



WESTFIELD WEEKLY

20th October 2023

Edition 7

Key Dates

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Half-term break – Monday 23rd October to Friday 27th October – School Closed

Monday 30th October

- School re-opens to all pupils

Wednesday 1st November

- New to Reception September 2024 Parent Tour

Thursday 2nd November

- No Forest School session this week for Year 5 – Forest School sessions will start 9th November

Friday 3rd November

- Open Learning Morning – Parents welcome
- W1SPA Halloween Disco

Advance Notice

Thursday 9th November

- Flu Vaccinations

Friday 10th November

- Year 3 Class Assembly

Attendance – Every day at school counts!

Attendance & Number of Late Arrivals: 9 th – 13 th October 2023						
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
95.63%	93.28%	98.32%	94.07%	94.81%	93.28%	94.83%
2	7	1	5	1	3	6

Punctuality Reminders

We have noticed an increase in late arrivals over the last few weeks. Punctuality is an important life skill which we encourage at Westfield. Arriving late puts a child at a significant disadvantage. A pupil who arrives 5 minutes late each day will have missed 3 entire days of school by the end of the year!

When a pupil arrives late to school, there are many consequences:

- They miss out on essential instructions given at the beginning of lessons.
- Pupils might feel awkward and embarrassed going into the classroom when everyone else is already settled.
- When one person arrives late everyone loses out – the class is disrupted and the teacher must take time away from the other pupils, to explain what is going on for the lesson.

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.

Our registers close at 9.10am. Any children arriving after 9.10am will be logged as an unauthorised absence.

If you are having difficulties ensuring your child's regular attendance or you are struggling to arrive before 8.50am each day, please come and speak to us and we can work together on supporting your child.

W1SPA Events next week and beyond

Friday 3rd November - Halloween Disco!

Tickets on sale now at www.pta-events.co.uk/w1spa

Sales close midnight Thurs 2nd Nov and we won't be able to take bookings on the door

In preparation for our Christmas Fair – please have a look at the donation schedule below for stalls and tombolas!

W/C 6th Nov	Sweets (we will take those Halloween extras!)
W/C 13th Nov	New & Like New (Regift) Items for gifts - Elfridges
17th November	BAGS TO SCHOOL
W/c 20th Nov	Toys & Teddies
W/c 27th Nov	Bottles (with Dress Down Friday on 1st Dec)
W/c 4th Dec	Xmas Jumpers and Cakes

- Friday 17th November - 'Bag2School' collection - have a half term sort out and bring unwanted clothes / bags / shoes etc to raise money for W1SPA
- Friday 8th December 3-6pm - Christmas Fair – SAVE THE DATE - more details to follow soon!
- Saturday 9th December - Santa's Sleigh – please sign up to help at www.pta-events.co.uk/w1spa We can't run this without support, and its super fun and festive!

Thank you for supporting last week's W1SPA events – here are totals of the money we raised for the school!

- Halloween costume swap = £51.79
- Year 6 cake sale = £71.28
- Y4 Assembly Coffee and Tea Morning = £18.20

Can you help? We're looking for....

- Storage space to store items between now and the Christmas fair - could be a garage, storage unit etc – please email wispawestfield@gmail.com if you can help or have any ideas
- Just one or two volunteer slots left to help at the Halloween disco - sign up at www.pta-events.co.uk/w1spa
- Help with Santa Sleigh - sign up at www.pta-events.co.uk/w1spa

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.



New Wrap Around Care Provision from January 2024

As you are aware, Home from Home will be moving on to focus on their Early Years Provision at Christmas. We have loved working alongside them and wish them every success for their future.

Over the last few weeks we have been discussing the wrap around care options with a number of providers and we are pleased to announce that "Cascade Camps" will be joining us to provide full wrap around care from the start of the Spring term in January.

Look out for information coming from them shortly after half term with details of their provision and offer and also details of how to register and book with them.

