



Autumn Newsletter



Dear Parents, Carers and Colleagues

Cross Country

In our first week back, six of our cross country teams from Y4 to Y6 battled against the elements in their cross country first round. The commitment of all children was excellent and we were delighted to find out that all six teams have qualified for the next round. Notable performances came from Ellie (1st) and Joely (4th) in Y6 and Oliver (2nd) in Y5. Fingers crossed for better weather!

Seasons for Growth

Seasons for Growth will be taking place after Christmas. This is an eight week programme, plus a celebration session, for anyone who has had a significant change in their life, such as a bereavement or family separation. Children must wait six months before taking part, as they need to process the change first. It will take place in hymn practice time on Thursdays.

Please let Mrs Bragg or Mrs Jones know at school if you would like your child to take part, or if you would like further information.

INVEST (Introduction to Volunteering in Educational Settings)

Mrs Bragg is hoping to run an INVEST course in school, starting in January 2020. It is for parents, carers and other adults who are interested in finding out more about what is involved, in helping at school and understanding various aspects of working in a school environment. It will take place on Monday mornings for five weeks. Please contact Mrs Bragg at school if you are interested in doing the course, or if you would like to know more about it.

Scoot to School

Well done to Kaelan in Year 3 and to Malaki and Tristan in Year 1 who won Love2Shop Vouchers for Scoot to School Week.

Healthy Schools

The school's food policy has recently been reviewed. Below are some key bulletins from the review.

- Children should only bring fresh tap water or fruit infused water into school. Fruit juice and squash should not be put into water bottles for the children to drink. School compliant fruit juice is available from the KS2 tuck shop.
- Playtime snacks should be a piece of fruit (fresh or dried) or a portion of vegetable sticks.
A low sugar cereal bar can also be brought in but staff can confiscate playtime snacks that do not fit the school's policy.
- **Guidance on a healthy packed lunch is outlined in the school's food policy. The school will offer a healthy swap in the dinner hall and reward children for making a healthy choice.**

Playtime snacks

Please be aware that requirements of our Healthy School Status mean that only certain healthy snacks for morning break-times are permitted. Fruit, vegetables and cereal bars can be brought in and fruit and fruit juice are available for 25p per item in Years 3 - 6 from our tuck monitors. You can also order milk through Cool Milk if you wish your child to receive a carton of milk. Other snacks e.g. chocolate bars, snack sausages, crisps or cheese strings are not allowed at break-time though can be eaten at lunchtime when balanced with healthier food within a packed lunch. Children who bring less healthy snacks out at playtime will be asked to swap for a healthy alternative. Please note, snacks containing nuts of any kind are not permitted.

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FareShare

We would like to say a big thank you to FareShare who recently donated fruit to school for distribution to our families. This was done at the school gates on the same day.

Children In Need/World Diabetes Day

On Thursday 14th November, we held a wear spots or blue day for Children in Need and World Diabetes Day. Thank you to everyone who supported these and you raised £269 for each charity.



world diabetes day
14 November

I am very pleased to inform you that Westerton Primary Academy has been nominated for the Diabetes UK Good Diabetes Care in School Award. The award celebrates and showcases schools that deliver good care and support to children and teenagers with Type 1 diabetes. As part of the nomination, Diabetes UK is inviting parents and carers of pupils with Type 1 diabetes to complete a brief online parent survey at www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/school-nomination. The survey should take no more than two

minutes to complete. Responses to this parent survey will be used by Diabetes UK to assess our school's nomination for the award. You can find out more about the Good Diabetes Care in School Award at www.diabetes.org.uk/school-award

Good Speaking Final

We had some fantastic recitals of different poems in our recent good speaking final. Well done to everyone who took part and congratulations to the year group winners: Zach in Year 2, Rory in Year 3, Zoe in Year 4, Lulu in Year 5 and Brooke in Year 6. Very well done to Brooke who was the overall winner.

Parent Gym

Congratulations to the nine parents who completed the Autumn Term 6 week Parent Gym course. All of the parents who attended expressed really enjoying meeting new people, sharing parenting experiences and challenges whilst helping each other feel more confident with practical tips to improve family life. Please see the Parent Information boards on the yard for their testimonials. Everybody received a certificate of participation and we had three lucky winners in our raffle. Mrs Bragg and Mrs Jones will be running a second Parent Gym programme in the Summer Term. There are 20 places available, so please let them know as soon as possible if you would like to attend or want further information.

Changes to Nursery Admission Deadline

We have recently had the agreement from the Leodis Trustees to alter the deadline for nursery applications. The last day to place your child's name on the waiting list for September will now be 31st December (not 30th March). This will enable offers to be made earlier in the year and to manage the extensive paperwork more timely. The policy can be found on our website.

