



# Westwood Academy

## Westwood Weekly

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

### Headteacher message.

I am absolutely thrilled to be writing to you in my first week as the new head teacher of Westwood School.

From the moment I stepped through the doors, I have been astounded by the warm welcome and enthusiasm from our students, parents, and staff. The positive energy here is truly inspiring, and I am so excited for the year ahead.

Our pupils kicked off the school year wonderfully on Tuesday, and it's been heartwarming to see the school come alive with the buzz of learning. This week, we launched our "Kindness Matters" initiative with a special assembly, and next week, we dive into our daily kindness challenges. It's fantastic to see our school community come together to promote kindness and empathy.

We've also embarked on a musical journey, learning a new song for our school, incorporating some British Sign Language signs, making it an inclusive experience for all.

I also want to take a moment to express our gratitude to our amazing Year 1 Westwood family, who dedicated time in their summer to create a stunning mural for our reception wall. Consider our socks well and truly blown off!



A big thank you also goes out to our PTFA for keeping everyone cool on the hottest day with some delicious ice lollies!

As some of you know, Mrs Clarke has not been able to be at school this week, and we know she is missed by all of us at Westwood. We hope that her daughter, Isla, recovers well from her recent operation and look forward to welcoming Mrs Clarke back soon.

Looking ahead, this term promises even more exciting activities with phonics, educational visits, Rocksteady assemblies, and much more. We can't wait to share all the wonderful news with you during our first parent-teacher evenings before the half-term break. Have a great weekend everybody 🌟

**Attendance: Our school target is 97%**

This week: **98.50%**

Year to date: **98.50%**



**We expect pupils to be in school everyday.**

Any pupil with below 90% is considered as a case of "persistent absence".

This week, through to Thursday, **Reception, Year 3 and 6** all got **100.00%**, the highest in the school. Well done!

### Key Dates (new/changes this week in bold)

11.09.23 Class teacher welcome parents 14.40-15.00  
21.9.23 Music workshop Yr 5&6  
22.9.23 Jeans for Genes  
25-29.9.23 Cycle to school  
27.9.23 Rocksteady Music Assembly (for children only)  
2.10.23 Black History  
3.10.23 Parent Consultation Meetings. 13.40-18.50  
School closes at 13.30  
10.10.23 Year 2 school trip  
16.10-27.10.23 Half Term  
7.11.23 Yr 6 Chelmsford Museum  
30.11.23 Return to school  
16.11.23 School photographer (individual & sibling)  
27.11-1.12.23 Book Fair  
21.12.23-3.1.24 Christmas Holidays  
4.1.24 Return to school  
19.2-23.2.23 Half Term  
26.2.24 Return to school  
7.3.24 World Book Day  
11.3-15.3.24 British Science Week  
19.3.24 School photographer (Groups)  
29.3-12.4.24 Easter Holidays  
15.4.24 Return to school  
13.5-17.5.24 SATS week  
13.5-17.5.24 Book Fair  
27.5-31.5.24 Half Term  
3.6.24 Return to school  
17.6-21.6.24 Yr 6 Residential  
19.7.24 Last day term

## Instagram

Check out our new Instagram page @WestwoodSEAT. We will also continue to share updates on our Westwood Academy Facebook page too. Tune in to see all of the exciting learning we are getting up to at Westwood!



## Merits and Reader of the Week

Well done to the following children who all received Merits this week.

Year 1 James F and Florence

Year 2 Hanna and Hugo

Year 3 Dolly and Kai

Year 4 Brooklyn and Freddy

Year 5 Zachary and Lia

Year 6 Harry and Mia

Lunchtime Awards from our Mid-day team:



## Attendance.

**We expect pupils to be in school everyday.** We can not authorise term time absence except in exceptional circumstances and where appropriate, Essex County Council will issue fines.

