



Westwood Academy

Westwood Weekly

Friday 10th November 2023

Dear Westwood Families,



What a fantastic week it has been at Westwood! We started off with an inspiring visit from Mr Harbrow, who brought fresh perspectives to our foundation subjects as we embarked on an educational journey of flashbacks, memorable learning, concrete resources, and pupil voice. Midweek, we also opened our doors to prospective new parents, and the kindness of the pupils and warm, calm atmosphere really shone through.

On Tuesday, year 6 hopped on the coach to Chelmsford museum, delving further into their World War history topic. The museum staff were astounded by the depth of knowledge our pupils displayed – a testament to the outstanding efforts of our year 6 teacher and History lead, Mrs Beale.

Thursday brought cheers and teamwork at our SEAT football tournament. Witnessing our pupils and families come together for an afternoon of sportsmanship was a wonderful experience and we can't wait to plan more events like this in future. The November sun shining for us was an extra bonus too!

Today, we paused to reflect and honour Remembrance Day with a 2-minute silence. In assembly and classes, we discussed the significance of this day, fostering reverence and gratitude in our young minds.

As we head into the weekend, let's carry the warmth and camaraderie of this week with us. Thank you for being a crucial part of the Westwood family.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend ahead.

Mrs Perryman



Instagram Check out our Instagram page @WestwoodSEAT and our academy page @South_Essex_Academy_Trust. 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!

Attendance: Our school target is 97%

This week: **96.68%**

Year to date: **96.11%**



We expect pupils to be in school everyday.

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

This week, **Year 2** got **100%**, the highest in the school. Well done!

Key Dates (new/changes this week in bold)

- 13-17th Nov – Anti Bullying Week
- 13.11.23 Odd Socks Day!**
- 14.11.23 UKS2 Anti Bullying workshop
- 15.11.23 Y6 Girl's football at Garons
- 15.11.23 Y4 times table workshop 3.30pm
- 16.11.23 School photographer (individual & sibling)**
- 17.11.23 Children in Need
- 23.11.23 Exhibition Evening 3.30-4.30
- 24.11.23 SEND Family coffee meet
- 27.11-1.12.23 Book Fair
- 29.11.23 Flu Immunisations
- 29.11.23 Y3 Museum Trip
- 4-8th Dec Enterprise Week
- 6.12.23 Y5 Museum Trip
- 7.12.23 Christmas Jumper Day
- 7.12.23 Christmas Carols KS2 2pm and 5:30pm**
- 8.12.23 PTFA Christmas Fair
- 14.12.23 Christmas lunch for pupils
- 19.12.23 Christmas Productions (R,1,2) 1.30pm, 4.15pm
- 21.12.23-3.1.24 Christmas Holidays**
- 4.1.24 Return to school
- 17.1.24 RockSteady pupil workshops**
- 6/7/13/14th Feb – Parent mental health first aider w/s**
- 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)
- 21.3.24 Exhibition Evening
- 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
- 27.6.24 Exhibition Evening
- 19.7.24 Last day of term



Lunch Clubs

Lunch clubs with Mrs Tong will be taking place after October half term in the library 12.30-1pm.

Monday – Lego
Tuesday – Chess
Wednesday – Lego
Thursday – Librarians



Please be mindful of our pupil safety at drop off and collection. Please ensure that our school is a safe place for children and families by parking in the correct zone.

We are counting on our families to set a good example and to help us keep our school community safe.

Thank you to all who are already doing this.

FAMILY READING AFTERNOONS! Fridays 1PM reception, 11.30pm nursery

Parent Readers in other year groups

As you know, reading is a huge focus for us at Westwood. We love giving the children as many opportunities as possible to read aloud to an adult. With this in mind, we're reading out to you as parents to see if anyone has availability to join our bank of parent readers. If you can offer any time in the afternoons to work with a class hearing individual readers, we love to hear from you.

Staff at Westwood are keen to work with you on what a successful reading session looks like, questions we can ask the children and how we can record reading sessions. If you can spare the time, please contact the office at admin@westwood. Many thanks for your continued support.

Merits and Reader of the Week

You are all superstars, and a special well done to the following children who all received Merits and reading awards this week.

Reception- Lottie, Arlo and Poppy Year 1 –James G, Arwen and Jaxon

Year 2 – Max, Remy, Jasper, Jack, Oscar, Joey, Ciara, Neve, Amelie W, Jolee and Abel

Year 3 – Logan, Wynterbelle and Oliver

Year 4 – Frankie I, Isabella H and Amiee

Year 5 – Fabio, Harry and Henry, Ebony

Year 6 –Jesse, Sofia and Luca

School photographer

If you have children of non school age and wish to have their photo taken with older siblings please come to school office at 8.15. All other siblings at school will have their photos done during the day.

Reception admissions for academic year starting in September 2024

As you may be aware, the primary school (Reception) admission round opened on **Monday 6 November 2023**, for parents of children to apply for a Reception school place for the academic year that starts in September 2024.

The statutory national closing date for applications is **15 January 2024**.

From 6 November 2023, applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. 99% of parents in Essex applied online last year.

All of the application information is available on the website above.



KS1 - Calling for painting t.shirts/shirts!

KS1 would be grateful to receive old t.shirts between the ages 8-11, along with old KS2/small adult shirts that can be used when we are painting or sculpting in class. These will be used to protect the children's school uniforms on Art/DT days. Thank you!

The Travelling Book Fair is back in time for Christmas!!

We will be welcoming this popular event in school from Monday 27/11 and it will be here all week with a great selection of books for all ages.