We are the first school that they have chosen to work with for wrap around care as they are already an established holiday club provider. We are very excited about what they have to offer. If you want a look at what they are about please check out their website:

<https://www.cascadecamps.com/>

Appeal for Carpet / Rug Donation

We are looking to refurbish our Calm Room and are reaching out to see if any of our families has recently had new carpet fitted and may have some off cuts, old carpet or even a rug that they would be happy to donate to us? Ideally, we need flooring to cover an area of 8ft x 8ft. If you or anyone you know can help us, please contact the school office. Thank you.

School Roof Replacement

Following an extensive process, we have been successful in securing funding from Herts County Council to replace the roof of our school. This project will begin during half-term with the installation of scaffolding around the school. This will enable contractors to then work safely to replace the roof. The project is likely to be ongoing until at least February half-term. During this time, some of the meeting place and staff car park will be fenced off for the building company to store materials and access the roof. Thank you in advance for your patience and cooperation whilst the building works are undertaken.

Reception – My First Library Adventure



A reminder for our Reception families, this autumn Hertfordshire Libraries are encouraging all Reception class children to have their own library card with their 'My First Library Adventure' promotion that runs until 31st October 2023. All children who complete the Adventure will be entered into a prize draw to win a whole class visit to their local library to meet award winning author / illustrator Alex Willmore. In addition, 50 children will win a personalised signed book.

Year 6: Secondary School Applications

Reminder: **The deadline date for Secondary School applications for children in Year 6 is 31st October 2023.** Applications can be made online at: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions Any applications received after the above date will be considered as late. **We would therefore strongly recommend that you apply before the deadline or you may not get your first choice of school.**

Open Learning Mornings

Parent Event

We look forward to welcoming parents and carers to our first Open Learning Morning on Friday 3rd November. Please drop your children off following our normal morning routine and then come to the hall for a short introductory session, before then being able to visit your children's classes where you will have the opportunity to engage with your child in some interactive teaching activities. If you have more than one child in the school, we suggest that you start by visiting your youngest child's class and then move from one class to the other within the time available.

British Legion Poppy Appeal



To support this years' Poppy Appeal, we will be selling poppies and a selection of 'poppy' themed items in aid of the Royal British Legion. Suggested donations are between 50p and £1 and the children will be able to buy items each day in school after half term. Thank you for supporting The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

Dr Kathy Weston Newsletter

Dr Kathy Weston's Newsletter this week 'Cherishing Childhood' focuses on how we can have age-appropriate conversations with our children about things going on in the world, self-care for the whole family including acts of kindness during challenging times and helping children to become more confident.

[Members - Tooled Up Education](#)

Previous articles are also available via the tooled up website: <https://www.tooledupeducation.com/tooled-up/wednesday-wisdom/>

Berkhamsted Fireworks



Tickets are available to buy for the Berkhamsted Rotary Club Fireworks display on Saturday 4th November. Tickets are available through the Arbor Parent Portal at a reduced price of £9 for an adult, £6 for under 16's and a family ticket (2 adults, 2 children) for £23. Children under 5 are free. If you have already purchased a ticket, we will be sending tickets home after half term. Every ticket sold will earn commission for the school so thank you in advance for your support and helping to raise money for our school.

DSPL8 Parent/Carer Newsletter; Dacorum SEND courses, support & information for families

The latest 'DSPL8 Parent/Carer Newsletters are available to download from their website via the following link: <https://dacorumdspl.org.uk/online-resources-for-parents-and-carers/>

This fortnights newsletter includes:

Update on Leadership structure and changes to Delivering Special Provision Local (DSPL8)

- New Re-designed Dacorum DSPL8 Website
- DSPL8 Dacorum Families SEND Information Fayre: 07.12.2023
- Medication Shortage Alert
- DSPL7 & DSPL8 Emotional Based School Avoidance coffee mornings. For parents and carers with children (Year 7 - 11)
- SEND Surgery: 21.11.2023
- DSPL8 EBSA Coffee Morning: 23.11.2023
- Autumn Term DSPL8 Parent/Carer Support

