



# WESTFIELD WEEKLY

15<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Edition 2

## Key Dates

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September

- Early Years Phonics Coffee Morning – 9am

#### Advance Notice ....

#### Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September

- Day of Languages

#### Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September

- Tempest Photography – Individual & Sibling Photographs

#### Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September

- MacMillan Coffee Morning – see information below
- W1SPA AGM

## Attendance – Every day at school counts!

Attendance & Number of Late Arrivals: 4 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> September 2023						
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
99.11%	98.41%	96.95%	96.43%	98.49%	92.84%	98.18%
1	2	0	6	1	1	1

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

### Days off school add up to lost learning

**175 NON SCHOOL DAYS IN A YEAR**  
175 days to spend on family time, visits, holidays, shopping, household jobs and other appointments

190 DAYS FOR YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATION EACH YEAR	10 DAYS ABSENCE	18 DAYS ABSENCE	29 DAYS ABSENCE (A TERM MISSED)	38 DAYS ABSENCE	47 DAYS ABSENCE
180 DAYS OF EDUCATION	180 DAYS OF EDUCATION	171 DAYS OF EDUCATION	161 DAYS OF EDUCATION	162 DAYS OF EDUCATION	143 DAYS OF EDUCATION
<b>100%</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>75%</b>
<b>Good</b> <small>Best chance of success. Gets your child off to a flying start.</small>		<b>Worrying</b> <small>Less chance of success. Makes it harder to make progress.</small>		<b>Serious Concern</b> <small>Not fair on your child.</small>	

©L. Statutory Attendance and Participation Team

## Start and Finish Times

**As we start off the new school year, please can we remind you of our drop off and pick up times:**

**ALL CLASSES - Arrive from 08:35 and gates close promptly at 08:50 – children arriving after 8:50am should report to the school office to sign in.**

Reception pick up at 15:00 from the classroom door

Years 1 & 2 pick up at 15:10 from the KS1 courtyard garden area

Years 3 & 4 pick up at 15:20 from the main playground.

Any Year 5/ 6 children that are walking home will be dismissed at 15:20 – Year 5/6 children being collected from school will be dismissed from the 'meeting place' (playground at the front of the school).

If your child is arriving late for any reason and will be having a school lunch please remember to let the office know your child's school dinner choice by 9.15am that day, or bring along a packed lunch.

## EYFS Phonics Coffee Morning – Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September

Reminder: We would like to invite all our Reception parents and carers to our Phonics Coffee Morning on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September at 9am.

This is an informal event where we share details of our approach to reading and phonics plus the opportunity to meet other parents for a coffee and a chat. We look forward to seeing you there.

## Staff News

Sadly, we are saying goodbye to Mrs Ayles after nearly 15 years of working at Westfield! We would like to say a huge thank you for all her incredible hard work, support and contribution to everyone at Westfield and in particular her dedication and enthusiasm as our PE co-ordinator in providing a huge array of amazing sporting opportunities for our children. We are sure you will join us in wishing Mrs Ayles all the very best for the future.

As we say goodbye to one member of staff, we are also delighted to welcome Mrs Freemantle, our new specialist SEN Higher Level Teaching Assistant, who will be joining us in Year 3 next week. Mrs Freemantle brings a wealth of experience to the role as we welcome her to the Westfield family!

## MacMillan Coffee Morning

**ACTION REQUIRED**

On Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September, we will be helping to raise money for MacMillan Nurses and we are inviting **all children to bring in their own individual cake to enjoy with a suggested donation of 50p to the charity.** Cakes are to be brought into school in a plastic container with your child's name clearly labelled. Please can we also remind you that we are a nut free school so please check that the cake provided does not contain any type of nut or icing/spread containing nuts (e.g. Nutella / peanut butter).

We will also be holding a **Coffee Morning for parents and carers** so please come along after drop off to enjoy a coffee, a chat and a delicious slice of cake! If you are able to bake or buy some cakes for us to sell at our coffee morning it would be greatly appreciated too and it will help us to raise lots of money for this wonderful charity. Donations can be handed into the school office on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September. Thank you.

