

Friday 29th September 2023

Whole School Attendance – 92.8%
Class Winner – Wisteria 98.8%

On Monday 2nd October, the children can come into school dressed in Rainbow Colours and bring a donation into school in the colour for their Year Group. (See Below).



Raffle Tickets will then be on sale week beginning 9th October 2023, and then the winner will be drawn on Friday 20th October. Each year group will win a hamper filled with items for their allocated colour.

Nursery & EYFS – Red

Year 1 – Orange

Year 2 – Yellow

Year 3 – Green

Year 4 – Blue

Year 5 – Indigo

Year 6 – Violet (Purple)

Thank you - PTFA

Individual Photographs

The school photographers will be in school on Thursday 5th October to take individual photographs. If you would like a sibling photo these will be taken after school in the hall.



Our Stars of the Week this week have been

Nursery am – Leo
Nursery pm - Clay
Class 1 – Harriet
Class 2 – Aaron
Class 3 – Macey
Class 4 – Cristian
Class 5 – Annie
Class 6 – Ivy
Class 7 – Poppy
Class 8 – Oliver
Class 9 – Owen
Class 10 – Jayden
Class 11 – Lorena
Class 12 - Natayah

The Junior Leadership Team will be holding a 'Come to School in your Pyjamas Day' on Friday 13th October, to raise money for school funds. They are asking for a voluntary contribution of £1.



Dinner Menu
Week Commencing
02/10/23
Week 3



Quality Mark
PRIMARY
AWARD

to learn to grow together

West Road Primary Academy, West Road, Moorends, Doncaster DN8 4LH

Telephone: 01405 812734

www.westroadprimary.co.uk admin@westrd.doncaster.sch.uk





The next Coffee Morning will be on Wednesday 4th October 9am to 10am. Coffee/Tea and biscuits will be provided at a cost of £1. It's a chance to chat to other parents and staff about any issues or concerns, and share your own experiences and advice with other parents.



Toddler Group

Every Tuesday Morning 9am and 10.30am
(term time) £1 per child.

Census Day Menu

On Thursday 5th October we will be have a special Census Day Meal. Please see the menu poster.

Nut Free School

Can we please remind parent/carers whose children have packed lunches that we are nut free school. This means packed lunches should **not** have any food items which contain nuts.



PE Kit

As the weather is starting to change please ensure your child brings indoor and outdoor PE kit.

PTFA

Your school needs you! We are looking for parents, carers, grand-parents etc. to join our PTFA. If you would like to support the school in arranging events and fund raising please let the office know.

Parent Reading Volunteers wanted across school. If you feel you have the time and commitment to make a difference to a child reading for enjoyment in school, please speak with your class teacher.

The Junior Leadership Team will be running a Tuck Shop on Monday, Wednesday and Friday's. This half term it will be for KS2 children, and next half term for KS1 children.
Please see price list below

JLT —Tuck Shop—	
Caramel Rice cakes	Bear Fruit Blackcurrant
15p each	25p each
Salted Rice Cakes	Bear Fruit Mango
15p each	25p each
Raisins	Apple & Blackcurrant Juice
20p each	30p each
Bear Fruit Apple	Apple & Pear Juice
25p each	30p each
Bear Fruit Raspberry	
25p each	

Safeguarding

School needs to be made aware of all holidays taken during term time. This is a safeguarding issue. We need to have a reason for every absence from school. If you are taking your child/ren on holiday in term time, please complete a holiday form in advance. Thank you for your co-operation.

Kooth is a free, safe and anonymous online mental wellbeing support service for 11 to 25 Year olds.

Please see below for further details www.kooth.com



Does your child have a laptop at home to complete homework?

If your child requires a school laptop to complete their homework on Edshed and Times Table Rockstars, please let their class teacher know.



Class Email Addresses

Should you wish to contact your child's class teacher you can do so by emailing the class email. However, this should not be used to report a child absent. All absence calls should be made to the school office.

