



West Acton PRIMARY SCHOOL

Friday 5th July 2019

West Acton has been going far and wide this week: Hayling Island, Sky Sports, QPR Stadium, V & A museum, Gunnersbury Park and Ealing Broadway. Special mention to our Years 5s whose exemplary behaviour was commented on by staff at the museum and members of the public. On Monday pupils will meet their new class teacher; any teachers new to the school will be on the playground at the end of the day so please do say hello and on Tuesday our school Governors will also be present at the end of the day. I look forward to seeing you at the fair later today – many thanks to our PTA for organizing it.

Miss Kondo

Small shoe donations wanted

Have you got any old small shoes such as plimsolls or simple trainers?

Our Nursery would welcome any that you no longer need.

End of School report and meet the new teacher on Monday 8th July.

PARENT /CARER FORUM

Victoria hall Thursday 11th July at 8.45am and 2.45pm.

The evening forum will be on Wednesday 10th July at 6.30pm (not Thursday as published in May).

RFF performed a fantastic assembly about growing plants and growing up. They demonstrated how to plant and look after seeds and sang about how similarly they had grown and changed and were ready for year one. The children all sang really beautifully, spoke confidently and showed great team work.

SPORTS DAYS- please join us

Tuesday 9th July

KS1 9.30 am & EYFS 1.30 pm

Wednesday 10th July

Y3&4 9.30 am & Y 5&6 1.30 pm

Rucksacks - moving forward please we would like to ask you not to buy a rucksack for your child. Rucksacks take up a lot of room on pegs and then coats and jumpers either fall on the floor and get lost or are a trip hazard.

There will be improved packed lunch storage at the bottom of the stairs from September for your child to put their packed lunch in.

You are not expected to buy a new bag if your child's current bag is fine.

At this stage rucksacks are not banned: we hope to see a reduction which will improve the situation. However, rucksacks should not be worn by pupils during the school day and during play and lunchtimes.

From September 2019

- No balls to be played with before school on the playground
- Pupils cannot keep their large pencil cases on their tables for use in class
- Charge for lost library or reading books will be £5.00 - **at the moment we have lost approximately £1300 worth of books.**

Tip of the week from Lia the school counsellor

Saying Goodbye

Endings are important and can bring up a whole mixed bag of feelings for everyone: sadness, anger, confusion, worry, relief and/or excitement, to name a few. Often we can feel several different feelings at once. As we approach the end of this school year, you may have noticed a change in your child's behaviour: are they more sensitive or reactive than usual? Are they more clingy, having trouble falling asleep or finding separations harder? More meltdowns or outbursts? Or perhaps they have withdrawn a little?

How can parents help?

First, understand that endings may be hard for you too and the end of a school year may bring up all sorts of thoughts and feelings for you. Use this insight to support your child: help them identify those feelings they are feeling and separate them into parts: *"It sounds like a part of you is excited for the summer and another part of you is sad to say goodbye to your friends..."* Endings are also a great opportunity to reflect back on the year and think together about their favourite times, what would they change/do differently? As much as possible, it is helpful to prepare for the ending so that they have a chance to say goodbye to those (people and places) who matter the most to them: could they create a card for their teacher/friends? Take photos of their favourite places? Create a box or book about this year?

Sometimes we could all do with someone to talk to. If you would like to meet Lia for a confidential and non-judgemental chat about you, your child or any other worries, she is available on Mondays 9-10am. To book an initial appointment, you can call/text Lia on 07469 701 260 or email her at younl206.307@lqflmail.net.

September 2019 Soft Start from 8.45am – from Monday 9th September

The school day will continue to start at 8.55am with the register, however pupils will be able to enter the classroom from 8.45am. Classrooms on the ground floor will have their doors open at 8.45am for pupils to enter and doors by staircases to the upstairs classrooms will be open from 8.45am for pupils to go straight upstairs.

There are several reasons for this: many schools adopt this 'soft start system' as it allows pupils to come and get in to the correct mind set to start learning; avoiding a surge of classes going in and being on the stairs, some classes waiting several minutes to actually get up to their classrooms and be ready to start learning. Observations have shown that around 15-20 minutes is actually lost each day in the current system. In addition for health and safety and safeguarding reasons the quicker and smoother our pupils enter the school and get into the classroom the better.

From September pupils should not be playing in the playground before school: they must go straight to class. Once your child has gone into the class parents/carers should leave the playground please.

If you need to speak to your child's teacher urgently- please leave a message at the office or speak to the teacher at the end of the day. **Please note parents/carers should not be entering the classrooms at 8.45am.**

For the first three days of term (4th, 5th, 6th, September) the teachers will come down to collect the children so that you have the opportunity to meet them. At the end of the day the system will be the same as now.