## School Photographs – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September

Tempest Photography will be in school on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September taking individual photographs of the children and with their siblings in school. Unfortunately, we are unable to accommodate family photographs including pre-school siblings. All children will be photographed unless you notify us otherwise with no obligation to purchase.

Please ensure children are wearing their school uniform on the day and children in Years 2, 3, 5 and 6 that normally have PE on a Wednesday, please can they bring their PE kit into school to change into for this week only. Thank you.

## Year 6: Secondary School Applications

**ACTION REQUIRED**

For children in Year 6, you can now apply for a Secondary school place to start in September 2024. Parents/carers can apply online at: [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions) and the deadline date for applications is 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023.

## School Lunch Payment Reminder

If your child is in Year 3 and above, meals are chargeable at £3.20 per meal. Arbor shows a live balance (which updates every afternoon). Please can we ask that you maintain your child's lunch balance in credit, or at £0.00, at all times. Please note, if your child receives Free School Meals, no charges will be applied to your Arbor account.

If your circumstances have recently changed and you think you may now qualify for free school meals, please apply at: [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals)

## Arbor

## ACTION REQUIRED

Arbor is the Management Information System that we use to hold all core school data such as information about pupils and parents, as well as to manage and receive payments and send out all communications to parents.

**In-App Messages** – when you are sent an in-app message, you will receive a push notification (please ensure you have enable this feature on your phone). In the Arbor App you will see a notification at the bottom right of your screen on the profile icon. Tap this notification, then click to see your messages. You will be taken to the messages page where you can see all messages received.

If you haven't already done so please login into your Arbor account to check the details are up to-date and correct as this is our primary method of communication and it is vitally important that we hold up to date emergency contact details for you. Thank you for your support.

## Donations for our Calm Room

We are re-decorating our Calm Room and are looking for donations of the following items:

- Large green rug
- Bean bags
- Sensory toys
- Calm pictures
- Fairy lights with batteries
- Storage boxes

If you have any of the above items and would be happy to donate them to us, please contact the office. Thank you.

## Local Events and Information

**Ashridge Estate – Protecting Our Roots:** The Ashridge Estate 'Protecting Our Roots' project is holding a public engagement drop-in event to share the challenges faced at Ashridge and their vision for the future of the estate on Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th September 11am-4pm. For further information, please visit: <https://nationaltrust.org.uk/ashridge-protecting-our-roots>

**Storm Basketball:** After a winning performance last weekend Storm are back at home this Sunday (17<sup>th</sup> September 6pm tip off) versus Essex Rebels. Tickets available online at [www.stormbasketball.net](http://www.stormbasketball.net) or from the ticket desk on the night.

**Raring2Go Magazine:** The Autumn edition of Raring2Go magazine is now available with lots of ideas of things to do this Autumn. Click here to view the magazine: [Raring2go! Hemel Hempstead](#)

**Northchurch Baptist Church Junior Youth Club:** The Youth Club at Northchurch Baptist Church (for years 1-6) have a full itinary of events coming up this autumn including talent night, crazy maze, face painting and much more. Please see the flyer below for full details and to book a place, please visit: [www.northchurch.com/junioryouth](http://www.northchurch.com/junioryouth)

**Next Thing Education Tech Camp:** Next Thing Education are running a TECH CAMP this October half-term and, for a LIMITED TIME only, they are offering 5 DAYS AND ONLY PAY FOR 4! The camps cater to ages 5-11. The camp will be taking place at: [Berkhamsted School, Kings Campus, HP4 3BG](#)

For more information please see the flyer attached or visit: [www.nextthing.education](http://www.nextthing.education)

## Letters/Flyers/Information sent home this week

- Year 3 Staffing Letter
- Year 4 Swimming Lessons
- Year 6 Young Voices
- W1SPA Newsletter
- Year 6 Ashlyns Open Evening
- Reception - My First Library Adventure