Nursery	nursery@westrd.doncaster.sch.uk
Class 1	class1@westrd.doncaster.sch.uk
Class 2	class2@westrd.doncaster.sch.uk
Class 3	class3@westrd.doncaster.sch.uk
Class 4	class4@westrd.doncaster.sch.uk
Class 5	class5@westrd.doncaster.sch.uk
Class 6	class6@westrd.doncaster.sch.uk
Class 7	class7@westrd.doncaster.sch.uk
Class 8	class8@westrd.doncaster.sch.uk
Class 9	class9@westrd.doncaster.sch.uk
Class 10	class10@westrd.doncaster.sch.uk
Class 11	class11@westrd.doncaster.sch.uk
Class 12	class12@westrd.doncaster.sch.uk



Would you like to be a parent ambassador for mental health at West Road?

With Me In Mind are a NHS Mental Health Support Team who work within your child's school. We offer 1:1 therapeutic interventions, group work, and information events. We also offer **parents/carers intervention** to be able to support their child's mental health, a parent ecclinic and offer workshops and advice sessions. We are always looking for ways to improve our service and feel the best way to do this is to gain feedback from service users, so we are looking to recruit some **parent ambassadors**. This is a **voluntary role** that would involve an **hour long meeting once a term with WMIM Engagement Lead** to discuss how we can improve the support that is offered and offer a space for you to share feedback on our service. We would love to hear from parents from all backgrounds and experiences, it does not matter if your child has not worked with our service.

Message from Doncaster Children's Services Partnership

Worried about a child? We are always here for our children, young people and families 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

If you are worried about a child and wish to speak to a person you can contact us by calling 01302 737777, or in the evening or at weekends call 01302 796000. You can also record your concerns online at www.doncasterchildrenstrust.co.uk/worried-about-a-child - this can be done anonymously.

If you have any questions or would like to get involved, please feel free to contact the WMIM engagement lead, Katie Wood at katie.wood37@nhs.net or let Mrs Holloway know. Thank you 😊



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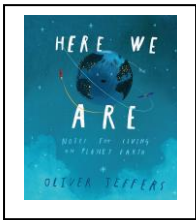
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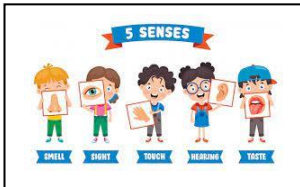


The following website www.toogoodtogo.co.uk is available for all parents to collect food from lots of local businesses at a reduced price. There is also an app available.



In Reception, the pupils have been identifying initial sounds in literacy using their phonics skills. We have been reading 'Here we are' by Oliver Jeffers and predicting the next event in the story. The Nursery

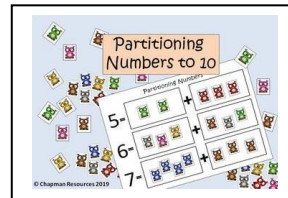
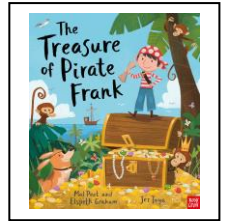
pupils have been talking about how they would feel if they were on the beach. We listened to some coastal waves and seagulls. Well done EYFS for a brilliant week!



This week in Year 1 we have been continuing to explore our senses in science. We went on a sensory walk around school with a focus on

listening. In French we have been continuing to learn our colours and have enjoyed colouring in some French labelled crayons. In English, we have independently written a postcard telling Grandad everything we have been doing at school.

This week in Year 2 we have begun to write our instructions to help people find the treasure of Pirate Frank. This is from the story we have been reading during our English lessons, the children thought carefully about the features of instructions and used these in their writing. In our maths sessions we have continued to focus on place value and this week we have looked at number lines and partitioning numbers to 100. During our R.E sessions we learnt all about a synagogue and the important artefacts and features we would see inside of one. We had lots of fun during our P.E sessions learning about how to skip and we all tried really hard with this. Another super week Year 2 well done.



