



WESTFIELD WEEKLY

15th December 2023

Edition 14

Key Dates

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 19th December

- Christmas Lunch
- Home Learning Celebration in class (children only)

Wednesday 20th December

- Carol Service at St Mary's Church 9:30am
- School closes at 1:30pm for all children

Advance Notice

Thursday 4th January

- Start of Term for all children

A message from Miss Leach...

We are fast approaching the end of an amazingly busy and productive term. Our children continue to develop and demonstrate the core values we have been working on this term of respect and kindness.



It has been a fun-filled and action-packed term, with many amazing achievements inside and outside of school for children from all year groups. It has been an absolute privilege to see that so many children have progressed in both academic and extra curricular activities across the Autumn term.

I have now officially attended my first Rock Steady concert at Westfield! I had heard it was a Christmas highlight, but what a treat - I didn't know that we had so many rockstars! Thank you to Bertie for transforming Westfield to Wembley for the morning.

We have trialed for the last 2 weeks having assembly at 9am, and this will continue in January. This is less disruptive and allows us to have a longer block of undisturbed learning until playtime. It has however highlighted how many children have arrived late in the last 2 weeks. Please ensure that your child is in school time so they are not arriving late to assembly.

Finally, I would like to thank all of the staff for their hard work and commitment to ensure that all students are excited, engaged and make progress in their learning. Also, to you as parents for supporting the work that we do.

I wish you all a very enjoyable and restful break. Happy Christmas!

Leadership corner

Computing

We have had a fantastic start to the year in computing with all teachers receiving specialised training around our computing curriculum. At Westfield, we are very fortunate to have access to iPads, laptops and Chromebooks to support our learning. These are used across the school for accessing things like Lexia, Numbots, Language Angels and more. Children use them to do research in science or to make presentations in geography. The technology we have also plays a large role in our computing curriculum as children learn how to use a variety of software and hardware. Enjoy finding out what different classes have been learning. There are lots of links for you to have a look at with your family!

Year 6

Year 6 have been learning about copywrite. They have looked at different scenarios and decided if it was breaking copywrite rules.



Year 3

Year 3 have been learning about animation. They found out that onion skinning lets you see the previous frame. You can watch our animations by scanning the QR code or clicking [here](#).



SCAN ME

Year 1

Year 1 have been learning how to use paint. They learned how to change the brush type, colour and much more! Anyone can use paint if you have a device connected to the internet through [Paint.Z](#).



Year 4

Year 4 have been learning about the internet and how the World Wide Web is just part of the internet which contains website and web pages.



Year 2

Year 2 have been learning about digital photography. They have explored landscape and portrait pictures as well as experimenting with close up shots, action shots and more!



Year 5

Year 5 have been learning about databases and how we can sort and record data. You can make your very own branching database [here](#).



Year 1 link: <https://paintz.app/>

Year 5 link: <https://www.i2e.com/jit5#branch>

Year 3 link:

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLMye0wi34mvAh6Hnu5c86RLjQJLzKjtNm&si=oHO33Mo8wW84cfeP>

[W1SPA Events next week and beyond](#)

Wispa would like to say THANK YOU to all the Westfield parents/carers for all your support this year and we wish you a Merry Xmas. We have lots planned for 2024 so look forward to sharing this with you in the new 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 post box in the school's office.

Get in touch! Join our Facebook Group www.facebook.com/groups/wispawestfield or follow us on Instagram www.instagram.com/wispa_pta_group for all the latest. You can contact us on wispawestfield@gmail.com or uniformwispa@gmail.com for uniform

The Christmas Raffle was drawn on Friday 8th December at the Fair by Miss Leach. The winners were:

Noa Y5 – Nutcracker at Ashridge
Marina Y3 - Ross & Andy Holiday camp voucher & Bucks Railway Voucher
Hallie-Mae Y5 – DJ's Play voucher
Elodie Y1 - Family ticket Odds Farm Park
Edie Y1 - 2 tickets to Willows Activity Farm
Maya Y3 - 3 month subscription to Whizz Pop Bang Magazine
Rudi Y5 - 2 tickets to Snow White Panto
Jed YR - Snow Centre Voucher
Thea Y3 - Meal for 2 Kings Arms
Leo Y4 - 2 tickets Game On Holiday camp
Freddie Y3 - Sapphire Gymnastics Children's Party for 30 guests
Khalil YR - 1 month fitness membership Everyone Active
Cora Y6 – Beaconscot Model Village Tickets
Laurel Y4 – Christmas Tree Place Voucher
Elisa Y4– Milkshake for Life
Ryan Y4 – Swimming Crash Course & Bletchley Park Season Ticket



Attendance – Every day at school counts!

