

Friday Newsletter

14th February 2025

Attendance

Due to the high volume of child absences on Mondays and Fridays, we will now be implementing home visits on both of these days.

This week, our attendance percentage across school is 95.2%. This is a slight drop from the attendance last week!

- 1st place - Spider Monkeys with 98.2%
- 2nd place - Eagles with 96.7% attendance
- 3rd place - Sharks with 96.5% attendance

Spider Monkeys will be treated to some sweets and an extra 10 minutes play time for one day next week.


New Changes to Fixed Penalty Fines

Any holidays from September will be under new guidance from Doncaster Council. This guidance is available online, on our website and in the link sent out last week. Also, those who will be fined are:

- all natural parents, whether they are married or not
- all those whose have parental responsibility for a child or young person
- those who have day to day responsibility for the child (i.e. lives with and looks after the child).

It is important to remember that any fine issued by Doncaster Council does not benefit the school, financially. The school is accountable by Ofsted and Doncaster Council to raise the profile of attendance and decrease the number of persistently absent children, and we will continue to work alongside parents to do that.

If you wish to discuss your child's attendance further, or express any concerns about our attendance procedures, please feel free to contact Ms Woodward.

 **Star of the Week** 
Nursery/Reception am - Lilah-May
Nursery/Reception pm - Arthur W
Class 1 - Freddie
Class 2 - Amelia
Class 3 - Kaison-Kyle
Class 4 - Amie
Class 5 - Scarlett
Class 6 - Scarlett
Class 7 - Lola
Class 8 - Lilly-Ann
Class 9 - Archie
Class 10 - Jayden

School Procedures for Absentees

First Day of Absence:

The Attendance Officer (AO) will review registers on a daily basis, between 9:00am and 9:30am, noting any children absent without a reason being provided. At 9:30am the AO will ring parent(s) on the contact list. If they have still not heard from the parent(s) or contacts on the list, the AO will send a text message to the parent(s) explaining if they do not contact the school within the next 30 minutes, to explain their child's absence, a home visit may well be conducted by the Designated Safeguarding Team.

If still the Designated Safeguarding Lead does not get a response from the parent(s) after a home visit, a home visit may well be conducted

List, that is absent and we have received no explanation from a parent after ringing every contact on the contact list, will have a visit from the Designated Safeguarding Team. Should there be no response from the home visit, a call to Social Care and the Police will be made.

Parents' Legal Responsibilities:

Parents have a legal responsibility to ensure that their child/ren attend school and are responsible for the consequences of non-attendance.

Support will be offered. This will be communicated to parents through the school prospectus, Home/School Agreements, regular items on school newsletters and Friday letters. Meetings will be arranged with those parents whose child/ren have a pattern of absence or attendance falls below 95%.

These will all develop your understanding of parents' legal responsibilities along with involvement in the School Attendance Panel process where attendance shows no sign of improvements.

For more information, please refer to the attendance policy on our school website.



Nut Free School

We would like to 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.

Hand Sanitiser

Now that we are coming to the season where there are colds and other viruses and bugs are doing the rounds, we are ensuring that hand sanitiser is in every classroom, office and toilet area for all to use. Parents are asked to make school aware if their child has a skin condition/allergy which prevents them from using the school sanitiser.

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

Safeguarding, SENCO/Inclusion

safeguarding@westrd.Doncaster.sch.uk

Please remember that we also have an email directly linked to Mrs Lambert and the inclusion team. Please use this for any safeguarding, SEND or inclusion messages that may not be relevant for the class email. Many thanks

Important Notices

- Parent/Carers and those collecting children at the end of the day need to remain behind the cones. A member of SLT and/or a TA will be available to speak to if you have any concerns.
- Now that the icy weather is upon us, it is important to stick to gritted paths, for H&S reasons, when entering and leaving the school site.
- For H&S and safeguarding reasons, playgrounds will be open from 8:35am.
- To keep children and others safe, parents/carers must ensure their child/ren do not run around, ride their bicycles/scooters, etc whilst on the school site. Again, this is for H&S reasons.

Class News

This week in Nursery, we have been enjoying the story of 'The Dinosaur That Pooped a Planet'. In maths, we have been learning about the number 5 and pentagons. We have been enjoying finding out more about dinosaurs.

In Reception, we have been enjoying the book, 'Aliens Love Underpants', and making a poster. In maths, we have been learning how to double numbers. We have enjoyed learning more about space and the Moon. We also learned about Neil Armstrong and how he walked on the Moon. Well done EYFS for a fantastic week.

This week in KS1, we have really enjoyed learning about astronomers and the international space station in science. We watched videos on how the astronauts eat, sleep and wash their hair in space. In geography, we looked at the physical and human features of Ireland, specifically looking at the Giants Causeway. For art, we finished our self-portraits and evaluated them, stating how we could improve our work if we were to do it again. We enjoyed using the apparatus in gymnastics, learning techniques of how to climb and balance.