This week in Year 3-4 the children have again been working so hard and have been testing their skills across

all subjects. Starting with English where they are being tasked even more to know different word classes and some sentences being produced are truly exceptional. In maths the children have been exploring more content within place value and really getting to grips with partitioning numbers and understanding each number's role. Our wider curriculum subjects have also been met with great success again with some amazing learning happening in all subjects from history

and geography to PSHE and PE. Amazing work
LKS2!

This week in UKS2, we have continued reading 'The House with Chicken Legs,' and have based our literacy lessons around this book. We wrote direct speech for Baba Yaga and Marinka. In history we are learning about the British Empire, how Britain won and lost countries. We never realised how large the British Empire used to be. P.E is focusing on health and fitness. We have identified the muscle groups that we have been using. Hopefully we are building our stamina each week.



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Are you entitled to a £100 uniform voucher?

Am I entitled to free school meals for my child?

Your child will be eligible for free school meals (FSM) if you are receiving one of the following benefits or support:

- Universal Credit - Your annual net earned income must be no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to 3 of your most recent assessment periods.
- Income Support.
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance.
- Income-related ESA.
- Child Tax Credit but not Working Tax Credit and your annual income is below £16,190.
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit.
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- Parents receiving Working Tax Credit for four weeks after their employment finishes are entitled to free school meals during that period. This also applies to parents who start working less than 16 hours per week.

You are NOT entitled to free school meals if:

- You receive Working Tax Credit except where the 'four week run-on' applies.

Even if your child is in Reception to Year 2 and they already receive a free meal under the government's Universal Infant Free School Meal (UIFSM) system, it is still worth applying for FSM. Benefits of successful FSM applications are:

- A £100 uniform voucher (payable on your first successful application only)
- Free school milk up to the end of Year 2.
- Reduced costs for residential visits.
- Other benefits may become available from time to time.
-

If your child becomes eligible for Free School Meals before 31 March 2022, they will continue to be eligible until they leave Primary Education. This is regardless of any changes in your circumstances and means you do not need to tell us if your circumstances change.

For more information and to apply online please visit:

<http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/schools/free-school-meals>

or alternatively, please call into the office and we will be happy to advise and help you with an application



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WEEK 3	 MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN DISH	All day breakfast	Chicken fillet burger with baked wedges	Roast gammon with new potatoes	 Chicken & tomato pasta bake	Crispy fish fingers with chunky chips
VEGETARIAN MAIN DISH	Cheese quiche with Spanish potatoes	Veggie sausage hotdog with baked wedges	 BBQ Quorn™ & bean stew with new potatoes	Cheese pinwheels with diced potatoes	 Quorn™ nuggets with chunky chips
ACCOMPANIMENTS 	Sweetcorn & broccoli Salad bar	Peas & coleslaw Salad bar	Carrots & cauliflower Salad bar	Broccoli & green beans Salad bar	Peas & baked beans Salad bar
DESSERTS	Raspberry buns	 Flapjack	 Ginger biscuit & fruit	Chocolate sponge & custard	 Fruit meringue
FRESH FRUIT OR YOGHURT	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt
JACKET POTATO AND SANDWICH SELECTION	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection



MENU

Eating all your fruit & veg will help you grow BIG and STRONG (like me!)



KEY  - 5 OF YOUR 5 A DAY

 - MEAT FREE

 - MEAT FREE MONDAY

 - CHEF'S CHOICE

 - PLANT-BASED (VEGAN)

Allergens and intolerances All of our food is lovingly hand crafted and prepared on site daily. We have an allergen procedure in place, so please ensure you make our catering team aware of your allergens/ your child's allergens prior to using the restaurant. Our kitchens are used for multi-purpose production so we cannot guarantee the above dishes are completely free from allergenic ingredients or traces of these.

