



# WESTFIELD WEEKLY

16<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Edition 21

## Key Dates

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> to Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**

- Half-Term – School Closed

#### **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February**

- Year 6 The Lancaster Model Health Questionnaire

#### **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February**

- Nursery Parent Tour
- Forest School Sessions start for Year 3

### Advance Notice ....

#### **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March**

- Travelling Book Fair

#### **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March**

- World Book Day

### **A message from Miss Leach...**



We have had such a busy and purposeful week, with all learners demonstrating courage, resilience and commitment in their learning. Our value for next half term is honesty.

Well done to year 5 for a successful assembly this morning, it's always nice to share our learning with the Westfield community - Thank you!

We have an action packed half term ahead, and I am very much looking forward to seeing you all after half term, having had a restful and fun break.

Take care as always.  
Miss Leach

# LEADERSHIP CORNER



## A message from Mrs Trinder

Bonjour, je m'appelle Mrs Trinder and I teach in Year 6 O'Keeffe. As well as this, I also lead MFL (Modern Foreign Languages) across Key Stage 2. This includes ensuring the French curriculum is embedded and that children are making progress in this subject from Year 2 to Year 6.

As some of you may know, we use Language Angels to support our weekly teaching and learning of French. Lessons are engaging, interactive and promote the use of speaking and listening skills across a number of different subjects and contexts.

## European Languages Day

At Westfield, while we focus on learning French, we also value and promote the exploration of other languages. This was evident during our European Languages Day in Term 1, where classes delved into the culture of a European country and learned some of its language. Students had the opportunity to sample food from the featured country, engage with local art styles, and immerse themselves in the richness of its culture. This holistic approach not only enhances our understanding of French but also broadens our appreciation for diverse linguistic and cultural traditions.



## Spring 2

Next half term we are looking forward to our next French units of learning:

### Year 3

*I am able/I can*

Using ten popular verbs to create action sentences.

### Year 4

*In the classroom*

Identifying what items are in a pencil case and in the classroom.

### Year 5

*Clothes*

Describing what to pack in a suitcase for a holiday.

### Year 6

*At the weekend*

Building skills to talk about activities during their weekend.

## Get in Touch

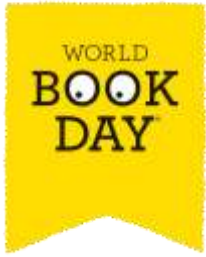
We always welcome suggestions and work in a solution focused way.

Please get in touch:

[admin@westfieldprimary.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@westfieldprimary.herts.sch.uk)

## World Book Day – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March

Celebrating with



On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March it is World Book Day! At Westfield we value reading very highly and we are all going to take part in this special day to celebrate the joy of books and reading. **As part of the day we are asking for the children to come to school dressed as their favourite book characters.**

As part of World Book Day each child will also receive a World Book Day £1 token, which can be redeemed between 5-8<sup>th</sup> March at our Travelling Books Book Fair.

## Travelling Book Fair – Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March

We will have the **Travelling Book Fair in school during the week of 4<sup>th</sup> March** with hundreds of new children's books to browse and buy. As in previous years, every book purchased helps to get **FREE BOOKS** for our school library. The Book Fair will be held in the Dining room from Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March at drop off and pick up time. Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you at the Book Fair.


## Join us for Extreme Reading 2024!


*This half term holiday, we're embarking on an extraordinary adventure with our 'Extreme Reading 2024' challenge! We're calling all avid readers, young and old, to take their reading to new heights by exploring unusual and out-of-the-ordinary places with their favourite books.*


### **How to Participate:**


1. Choose your favourite book.
2. Find an unusual or creative reading spot. Think outside the box!
3. Take a photo of yourself or ask a parent to take a photo of you reading in that unique location. Safety first! Make sure to check with an adult before trying anything adventurous.
4. Print out your photo (no digital copies, please) and bring it to school before:

### **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024.**

 **Let Your Imagination Soar:** Whether it's perched atop a climbing frame, lounging in a hammock, or curled up in a cosy nook, the possibilities are endless! The more creative and unconventional, the better.

 **Family Fun:** We encourage families to join in the fun too! Bond over books and create lasting memories as you explore together.