This week in LKS2, the children have again been putting their knowledge to the test across multiple subjects. They have been really immersing themselves in our Roman topic in history, learning about Roman Baths and even about Latin! We have also finished our amazing pieces of writing based around our book 'The Firework Makers Daughter', where the children have really been hooked in by this adventure story. Have a good half term off LKS2 you deserve it. Stay safe and have fun!

This week in UKS2, we have been finishing our history, geography and science topics ready to begin new ones after half term.

Some of year 5s have had their last swimming lesson, the rest of the year 5s will start after half term.

Some of our year 5s have been on a residential trip to Kingswood; it has been really exciting for them. We have had lots of feedback on how they are getting on and it sounds like they've had a fantastic time. We can't wait to hear from them personally and see their photographs.

Online Safeguarding Age Restriction

We have had a number of incidents in school where children are accessing inappropriate websites and APPs, sharing personal information. Please see age restrictions posters below:-

The image displays three posters detailing age restrictions for various social media platforms. Each poster features a large number in a box indicating the minimum age, a list of platform logos, and an illustration of children using technology.

- Age 13:** Minimum age for account holders on these social media sites and apps. Platforms listed include X, Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest, Messenger, Tik Tok, Discord, Snapchat, Twitch, and Yubo. The illustration shows four children sitting around a computer monitor.
- Age 16:** Minimum age for account holders on these social media sites and apps. Platforms listed include WhatsApp, Vimeo, Telegram, Nintendo Online Account, and Tumblr. The illustration shows a girl sitting on a chair using a smartphone.
- Age 18:** Minimum age for account holders on these social media sites and apps. Platforms listed include Xbox Live Account and PSN Online Account. The illustration shows a boy wearing a headset, likely for gaming.

Each poster includes a disclaimer: "Disclaimer: This resource/information is not intended to encourage social media use and we cannot accept any responsibility for pupils that sign up to social media sites after using this resource/information." The Twinkl logo is visible in the bottom right corner of each poster.

Apply for Pupil Premium

For parents in EYFS, use the link below to see if your child is eligible for pupil premium funding. The webpage is: <https://www.gov.uk/get-extra-early-years-funding>. For parents across school, follow the link below to see if your child is eligible for pupil premium funding: [Pupil premium: overview - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#). Alternatively, ask a member of the admin team at the main school reception desk. You will need to bring in a mobile with internet access and have your government gateway log-in details (if you have one).

All new pupil premium applicants will receive a £20 Amazon gift voucher from school.

Staff shout outs

Miss Northwood, Mrs Lambert, Mrs Clarke, Mrs Taylor and Miss Bissell for giving their time to go on the residential.



Headlice

Parents/Carers are advised to check their child's hair regularly for head lice. If found, please treat accordingly.

Facebook

Please follow us on Facebook to keep up to date with events happening in school.



Our Facebook page is ...

Upcoming dates for diaries:

- 17th - 21st February - Spring half-term holidays
- 24th February - My Little Princess Production
- 3rd-6th March - Careers Week
- 6th March - World Book Day
- 6th March - UKS2 Careers event at YWP
- 12th March - Great Athletes Para-Olympian Day
- 15th March - Doncaster UTC Open Day (follow the link for more information: [https://westroadprimary.co.uk/wp-](https://westroadprimary.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/UTC-Open-Day.pdf)

[content/uploads/2025/01/UTC-Open-Day.pdf](#))

- 17th-21st March - National STEM Week
- 19th March - Road Safety Day
- 19th March - Parents' Evening
- 21st March - Comic Relief Red Nose Day
- 28th March - Crucial Crew

Parent Governor

Apply to be a parent governor at WRPA. If you feel you have the passion and commitment to be a parent governor, please contact Julie Woodward, Headteacher, via the admin email address: admin@westrd.doncaster.sch.uk



Reminder for Parents/Carers

- Gates are locked at 8:50am
- Morning registration closes at 8:55am
- When dropping off/collecting children, parents/carers are asked not to park on the yellow zig zag lines outside the school front gates

Meditracker

Reminder to parents/carers that Meditracker is our online first aid reporting system that automatically alerts parents/carers of any first aid incident in school via parents' personal email. Bumped head incidents will still require a member of staff to phone home to ask a parent/carer to come to school to check their child.

It is imperative that parents check that their email service is in working order. Please contact the admin office with any updated contact information.

Pitstop

A gentle reminder that the charge for the afterschool provision has increased to £6 per session, per child. In addition, any parent/carer wishing to book their child/children into Pitstop need to do so 24 hours in advance. This is to ensure that we have enough staff and resources for each session. In addition, if parents/carers

are late in collecting their child from Pitstop, the £5 penalty will also be chargeable.