Attendance & Number of Late Arrivals: 4 th – 8 th December 2023						
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
90%	97.58%	96.07%	82.96%	95.17%	89.33%	92.33%
5	11	6	4	5	8	10

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

Staff News

As we come to the end of the Autumn term, we are sadly saying goodbye to a couple of members of staff:

After originally planning to leave at least a year ago and with the school now having regained a stable Senior Leadership Team, Mrs Williams will be leaving to start studying again with a view to a career change, specialising in diagnosing and supporting children and adults with specific learning difficulties. We would like to say a HUGE thank you to Mrs Williams for stepping in last year to support the school in the absence of Mrs Stace and we are so incredibly thankful for all that she has done for all the children, families and staff at Westfield and wish her all the very best for the future.

Having worked at Westfield for the last 12 years, Miss Moody will be leaving us to pursue different avenues and her passion for supporting the mental health needs of children, working for the NHS. We would like to say a big thank you to Miss Moody for all her incredible hard work and contribution to Westfield and the huge amount of wellbeing, emotional and behaviour support she has provided to our children and wish her all the very best in her new role.

We thank them both for their incredible hard work, support and contribution to Westfield and wish them every success and happiness for the future.

Parking Reminders

We have regrettably received a further complaint from a resident this week informing us of inconsiderate parking and verbal abuse by one of our parents/carers. We work extremely hard to maintain a good relationship with our neighbours and inconsiderate and impolite behaviour gives a bad impression of our school and sets a poor example to our children. We understand that parking can be difficult around the school but if you do need to drive to and from school, please can we ask that you park considerately, sensibly and safely showing respect and common courtesy for our neighbours at all times. Thank you.

Book Sale – Thank You

HUGE thanks to the librarians for planning, giving up their time and running a fantastic book sale this week. I am delighted to say that we raised over £80 to spend on some new items to improve our fiction library. We were delighted with the donations that we received to support this and actually have plenty left so look out for a date next term for the follow up book sale. Thank you from Mrs Williams

Primary Admissions for September 2024

For children born between 1st September 2019 – 31st 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 and the deadline date for applications is 15th January 2024.

Christmas Lunch – Christmas Jumper or Wear Something Festive on Tuesday 19th December

We are looking forward to our Christmas lunch on Tuesday 19th December. Children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper if they have one or something festive alongside their normal school uniform. Please don't feel you need to buy anything special for the day.

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 19th 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.

Changes to Lunch Menu – Monday 18th and Wednesday 20th December

Please note the following changes to the lunch menu next week:

Monday 18th December

Red Choice - Beef Burger in a Bun

Wednesday 20th December

Red Choice – Chicken Pie

Green Choice – Mild Vegetable Curry

Yellow Choice – Cream Cheese Sandwich

Christmas Carols at the Church – Wednesday 20th December

On the last day of term (Wednesday 20th December), we will be celebrating Christmas with a special Christmas celebration at St Mary's Church at 9:30am. We will be leaving school after registration (9am approx) and anticipate that we will be back at school by 11am approx. Parents are welcome to attend, however, please note seating space is very limited in the church.

Christmas Tree Place Competition

If you're still in need of a Christmas tree, please visit the Christmas Tree Place (Chesham Road, Berkhamsted HP4 2SZ) with the flyer sent home this month and the school could be in with a chance of winning a £200 voucher! The closing date is 20th December. Thank you for your support.