 **Showcasing Your Adventures:** All photos will be proudly displayed in our school, showcasing our students' reading adventures in a spectacular display of creativity and imagination.

 **Thank You for Your Support:** Thank you for supporting our 'Extreme Reading 2024' challenge! Let's make this an unforgettable experience for our children and families.

*Ready to embark on the ultimate reading adventure? Start snapping those photos and let the creativity flow! We can't wait to see where your reading takes you.*

*Happy reading and happy half term!*



## W1SPA News

Thank you as ever to all parents participating in bake sales and coffee mornings. All of your support goes directly to Westfield School.

W1SPA is planning events for the Spring - please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have ideas, comments, or suggestions. Together we can do great things for our kids!

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: 5 <sup>th</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2024						
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
96.25%	93.79%	92.51%	86.29%	95.16%	88.05%	89.23%
5	11	1	4	4	3	5

**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**

## Reporting Absences

Please can we remind you of the process for reporting your child's absence. It is our duty of care to know where children are and our Office team have to regularly chase parents and carers on a daily basis when no information has been received regarding an absence.

Parents and carers must inform the school on the first day of absence by 9am giving a specific reason for their child's absence. Saying that your child is 'ill' or 'unwell' is not an adequate reason for absence and if a reason is not provided, the absence will be marked as 'unauthorised'.

Can we also ask that parents and carers maintain daily contact with us until their child returns to school, unless otherwise advised that it is not necessary due to specific/long term illness.

Thank you for your cooperation and support.

## Izzie's Big Hair Donation for the Little Princess Trust

One of our Year 4 pupils, Izzie, has been growing her hair for the Little Princess Trust and will be having at least 12 inches of her hair cut off on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March in support of the charity. Alongside her hair donation, she is hoping to raise £300 towards the £550 cost of making a wig.

The Little Princess Trust provides real hair wigs, free of charge, to children and young people who have lost their own hair through cancer treatment or to other conditions such as Alopecia.

If you would like to sponsor Izzie for this amazing charity, please click on the link below:

[https://www.justgiving.com/page/izzie-pephanis-1707347498710?utm\\_medium=fundraising&utm\\_content=page%2Fizzie-pephanis-1707347498710&utm\\_source=copyLink&utm\\_campaign=pfp-share](https://www.justgiving.com/page/izzie-pephanis-1707347498710?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Fizzie-pephanis-1707347498710&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=pfp-share)

Well done Izzie!

## Travel Consultation

A consultation to reduce the speed limits from 60mph to 30mph (from the A41 roundabout to Ashlyns school, as well as the surrounding roads becoming part of the 20mph zone, is now open for public engagement. The consultation runs until Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March and is the first part of a two-stage process. It is intended that the second stage will take place later this year. Please follow this link [Swing Gate Lane and Chesham Road, Berkhamsted - 20mph proposal | Hertfordshire County Council](#) to complete the traffic consultation form. It is a very brief questionnaire where you are able to indicate your support for the proposals and add any comments. Thank you for your support.

## Nursery Admissions for September 2024

**Applications for Nursery admissions starting in September 2024 will open on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024.**

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, applications can be made to join our Nursery in September 2024 via our school website <https://westfieldprimary.herts.sch.uk/our-school/admissions/> The deadline for applications is 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

We will also have further tours taking place on the dates below if you would like to come and find out all about our Early Years provision from September 2024.

- Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February
- Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March

All tours start at 9am and please contact the school office at [admin@westfieldprimary.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@westfieldprimary.herts.sch.uk) or 01442 862729 to book onto one of our tours.

## Bridgewater School Cross Country (Years 3-6) – Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March

We are looking forward to seeing lots of children at the annual Bridgewater School Cross Country on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2024**. Below are the race times. Please arrive at least 10 minutes before the race - all children must be accompanied by an adult for their time there and can leave immediately after.