Our target for the whole school is 97% attendance, and we are expected to promote positive attendance and support all pupils to be able to attend school regularly. We monitor attendance weekly and will invite parents and carers of pupils who have attendance that causes concern to meet with us to improve. Attendance for each pupil is included in the year end school report – the chart on the right gives an indication as to how much missed learning time each child's percentage equates to each year. We have a statutory duty, as parents do, to ensure that pupils are at school every day. Thank you for understanding and supporting our whole school community by ensuring excellent attendance whenever possible.

| Attendance | Hours missed | Weeks missed     | Missed days |
|------------|--------------|------------------|-------------|
| 100%       | 0            | 0                | 0           |
| 97%        | 30           | 1 week 1 day     | 6           |
| 95%        | 50           | 2 weeks          | 10          |
| 90%        | 95           | 3 weeks 4 days   | 19          |
| 86%        | 135          | 5 weeks 2 days   | 27          |
| 80%        | 195          | 7 weeks 4 days   | 39          |
| 75%        | 242.5        | 9 weeks 3.5 days | 48.5        |
| 70%        | 290          | 11 weeks 3 days  | 58          |
| 60%        | 390          | 15 weeks 3 days  | 78          |
| 50%        | 485          | 19 weeks 3 days  | 97          |

## Earrings.

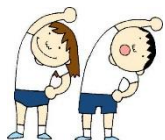
**A friendly reminder that earrings need to be studs and not hoop or dangly earrings.** If children wear earrings to school, **they must be removed for PE/on PE days.** Essex County Council recommend that earrings are not worn during PE. **All earrings will need to be removed prior to PE lessons for safety reasons. If children have their earrings in on the day of PE they will unfortunately not be able to take part. If you have any concerns regarding this, please contact us prior to the PE lesson.**

If you are planning to have your child/ren's ears pierced, please can it be arranged for the start of the 6-week summer holiday to reduce potential risk during PE lessons. Thank you for your support.

## Nail Varnish and other jewellery

May we remind families that nail varnish should not be worn and the only other jewellery that is allowed is a watch.

### School uniform.



**We expect full school uniform to be worn correctly at all times, including PE uniform.**

### PE kit expectations

On PE days children should be dressed in correct Westwood Academy PE kits. This consists of navy shorts/joggers, a white t-shirt, white socks, navy fleece and appropriate trainers. No branded clothes should be worn.



### Wearing kits for clubs

A reminder that if your child is participating in a club, kits need to be brought into school for them to change in to. School uniform should be worn on these days.

If you're child has PE in class, they may continue to wear their kits into school. Thank you for your understanding.

### Woodys.

Our Before and After School Provision, Woodys, is available for families who need to drop off early or pick up late from school. It is a paid service and **places have to be booked in advance**, so that we have information about each child that will be attending and to be sure that we have the right number of staff available. If a place is not pre-booked, it may not be possible to accommodate pupils that turn up unbooked and entry may be refused. If there is a last minute need for a Woody's place and one has not been booked, please call the school office (01702 559467) or the Woodys phone (07580 461715) to check ahead.

To book places at Woodys, please follow this [link here](#). This link is always featured in the "Regular Information" section at the end of the newsletter.

### Dinner menu.

Could parents please ensure children are aware of the dinners from the menus on the website, these are also on display in the office window. Many thanks.

### Weather.

As we are experiencing some warm weather at the moment, please send your children with a hat and a water bottle and apply sun cream before they come to school. Many thanks.

### Nursery News.

The nursery key workers are able to be contacted via Tapestry or if you have a more specific question, the Nursery email is checked regularly: [nursery@westwoodacademy.org](mailto:nursery@westwoodacademy.org)

### Achievements.

Send in your achievements outside of school to [office@westwoodacademy.org](mailto:office@westwoodacademy.org) and we'll publish them in the newsletter

### Karate Club.

Westwood hosts a karate club on Monday, Tuesday and Saturday. Please see Mr Eade for further details.

**Regular Information – click on the links below for more help.**

### Woody's Care Provision Details.

**T:** 07580 461715

#### Opening Hours.

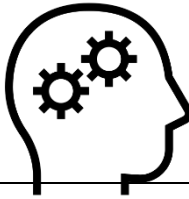
**Mon-Thu** 07.30-08:45, 15:10-17:00

**Fri** 07.30-08:45, 15:10-16:00

**Bridging Club** Fri 1:30 – 15:10

### Home Learning.

When available, can be found on our website by clicking this icon:



This week, school dinners will be from the Summer Menu, Week 2– click below. Click icon below to see menus.