Chiltern Arts Art & Poetry Competitions 2024

Chiltern Arts are very excited to announce that their **2024 Poetry and Art Competitions** are now open, with a deadline for entries on **29th February 2024**. Celebrating Everyday Heroes, they're inviting artists and poets of all ages to get creative and to think about those people whose actions make a real difference. For more information, please visit their website: [Competitions - Chiltern Arts](#)

Wellbeing and Parenting Information

BeeZee Bodies FREE Family Support for fussy eating Plus FREE Healthy Lifestyle Programmes

Fussy eating affects 1 in 4 school age children, so we know this is a **big deal** for many of your pupils and families. BeeZee Bodies and their family nutritionists deliver FREE healthy lifestyles programmes to hundreds of families across Hertfordshire. They also have FREE in-person healthy lifestyle programmes beginning in January to support families to build healthy habits around food and physical activity. Please see the flyers below or visit their website for more details: <https://beezeebodies.com/>

Hertfordshire Family Centre Service - Oral Health Webinar

The Family Centre Service are launching a series of health and development advice webinars to support families with young children. The first webinar on 'Oral Health' gives lots of tips on how to look after your children's teeth and includes not only cleaning their teeth, but healthy eating options, visits to the dentist and frequently asked questions. The Oral Health Webinar can be found here:

[Health and Development Advice and Support for Families and those working with young children \(hertsfamilycentres.org\)](https://hertsfamilycentres.org/Health-and-Development-Advice-and-Support-for-Families-and-those-working-with-young-children)

Further webinars will be uploaded in due course and will include toilet training, sleep, transitions and boundaries and behaviours.

DSPL Parenting Courses and Support in Dacorum – Spring 2024

The Spring 2024 Parenting Courses and Support Brochure for Dacorum is now available via the following link: <https://dacorumspl.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Dacorum-Parenting-Course-Brochure-Spring-2024.pdf>

Dr Kathy Weston Wednesday Wisdom

Dr Kathy Weston's Newsletter this week 'Planning for Peace' is about our expectations as we approach the Christmas holiday season and what we can do to be realistic and ready to bring our best selves to the festive table. [Wednesday Wisdom | Planning for Peace | Tooled Up Education](#)

Last week's edition of Wednesday Wisdom 'Grappling with Grief' is also available via the following link and looks at the nature and impact of grief on us, family members and the children we care for, and looks at 'what works' when it comes to optimal support: [Wednesday Wisdom | Grappling with Grief | Tooled Up Education](#)

Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service Stay Safe Newsletter

Please find attached the winter edition newsletter from the Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service which includes the **12 potential hazards of Christmas** and is full of tips to help keep you and your family safe this festive season.

MenUnited Men's Course 2024 (run by Intensive Family Support Team)

MenUnited is a community group running 8-week interactive courses to support men with not only their lives, but the lives of their children as well. Please see the flyer below for further details.

Local Events and Information

Hemel Storm Basketball

Storm will be back at home for their first game of the new year on Saturday 6th January at 7pm vs Essex Rebels. Tickets available online at www.stormbasketball.net or on the night.

Hemel Storm Junior Weekly Skills Academy

From 8th January 2024, Hemel Storm will be running their weekly skills academy on Monday and Wednesday evenings at the Laureate Academy in Hemel Hempstead. Please see flyer below for more details and booking information.

Berkhamsted Town Council – FREE Christmas Film

Berkhamsted Town Council are showing a **free children's Christmas film, Arthur Christmas, on Friday 22nd December at 10am in Berkhamsted Civic Centre**. All children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Please see the flyer below for more information.

Next Thing Education Christmas Tech Camps

Over the Christmas period, Next Thing Education will be running their Tech Camps Berkhamsted Girls School from from 2nd-5th January. For more information on the camps, please follow this link

<https://www.nextthing.education/product/berkhamsted-prep-school-christmas-camp/> or visit their website.

They also have a video giving an idea of what you can expect at the camps <https://youtu.be/VWqFyudd9oU>

Everyone Active Swimming Lessons

Did you know, swimming lessons are available 50 weeks of the year, 7 days a week for children from 4 months to 16 years (and adults) at Everyone Active in Berkhamsted. Please see the flyer below for more information or contact Berkhamsted Leisure Centre on 01442 507100 (Op.3).

Northchurch Baptist Church – Instant Nativity

You are invited to Northchurch Baptist Church Instant Nativity on Sunday 24th December at 10:30am. If children wish to join in and be part of the drama, they are welcome to come dressed as a nativity character and join in. There will also be some costumes available for children on the day. Please see the flyer below for more details.