West Road's Termly Calendar of Events (for parents/carers)

<u>Autumn 2023</u>			<u>September</u>
Tues 12 th Wed 13 th Wed 13 th Wed 13 th Wed 13 th Thurs 14 th Sat 16 th	Toddlers (£1) Roald Dahl Day (optional dress up day) Parents Coffee Morning (£1) PTFA Coffee Afternoon- everyone welcome LKS2 (Year 3 and 4) Parents Welcome Meeting Big Talk in School for children (Sex Relationships Education) Moorends Gala run by the Moorends Welfare Working Group	9-10.30am 9-10am 2-3pm 3.15-4pm 10.30-4pm	
Tues 19 th Wed 20 th Wed 20 th Thurs 21 st Thurs 21 st Fri 22 nd	Toddlers (£1) UKS2 (Year 5 and 6) Parents Welcome Meeting Parents Coffee Morning (£1) KS1 Parents Welcome Meeting Parent Consultation Group with Mrs Woodward Jeans for Genes day (optional for children to wear jeans in school)	9-10.30am 3.15-4pm 9-10am 9.45-10.15 10.30-11.30	
Mon 25 th - Fri 29 th Tues 26 th Wed 27 th Wed 27 th	Cycle to school week Toddlers (£1) EYFS Parents Phonics Meeting Parents Coffee Morning (£1)	 9-10.30am 9-9.30am 9-10am	
<u>October</u>			
Mon 2 nd Tues 3 rd Wed 4 th Wed 4 th Thurs 5 th	Non-Uniform Day- Rainbow Theme (to raise money for the PTFA) Toddlers (£1) LKS2 (Year 3 and 4) Multiplication Tables Check Meeting Parents Coffee Morning (£1) Individual School Photos	9-10.30am 3.15-3.45pm 9-10am	
Tues 10 th Tues 10 th Wed 11 th	Toddlers (£1) Wear Yellow for Mental Health- no donation needed Parents Coffee Morning (£1)	9-10.30am 9-10am	
Tues 17 th Wed 18 th	Toddlers (£1) Parents Coffee Morning (£1)	9-10.30am 9-10am	
Half Term 23rd October- 27th October			

Tues 31 st	Halloween Disco	EYFS and KS1 KS2	3.15–4pm 4.15–5pm 9–10.30am
Tues 31 st	Toddlers (£1)		
November			
Wed 1 st Fri 3 rd Fri 3 rd	Parents Coffee Morning (£1) School Closed- Staff Training Day Moorends Recreational Ground Firework Display		9–10am
Tues 7 th Wed 8 th Fri 10 th Sun 12 th	Toddlers (£1) Parents Coffee Morning (£1) Remembrance Day (Poppy Day in School) Remembrance Sunday Parade		9–10.30am 9–10am 10.30am onwards
Mon 13 th Tues 14 th Wed 15 th Thurs 16 th	Odd socks day (no donation needed) Toddlers (£1) Parents Coffee Morning (£1) Winter Reading Event for Nursery Children and Parents	Nursery/Class 1 Nursery/Class 2	9–10.30am 9–10am 10.30–11.20 2.15–3.00
Fri 17 th	Children In Need (Pudsey Fancy Dress Optional)		
Tues 21 st Tues 21 st Wed 22 nd Wed 22 nd Wed 22 nd Thurs 23 rd	Class 9 Parent Meetings with Mr Deere Toddlers (£1) Parents Coffee Morning (£1) Class 4 Parent Meetings with Miss Hartshorne Class 7 Parent Meetings with Mr Silvester Class 8 Parent Meetings with Miss Brown		All day 9–10.30am 9–10am All day All day All day
Mon 27 th Mon 27 th Mon 27 th Tues 28 th Tues 28 th Tues 28 th Tues 28 th Wed 29 th Wed 29 th Wed 29 th Thurs 30 th Thurs 30 th Fri 1 st Fri 1 st	Class 3 Parent Meetings with Miss Wilson Class 6 Parent Meetings with Miss Northwood UKS2 Reading Escape Room (both children and parents) Class 11 Parent Meetings with Miss Purdy Flu Vaccinations for Children Nursery Parent Meetings with Miss Craddock Toddlers (£1) Parents Coffee Morning (£1) Class 10 Parent Meetings with Miss Owen Nursery Parent Meetings with Miss Craddock Class 1 Parent Meetings with Miss Patterson Class 5 Parent Meetings with Miss Bradley Class 12 Parent Meetings with Miss Bennett Class 2 Parent Meetings with Mrs Dixon		All day All day 2–3pm All day All day 9–10.30am 9–10am All day All day All day All day All day All day