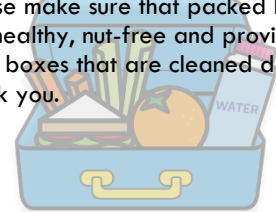
Click below for...

## Woody's Care Provision Booking Info

For support with home learning, Please send a message to your child's class teacher on Dojo, or speak at the gate.

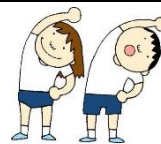
### Packed Lunches.

Please make sure that packed lunches are healthy, nut-free and provided in lunch boxes that are cleaned daily. Thank you.



Please remember **snacks** and **water bottles** each day, as well as appropriate **coats** for cold weather and **sun cream** when it's warm.

Please ensure pupils are provided with a PE kit throughout the school year. Please speak to the school office to make us aware of any difficulty with this. PE kit is part of the school uniform, details of which can be found [here](#).



### Online Safety.

#### MINIMUM AGES.

**Instagram, Snapchat, Twitter and Facebook**

**13**

**Whatsapp, Tik Tok**

**16** to register

**13** to use

**YouTube**

**18** to register

**13** with parental permission.

**Games** – check PEGI rating.

Click [here](#) for more on online safety.



If you have any out of school achievements that you would like mentioned in the school newsletter, please email the office at:

[office@westwoodacademy.org](mailto:office@westwoodacademy.org)

We are nut free. Help us safeguard those with allergies and please do not send any products containing nuts into school.



Follow us on Facebook – Click below to go to our page.



Click our logo to go to our website.



Click [here](#) for details of our school uniform.

**Contact us**



**T:** 01702 559467.

**E:** [admin@westwoodacademy.org](mailto:admin@westwoodacademy.org)

### PLEASE REMEMBER.

**NO** dogs on the school grounds at any time.

Drive and park considerately near the school.

[Instagram@WeswoodSEAT](https://www.instagram.com/WeswoodSEAT)







| What it's called                      | What it's like   | Going to school | Getting treatment | More advice   |
|---------------------------------------|--|-----------------|-------------------|---|
| <b>Chicken Pox</b>                    | Rash begins as small, red, flat spots that develop into itchy fluid-filled blisters  | ●               | Pharmacy          | Back to school 5 days after on-set of the rash                              |
| <b>Common Cold</b>                    | Runny nose, sneezing, sore throat  | ●               | Pharmacy          | Ensure good hand hygiene  |
| <b>Conjunctivitis</b>                 | Teary, red, itchy, painful eye(s)  | ●               | Pharmacy          | Try not to touch eye to avoid spreading                                     |
| <b>Flu</b>                            | Fever, cough, sneezing, runny nose, headache body aches and pain, exhaustion, sore throat  | ●               | Pharmacy          | Ensure good hand hygiene  |
| <b>German measles</b>                 | Fever, tiredness. Raised, red, rash that starts on the face and spreads downwards.   | ●               | G.P.              | Back to school 6 days from on-set of rash                                   |
| <b>Glandular fever</b>                | high temperature, sore throat; usually more painful than any before and swollen glands   | ●               | G.P.              | Child needs to be physically able to concentrate                            |
| <b>Hand, foot &amp; mouth disease</b> | Fever, sore throat, headache, small painful blisters inside the mouth on tongue and gums (may appear on hands and feet)                | ●               | G.P.              | Only need to stay off ill feeling too ill for school                        |
| <b>Head lice</b>                      | Itchy scalp (may be worse at night)  | ●               | Pharmacy          |   |
| <b>Impetigo</b>                       | Clusters of red bumps or blisters surrounded by area of redness  | ●               | G.P.              | Back to school when lesions crust or 48 hours after start of antibiotics    |
| <b>Measles</b>                        | Fever, cough, runny nose, and watery inflamed eyes. Small red spots with white or bluish white centres in the mouth, red, blotchy rash | ●               | G.P.              | Back to school 4 days from on-set of rash                                   |
| <b>Ringworm</b>                       | Red ring shaped rash, may be itchy rash may be dry and scaly or wet and crusty   | ●               | G.P.              |   |
| <b>Scabies</b>                        | Intense itching, pimple – like rash Itching and rash may be all over the body but commonly between the fingers, wrists, elbows, arm    | ●               | G.P.              | Back to school after first treatment  |
| <b>Shingles</b>                       | Pain, itching, or tingling along the affected nerve pathway. Blister-type rash   | ●               | G.P.              | Only stay off school if rash is weeping and cannot be covered               |
| <b>Sickness bug/ diarrhoea</b>        | Stomach cramps, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea   | ●               | Pharmacy          | See GP if symptoms persist after 48 hours                                   |
| <b>Threadworms</b>                    | Intense itchiness around anus  | ●               | Pharmacy          | Ensure good hand hygiene  |
| <b>Tonsillitis</b>                    | Intense Sore throat  | ●               | Pharmacy          | See GP if temperature lasts more than 48 hours or cannot swallow            |
| <b>Whooping cough</b>                 | Violent coughing, over and over, until child inhales with “whooping” sound to get air into lungs                                       | ●               | G.P.              | Back to school after 5 days of antibiotics or 21 days from onset of illness |

