



WESTFIELD WEEKLY

12th January 2024

Edition 16

Key Dates

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 15th January

- Year 5 Parent Update Meeting – 2:45pm

Tuesday 16th January

- Reception Parent Update Meeting – 2:45pm

Wednesday 17th January

- Year 4 Parent Update Meeting – 2:45pm

Thursday 18th January

- Year 3 Parent Update Meeting – 2:45pm

Advance Notice

Friday 26th January

- W1SPA Year 4 Cake Sale

A message from Miss Leach...



Our first full week of 2024 has been a busy one with parent update meetings taking place, the presentations from which will be available after the meeting. Don't forget to return the signed home school agreements as soon as possible.

Nursery tours will start on 23rd January. If your child starts nursery class in September 2024 and you would like to come and see what happens in EYFS, please contact the office.

Following our light touch of snow earlier in the week, we have a mixed weather forecast coming up for the week ahead. If there are any changes to the school day because of the weather - we will keep you updated via text and/or the website.

Have a good weekend,
Miss Leach

Leadership corner



A message from Miss Slade

I'd like to introduce myself as the schools Special Educational Needs Coordinator (or SENDCo for short).

My role is to oversee and co-ordinate the support and provision for the children in our school who have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

I work closely with parents, teachers and teaching assistants to ensure that we are doing our best in supporting children with SEND in meeting their next steps, and I also co-ordinate any external professionals who may come in to support your child in school.

We hold paramount that you as parents know your children best, so should you have any concerns about either your child's social, emotional and mental health needs, or their learning needs, then please share these concerns with your child's class teacher in the first instance.

Useful websites

Hertfordshire's Local Offer

The Local Offer lets parents know what SEN services are available in Hertfordshire and who can access them:

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/microsites/local-offer/the-hertfordshire-local-offer.aspx>

Hertfordshire SENDIASS

SENDIASS is an impartial Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support Service:

<https://www.hertssendiass.org.uk/home.aspx>

The British Dyslexia Association

Can advise and support parents of children who may have dyslexia or dyscalculia:

<https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/>

ADD-Vance

A dedicated group of professionals who are parents of children with ADHD or Autism with a mission to support the families who are negatively affected by ADHD and Autism:

<https://www.add-vance.org/>

Carers In Herts

Support for those with caring responsibilities:

<https://www.carersinherts.org.uk/>

What are the 4 areas of SEND?

In the SEND Code of Practice, there are four broad areas of special educational needs, that should be identified and focused on within educational settings.

The four main SEND areas are:

- Communication and Interaction
- Cognition and Learning
- Social, Emotional and Mental Health difficulties
- Physical and/or Sensory Needs

It's not always as easy as fitting into one area - sometimes children have multiple needs. Contact your child's teacher if you need to know more

Get in Touch

We always welcome suggestions and work in a solution focused way.
Please get in touch:
admin@westfieldprimary.herts.sch.uk

Diary Dates and Spring Term Class Newsletters

A list of key dates for the Spring & Summer term is being sent home today along with the Spring term class newsletters.

IMPORTANT REMINDER – WE ARE A NUT-FREE SCHOOL

Can we please remind you we are a nut free school so please can we ask that there are no nuts or nut products in lunch boxes or brought into the school as treats or snacks. For example:

- Packaged nuts
- Peanut butter or chocolate spreads containing nuts
- Cereal, granola or chocolate bars containing nuts
- Cake or biscuits containing nuts
- Peanut-based sauces like satay
- Any food made with sesame seeds (which can cause a similar allergic reaction)

The above list is not exhaustive. If you are sending your child to school with food such as a snack or a packed lunch, please check the ingredient lists carefully.

Both children and adults with severe nut allergies can suffer from life-threatening reactions if they eat, smell, or touch any foods containing nuts.

We would be grateful for your cooperation in helping to keep all our pupils, staff, parents and visitors safe and remember not to send children to school with food which contains nuts or nut products. Thank you.