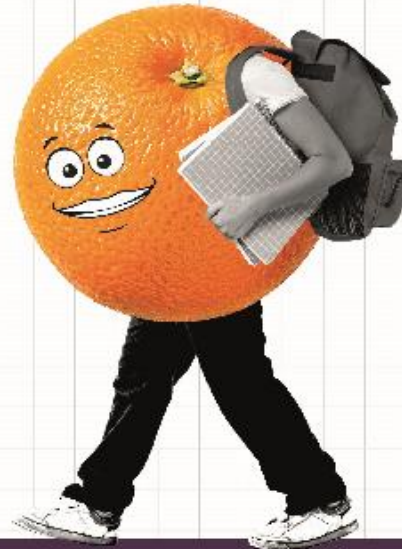
Fri 1 st	Thorne Christmas Lights Switch on- children to sing	5-8pm
<u>December</u>		
Tues 5 th Tues 5 th Wed 6 th Thurs 7 th Thurs 7 th Fri 8 th	Toddlers (£1) Family Panto Trip to Cast Parents Coffee Morning (£1) Christmas Jumper Day/ Christmas Dinner Day Moorends Christmas Lights Switch on Winter Fayre After School	9-10.30am 12-3.30pm 9-10am All day 4pm-6pm 3.30-4.30
Tues 12 th Tues 12 th Wed 13 th Thurs 14 th Fri 15 th	Toddlers (£1) EYFS Christmas Nativity EYFS Christmas Nativity KS1 Christmas Nativity KS1 Christmas Nativity	9-10.30am 1.30-2.30pm 9.30-10.30 1.30-2.30pm 9.30-10.30 9.30-10.30
		AM PM AM AM
Mon 18 th Tues 19 th Tues 19 th Wed 20 th Wed 20 th Thurs 21 st Fri 22 nd	KS2 Carols around the tree Toddlers (£1) KS1 Polar Express Reading Afternoon (Pyjamas & dressing gowns) LKS2 Polar Express Reading Afternoon (Pyjamas & dressing gowns) Parents Coffee Morning (£1) Christmas Party Day for All (party clothes optional) Break Up for Christmas	1.30-2.30pm 9-10.30am 2.30-3.15 2.30-3.15 9-10.30 All day



CENSUS DAY

Dine with us...

Thursday 5th October



MAIN

Hot Dog and Chips

Cheese Pinwheel

Beans

Sweetcorn

Jacket Potato

Cheese sandwich

Dessert

Chocolate Sponge and Custard

Fresh Fruit Selection

Yoghurts



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*Come join us
every
morning*