Toddler Group








If you are interested in coming along to join in the fun, please message Sheraleigh or just turn up on Monday morning at 9:30am.



Prom '25

The Prom '25 Parent Group are looking for volunteers to support with fundraising for this year's Y6 leavers' prom. If you are able to help, please contact Sheraleigh Clarke via the email admin address:

admin@westrd.doncaster.sch.uk (add in the subject bar "Prom '25").

WEEK 1	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN DISH	Margherita pizza With Pasta	Chicken fillet burger with baked wedges	Roast ^{Banamon} beef with Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes & gravy	All day breakfast	Crispy fish fingers with chunky chips
VEGETARIAN MAIN DISH	 BBQ bean & cheese wrap with 50/50 rice	 Vegetarian burger with chunky chips	 Vegetable cobbler with mash potato	Vegetarian all day breakfast	 Crispy vegetable fingers with chunky chips
ACCOMPANIMENTS	Peas & sweetcorn Salad bar	Peas & baked beans Salad bar	Carrots & cauliflower Salad bar	Green beans & sweetcorn Salad bar	Peas & baked beans Salad bar
DESSERTS	 Chocolate & pear sponge with custard	 Apple crumble & custard 	Chocolate muffin	Lemon biscuit	Jam & coconut sponge
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

Cheese Ham Tuna Cheese Ham



GROW STRONG

KEY

-  1 OF YOUR 5 A DAY
-  MEAT FREE MONDAY
-  CHEF'S CHOICE
-  PLANT-BASED VEGAN

A WORLD OF FOOD FUN WITH FOOD



"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.

"Pupils at West Road Primary Academy are proud to be part of the school community."

We are proud of some of the comments Ofsted said about our school.

West Road PRIMARY ACADEMY



Throughout the school, there is a strong sense of togetherness among pupils.



There is a respectful culture in the school.

Children in the early years get off to a strong start to their education.

The school ensures that reading is at the heart of the curriculum.



Pupils know the importance of being tolerant and treating others with respect.



Trust Pledges

Our Brighter Futures Learning Partnership Trust (BFLPT) Pledges have been co-constructed with our schools to support the development of the whole child. We want our students and pupils to leave our Trust with the knowledge, confidence and skills to be successful in the future so they can access high quality careers and fulfil their dreams and ambitions.

We have high expectations of our children and young people in terms of their behaviour and attitudes, with a strong focus on good manners, reliability, and punctuality. We also expect them to commit to the following pledges which will take learning beyond the boundaries of traditional learning, helping them widen their school experiences and become active citizens. Our pledges will also ensure that all young people can benefit from the same experiences and opportunities to help them have a rewarding and fulfilling life.

The pledges will enable children to participate actively, lead by example and commit to the service of others.

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Our Pledges:

1. **Fully participate in the life of the school** – this could mean being part of the school leadership, making a difference to other pupils in the school, leading on an initiative such as ECO schools, leading a reading group, leading a debate, writing a school play, taking on an ambassadorial role either in school or out, learn to ride a bike or lead a healthy school's initiative.
2. **Participate in at least 3 assemblies** or contribute to organising a class activity or key event in the school.
3. **Engage in an activity / participate in a community-based project.**
4. **Attend an experience/ visit that extends beyond the curriculum** and that is outside of the child's familiar context or Doncaster.
5. **Take part either on stage or behind the scenes in a school production.**
6. **Be an advocate for the environment and sustainability of the school and beyond** – this could include completing regular litter picks, improving the school environment, help organise a recycling scheme, lead a gardening/environmental project.
7. **Plan, organise and participate in a fundraising event** which is pupil led.
8. **Represent the Trust in a sporting, cultural or academic event.**
9. **Take part in a residential trip.**
10. **Visit a place of significant cultural difference within the UK.**
11. **Take part in a formal presentation to an audience-** this may include learning a group dance, reciting poetry, singing a song in assembly, playing a musical instrument.
12. **Be enterprising** – this may include selling something you have made, opening and run a school shop, raising money for charity, taking part in service outside the school such as scouts, police cadets.

Online Safety Newsletter

Jan 2025

Social Media Influencers

What is an Influencer?

An influencer is somebody on a social media platform such as YouTube and Instagram, who have a high number of followers. Influencers share their opinions/ideas and may be paid to advertise/promote products through their account.

What should I be concerned about?

Whilst there are some great influencers, there are some that choose to share content that is for example, misogynistic, racist or misleading. These opinions can be expressed or interpreted as fact, so it is important to talk to your child and encourage them to fact check and critically analyse what they see and hear online.