Cold Weather Clothing Reminder

With the colder weather upon us, we would just like to remind you to make sure that your child wraps up warmly and wears a warm coat, hat and gloves to school each day. Please also ensure that all articles of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name especially school sweat shirts/cardigans and coats as it does make returning lost property much easier. Thank you.

Deadline for Primary Admissions for September 2024

Reminder: The deadline to apply for a Reception place for September 2024 is Monday 15th January 2024. It is essential that you apply online via the Herts County Council admissions portal: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions by this deadline for your application to be considered in the first round of allocations.

Nursery Admissions for September 2024

Applications for children to start our Nursery in September 2024 will open on Monday 26th February and we will have Nursery tours starting from Tuesday 23rd January. If you have a child who is born from 1st September 2020 to 31st August 2021 or know of someone who has a child of this age and would like to come and find out all about our Early Years provision, please contact the school office to book onto one of our tours (dates below). Please also find below, a summary of the Nursery admission timeline for 2024/25 applications.

Pupil Premium and Free School Meals

Did you know that by registering your child for free school meals, we can claim extra money to support your child's education? Registering for Free School Meals could mean an extra £1,455 to enhance your child's education. All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to receive a Universal Infant Free School Meal however unless you register with us, the school will not receive the funding.

We ask ALL families (irrespective of their income status) to register their child to receive a meal. It's quick and easy and only has to be done once and if all families register, the school will not miss out on additional funding entitlement. To register, please visit www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals Thank you.

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 is Friday 19th 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

Wellbeing and Parenting Information

Families First

The Families First website has lots of useful information providing advice and support for families including parenting advice and courses, emotional & mental health support and services for young people. To find out more about the support and services available, please visit: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/familiesfirst

HENRY Healthy Families

A free parenting course for parents of children between 0-5 years, run in collaboration between HENRY & The Swan Youth Project is being launched this month. HENRY supports parents to provide a healthy start in life for their children. The programme is designed to run for 8 weeks commencing 30th January based at The Swan Youth Project Centre in Berkhamsted. Please see the attached calendar and flyer for further information and you can also access further details about the programme using the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XEQFs-JFmNI&authuser=0>

To book onto the course please contact Hannah Roko who is the Programme Lead directly on her mobile on 07458 301305 to secure your booking.

Dr Kathy Weston Newsletter

Dr Kathy Weston's Wednesday Wisdom this week, *Mindful Moments*, talks about the psychology of happiness and the art of savouring everyday joyous experiences: Wednesday-wisdom/mindful-moments

Local Events and Information

The Happy Human Project Holiday Camps

During every school holiday, the Happy Human Project run holiday camps where children can learn how to manage emotions, feel calm, build confidence and self-esteem through games, crafts and lots more! The camps are held at Swing Gate School in Berkhamsted and are suitable for children age 5+. Please see the flyer below for more information or visit their website: www.happyhumanproject.co.uk

Tring Young Wildlife Photographer Competition

Love nature? Enjoy taking photographs? Tring Natural History Museum are holding a Wildlife Photography Competition for both experienced photographers and keen beginners aged 18 or under who live in Tring or surrounding villages. There are 3 categories: Landscape, Plants & Animals. The winning and runner up images will go on display at Tring Library in April. There will also be prizes from The Natural History Museum at Tring shop. For more info and to submit your entries please see the flyer below or contact tring-enquiries@nhm.ac.uk

Lemon Jelly Performing Arts

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** at their Performing Arts classes. The 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 3years & older. Please see the flyer below for more information or contact Berkhamsted@lemonjellyarts.com

TECH Holiday Camp

Next Thing Education will be running a Technology STEM Camp at Berkhamsted Girls School on 19th – 23rd February for children aged 5-12 years. Activities will include:

-  ROCKING ROBOT - Build, program and debug...bring robots to life!
-  INGENIOUS INVENTIONS- Create electronic wonders, while exploring the world of circuits and invention with so many outstanding possibilities.
-  3D CREATIONS - Unlock your inner Tech Artist and create mesmerising three-dimensional creations – let your imagination soar!
-  MEDIA MADNESS - Enthusiastic directors, actors, and content creators will delve into the captivating realms of photography and filmmaking, unlocking the artistry behind visual storytelling
-  VIRTUAL REALITY - With the magic of VR, you can explore breath-taking virtual worlds, design your own adventures, and unleash your imagination like never before.
-  MINECRAFT ENGINEERING -As a Minecraft engineer, you can build incredible structures, create ingenious Redstone contraptions, and bring your wildest dreams to life.
-  TECH FUN - Experience a mind-bending fusion of cutting-edge tech, heart-pounding action, and mind-expanding science, all in one exhilarating adventure.

For more information check out their flyer below, visit their website or watch their video to see what to expect at camp <https://youtu.be/VWqFyudd9oU>

To book online, simply visit:

<https://www.nextthing.education/product/berkhamsted-girls-school-february-camp/>

Ashridge Karate Academy – New Junior Karate Class

A new junior karate class is starting at St Mary's Parish Rooms in Northchurch on Friday 2nd February from 4:30-5:30pm. Classes are suitable for children aged between 7-12 years and cost £25 per month. No experience required. For further details, please see the flyer below or visit: www.ashridgekarate.co.uk

Big Garden Birdwatch

The Big Garden Birdwatch is the world's largest garden wildlife survey. Every year, hundreds of thousands of nature lovers take part, helping to build a picture of how garden birds are faring. This year, the survey takes place between the 26th and 28th of January. Please follow this link for further information and to sign up:

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/big-garden-birdwatch>

Letters/Flyers/Information sent home this week

- Clubs – Spring Term
- Year 6 Young Voices Tickets
- Diary Dates 2024
- Spring Term Class Newsletters

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

WESTFIELD NURSERY PARENT TOURS 2024

TUESDAY 23RD JANUARY

MONDAY 5TH FEBRUARY

THURSDAY 29TH FEBRUARY

WEDNESDAY 13TH MARCH

All tours start at 9am

Nursery Admissions 2024/25

As a group of Berkhamsted schools, we have agreed the following timeline for applications to Nursery, for children born between 1 September 2020 – 31 August 2021.

This document should be read in conjunction with each school's admission policy/procedure and over-subscription criteria.
Please see the individual school websites for details of parent tours and visits.

Monday 26 February 2024 – Nursery applications open

Application via online form on the schools' website (paper copies are available from schools on request)

Thursday 28 March 2024 – Nursery applications close for on time applications

(applications can be accepted at any point after this date, but will be dealt with after on time applications)

Friday 19 April 2024 - Nursery places are offered to families by email

Friday 26 April 2024 – Deadline for accepting Nursery places

(From 26 April onwards we can continue to accept applications and allocate Nursery places to children, based on availability)



Healthy Families Programme

Everyone wants what's best for their children

The HENRY programme is completely FREE to join for parents or carers of children aged 0 to 5 years old. We will send you details of how to join.

*Eligibility applies. For families who live and/or are registered with a GP in Hertfordshire, priority will be given to families with a child above the 91st centile. After this any free spaces will be offered to families who meet 2 of our secondary criteria including concerns around eating habits, sleep, oral health, screen time, activity levels and parents or siblings being overweight or obese.



The programme provides everything that families need to get their little one off to a great start

We cover the following themes over 8 weeks:

- Feeling more confident as a parent
- Physical activities for little ones
- What children and the whole family eats
- Family lifestyle habits
- Enjoying life as a family

Each week there is a 2-hour session for parents/carers and your children to attend.

You will receive a free toolkit with lots of fantastic resources!

The programme is an opportunity to share ideas and experiences with other families in a safe environment.

Programme details

W/C 29th January 2024

Tuesday 30th January, High Street Berkhamsted, HP4 3HH, 12:30pm - 2:30pm

Wednesday 31st January - Online, 10-11:15am.