WEST ROAD BREAKFAST CLUB



*Open
from 8am*



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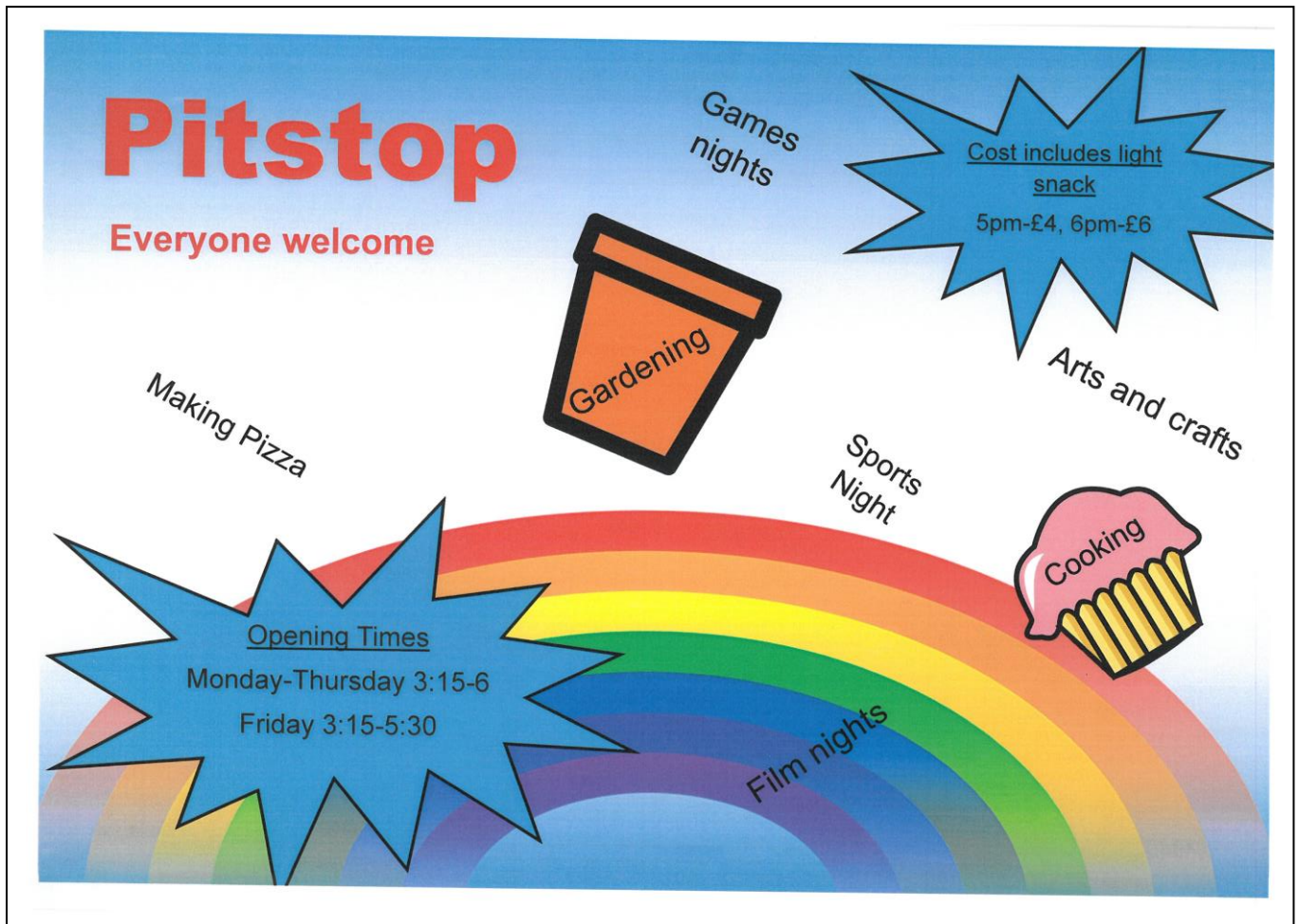
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Pitstop
Everyone welcome

Games nights

Cost includes light snack
5pm-£4, 6pm-£6

Arts and crafts

Cooking

Sports Night

Gardening

Making Pizza

Opening Times
Monday-Thursday 3:15-6
Friday 3:15-5:30

Film nights

Pitstop Activities

	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
<u>Week</u> <u>1</u>		Colouring	Board games	Arts and crafts	Biscuit decorating
<u>Week</u> <u>2</u>	Pizza Making	Knex/Lego Building	Scooters	Gardening	Bingo
<u>Week</u> <u>3</u>	Origami	Quiz night	Den Building	Comic Book Making	Gardening
<u>Week</u> <u>4</u>	Dodgeball	Sock Puppet Making	Pizza Making	Board Games	Film Night
<u>Week</u> <u>5</u>	Gardening	Rounders	Rock Painting	Knex/Lego Building	Dance
<u>Week</u> <u>6</u>	Halloween Crafts	Halloween Crafts	Gardening	Board games	Playdoh Making
<u>Week</u> <u>7</u>	Biscuit decorating	Gardening	Sports	Halloween Crafts	Halloween Crafts

These are the activities for this half term. Colouring and toys will always be accessible for the children who wish to not to participate in the activity.



