

# West Vale Primary School

Care, share, discover and learn



11th January 2019



## Happy New Year

Welcome back to school.

We hope you all had an enjoyable time over the Christmas period and our children are refreshed and ready to face the next half term.

## Admissions to Reception

The closing date for online admissions for Reception class places for September 2019 closes on 15th January 2019. Please ensure that all online applications have been submitted by this date as any applications received after this date will be treated as late by the local authority and considered after the applications which were submitted on time.

## Attendance & Punctuality

Research shows that good school attendance impacts upon children's success in learning. Good attendance helps children to achieve good results, helps them to fulfil their potential and gives them a chance of a better future.

We are committed to ensuring that each and every child in our school fulfils their potential. To help us achieve this we want all of our children to have the best possible attendance.

### We would like to see all our pupils with an attendance of 96% or above

Every day that your child is absent from school is an opportunity missed. Schools and parents/carers have a shared responsibility to ensure that children attend school regularly and on time.

Punctuality is also just as important as attendance. Our school day starts at 8:55am every morning. It is important that children arrive in school on time as it supports them to learn good timekeeping and also reduces classroom disruption for the other children and themselves.

### What can parents / carers do to help?

- Ensure your child attends school every day and on time.
- If your child is not well enough to attend contact the school by 9.00am on the first day of absence.
- Try to make dental and medical appointments outside of school time or at weekends.
- Take family holidays during the school holiday. We are not allowed to authorise term time holidays. Any period of leave taken without the agreement of the academy, or in excess of that agreed, will be classed as unauthorised and may attract sanctions such as a Penalty Notice.
- Contact us immediately if you need help or support with your child's attendance or punctuality.

**Let's work together to achieve consistently high attendance and punctuality. We want to see every child at school every day because every school day counts!**

### Weekly Attendance Winners

Week ending 7th Dec - Class 1 - 98%  
Week ending 14th Dec - Class 4 - 99%  
Week ending 21st Dec - Class 1 - 98.5%  
Week ending 11th Jan - Class 1 - 100%

## Dates & Information

Mon 7th Jan	Back in School
Mon 7th Jan - Mon 11th Feb	Yr3/4 Indoor Athletics Club Mondays 3.30pm-4.30pm
Tue 8th Jan - Tue 12th Feb	Reception/Yr1&2 Games Club Tuesdays 3.30pm-4.30pm
Wed 9th Jan - Wed 13th Feb	Yr3/4 Badminton Club Wednesdays 3.30pm-4.30pm
Thu 10th Jan - Thu 14th Feb	Yr5/6 Quick Sticks Hockey Club Thursdays 3.30pm-4.30pm
Fri 11th Jan - Fri 15th Feb	Key Stage 2 Kurling Club Fridays 3.30pm-4.30pm
Fri 11th Jan & Fri 18th Jan	Forest School - Cross Lane - two Yr3 children
Mon 14th Jan	Noak's Ark - 10 weeks
Mon 14th Jan, Mon 4th Feb & Mon 11th Feb	Yr5/6 - Keith Hutson (poet in school—pm)
Wed 16th Jan	Yr1 - Class Assembly Yr5/6 Square Chapel
Tue 22nd Jan - Tue 5th Feb	Yr5/6 Jumping Clay Workshop Tuesdays 3.30pm-4.30pm
Thu 24th Jan	Cross Country Event, next round
Thu 7th Feb	PTA - Cinema Night
Mon 11th Feb	Parents Evening
Thu 14th Feb	School Closes
Mon 25th Feb	School Reopens

### School Uniform & Dress Code, PE Kits, Water Bottles & Mobile Phones

Please can we ensure that our high standards are maintained throughout the year and that all items of uniform are clearly named. Footwear should be plain, black school-type shoes. **No trainers.**

All children should have a PE kit in school.

All children should have a water bottle, available from the school office for £1.10, ensuring that they are hydrated throughout the day.

Mobile phones must be left in the school office at the start of the day and collected at the end of the day. Phones should be clearly marked so that each pupil knows their own phone. Parents are advised that the academy accepts no liability for the loss or damage to mobile phones which are brought into school or school grounds.