What we see on social media

What we see is influenced by algorithms, which predict what type of content we are most likely to interact with. Whilst there are benefits of algorithms, it can mean that once we start looking at certain content, our social media feed can become more aligned with that opinion, creating an echo chamber and therefore we do not see a balanced picture. Find out more here: <https://www.childnet.com/blog/algori-thms/>

What can I do to help my child?

Talk to your child about social media and who they follow. If there is anybody that you are unsure of, then check their feed and discuss with your child if you find anything worrying.

Further information

<https://swgill.org.uk/topics/social-media/>

Fortnite Battle Royale

Fortnite Battle Royale is rated PEGI 12 due to moderate violence, meaning it is not suitable for children under the age of 12.



What is Fortnite?

There are different versions of Fortnite, including Fortnite Battle Royale, which is free to play (although it contains in-app purchases). In Battle Royale, up to one hundred players compete against each other until one winner remains.

What do I need to be aware of?

- **Chatting and inappropriate language:** Fortnite includes voice and text chat, which may mean your child encounters strangers and may hear inappropriate language. Ensure your child knows how to report/block any players that make them feel uncomfortable.
- **In app purchases:** Players can purchase V-Bucks so make sure you restrict purchases and do not store your card details.

Parental Controls

Fortnite provides several parental controls in your child's Epic account to help you create a safer environment for your child. The controls allow you to:

- disable voice chat
- filter language
- manage which experiences your child can access based on their age
- set a PIN to add friends
- set a PIN for purchases
- set time limits
- set appropriate privacy settings.

Also, remember to set up age-appropriate parental controls on the device your child is playing on.

Reporting/Blocking Features

As always, ensure your child knows how to use the reporting and blocking features and that they know they should talk to you or another trusted adult if anything concerns them.

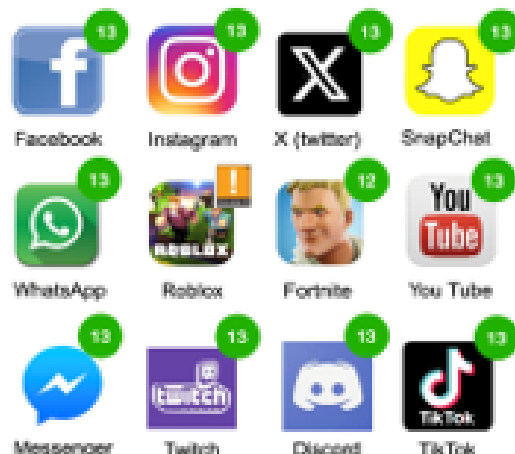
Further information

You can find out more here:

- <https://safety.epicgames.com/en-US/parental-controls>
- <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/fortnite>

Get to know age ratings

Age ratings exist to help protect your child, so we thought we'd provide you with a little reminder of how important it is to check the age ratings of what your child is accessing online. Here are the age ratings of some of the more popular apps that young people are accessing.



Whether your child is viewing films, accessing apps, playing games online or using social media – make sure you check the age rating first to see if your child is old enough. In addition, the likes of PEGI (Pan European Game Information) provide further content descriptors, which will give you an indication of the type of content that your child might view e.g. violence or bad language.

What else should I review?

It is important to note that whilst age ratings do allow you to see if something may be appropriate for your child, it is also important to review the content yourself. This will allow you to make an informed decision as to whether it is suitable for your child to access and if it would be beneficial to apply further parental controls. For example, does it include the ability to communicate with others and are in game/app purchases available?

What else can I do?

- Explain the importance of age ratings to your child and how they protect them.
- Go online together to see what your child is accessing.
- Set up parental controls on your broadband, devices and on any individual apps that your child is using. This will reduce the chances of them accessing or viewing anything unsuitable.
- Chat to your child regularly about what they are doing online and as always, remind your child that if anything is worrying them then they should talk to you or another trusted adult.

Further information

You can find out more here:

<https://eegamesmart.co.uk/articles/how-age-ratings-help-families/>

Smartphone Free Childhood



Smartphone Free Childhood is a parent-led movement whose mission is to protect children from the dangers of using smartphones too young.

The premise behind this movement is that all parents/careers of a class all agree not to give their children smartphones (therefore the level of peer pressure is reduced) for a set time or until a specific age. Are you ready to join? Find out more here:

<https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk>

Digital differences between men and women revealed

[Ofcom](https://www.ofcom.gov.uk) have released their annual report into our daily habits. The findings show that women and teenage girls are more worried about online harms. You can read the full report here:

<https://www.ofcom.gov.uk/media-use-and-attitudes/online-habits/digital-differences-between-men-and-women-revealed/>

X (Twitter) Checklist

You should be at least 13 years of age to have a Twitter account. The [SWGf](https://www.swgf.org.uk) have created a free Privacy and Security checklist for you to download. The resource is available here:

<https://swgf.org.uk/magazine/introducing-the-x-checklist-keeping-your-profile-under-control/>