Christmas Fayre

On Friday 29th November, we held our Christmas Fayre which was very well attended by lots of families. We had lovely performances from our musicians and choirs, lots of games and various external stalls. We managed to raise an amazing amount of £3127 which will enable us to fund resources for the Academy.

LSMA Christmas Concert

Some of our children took part in the LSMA Christmas Concert earlier this month at Leeds Town Hall. This was a magnificent show of the fabulous work that takes in places in Leeds' schools with ArtForms. Well done to everyone who took part and thank you to Mrs Bedford for accompanying the children.

Christmas Shows

Well done to our wonderful Year 2 children who performed their nativity play, 'Lights Camel Action', last week. The Mayor and Mayoress of Morley attended the evening performance and were very impressed with the talent of such young children and the staff's production of the play.

We raised a fabulous amount of £291.97 for Cancer Research and this will be increased after our **Christmas Carol Service** on Thursday evening. The Carol Service is taking place at St Mary's Church, Woodkirk at 6.30 pm and participating children should arrive at 6.00 pm. Everyone is welcome to join us for what should be a lovely evening.

Our Nursery, Reception and Year 1 children have also had their own performances over the last couple of weeks. The children have been singing Christmas songs and carols to their families in their own Christmas shows.

A big well done to all the children who have taken part in the various Christmas shows and concerts and to all our wonderful staff who work so hard to enable these performances to happen.

Christmas Jumper Day

We had lots of different jumpers and tops on Friday 13th December to support Christmas Jumper Day for Save The Children. We have raised a fantastic £360.00 for this worthy cause. Thank you to everyone who supported this event.



LOTTERY FUNDED

Parking Around School - Pollution

Now the weather has turned colder, we would like to remind anyone who collects children from school, to please switch their engines off whilst waiting. This causes pollution around school and for the local community. There are a couple of large signs on the school fence highlighting this issue. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Parent Well-Being Workshops

As part of our package of support for Children and Families at Westerton, the Well-Being Team are offering **FREE** access to a series of informative and supportive workshops in the 2019-20 academic year. Each workshop will run twice at 9.00 am - 10.30 am and 5.00 pm - 6.30 pm, offering a chance to access a morning or evening session. Please email Sam Eustace, our Emotional, Health and Well-Being Leader, via office@westerton.org.uk or ring the school office to book a place.

Tuesday 11th February - Workshop 3: The Impact of Video Games in the Classroom

Tuesday 12th May - Workshop 4: Supporting Anger

Tuesday 7th July - Workshop 5: Sleep

Further information to support **Parenting** and to engender wider understanding of **Hidden Disabilities** in children can also be found on our website under the 'Parent' tab.

This is also supported by an information video showing the impact of **Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)** on the life chances of a child. The video can be found by using the following pathway link: 'Key Info', 'SEND/Inclusion', 'Attachment Disorder and Resilience'.

As a **mainstream** academy, we are very grateful for your support, interest and understanding of colleagues and parents/carers prioritising the **balancing of inclusion and performativity** for all.

Could A Career In Teaching Be For You?

Westerton Partnership provides high quality Initial Teacher Training. You can apply for your opportunity to train to be a teacher NOW! Apply today on UCAS by searching for the following course codes:

328W – Primary 3-7 Programme

328X – Primary 5-11 Programme



School Lottery

A ticket costs £1 per week and **all** funds raised go directly to **our** school. Each ticket will also enter you in **TWO** draws:

- A jackpot prize draw for **£25,000.00**.
- A local draw with a **guaranteed** prize for one of the supporters of our school. The size of the prize will depend on the number of tickets bought for the school that week.

The lottery is a fun and effective way to raise money to improve our school. But we need your help to make the lottery the best it can be, so please support the lottery today - and who knows maybe you'll be the next £25,000 winner! To enter, please follow the link at : <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/westerton-primary-academy>

Dates For Your Diaries

Friday 20th December	9.00 am Talent Show for Pupils and Staff ONLY 2.20 pm Christmas Service for Pupils and Staff ONLY End of Term
Monday 6th January	Inset Day - School Closed to Pupils
Tuesday 7th January	Spring Term Starts
Friday 10th January	9.15 am Year 5 and 6 Assembly
Friday 17th January	Deposit Deadline for East Barnby Residential 9.15 am Year 2 Assembly
Friday 24th January	9.15 am Year 1 Assembly 5.30 - 7.30 pm Year 5 and 6 Disco

Wishing everyone a restful and happy Christmas.

Best Wishes

S.R. Makin

S R Makin
Principal

Please remember to let us know if you change your email address or if you would like to subscribe to electronic newsletters please send an email to office@westerton.org.uk



LOTTERY FUNDED