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Greetland  
HX4 8LS

Principal: Mrs F Gardiner  
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs S Scott

01422 372804 - [admin@westvale.calderdale.sch.uk](mailto:admin@westvale.calderdale.sch.uk)

Part of  
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MAT CEO:  
Mrs A Bennett  
Chief Operations Officer:  
Mrs J Firth  
Chief Finance Officer:  
Mrs A Rawson

## Choir



On Monday 10th December, the West Vale Choir went to Bethesda Church. We sang with the Elland Male Voice Choir, who were amazing and so were we. Lots of people were in the audience singing along to Christmas songs. Hopefully everyone enjoyed the mince pies and coffee afterwards.

### The West Vale Choir

## Class 5 Assembly



Well done to Class 5, whose turn it was to present an assembly on 12<sup>th</sup> December. They shared work they had done so far this year, including their Harry Potter wand designs



and Fantastic Beasts anthology. They also shared their Science work and displayed Christmas arts and crafts projects. Class 5 also performed their version of 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens as they have been studying this book as part of their work in English. The children were amazing, and everyone who came thoroughly enjoyed it!

## Class 1 News

We are busy practising for our assembly next week. We hope parents can join us as we tell a story from our topic last half term.

Look what happened in our playground in the holidays. Jules thinks that an alien must have lost control and crash landed in our playground! Alfie thinks the alien has come from the moon.

We are going to find out more about this spaceship and who it belongs to.



## Snow/Emergency Procedures

It's approaching that time of year when school begins to receive weather warnings! Although it is rare that school closes, it is useful to be aware of our procedures should we need to make a decision to close. If heavy snow falls overnight then the following notifications will be made:

- \*A text message will be sent to the primary family mobile number that we have registered with us;
- \* If you have access to the internet look on the West Vale and/or Council's website homepage at [www.calderdale.gov.uk](http://www.calderdale.gov.uk), from here you will be signposted to the Emergency Closures Page;
- \* Listen to BBC Radio Leeds/Pulse Radio for information;
- \*Please avoid telephoning school as the phone lines become jammed. We will endeavour to keep the school open, for those families who need us, unless we feel there are health and safety implications for us opening up on our site.

## Parent Hub

If you have not already done so, we would like you to join our new channel on parent hub. From the menu tap "add a school" in the app & enter @WestValePri then please follow instructions.

## Future Newsletters

All newsletters can be accessed through our website and Parent Hub.

If you require a copy of the newsletter in the future, please come to the office. Copies will be available in the foyer.

## Parent Support Worker

Dear parents and carers it is a pleasure to introduce myself to you. My name is Dawn Roebuck and I am the new Parent Support Worker in school.

Sometimes family life is hectic and parents have to manage a range of roles and responsibilities. Children can experience difficulties and school and home life becomes a struggle. Parents can worry about their children's development, their relationships and have difficulty managing their children's behaviours. Children worry about school and friendships and may develop anxiety and low self-esteem.

My role in school is to work closely with children to help them understand their worries and feelings and support parents by listening to their concerns, providing information, offering suggestions and giving advice.

If you have any worries or concerns and think you might benefit from a friendly chat, further information and advice or support for yourself or 1:1 support for your child - please contact me on 01422 372804 and leave a message with the school office.

I will be in school from Monday to Friday 08:30 to 11:30 and in the school playground at 08:50 when the children come to school. I am based in the school meeting room at the front of the school building and I look forward to meeting you in this new school term.

Dawn Roebuck



A huge thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help in school. Please don't hesitate to ask for a volunteer form at our school office if you feel you can help in any way. Your continued support is very much appreciated.

Thanks!



A big thank you to the PFA and your support of the Christmas Fair/ Santa Sleigh event which raised £561.00 and the Secret Shop which raised £115.45, totalling a massive **£676.45**

## Polite Reminder

Can we please park safely when dropping/collecting children from school and drive slowly.

For your children's safety, please escort them into the playground and remain with them until the doors are opened.

## Need Support? - Numbers you may find useful

Women's Domestic Violence – 0808 2000 247 Men's Domestic Violence Helpline - 0808 801 0327 Childline - 0800 1111

NSPCC 24 hour free phone service - 0808 800 5000 Police (if not urgent)- 101 Women's refuge – 0845 155 1485

Social Services – 01422 393336

Safeguarding Children—If you are ever concerned about any child please speak to Mrs Gardiner or Miss Grondalski