Time	Race	Approximate Distance
9:30	Year 6 Girls	1200m
9:45	Year 6 Boys	1200m
10:00	Year 5 Girls	1200m
10:15	Year 5 Boys	1200m
10:30	Year 4 Girls	800m
10:45	Year 4 Boys	800m
11:00	Year 3 Girls	600m
11:15	Year 3 Boys	600m

11.35 (approx.) Presentation

### Cost

There is an entry fee of £2 per runner, this can be paid via your **Arbor Parent Portal**, by doing this your child is signed up.

### Clothing

Children should wear appropriate clothing for the course and weather conditions, it is likely to be very muddy! Running spikes **are** allowed to worn.

### Parking

Please be aware that parking is limited, please consider car sharing or parking a distance away and walking. **Please do not double park on the road by the school as this is a bus route and needs to be kept clear.**

### Refreshments

Refreshments will be on sale.

Mrs Saunders will be attending the event, so please sign in with her when you arrive.

## Have your say to help make cycling and walking in Dacorum better for all ...

### Have your say to help make the school commute safer in Dacorum

Please give your views on how cycling and walking routes can be improved and help to ensure children's journeys to school are even safer, healthier and more enjoyable, by taking part in a consultation which is now open.

Hertfordshire County Council, in partnership with Dacorum Borough Council, is putting together the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) – to have your say, please go to [www.dacorum.gov.uk/walkingandcycling](http://www.dacorum.gov.uk/walkingandcycling).

The LCWIP aims to make walking and cycling the best choices for shorter journeys or part of longer journeys, and preferable to using a car. The consultation is open until 11.59pm on Monday 26 February.

## Wellbeing and Parenting Information

### Dr Kathy Weston Newsletter

Dr Kathy Weston's Wednesday Wisdom this week, 'Up in Smoke' looks at both the environmental and unknown health concerns with using e-cigarettes and how the number of children using vapes has tripled in the last three years: [Wednesday Wisdom](#) | [Up in Smoke](#) | [Tooled Up Education](#)

### Dacorum Family Services – FREE Parent & Carer Wellbeing Workshop

Would you like some ideas of how to improve your general wellbeing? Dacorum Family Services are running a FREE workshop for parents and carers on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February from 9:30-11am at Hobbs Hill Wood Primary School. The workshop will help you learn about mindfulness and positivity and how it can improve your wellbeing, discuss gratitude and how it can improve wellbeing and learn some strategies that are easy to implement into busy lives. For more details and to book, please email: [jnethercoat@hobbshillwood.herts.sch.uk](mailto:jnethercoat@hobbshillwood.herts.sch.uk) or telephone: 01442 401222 ext: 5.

### Talking ASD & ADHD Workshops – Free to Parents

Supporting Links have added some new dates for their Talking ASD & ADHD Workshops. These are FREE to parents and carers living in Hertfordshire of children aged 2-25yrs with suspected or diagnosed Autistic Spectrum Disorder and/or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. The dates for the workshops are:

- **Talking ASD/ADHD: Anxiety and Stress - Wednesday 6th March or Tuesday 12th March 2024**
- **Talking ASD/ADHD: Responding to Anger – Monday 4th March or Wednesday 13th March 2024**
- **Talking ASD/ADHD: School Avoidance – Tuesday 26th March 2024**
- **Talking ASD/ADHD: Coping with Change – Monday 18th March 2024**

Please see the flyer below for further information and booking details.

### Parent Pathways – Free RNIB Training

Parent Pathways is a free and informal series of online sessions for parents and carers whose child has recently been diagnosed with vision impairment. Part of the Living Well with Sight Loss series, it is designed to give parents the space to learn about and discuss some of the important questions that they might have about raising a child who is blind or partially sighted. It is open to parent or carers of children aged from birth to 25 years old. For more information please email: [cypf@rnib.org.uk](mailto:cypf@rnib.org.uk) or call 0303 123 9999. Further information is also available on the RNIB website: [www.rnib.org.uk/living-with-sight-loss](http://www.rnib.org.uk/living-with-sight-loss)

### Herts Parent Carer Involvement (HPCI) 'Autism in Schools' Webinar

The HPCI are holding a webinar for parents and carers to showcase the 'Autism in Schools' project and will have speakers from HCC, ISL, the Local Offer, as well as voluntary organisations such as ADD-vance, Carers in Herts, Mind Herts, SPACE, Autism Hertfordshire, Herts Disability Sports Foundation, Potential Kids and Families in Focus. The webinar takes place on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2024, 10am-12:30pm. To register for the event, please visit: [HPCI Parent Carer Webinar](#)