See [www.patient.co.uk](http://www.patient.co.uk) for further information on each of these conditions

This leaflet has been produced in partnership between



This information is a guide and has been checked by health professionals however, if you are unsure about your child's wellbeing we recommend you contact your pharmacy or GP to check.

## **Home learning at Westwood 2023**

Please see the home learning expectations for each year group below. Supporting your children with home learning helps to build on their school learning as well as helping to adopt good learning behaviours.







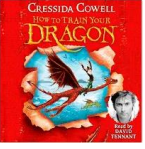




**Please kindly note that home learning is no longer optional and is a requirement.**

We will no longer be using Sumdog and instead will be providing each pupil with a White Rose homework book which matches our Maths learning in the classroom. As well as this, KS1 and some of our Year 3 pupils will be following the Read Write Inc programme. Instead of stage books they will be bringing home their Read Write Inc book to work on for the week, along with a library book chosen during their library session. New Read Write Inc books will be sent out each Monday. Lastly, across the school we will now be using Purple Mash to set spellings. Spelling lists will be sent out with homework on Friday but there are extra activities to complete on Purple Mash based on the weekly words which teachers will set as 2dos for the children.

Homework will be set weekly and will be checked/marked by adults in class. Please send White Rose homework in every Wednesday to be marked in school. Spelling tests will be on Friday and new homework will come home each Friday too. As always, if you have any questions regarding homework please see the class teachers, we are happy to help. Thank you for your continued support!

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Reception | <p>The expectation is to read each night, signing the reading record to show how your child is getting on.</p> <p>In addition to this, phonics books will be sent home following our Read Write Inc scheme. The class teacher will guide the class on which activity to complete each week.</p> <p>Class teachers will also set challenge homework throughout the school year linked to topics/ learning focuses within the classroom. This will be communicated to parents as the year goes on.</p>                   |
| Year 1    | <p>The expectation is to read each night, signing the reading record to show how your child is getting on.</p> <p>Spelling practise each evening in preparation for weekly spelling test.</p> <p>Completion of one Maths activity in the White Rose homework book each week, as guided by the class teacher.</p> <p>In addition, half termly challenge homework will be set based on the topic to engage pupils and enrich learning.</p>   |
| Year 2    |  |
| Year 3    |  |
| Year 5    |  |
| Year 4    | <p>The expectation is to read each night signing the reading record to show how your child is getting on.</p> <p>Spelling practise each evening in preparation for weekly spelling test.</p> <p>Completion of one activity in the CGP times tables book as guided by the class teacher. This is to prepare the children for the year 4 Multiplication test in the Summer term.</p> <p>In addition, half termly challenge homework will be set based on the topic to engage pupils and enrich learning.</p>             |
| Year 6    | <p>The expectation is to read each night, signing the reading record to show how your child is getting on. Spelling practise each evening in preparation for weekly spelling test.</p> <p>White Rose maths book, CGP arithmetic, comprehension and GPS books will be sent home to be used to support the upcoming SATS tests in the Summer term.</p> <p>The class teacher will communicate which tasks to complete.</p> <p>In addition, research and fact finding challenge homework will be set linked to topics.</p> |