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 for this term is .... Respect**

**Junior Youth Autumn 2023**

For years 1-6  
5.30-6.45 pm

September	October	November	December
8th - Welcome back Water fun	6th- Hang out	3rd - Fireworks	1st - Gingerbread
15th - Cupcakes	13th - Crazy maze	10th - toy / book swap bring a toy book to swap	8th - Christmas Song Karaoke
22nd - Face painting	20th - Junk Modelling	17th - Hang out	15th - Christmas Party!
29th - Talent night	27th -NO JUNIOR YOUTH	24th - Fancy dress	

**Register Online**

Places are limited so please book:  
[www.northchurch.com/junioryouth](http://www.northchurch.com/junioryouth)

Bookings open Tuesday mornings.

Find us on Facebook: @nbckidswork

Email: [maryann.mountford@northchurch.com](mailto:maryann.mountford@northchurch.com)



# Ashridge Estate - Protecting Our Roots

Ashridge Estate is at a pivotal moment in its history. Its popularity is having an impact on the special landscape that is loved by so many. Action is needed now and we're at the start of a journey to secure its future.

Come along to our first public engagement event to understand more about the challenges facing Ashridge Estate, find out about the 'Protecting Our Roots' project and our vision for the future for this special place.

Members of the team will be on hand to talk through our vision, answer your questions and hear your feedback.

'Protecting Our Roots' public engagement event

Date: Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 September

Time: 11am - 4pm

Where: Meadley's Meadow, behind the Visitor Centre at Ashridge Estate, HP4 1LT



For more information visit [nationaltrust.org.uk/ashridge-protecting-our-roots](http://nationaltrust.org.uk/ashridge-protecting-our-roots) or email [protecting-ashridge@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:protecting-ashridge@nationaltrust.org.uk)



Ashridge Estate - Protecting our roots

## NEXT HOME GAME

# HEMEL STORM

VS

## ESSEX REBELS



### Sunday 17th September

### 6pm tip off

Hemel Hempstead Leisure Centre, HP1 1JS

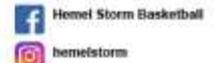
Get your tickets online at [www.stormbasketball.net](http://www.stormbasketball.net) or at the ticket desk on the night

Family: £30 Mini Family: £15

Adult: £10.50 u18: £6.00

Concessions: £8.00

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



# OCTOBER HALF TERM TECH CAMP

AT BERKHAMSTED SCHOOL, KINGS CAMPUS HP4 3BG

18TH OCT - 1ST NOV



AGES 5-11 | £49 PER DAY  
9AM - 4PM DAILY

BOOK 5 DAYS ONLY PAY FOR 4

[www.nextthing.education](http://www.nextthing.education)

## OCTOBER HALF TERM 2023

What's on? \*

### WEEK 1

#### ROBOTS, VR & TECH FUN

Program robots, design games, model 3D creations, learn to mix like a Pro DJ ... plus MEGA LASERTAG! Explore, experiment and ignite the imagination with this exciting week full of with tech fun!



### WEEK 2

#### MINECRAFT & LEGO ENGINEERING

Dive into Minecraft Education - design elements of the game, build redstone circuits and learn coding fundamentals. Build engineering skills using Lego bricks, sensors and motors to create crazy inventions powered by code.



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

18TH OCT - 24TH OCT LIMITED SPACES  
25TH OCT - 1ST NOV LIMITED SPACES

A great environment!  
"My kids loved it and we've rebooked for the next camps in October. The staff were also super helpful. Would 10/10 recommend!"  
St Barbara's Primary School  
★★★★★



## SPECIAL OFFER BOOK 5 DAYS ONLY PAY FOR 4

### What to bring to camp



[www.nextthing.education](http://www.nextthing.education)

E: [info@nextthing.education](mailto:info@nextthing.education)  
T: 01442873150