



# WESTFIELD WEEKLY

8<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Edition 13

## Key Dates

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

- Child Shows Parent – 8:35am to 9:15am
- Book Sale for children at lunchtime

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

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

### Advance Notice ....

#### **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

- Christmas Lunch
- Home Learning Celebration for children in class

#### **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

- Carol Service at St Mary's Church 9:30am - Parents are welcome to attend the Carol Service, however, please note seating and space is limited
- School closes at 1:30pm

## A message from Miss Leach...



The end of term is fast approaching and whilst others are winding down for the Christmas break, in school we are gearing up for a whole host of exciting things whilst trying to keep our learning going!

As I write this I can hear the hustle and bustle of the Christmas fair being put together, thank you again to the WISPA team for all the behind the scenes work.

Year 1's Christmas performance was incredible - a big thank you to the team for putting everything together and transporting us to Bethlehem!

Have a good weekend,  
Miss Leach

# Leadership corner

## School-evaluation improvement plan

All schools, every year, have a clear plan to move the school forward. This plan has key priorities and has:

- A strong emphasis on monitoring and evaluation
- Clear links between priorities and improvements
- Focus on the impact the plan has on pupil outcomes

The main plan is then organised into a termly timetable and has a:

- Short term cycle
- A medium-term cycle
- A yearly cycle - linking the plan to the academic and financial years.

We have lots of targets to work towards, but we're sharing the key ones here:

### English plan

*To ensure that the intent of the English curriculum, in all areas, including phonics, reading, spelling and writing, is implemented precisely as leaders intend.*

### Maths plan

*To embed leaders' adopted mathematics curriculum including fluency, destination questions and use of manipulatives*

## 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)

### INCLUSION PLAN

*To ensure that all pupils are supported to make progress through the curriculum through effective adaptations and scaffolds within lessons and beyond, as necessary.*

## W1SPA News

### W1SPA Events next week and beyond

**A BIG THANK YOU! to all the Westfield parent volunteers who made our Christmas Fair a success this year!**

**REMEMBER!** 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](https://www.facebook.com/groups/wispawestfield) or follow us on Instagram [www.instagram.com/wispa\\_pta\\_group](https://www.instagram.com/wispa_pta_group) for all the latest.

### Attendance – Every day at school counts!

Attendance & Number of Late Arrivals: 28 <sup>th</sup> November – 1 <sup>st</sup> December 2023						
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
95%	93.69%	96.82%	93.95%	90.09%	94.09%	94.83%
4	11	5	8	5	8	4

**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**

### Primary Admissions for September 2024

For children born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019 – 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020, you can now apply for a Primary school place to start in September 2024. Parents/carers can apply online at: [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions](https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions) and the deadline date for applications is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

### Book Sale – Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December

Our Year 5 and 6 Librarians would like to arrange a book sale for the children at lunchtime on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December. If you have any books that you are happy to donate to support the sale please bring to the school office on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December.

All books will be priced at 50p so if you would like your child to have the opportunity to buy some new books, please send them into school with a small amount of cash in a named envelope on Tuesday.

The money we raise will be spent on refurbishing our fiction reading nook with some cushions, bean bags and soft lighting etc. Thank you for your support.

### Communication and Engagement Survey

We are reviewing the way we communicate with you and would appreciate your feedback about our current forms of parent communication by completing the survey sent home this week. We are always looking at ways in which we can improve our communication to you so if you could spare a few minutes to complete the survey, it would be much appreciated. The link to the survey is: [Communication and Engagement Survey](#) Thank you.

### Child Shows Parent – Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December

Please come along to our 'Child Shows Parent' session which will take place from 8:35am until 9:15am on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December to see the amazing work that your children have done this term.

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 the fantastic work they have done during the Autumn term.

## The Big Ambition – Have Your Say!



The Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, has launched The Big Ambition, a national survey of children and young people across England.

The Big Ambition aims to hear from children across England on what they think is important! In the lead up to the next General Election, the Children's Commissioner wants to take children's thoughts, opinions and ideas to decision-makers, to make sure that the Government hears young people's voices on what they think needs to be done to make children's lives better in England.

The closing date for the Big Ambition survey has been extended until Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

The Big Ambition is open to children and young people in England aged 0-18 years old. The survey takes around 10 minutes to complete and can be completed on mobile phones, tablets, laptops and computers.

