

Friday Newsletter

2nd May 2025

Class News

This week in Nursery, we have enjoyed learning more about caring for plants and what they need to grow. We have been exploring the planting area and have planted lots of different herbs and vegetables. In maths, we have exploring capacity and practicing tipping and pouring using different containers.

In Reception, in English, we have been learning how to write different texts, such as a diary. In maths, we have been exploring taking away amounts within 10. As part of our curriculum lessons, we have been learning about the different trees and how they change or don't change with the seasons. We have enjoyed planting bean plants, I wonder if we will find a giant living at the top when they grow!

This week in KS1, we have enjoyed learning about the climate of northern Europe and learning about how people have to adapt their lives to live in the cold. We have also enjoyed our DT day where we investigated what shapes are the most stable and strong and then used that knowledge to build a chair for baby bear. We have also enjoyed learning about how stories often use sound effects to represent what is happening in our music learning.

In LKS2 this week, we had our DT day on Wednesday. We were posed with the task of creating a pavilion. First, we looked at current pavilions and thought about what they needed, then we created a mock pavilion using different shaped frame structures before finally designing and creating our own structure. We had a great time doing this and had to put in lots of teamwork and show resilience.

This week in UKS2, we have been working very hard on our literacy and numeracy skills. Year 6 have been learning about fractions, decimals and percentages and how they are all linked, ready for the SATs, which are only 4 school days from today. In history we are continuing with the theme of WW2 and the reality of rationing. During French, we learnt about May 1st (La Fete du Travail) and how it is a bank holiday in France. Lily of the Valley is given on this day to loved ones.



Star of the Week

Nursery/Reception am - Bella-Rose
Nursery/Reception pm - River
Class 1 - Leo and Tommy Lee
Class 2 - Jackson
Class 3 - Rory
Class 4 - Isaac
Class 5 - Esme
Class 6 - Asher
Class 7 - Sofia
Class 8 - Lennon
Class 9 - Jacob J
Class 10 - Freddie

Upcoming dates for diaries:

- 5th May - Bank Holiday (school closed)
- 12th-16th May - Y6 SATs Week
- 12th-16th May - Mental Health Week
- 19th-23rd May - Walk to School Week
- 20th May - Y6 Rounders Festival, Hungerhill
- 21st May - Y5 Taster Morning, Trinity
- 21st May - LKS2 Cookathon afternoon
- 22nd May - Y6 Transition Day, Nth Axholme
- 23rd May - Sporty Non-Uniform Day
- 26th-30th May - Summer Half-term holiday

Attendance

This week, our attendance percentage across school is 95.7%. This is a drop on last week's attendance.

- 1st place - Eagles with 97.9% attendance
- 2nd place - Flamingos with 97.9% attendance
- 3rd place - Orcas with 97.3% attendance

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

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

Reminders 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

Clothes

Now that the weather is picking up, and we are having warm, sunny days, it is important that children bring a hat to school and have sun cream applied at home.

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.



Headlice

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

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

Facebook

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



Our Facebook page is ...

Y6 Leavers' Hoodies



Earlier in the week, all Y6 pupils were given a leaflet containing information and details on how to order their leavers' hoodie.

Parents/Carers need to scan the QR code to place their

order and make payment directly with JLC Print. The hoodies will then be delivered directly to school and distributed by staff.



We are excited to announce that B. Ware will be visiting school on Thursday 19th June with 'WARNING: May Contain Dragons' - her second children's book (suitable for all ages). If parents wish to, they can purchase a copy via

linktr.ee/bwareauthor which their child can bring along on the day for the author to sign (it's currently on offer on Amazon for £8.15). B. Ware will also be selling signed copies at the retail price of £8.99 (via cash or card payments) at the end of the school day. Simply send your child in with cash in an envelope on the day (change will be available), or pop by the stall in the playground at home time.

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

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.

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 the Designated Safeguarding Lead does not get a response from the parent(s) after a home visit, a home visit may well be conducted by the Police. Any child on the Child Protection 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.

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 9:00am.

WEST ROAD ACADEMY PRESENTS
PLAYGROUP

*Painting *Messy play * Crafts * Toys
And so much more.

**EVERY MONDAY
(TERM TIME)**
9.00 - 11 am

Suitable from birth to 5 years

Refreshments available for a small donation

West Road Primary Academy
West Road
Moorends
DN84LH

TUCK SHOP

20p

30p

30p

20p

50p

50p

30p

Nursery Places Available at West Road Primary Academy

Don't Miss Out!
We are now taking bookings for nursery places starting in September through to January 2026.

- 15 & 30 hour funded places available from age 3

The recent Ofsted inspection, February 2025, graded our school as 'Good'. Comments in the Ofsted report, published in March 2025, include:
'This is a safe and happy school', 'Staff have high expectations of pupils' behaviour', 'There is a wide range of opportunities that extend beyond the curriculum', 'In the early years, the content of the curriculum is carefully considered', 'What children learn in Reception builds securely on what they learn in Nursery'.

Why not come and have a look around and stay for a play day or, to secure your place contact the school.

West Road PRIMARY ACADEMY

admin@westrd.doncaster.sch.uk
01405 812734

Sporty Non Uniform Day

Friday 23rd May

Come dressed in your favourite sportswear for £1 donation

All proceeds go towards Prom 25


zoom

Going places in South Yorks.

Get there with cheaper travel on Bus, Tram and Train with a Zoom U16 pass.

Apply now at:
travelsouthyorkshire.com/zoomU16

Travel

Week 1	 MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Main option	Pizza With potato wedges	All day Breakfast	Roast turkey Yorkshire Pudding Roast potatoes and gravy	Lasagne and garlic Bread slice	Fish fillet and chips
Vegetarian Option	Quorn Nuggets With potato wedges	Vegetarian All day breakfast	Vegetarian sausage Yorkshire pudding Roast potatoes And gravy	Vegetarian chilli And rice	Cheese and Baked bean slice
 Vegetables	Peas sweetcorn Salad bar	carrots Baked beans Salad bar	Cauliflower Broccoli Salad bar	Peas carrots Salad bar	Mushy peas Sweetcorn Salad bar
Desserts	Chocolate sponge And Custard	Short bread	Ice Cream	Jam Sponge and Custard	Flapjack
	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt
	Cheese Sandwich Jacket Potato	Ham Sandwich Jacket potato	Tuna Sandwich Jacket potato	Cheese Sandwich Jacket Potato	Ham Sandwich Jacket Potato



"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.

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/algorithms/>

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://swgf.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.

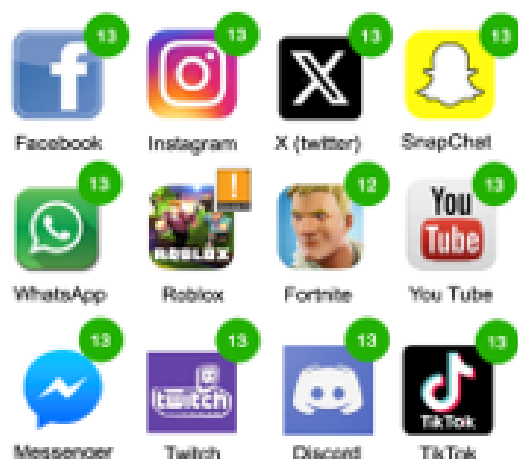
Further information

You can find out more here:

- <https://safety.epicgames.com/en-US/parental-controls>
- <https://parentszone.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://ee.gamesmart.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/*carers* 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 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.org.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 **SWGfL** have created a free Privacy and Security checklist for you to download. The resource is available here:

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