Letters/Flyers/Information sent home this week

- Senior Leadership Team Letter
- Forest School Autumn Term Newsletter
- Years 3-6 Hemel Storm Basketball Club
- Year 5 WhatsApp Groups
- Year 6 The Lancaster Model Health Questionnaire

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



"We are Men, who are there for Men, about matters relating to Men".

Course Information

Current Course Date: The 10th of January 2024 until the 28th of February 2024.

Duration: 8 Weeks.

When: Wednesday Evenings between 6:00pm and 8:00pm

How often: Courses will be running between January-February 2024, May- June 2024, September-October 2024, and December 2024-January 2025.

Location: IFST DARC 2, Greenhills Day Service, Tenzing Road, Hemel Hempstead, HP2 4HS.

Referral Form: If you are interested, please fill in the referral form via this link: <https://forms.gle/n1kbvTs8qoGw51f88>.



Men's Drop-In Group: We will also be running a Men's Drop In Group on the first Monday of every month where all are welcome at Greenhills. You do not have to be part of the course to attend. If you are interested, please contact us via the contact information below.

Goals of the Course

The aim of this course is to empower men to take hold of not only their lives, but the lives of their children as well. Spanning 8 weeks, our interactive course hopes to enrich attendees with knowledge of various important topics ranging from mental health, specialist education needs, relationships and exploring ideas and concepts of what a man is, especially in an ever-changing society. In addition, we hope to give men a voice about various issues that can often be sensitive to talk about, challenge each other in healthy and constructive debate, and initiate insightful discussion in the context of the topics we will be covering. We hope that collaborating with external agencies and guest speakers, as well as using our own expertise, will enhance learning, and provide increased opportunities for men to access or be informed of professional and community support available.



If you have questions or queries, do not hesitate to contact us via our contact details below:

Henry Lee-Brenchley: Henry.Lee-Brenchley@hertfordshire.gov.uk || 07815 483069

Kingsley Davis: Kingsley.Davis@hertfordshire.gov.uk || 07866 225086



Junior Weekly Skills Academy

Monday and Wednesday evenings at Laureate Academy, Hemel Hempstead starting w/c 8th January 2024 to Wednesday 27th March 2024

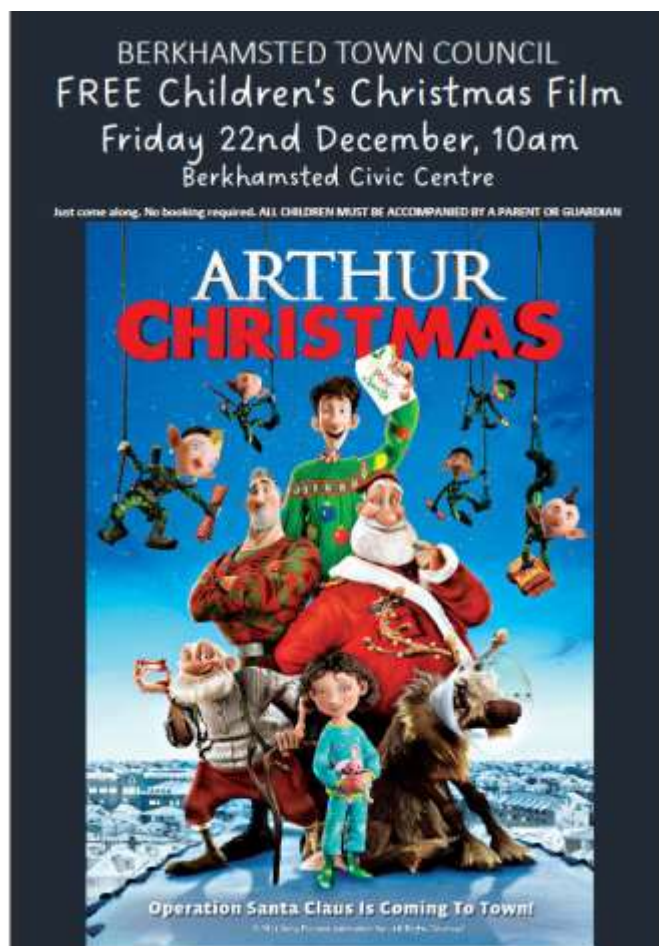


**PRIMARY SCHOOL AGE JUNIORS FOR 7-11 YEAR OLDS
MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY - 5.00pm - 5.45pm**

