



# WESTFIELD WEEKLY

5<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Edition 15

## Key Dates

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January**

- Year 2 Parent Update Meeting - 2:45pm

#### **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January**

- Year 1 Parent Update Meeting – 2:45pm

#### **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January**

- Forest School Sessions start for Year 2
- Year 6 Parent Update Meeting – 2:45pm

### Advance Notice ....

#### **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January**

- Year 5 Parent Update Meeting – 2:45pm

#### **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January**

- Reception Parent Update Meeting – 2:45pm

#### **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January**

- Year 4 Parent Update Meeting – 2:45pm

#### **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January**

- Year 3 Parent Update Meeting – 2:45pm

## A message from Miss Leach...



Happy new year to you all - I hope that you have had a good break and are feeling refreshed as we head into a new year and term! I'd also like to say a big welcome to our new families and staff who have joined Westfield recently. We are really happy for you to be part of our team.

Next week we will be launching our new playground zones alongside our positive playground paper chains. You will remember that staff and play leaders completed their training with the Dacorum Sports Partnership before Christmas - The equipment is now in place to offer new areas on our playground. This includes a playground games zone, a dance zone, a netball zone, and an indoor zone for a quieter playtime, as well as further zones as chosen by the children. The zones are led by adults and supported by our play leaders who will be responsible for equipment and timing activities etc. We will explain more to the children in an assembly on Monday.

Our value in this half-term is courage. This is a strong value for the spring term as courage involves taking action and standing up for what one believes in, and it's often associated with bravery, and taking risks. We encourage our children to build resilience, overcome obstacles and make a difference to have a positive impact on the world - and all of these start with courage.

Have a good weekend  
Miss Leach

# Leadership corner

## Class Spring Term Update Meetings

Over the next two weeks, we look forward to seeing you all at our Spring Term Class Updates Meetings. These meetings are an opportunity for the class teachers to share with you the curriculum being covered in the coming term as well as updating you on P.E days, Reading, spelling and home learning expectations, Uniform expectations and the home/school agreement.

Year 2: Tuesday 9th January at 2:45pm  
Year 1: Wednesday 10th January at 2:45pm  
Year 6: Thursday 11th January at 2:45pm

Year 5: Monday 15th January at 2:45pm  
Reception: Tuesday 16th January at 2:45pm  
Year 4: Wednesday 17th January at 2:45pm  
Year 3: Thursday 18th January at 2:45pm

## Uniform

Wearing uniform has been proven to improve a child's sense of belonging and create a more positive school environment, improve academic performance. Furthermore, when pupils are dressed in the same clothing, it reduces the pressure to conform to fashion trends and can help them focus on their learning. At Westfield we wear a royal blue school uniform and pupils at Westfield are expected to look smart at all times.

If a pupil is not wearing the agreed school uniform, they will be provided with a loaned item for that day and a parental/carer contact will be made to ensure the correct uniform can be provided moving forward.

In line with the statutory guidance for school uniforms, we keep the use of mandatory branded items to a minimum and ensure that our uniform is affordable. If you are experiencing difficulties in equipping your child with uniform or if you feel there is a reason why your child is unable to wear the uniform as detailed below, please speak with Miss Leach to discuss a reasonable adjustment.

The letter sent out today details the uniform requirements for school and P.E

## Home School Agreement

Today we have circulated our updated Home- School Agreement. This has been updated to reflect the responsibilities of the whole school community in ensuring that school life is as effective as it can be for everyone within the dynamic.

Over the next week the children will be signing these agreements in class with their teachers. We will have printed copies ready at the 'meet the teacher updates' over the next few weeks for you to sign. Please read through the agreement in advance of these meetings.

## Get in Touch

We always welcome suggestions and work in a solution focused way.

Please get in touch:  
[admin@westfieldprimary.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@westfieldprimary.herts.sch.uk)



Welcome Back from W1SPA!

Thank you again to all the wonderful parents and children and volunteers helping to build up the Westfield Community. Here is to a great 2024!

Collection for future Events

Time for a good post-Christmas clear out! If you have any unwanted/duplicate gifts, outgrown Christmas Jumpers or fancy dress to pass along, please do drop them in the office in the next week or two. Your support is always appreciated.

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: 18 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2023						
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
87.5%	95.4%	96.3%	84.71%	94.61%	93.2%	96.65%
3	6	4	3	0	7	8

**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](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions) **Please note the deadline date for applications is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024.**

**PLSchoolwear – New Uniform Shop**



**WE ARE MOVING**

New address as of 10th January 2024

**PL Schoolwear  
23 Bennetts Gate  
Hemel Hempstead  
HP3 8EW  
01442 501411**

[www.plschoolwear.co.uk](http://www.plschoolwear.co.uk)

Our uniform supplier, PL Schoolwear will be moving into new premises on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January at:

23 Bennetts Gate  
Hemel Hempstead  
HP3 8EW

Their new opening hours will be:

Monday 9.30am-5pm  
Friday 9.30am – 4.30pm

### Adult Self-care Workshops in Berkhamsted

As we enter 2024 with increased pressures on you as parents and carers within our daily lives - this year even more than ever it is vitally important to support your own wellbeing, as in turn this has a huge positive impact on your child's wellbeing too.