The survey can be completed here: [www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition](http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition)

## Christmas Tree Place Competition

Don't forget, if you're thinking of buying a Christmas tree this weekend, please visit the Christmas Tree Place (Chesham Road, Berkhamsted HP4 2SZ) with the flyer sent home last week and the school could be in with a chance of winning a £200 voucher! The closing date is 20<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you for your support.

## Wellbeing and Parenting Information

### Dacorum Family Services: Anxiety & Attendance Workshop

On Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024 (10am-11:30am), Dacorum Family Services are running a free online workshop for parents to support families with children struggling to come to school. The workshop will cover:

- What is anxiety – signs to look out for
- Strategies to manage anxiety and improve resilience and attendance
- Understand your child and their responses and behaviour

In the new year, Dacorum Family Services will also be running the following free parent workshops:

- Parent & Carer Wellbeing – Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February
- Managing Worries & Anxiety – Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May
- Moving onto Secondary School – Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> June

Please see the flyers below for more information and to book, please contact:

[jnethercoat@hobbshillwood.herts.sch.uk](mailto:jnethercoat@hobbshillwood.herts.sch.uk)



### NHS Healthy Start Scheme

The Healthy Start Scheme offers a cash card for low-income families who meet the criteria, such as being on Universal Credit or Child Tax Credit and you're at least 10 weeks pregnant or have at least one child under 4 years old. Money is added onto the Healthy Start card every 4 weeks and you receive:

- £4.25 each week of pregnancy from the 10<sup>th</sup> week
- £8.50 each week for children from birth to 1 year old
- £4.25 each week for children between 1 and 4 years old

To find out more, please visit: <https://www.healthystart.nhs.uk/>

Families can also obtain free vitamins from their local family centre in Hertfordshire – to find out more about this scheme, please visit: [www.hertsfamilycentres.org/healthystartvitamins](http://www.hertsfamilycentres.org/healthystartvitamins)

### **Keeping Children Safe online this Christmas**

With the Christmas festivities just around the corner, children are looking forward to receiving gifts. For many, this may be devices that allow you to go online. Skips Safety Net have produced a parents' guide to help you you're your children safe when using the internet, social media and playing online games. Please see the flyer below for more information or visit: [www.skipssafetynet.org](http://www.skipssafetynet.org)

### **Intensive Family Support Team – E-safety Session**

The Intensive Family Support Team are holding an E-safety session for parents on Tuesday 19th December 2023 from 2-3:30pm at Greenhills Day Service, Tenzing Road, Hemel Hempstead, HP2 4HS. If you would like to attend, please send your name and number of people (adults and children) attending to:

[luke.hazel@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:luke.hazel@hertfordshire.gov.uk) and [Kingsley.Davis@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Kingsley.Davis@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

### **Local Events and Information**

#### **Hemel Storm Basketball**

Storm are back in action on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm vs City of Birmingham Rockets. Tickets available online at [www.stormbasketball.net](http://www.stormbasketball.net) or on the night. If you wear your best Christmas Jumper, you could also win a voucher to spend in the match night shop!

### **Letters/Flyers/Information sent home this week**

- Art Club Extra Christmas Session
- Book Sale
- Communication and Engagement Survey

**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**



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

*\*at present sessions can only be offered to parents/carers of those children/YR who attend a DPS North & East Partnership School*

Tel: 01442 401222 Ext: 5

 Hemel Storm Basketball  
 hemelstorm



# It's Christmas Time!



**A Parent's Guide to Social Media**



**A Parent's Guide to Sharing Pictures**



**A Parent's Guide to Gaming**



**A Parent's Guide to Online Grooming**



scan the QR code with your phone's camera to see the guides on our website



**A Parent's Guide to Live Streaming**



**A Parent's Guide to Online Influencers**



**A Parent's Guide to Fake News**



**A Parent's Guide to Privacy Settings**

## It's always best to be prepared

Many parents may be planning to give electronic gadgets to their children this festive period.

Our guide is designed to help parents take a realistic approach to help keep their children safe when using the internet, social media and playing online games.

**Scan the QR code to find out more.**

**Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.**

**Parents** please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

**Skips Educational** Email: [info@skipssed.com](mailto:info@skipssed.com) Tel: +44 121 227 1941

**Skips**

[www.skipssafetynet.org](http://www.skipssafetynet.org)

Developed in partnership with