**SECONDARY SCHOOL AGE JUNIORS FOR 11+ YEAR OLDS
MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY - 6.00pm - 6.45pm**

**LIMITED PLACES - PRE-REGISTRATION ESSENTIAL
WWW.STORMBASKETBALL.NET/WEEKLY-SKILLS-ACADEMY**

**NEW TERM
AVAILABLE TO
BOOK NOW**



This Christmas...
EVERYONE
CAN GIVE THE GIFT OF
A LIFE SAVING SKILL

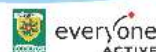
Speak to our Berkhamsted Leisure Centre Team today! Call 01442 507100 Op.3

- Lessons are available 50 weeks of the year, 7 days a week, with a break over the Christmas period.
- Lessons available for students from 4 months – 16 years and Adults.
- Students are assessed regularly and moved up as soon as they are ready for the next stage.
- Qualified and DBS checked teachers/coaches.
- Hats, Badges and certificates are included at no extra cost. Swimmer of the month & competition prizes for new and existing customers.
- Access to 'Aqua Passport' to track progress, play online games and collect trophies.
- Ample parking

FREE general swim for all swimming lesson customers

FREE 6 Months Kids Pass (Saving over £180!)

Find a lesson and enrol online today at
www.everyoneactive.com/swim-lessons



FIRST HOME GAME OF 2024

HEMEL STORM
VS
ESSEX REBELS
NBL Division One

Saturday 6th January
7pm tip off
Hemel Hempstead Leisure Centre, HP1 1JS

Get your tickets online at www.stormbasketball.net
or at the ticket desk on the night

Family*: £30 Mini Family: £15**
Adult: £10.50 u18: £6.00
Concessions: £8.00

** family ticket maximum 2 adults * mini family 1 adult & 1 u18

STORM BASKETBALL - NEXT HOME GAME

www.stormbasketball.net
[hemelstorm](https://twitter.com/hemelstorm)

[Hemel Storm Basketball](https://facebook.com/hemelstorm)
[hemelstorm](https://instagram.com/hemelstorm)

YOU ARE INVITED TO
Northchurch Baptist Church
Instant Nativity

NORTHCHURCH SOCIAL CENTRE
BELL LANE
HP4 3RD

SUNDAY **24** DECEMBER 10.30 am

IF KIDS WANT TO JOIN IN WITH THE NATIVITY DRAMA,
COME DRESSED AS A NATIVITY CHARACTER.
WE'LL HAVE SOME COSTUMES HERE TOO.



How can I get my child to eat healthier if they won't try new things?



Peter Humbles, Family Nutritionist

Our top 6 tips to tackle fussy eating at home

- 1. The big "why"?** Why don't they try new things? Are there tastes or textures they love or hate?
- 2. Check your language.** Aim for encouraging language and avoid labelling. Swap "my child doesn't eat vegetables" for "my child loves sweetcorn."
- 3. Lower anxiety at mealtimes.** Phones away and focus on chatting. There's no need to pressure them to try new foods.

4. Exposure. Get them to pick out fruits and veg when you're out shopping and ask them to help chop them up.

5. Routine. Set mealtimes to build regular habits and aim for 2 healthy snacks per day between meals.

6. Make it fun! Make funny face pizzas and add some new toppings.

Get **FREE** support to get your family healthier

Join programmes starting in January!



X22-1993



Scan the code

...or click here
to find out more

Sign up today!



BeeZee Families

Ready for your family to feel healthier and happier?

Sign up for our **FREE** and fun healthy lifestyle programmes
in-person or online. Our programmes start on:

Date: W/o 15th January 2024 for 12 weeks
Time: Thursdays from 17:30 til 19:30
Venue: Hobletts Manor Junior School, Hemel Hempstead, HP2 5JT



OR you can join our 12-week online
programmes!

Eligibility criteria applies, check the website for details.
For alternative formats, email marketing@maximusuk.co.uk quoting X22-2012