Thursday 1st February - Online, 12:30-1:45pm and 5:30-6:45pm

Families receive a free toolkit



Contact us

info@beezeebodies.co.uk
01707 248648

What's on at HENRY this winter?

Tuesdays

For 8 weeks starting 30th January
High Street Berkhamstead, HP4 3HH,
12:30pm - 2:30pm

Wednesdays

For 8 weeks starting 31st January
Online, 10am - 11:15am

Thursdays

For 8 weeks starting 1st February
Online, 12:30pm - 1:45pm and 5:30pm - 6:45pm

To register or find out more about our services contact us on 01707 248648 or info@beezeebodies.co.uk



We will have free crèche facilities available. All programmes start w/c 29th January, and will run for 8 weeks with a break for February half term.

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

**Get the right help
at the right time**



early help, brighter futures

Need advice and support for your family?

- 👑 Relationship support
- 👑 Parenting Advice & Courses
- 👑 Emotional & Mental Health
- 👑 Staying healthy
- 👑 School attendance/anxiety
- 👑 Money advice
- 👑 Services for Young People
- 👑 SEND Local Offer
- 👑 Search local services
- 👑 and much more



Visit Hertfordshire's Families First website:-
www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/familiesfirst

Every
school
holiday!

the
happy
human
Project

**KIDS
HOLIDAY
CAMPS**

Come and learn how to manage emotions, feel calm, build confidence and self-esteem through games, crafts & lots more! Suitable for age 5+.

**SWING GATE SCHOOL,
BERKHAMSTED**



Mindfulness | Laughter Yoga | Games | Art & Crafts |
Breathing techniques | Partner massage
And so much more...

FOR MORE INFO:
WWW.HAPPYHUMANPROJECT.CO.UK

Natural History
Museum Tring



**Tring Young Wildlife
Photographer
Competition**



8 January – 3 March
Love nature? Enjoy taking photographs?
Our competition is open to experienced
photographers and keen beginners aged 18
or under who live in Tring or surrounding villages.
There are three categories:
Landscape, Plants & Animals.

The winning and runner-up images will go on
display at Tring Library in April. There will also
be prizes from The Natural History Museum at
Tring shop.
For more info and to submit your entries please
contact tring-enquiries@nhm.ac.uk

Save me



BOOK NOW



TECH Holiday Camp

MEDIA MADNESS

MINECRAFT ENGINEERING

ROCKING ROBOTS

3D CREATIONS

SEE REVERSE FOR MORE ACTIVITIES

BERKHAMSTED GIRLS SCHOOL, HP4 3BG

19TH - 23RD FEBRUARY

AGES 5-11 | £49 PER DAY

9AM - 4PM DAILY

CHILDREN'S FOOTWEAR ACCEPTED

Ofsted Registered

Find your nearest location on our website:

www.nextthing.education

FEBRUARY HOLIDAYS 2024

LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE



Virtual Reality



Curious Coders



Ingenius Inventions



Expert Engineers



Tech Fun

Different activity theme each day, please check website for your camp activities

WHAT TO BRING...

 Packed Lunch and Snacks (MUT-FREE)

 Water Bottle

 Medication if Required

 Weather Appropriate Clothing

HOW TO BOOK

CLICK HERE www.nextthing.education

FIND YOUR LOCATION 

USE CODE **FF5** AT CHECKOUT

OR SCAN 

The BEST camp around!

My daughter is fully inspired and will not stop talking about the amazing time she had. The Staff were experienced, welcoming and encouraging."

- Happy Parent 🥰



www.nextthing.education E: info@nextthing.education
T: 01442673150



NEW junior karate classes in Northchurch

When: Fridays from 4:30 - 5:30pm (starting Fri 2nd Feb 2024)

Suitable for: children aged between 7 -12 years old

Where: St Mary's Parish Rooms, Northchurch

Price: £25 per calendar month

Email info@ashridgekarate.co.uk to book - first session is free!

No experience required. Please check www.ashridgekarate.co.uk for full details of all sessions.