Toddler Group



West Road
PRIMARY ACADEMY

TUESDAYS 09:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Join us every Tuesday morning 9 am - 10:30 am
for toddlers and babies to meet and play.

**Termly visits from Health professionals -
Family Hub, and Your Place.**

A chance for parents and toddlers to meet our
West Road family.



Made with PosterMyWall.com



Parent Coffee Morning

Join us every Wednesday morning
9 am - 10 am.

Meet with other parents to discuss any
issues and share advice.

Every term visitors will attend, including :
health visitors, school nurse, 'Your Place' and
Stronger Families
£1 entry

Good Morning

Midday Supervisor Vacancy

- Midday Supervisor (Term-Time Only)
- 6.25 hours per week
- Grade 3 (Point 1-2)
- Permanent contract

West Road Primary Academy, a vibrant and ever improving learning community, is seeking to appoint a Midday Supervisor.

Duties will involve helping the children while waiting for and having lunch, including directing pupils while at the table, supervising toilet arrangements and hand washing before the meal. Further particulars are available on the job description.

An application form is available from the school office.

Please return completed applications directly to the school for the attention of Mrs Jeanette Seagrave and marked Private and Confidential.

Please Note: applications will be considered as they arrive. To arrange a visit or receive an application pack, please contact Mrs Seagrave at the school.

The Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and applicants will undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers. The role is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and therefore candidates will be subject to an enhanced DBS certificate. The role is also engaged in regulated activity and will therefore require a children's barred list check. Shortlisted applicants will be required to complete a self-disclosure.

Information supplied by Thorne-Moorends Town Council

Saturday 16th August – Moorends Gala run by the Moorends Welfare Working Group
Moorends Recreational Ground – 10.30am to 4pm

A fun free day out for all the family. Sports competitions, lots of inflatables and entertainment all FREE and face painting FREE. Bring a picnic or refreshments available to purchase.

Friday 3rd November – Fireworks 6pm onwards
Moorends Recreational Ground

Free Pyrotechnics fireworks display. Rides and refreshments available to purchase.

Sunday 12th November - Remembrance Sunday

Service held at Thorne Memorial Park 10.30am onwards. Followed by parade to the church led by the Royal British Legions. Further detail to follow.

Saturday 25th November 2023 - Snow White Pantomime
2pm & 4.30pm at Moorends Community Centre

Ticketed event as there is limited space.

Tickets will be £3pp and include a juice carton and sweet cone.

Further details to follow on purchasing tickets.

Please note this replaces the Moorends event usually hosted outside the Moorends Hotel. This has been cancelled due to lack to performers.

Friday 1st December – Christmas light switch on
5-8pm

Plans are underway and we can confirm we will have the grotto, crafts tent and this year real reindeer all FOC. We are also hosting for the first time an indoor Christmas market. And have also arranged for a better selection of rides.

We are currently seeking sponsors which will determine how much other entertainment will can put on FOC. Road closure applications are currently with Doncaster Council and we await the outcome. The layout is being rethought and plans are in place to reduce crowding and improve safety around the stage area. A separate area will be cordoned off for performers. Full details of the layout will be confirmed once we have an outcome of the road closure applications.

Saturday 2nd Dec

The indoor Christmas market continues 10am-4pm.

Online Safety Newsletter

October 2023

Parental Controls

Does your child have a games console? If yes, have you set up age-appropriate parental controls? The controls vary across the different consoles, but all will allow you to restrict spending and communication for example.

PlayStation

Set up your account as a family manager and create a separate child account so you can tailor their activities. Find out more here: <https://www.playstation.com/en-gb/support/account/psn-safety-parents-guide/>

Xbox

You can download an app to manage your child's gaming experience. Find out more here: <https://www.xbox.com/en-GB/apps/family-settings-app>

Nintendo Switch

Nintendo also offer a free app to monitor what and how your children are playing. Find out more here: <https://www.nintendo.co.uk/Nintendo-Switch-Family/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls-1183145.html>



Does your child watch livestreams?

