westfield's Christmas Fair

### Raffle prizes

- February Half Term swimming course at Everyone Active
- One month Everyone Active gym membership
- Oakman Group meal for two
- £20 DJ's soft play voucher
- £25 voucher for The Snow Centre
- Two tickets to Willows Activity Farm
- Milkshake for life at Cow Juice Café
- Game On holiday camp for two people
- Family season ticket to Bletchley Park
- R&A Soccer holiday camp voucher
- Large bar of Dairy Milk chocolate
- Two tickets to Bekonscot Model Village
- Two tickets to 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs' Aylesbury Waterside Theatre
- Family ticket to 'The Nutcracker' Ashridge House
- Family ticket to Bucks Railway Centre
- 3 month subscription to Whizz Pop Bang magazine
- Party voucher from Sapphire Gymnastics, Pitstone (TBC)
- Family ticket to Odds Farm (TBC)
- Christmas tree voucher (TBC)

*Tickets will be sent home in book bags - please return slips and cash to WISPA postbox in office by Fri 8th morning, thank you! Raffle will be drawn at the fair*

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[wpa@westfieldprimary.com](mailto:wpa@westfieldprimary.com)  
[www.pta-events.co.uk/wlspa](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/wlspa)

Be who you want to be  
**Lemon Jelly**  
 BERKHAMSTED



**TWO WEEKS FREE!**



**BOOK  
 HERE**

Lemon Jelly is your gateway to an incredible performing arts journey! Our classes are more than just a learning experience; they're a confidence-boosting adventure.

**CLASSES**

- Jelly Tots (3-5yrs)
- Academy 5-7yrs
- Academy 8-10yrs
- FUSION 11+
- Holiday workshops

**PROJECTS**

- Live Theatre
- Screen & Audio recordings
- LAMDA exams
- Dance classes



**Everyone Active Berkhamsted**  
**Sundays from 9am**  
 ☎ 01858 545599 📧 Berkhamsted@lemonjellyarts.com

**FESTIVE FUN**

COME AND JOIN US FOR OUR FESTIVE FUN

**MULTI ACTIVITY HOLIDAY CLUB**

THURS 21 - FRI 22 DEC  
 WED 27 - FRI 29 DEC  
 TUES 2 - THURS 4 JAN

SCAN TO BOOK

The holiday season is nearly upon us, and we're excited to invite you to FizzBug Festive Fun.

This winter break, we will be located in Harpenden, St Albans, Berkhamsted and Hemel Hempstead.

Please note: Dates vary by site, check our website for details.

Join us as we combine Cookery, Crafts, and Multi-activity into one Festive Frenzy! 🍷

**HEMEL STORM**  
**FEBRUARY HALF TERM CAMP**  
 † John F. Kennedy School, HPI 3PH

**WHEN?**

- Primary School - Wednesday 21st February
- Secondary School - Thursday 22nd February

**TIME?**

- Camp runs from 9am - 3pm (please make sure you arrive at 3pm to collect your child)

**PRICE?**

- £40 for the day | £35 Early Bird before 07/01/24

**WHY COME?**

- DBS Certified Coaches
- A chance to get coached by Storm Players
- Fun packed day full of competitive games
- Skill Development
- Family environment

For more information contact: [juniocoaching@stormbasketball.net](mailto:juniocoaching@stormbasketball.net)

**Girls Only Introduction To Football** **R&A SOCCER**  
[rasoccercamps.co.uk](http://rasoccercamps.co.uk)

**Reception Year 1, 2 & 3**

**Develop Skills & Enjoy The Fun Element Of Football**

**Everyone Active Sports Hall Mondays at 4:30pm - 5:30pm**

**charlie@rasoccercamps.co.uk 07547194501**

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