## Letters/Flyers/Information sent home this week

- Herts for Learning Online Safety Newsletter
- Scarlet Fever Information
- Basketball After-School Club (Years 3-6)
- Art Club (Years 1-6)
- Years 3 & 4 Trip to St Albans Cathedral

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 next half term is ..... Honesty**



## Parent & Carer Wellbeing

**Date**

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2024

**Time**

09:30 to 11:00 am

Session will be held face to face at Hobbs Hill Wood  
Primary School in the Myatt Room

**Would you like some ideas of how to improve  
your general wellbeing?**

A **free** workshop for parents/carers:

- Learn about mindfulness and positivity and how it can improve your wellbeing
- Discuss gratitude and how it can improve wellbeing
- Learn some strategies that are easy to implement into busy lives



**For more details and to book, please email:**

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

Please include contact details and  
name of child's school when booking

Tel: 01442 401222 Ext: 5



# Parent & Carer Support TALKING ASD & ADHD Workshops Spring Term 2024



Workshops are FREE to parents and carers living in [Hertfordshire](#) of children aged 2-25yrs with suspected or diagnosed Autistic Spectrum Disorder and/or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.

← Eventbrite Page

## ANXIETY and STRESS



- The difference between stress and anxiety.
- Understanding anxiety related conditions amongst young people with ASD and/or ADHD.
- How to spot the non-verbal signs of stress.
- Common triggers amongst neurodiverse children.
- What an anxious child needs to feel safe and how to provide this.
- Strategies to engage an anxious or stressed child.
- The early signs of mental health problems.

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 9.30-11.15am**

**Workshop SL641 Pre-book via Eventbrite:**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/talking-asd-adhd-stress-anxiety-641-for-parentscarers-in-herts-registration-834845624737>

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 7.30-9.15pm**

**Workshop SL640 Pre-book via Eventbrite:**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/talking-asd-adhd-anxiety-stress-640-for-parentscarers-in-herts-registration-830105085657>

## RESPONDING to ANGER



- The difference between healthy & unhealthy anger.
- The pattern that anger takes and how to spot the non-verbal signs early.
- Our own and our children's triggers.
- Techniques that stop angry and aggressive behaviour escalating and when to use them.
- How to respond to our child in meltdown, keeping ourselves, our child and siblings safe.

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 9.30-11.15am**

**Workshop SL639 Pre-book via Eventbrite:**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/talking-asd-adhd-responding-to-anger-639-for-parentscarers-in-herts-registration-829024844627>

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 7.30-9.15pm**

**Workshop SL642 Pre-book via Eventbrite:**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/talking-asd-adhd-responding-to-anger-642-for-parentscarers-in-herts-registration-830098606277>

## SCHOOL AVOIDANCE



- What is Emotionally Based School Avoidance and is this what your child is experiencing?
- Common causes and triggers of school avoidance.
- How EBSA is affecting you and your family.
- Practical steps you can take to support your child.
- How to work with your school in your child's best interests.

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 9.30-11.15am**

**Workshop SL644 Pre-book via Eventbrite:**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/talking-asd-adhd-school-avoidance-644-for-parentscarers-in-herts-registration-835261949977>

## COPING with CHANGE



- How children feel and behave when experiencing change or transition.
- Preparing children for changes such as starting a new school.
- Supporting children during and after change, helping them to manage their emotions using effective stress reducing strategies.
- How children learn from new experiences and what to expect.

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 9.30-11.15am**

**Workshop SL643 Pre-book via Eventbrite:**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/talking-asd-adhd-coping-with-change-643-for-parentscarers-in-herts-registration-835253344237>

Follow on:



Contact via:

[info@supportinglinks.co.uk](mailto:info@supportinglinks.co.uk)  
[www.supportinglinks.co.uk](http://www.supportinglinks.co.uk)

Funded by Hertfordshire County  
Council's Targeted Parenting Fund