Unfortunately, as parents we keep going, putting everyone else first and forgetting our own basic needs. Sadly, despite you trying to protect your children, they pick up on your emotions which then have a negative impact on theirs.

Join me at either my daytime or evening Self-care workshops (see below for more information)

A time for you to protect some time for you - as well as to get to know your inner self, connect with your body and mind through engaging in self reflecting interactive personal and group processes, learn the importance of the 5 ways to wellbeing, mindfulness breath work and practical ways to incorporate simple self care strategies into your busy daily lives. Time and space for you to just be. I would love to work with you to support your well being and in turn also your children's this new year.

### Families First Partnership: Parent Lives Workshops

Family Lives are delivering 5 parenting groups and 3 workshops, funded by Herts County Council, in the Spring term for parents/carers who live in Hertfordshire.

All their programmes provide support, information and resources to parents/carers and adult family members so they can help their child reach their full potential as well as access to the wraparound support provided by their helpline, live chat and website.

### Bringing Up Confident ADHD/ASD Children (6 weeks) Online group

**Thursday 25 January to 7 March 2024 9.30am – 11.30 via MS Teams**

If your child has ADHD/ASD, or you think they might, join an online 6-week group where you will receive support from other parents and gain a comprehensive understanding of ADHD/ASD and learn strategies to improve life at home and at school.

### Less Shouting, More Cooperation (6 weeks) Online group

**Tuesday 30 January to 12 March 7pm – 9pm Via MS Teams**

Do you feel you are constantly nagging or shouting at your child to get what you need? Are you tired of losing your cool and want a calmer house? Join a free online 6-week group to learn how you can change the way you communicate with your child, respond better and feel more in control.

### Sorting Out Family Arguments (6 weeks) Online group

**Wednesday 7 February to 20 March 9.30am - 11.30am Via MS Teams**

Do you feel everything ends in an argument and you are constantly trying to keep the peace? Join a free online 6-week group to help improve family communication, reduce the reactions which lead to arguments and create a culture of teamwork in your family.

### Getting on with Your Pre Teen/Teenager (6 weeks) Online group

**Tuesday 6 February 19 March 9.30am – 11.30am Via MS Teams**

Is your teen feeling anxious or isolated? Are you concerned about their mental health and struggling to get help? Maybe you have an FFA/CIN/CP in place and need more support. Join a free online 6-week online group to learn how parents can best emotionally support their teen and feel confident and prepared for whatever challenges might arise.

### Dads Together (6 weeks) Online group

**Tuesday 6 February to 19 March 7pm - 9pm Via MS Teams**

As a dad do you feel you are constantly nagging or shouting at your child to get what you need? Are you tired of losing your cool and want a calmer house? Join a free online 6-week group to learn how you can change the way you communicate with your child, respond better and feel more in control.

### **Anxiety around ADHD Online Workshop**

**Wednesday 17 January 7pm – 9pm Via MS Teams**

This 2- hour workshop is for parents and carers who suspect or have received a recent diagnosis that their child has ADHD. The workshop helps parents/carers understand what ADHD is, why it makes sense for a child to be anxious if they have ADHD, strategies to help support you and your child, plus signposting to other support that is available.

### **Reducing Conflict Online Workshops**

**Thursday 14 March 9.30am – 11.30am AND Wednesday 20 March 7.00pm – 9.00pm via MS Teams**

Conflicts are regular occurrence within families. It's often a normal part of everyday life. However, conflict that is frequent, intense, and poorly resolved, has a significant negative impact on children's mental health and long-term life chances. This 2-hour workshop explores different types of conflict between couples and families. Provides support in understanding the causes and impact of parental and family conflict on children and gives practical steps and strategies that parents can take to help improve their family relationships.

## **Local Events and Information**

### **Hemel Storm Basketball**

Storm are back in action on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January (postponed from 6<sup>th</sup> January) at 7pm vs Loughborough Raiders. Tickets available online at [www.stormbasketball.net](http://www.stormbasketball.net) or on the night.

### **The Rotary Young Photographer Competition**

The Rotary Young Photographer Competition is free to enter and open to all young people aged 7-17 years old. It is an opportunity to interpret this year's theme: 'REBUILDING' and express your ideas through the medium of photography. Ownership of a fancy camera is not essential as any digital photo in .jpg format can be submitted, so mobile phone cameras can be used. There are three age related entry levels:

Junior:	7 to 10 years old
Intermediate:	11 to 13 years old
Senior:	14 to 17 years old

The competition details and entrance packs are available at: [www.berkorotary.org](http://www.berkorotary.org) The closing date is the end of this month, the 31 January 2024. Winners of each Dacorum level will receive a £100 prize, an engraved commemoration plate and the opportunity to have their work displayed in exhibitions. All entrants receive an online certificate commemorating their participation in the competition.

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

- Uniform Expectations
- Home School Agreement

**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 ..... Courage**