Dacorum Parent/Carer courses and support from various local providers:

- Potential Kids: October & Half Term Activities
- Showcase of Autism in Schools Programme
- Community Action Dacorum Courses
- Families in Focus Courses & Workshops
- Supported Internships online information morning (16+) Applying for mainstream secondary and upper schools (for children in years 6 and 8 without an EHCP)
- SEND Drop-in sessions
- Parenting Courses and Support in Dacorum Autumn Term 2023

Please see their social media pages for further updates: Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/dspldacorum>
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/dspl_dacorum/

Local Events and Information

Berkhamsted Under Fives Group Vacancy

Berkhamsted Under Fives group is a local charity running a small drop-in group in Northchurch for families with children under 5 years of age facing hardship. They are currently looking for a caring, responsible group assistant for the part-time role of Deputy Family Support Worker. If you have experience of working with children under 5 and are looking for a part-time job, please contact Jane on 07718 102175 or email: chair@bu5sgroup.uk for more information or an application form.

Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service

Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service have shared the Autumn edition of the Schools Stay Safe Newsletter (attached). The Newsletter includes important guidance for families including Road Safety, especially around schools, Winter Water Safety and some tips for Halloween.

Storm Basketball Junior Basketball Camp

Storm Basketball are running a Junior Basketball Camp at John F Kennedy School in Hemel Hempstead on Wednesday 25th October for Primary School aged children. The camp runs from 9am to 3pm and costs £40 for the day. Please see flyer below for further details.

Storm Basketball Home Match

Storm are back at home this Saturday (21st October 7pm tip off) versus Worthing Thunder. Tickets available online at www.stormbasketball.net or from the ticket desk on the night.

Next Thing Education Tech Camp

Next Thing Education Tech Camp at Berkhamsted School – there are still spaces available at their Minecraft, Lego and Engineering camp, but it is filling up fast. Book 5 days now and only pay for 4. Please see flyer for further details and to book.

Berkhamsted Library Page One Sessions

Berkhamsted Library is taking bookings for Page One that start Monday 6th November 2023. Page One is aimed at children aged 7 to 11 years of age, with activities and discussion around books themed on Fantasy. The sessions start 4.15pm to 5.15pm on 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th November and can be booked at Berkhamsted Library. Each session is £3.00 per child or £10.00 if the four sessions are booked together.

Step2Skills FREE Family Workshops

Step2Skills are funded by the Government, are part of Hertfordshire County Council and provide services in Hertfordshire for learning within the community. This half-term they are offering FREE 'Autumn Explorers' and 'Story Sacks' family workshops. Further information can be obtained from their website: <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/microsites/adult-learning/step2skills-home.aspx#>

Northchurch Park

Northchurch Parish Council are developing plans for the next stage of developments at Northchurch Park, and they would like to seek the views of as many local people as possible via the following questionnaire:
- <https://forms.gle/ECU5NDJ32ohWq6YDA> The deadline to complete the questionnaire is 31st October 2023.

Letters/Flyers/Information sent home this week

- Reception – Parent Rep
- Art & Basketball Club flyers

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 after half term is Kindness

WISPA PRESENTS:

Westfield's Christmas Fair

Friday 8th December, 3-6pm

**Advance notice that we need
your donations for the
Christmas fair - please bring
in the following in the weeks
after half term....
thank you!**



Week of 6th Nov	Leftover Halloween sweets
Week of 13th Nov	New / like new items which can be regifted at Elfridges secret present room (date for Elfridges coming soon!)
Fri 17th Nov	Bag2School collection of unwanted clothes / bedding etc to raise money for WISPA
Week of 20th Nov	Toys & Teddies
Week of 27th Nov	Bottles
Week of 4th Dec	Xmas Jumpers, cakes on Friday



WISPA is Westfield Primary School's Parents Association, and every Westfield parent is a member
wispawestfield@gmail.com
www.pta-events.co.uk/wispa



Registered Charity No. 1071338

We are a local charity running a small drop-in group in Northchurch for families facing hardship with children aged under 5 in Northchurch, Berkhamsted and the surrounding area. We offer activities and friendly support in a relaxed and sociable atmosphere.