What is livestreaming?

Livestreaming is when an individual broadcasts video live over the internet. People can watch livestreams from any device that is connected to the internet.

Who is watching livestreaming?

Research from Ofcom reported that 57% of 3 – 17 year olds have watched live streams and the most used platforms to watch live streams were YouTube and TikTok. The research also showed that the percentage watching content on livestreaming app/sites increased by age. A third of 3-4 year olds were watching live content with this number growing to eight in ten of 16-17 year olds. This is reported in [Children and parents: media use and attitudes report 2022 \(ofcom.org.uk\)](#).



What are the risks?

There are risks associated with watching livestreams that you should be aware of. The main risk being that your child may see or hear something inappropriate as your child may come across themes or content that is not suitable for them. It is difficult to moderate live content as it is happening in real time.

How can I help my child?

- All online platforms have an age rating, ensure your child only accesses platforms that are appropriate to their age. For example, TikTok has an age rating of 13.
- For any platforms that your child uses, ensure appropriate parental controls and privacy settings are applied.
- Take an interest in what your child is doing online and on a regular basis, ask your child to show you what they are accessing.
- Ensure your child knows how to use any reporting/blocking tools on the app that they are using and as always please ensure that your child knows to talk to a trusted adult if they see anything that concerns them online.

Further information

- <https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/livestreaming-parents/>
- <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/what-is-live-streaming/>

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into.
Current as of the date released 1.10.23.

Playing games online

Does your child play games online? We have outlined some points that you may wish to consider to try and create a safer experience for your child.

Have you set up parental controls?

As well as setting up appropriate parental controls through the game's setting, ensure you have set them up on the console/device your child is playing on. For example, many consoles allow you to restrict the games accessed by age.



Chatting to strangers

Some games will allow communication, for example (FIFA and Fortnite). Depending on the game, this may be via the in-game text chat, direct messages or talking through headphones. Some games do offer the ability to switch communication off or restrict bad language so make sure settings appropriate to your child are set up for each of the games they play.

It can be difficult to moderate online chat so ensure your child knows how to block and report other players who make them feel uncomfortable and that they know to talk to you or a trusted adult if they have any concerns. It can also be very easy online for children to behave in a way that they would not if they were face to face with each other. Talk to your child about how they are speaking to others online and encourage them to talk to people online with respect, like they would if they were face-to-face.

Is the game age appropriate?

Before buying the game, check that your child is old enough to play it. All games will either have a PEGI rating or be rated by the App Store /Google Play. UK Safer Internet Centre have published a blog, which shares tips on what to do if your child asks about playing a new game:

- <https://saferinternet.org.uk/blog/help-my-child-wants-to-play-games-that-are-too-old-for-them-2>

In app purchases

In addition to the above, you should be aware of in app purchases as lots of games include the option to purchase additional items/subscriptions so ensure you do not have payment cards saved or set up restrictions/pin code to approve.

Further information

The NSPCC provide further guidance and support regarding this topic:

- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-games/>

Skill-building app suggestions from Internet Matters

Internet Matters have curated a list of apps that will help your child to develop skills and new interests in different areas, for example Game Builder Garage (7+), which helps children to create their own games and Tayasui Sketches to develop art skills. You can find the full list here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/skill-building-apps-guide-for-kids/>

Scary Teacher 3D

Scary Teacher 3D is a game rated as 12+ by the App store (due to Mild Realistic Violence) or as 'Teen' on Google Play (due to violence). The game does include in-app purchases as well. Players must scare their teacher by completing different activities. There are lots of videos of this game on YouTube as well.

As with all games your child is asking to play, please take note of the age rating and play the game first to see if you think it is appropriate for your child.

Teaching children about money

Lloyds bank have published information and resources to help us help our children develop good financial habits. The information is split into age groups so you can find support tailored to your child's age. You can find out more here:

<https://www.lloydsbank.com/help-guidance/family-finances/teaching-children-about-money.html>