## Additional Links for Reading at Home

|  |  |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|
|  <p><b>Kid's Fun Learning</b></p>   |  <p><b>Free e-books</b></p>   |   |  <p><b>Oak Academy</b></p>   |
| <p>Videos of some great books being read aloud.</p> <p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrFMow5TKHosUmHtVizuAwg">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrFMow5TKHosUmHtVizuAwg</a></p>   | <p>Some fantastic e-books, including some Read Write Inc books too.</p> <p><a href="https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page/">https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page/</a></p> <p>Storytime sorted by ages.</p> <p><a href="https://www.booksfortopics.com/storytime-online">https://www.booksfortopics.com/storytime-online</a></p>   | <p>Authorfy have some great 10 minute challenges from authors and there is even more book fun on their website. You can sign up for a free account.</p> <p><a href="https://authorfy.com/10minutetchallenges/">https://authorfy.com/10minutetchallenges/</a></p>        | <p>Online lessons for all year groups!</p> <p><a href="https://www.thenational.academy/">https://www.thenational.academy/</a></p>   |
| <p><b>COMICS</b></p>   |  <p><b>POETRY</b></p>   |  <p><b>The Reading Realm</b></p>  |  <p><b>Cressida Cowell</b></p>   |
| <p>Here are some links to help you make your own comics.</p> <p><a href="http://davidconnell.uk/activities/comics-drawing/">http://davidconnell.uk/activities/comics-drawing/</a></p> <p><a href="http://fdslive.oup.com/www.oup.com/oxed/children/kevin-comic-sheets.pdf">http://fdslive.oup.com/www.oup.com/oxed/children/kevin-comic-sheets.pdf</a></p> | <p>Where you can read, watch, hear and explore children's poems.</p> <p><a href="https://clpe.org.uk/poetryline">https://clpe.org.uk/poetryline</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.poetrybyheart.org.uk/">https://www.poetrybyheart.org.uk/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.poetryfoundation.org/learn/children">https://www.poetryfoundation.org/learn/children</a></p> <p><a href="https://childrens.poetryarchive.org/">https://childrens.poetryarchive.org/</a></p> | <p>Learning from home resources, ideas and more. There is also an app you can get with lots of texts to read and activities to do.</p> <p><a href="https://thereadingrealm.co.uk/category/resources/">https://thereadingrealm.co.uk/category/resources/</a></p>         | <p>On her YouTube channel, children's author Cressida Cowell reads extracts from her books like How To Train Your Dragon and shares other magical ideas.</p> <p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCe01xn13M8q2dslw0mvW9lg">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCe01xn13M8q2dslw0mvW9lg</a></p> |
|  <p><b>Michael Rosen YouTube</b></p>  |  <p><b>LoveReading 4 Kids</b></p>   |   |    |
| <p>Over 400 videos of Michael Rosen reading his children's stories and poems.</p> <p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7D-mXO4kk-XWvH6lBXdrPw">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7D-mXO4kk-XWvH6lBXdrPw</a></p>   | <p>Books, videos and competitions</p> <p><a href="https://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/kids-zone/">https://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/kids-zone/</a></p>   | <p>More book fun, quizzes and videos here.</p> <p><a href="https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/?q=&amp;sortOption=AtoZ&amp;pageNo=1">https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/?q=&amp;sortOption=AtoZ&amp;pageNo=1</a></p> | <p>Lots of free audio books for children to explore.</p> <p><a href="https://stories.audible.com/discover">https://stories.audible.com/discover</a></p>   |







# Musical Theatre

with Laura

Does your child love to  
**SING, DANCE & ACT?!**

TO BOOK PLEASE TEXT/WATSAPP LAURA

07887690425

YOUR CHILD'S NAME

YEAR GROUP

ANY MEDICAL CONDITIONS

\*\*\*LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE\*\*\*

KS1

TUESDAYS

3.20-4.20PM £5

TUESDAY 12th SEPT-

TUESDAY 28th NOV

TOTAL £55

KS2

FRIDAYS

1.30-2.30PM £5

FRIDAY 15th SEPT-

FRIDAY 1st DEC

TOTAL £55