We are looking for a caring, responsible group assistant for this part-time role.

Could you be our new DEPUTY FAMILY SUPPORT WORKER?

If you have experience of working with young children and their families and can help provide activities focusing on play to promote children's development, this could be you!

Closing date for
applications:
22/10/23

Interviews will take
place on:
30/10/23

Mondays and Wednesdays 8.30 – 12.30

8 hours per week, term-time only

Pay: £11.00 - £12.50 per hour depending on experience

For job description and full application details please contact:

Jane at Berkhamsted Under 5s Group:
07718 102175

Or email: chair@bu5group.uk

HEMEL STORM

OCTOBER HALF TERM CAMP

John F. Kennedy School, HP1 3PW

WHEN?

- Primary School - Wednesday 25th, October
- Secondary School - Thursday 26th, October

TIME?

- Camp runs from 9am - 3pm (please make sure you arrive at 3pm to collect your child)

PRICE?

- £40 for the day

WHY COME?

- DBS Certified Coaches
- A chance to get coached by Storm Players
- Fun packed day full of competitive games
- Skill Development
- Family environment



For more information contact: junioreaching@stormbasketball.net



FIRST LEAGUE HOME GAME

HEMEL STORM

VS

WORTHING THUNDER

NBL Division One

Saturday 21st October

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



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

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



APPLY | DONATE | VOLUNTEER



A charity providing support to OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY this Christmas. Families within Berkhamsted, Tring and surrounding villages.

Our mission is to provide families with quality, ready to wrap, new and like new toys and gifts, ensuring that no child goes without.



Apply for support

From: Thursday 12 October

For those struggling to cover the cost of Christmas this year – We deliver new or like new gifts, complete with wrapping paper and tape, ready to wrap in time for Christmas day. Children aged 0-18. Find our application form and more info on our website: toyhub.org/apply

Donate toys & gifts

From: Friday 3 November

We're looking for donations of new & like new toys & gifts for children aged 0-18. For donation points and more info visit: toyhub.org/donate

Volunteer to help

Sign up from: Thursday 12 October

Volunteers needed throughout November
Find out more at: toyhub.org/volunteer

Toy Hub is a registered charity. No. 1198216



TOYHUB.ORG



OCTOBER HALF TERM TECH CAMP

16TH OCT - 3RD NOV

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO



ROBOTS
INVENTIONS



MINECRAFT/LEGO
ENGINEERING



VR
TECH FUN

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

BOOK 5 DAYS ONLY PAY FOR 4

www.nextthing.education

OCTOBER HALF TERM 2023

What's on?



Revolting Robotics



Vampiric Virtual Reality



Creepy Coding



Thrilling Tech Fun



Spell-binding Inventions

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

16TH OCT - 3RD 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 100% recommend it to other parents."

★★★★★



BOOK 5 DAYS ONLY PAY FOR 4

What to bring to camp



Packed Lunch and Snacks



Water Bottle



Mealcard if Required



Halloween Costume (Friday Optional)

www.nextthing.education E: info@nextthing.education T: 01442873150



Funded by
UK Government

STEP 2 SKILLS
PREPARE FOR SUCCESS IN HERTS

FREE Half Term Family Workshops



Autumn Explorers

Help your child (aged 5-10) develop Literacy, Maths and other skills through making crafts with natural materials.

Waltham Cross
Tue 24th Oct
10am-12pm

Stevenage
Thu 26th Oct
10am-12pm



Story Sacks

Discover how to use 'found' materials to create a story sack/box with your child (aged 4-8).

Waltham Cross
Tue 24th Oct
1.30-3.30pm

Stevenage
Thu 26th Oct
1.30-3.30pm

Book your place: step2skills.org.uk ☎ 01992 556194