The children will have an opportunity during the week to browse and see what there is on offer.

This is always a successful event encouraging children to develop a love for reading and books, as well as the school benefiting from the rewards scheme which enables us to purchase sets of books for use in the classroom.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Mrs Dench

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/chapter-one>



Childcare Choices

From Friday 27th October 2023 parents up and down the country can see exactly what additional childcare support they will be entitled to over the coming months and years as part of the government's largest ever investment in childcare.

The updated eligibility checker on childcarechoices.gov.uk is live and allows parents to access personalised information on the support available to them, including which of the new transformational childcare offers they will be eligible for depending on the age of their child and earnings.

The website will also give parents the opportunity to sign up for regular updates letting them know when they should take action to make sure they are getting the support they are entitled to – including when the new 15 hours for two-year-olds becomes available for sign-ups, with the offer beginning in April 2024.

Attached is the Childcare Choices communication toolkit which has useful information to support providers with information to share with families.

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.

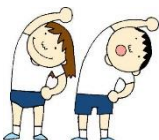
Attendance	Hours missed	Weeks missed	Missed days
97%	30	1 week 1 day	6
95%	50	2 weeks	10
90%	95	3 weeks 4 days	19
86%	135	5 weeks 2 days	27
80%	195	7 weeks 4 days	39
75%	242.5	9 weeks 3.5 days	48.5
70%	290	11 weeks 3 days	58
60%	390	15 weeks 3 days	78
50%	485	19 weeks 3 days	97

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.

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.



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

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

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



Achievements.

Send in your achievements outside of school to office@westwoodacademy.org and we'll publish them in the newsletter!

Enquire about lettings! Prices per hour:

Westwood Academy

AREA	COMMERCIAL
Main (Small) Hall	£25
Sports Hall	£45
Football Pitch	£25



Woody's Care Provision Details.

T: 07580 461715

Opening Hours.

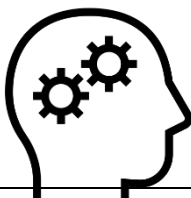
Mon-Thu 07.30-08:45, 15:10-17:00

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 Winter Menu, click icon below to see menus.



Click below for...

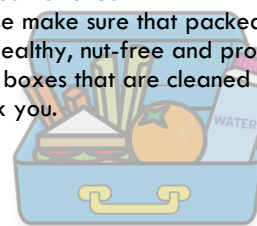
**Woody's Care
Provision
Booking Info**

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



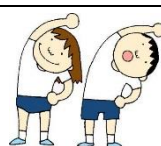
Packed Lunches.

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

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.



Westwood
Academy



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



Sunday 10th December
sittings from 9am

- ★ 'continental style' breakfast with juice
- ★ Christmas crafting
- ★ Gift from the 'big man' himself

£15 per child (siblings £12)

Mushroom Theatre Company



Breakfast WITH SANTA

www.picktime.com/MTCbreakfastwithsanta23

raising funds for  Equal People Performing Arts celebrating difference

SCAN TO BOOK 



Essex Year of



Essex Year of Numbers is a countywide campaign that aims to inspire a love of learning, with a focus on numeracy. It is a year of exciting learning opportunities, fun events and initiatives aimed at children aged 0 to 18-years-old. The events aim to give every child's maths skills a magic boost.

Why not try the activities below with your children to inspire their maths learning?

Read and Count with Me Under a Tree

Encourage your little ones to enjoy the great outdoors with Read and Count with Me Under a Tree bags. The bags contain picture books to share with your little ones to encourage literacy, numeracy and a love of nature from an early age. Titles include 'Mad About Minibeasts' by Giles Andreae and a selection of other outdoor themed stories.

[Borrow a Read and Count with Me bag](#) from your local library to use in green spaces across the county.

The Lord Lieutenant competition has launched across schools in Essex

The Lord Lieutenant has launched a competition to kick-off the Essex Year of Numbers. We're inviting children and young people to create a 2D/3D display (maximum size 1m2 or 1m3), with a short video presentation creatively showing the many ways numbers are used in everyday life.

Entries can include number patterns, diagrams, calculations, explanations, photographs and models. The competition offers students the chance to think creatively about maths and its everyday use. [Further information and terms and conditions](#) are available in our latest news article. The closing date for the competition is 31st January 2024.



THE DEANES
SPORTS CENTRE

HOLIDAY CAMPS

THURSDAY 21ST - FRIDAY 22ND DECEMBER
& WEDNESDAY 3RD JANUARY

Activities are coached by highly qualified School Sport Professionals with First Aid & Safeguarding qualifications.

We have various activities running including - Gymnastics, Basketball, Arts & Crafts - including pottery & slime making, Glow in the Dark Sports plus many other activities! To book or for more information please visit our website!

Early Club (8-10am) - £8

Main Activity (10-3pm) - £25

After Activity Club (3-6pm) - £10

Contact Number - 01268741162

email - reception@deanessportscentre.com

www.deanessportscentre.com



Choose one activity per day

Thursday 21st December	Multi Sports (5+)	Dance & Pottery Painting Day (5+)	Gymnastics (5+)
Friday 22nd December	Multi & Glow Sports (5+)	Basketball & Dodgeball (5+)	Lego, Slime & Craft (5+)
Wednesday 3rd January	Multi Sports (5+)	Star Wars & Marvel Day (5+)	Rackets Day (5+)

Parental Information

All staff working are qualified and approved by the appropriate authorities and first aid trained.

Please provide your child with a packed lunch and refillable water bottle for the day. Please ensure no products containing nuts are provided.

Children will be required to wear suitable clothing. Certain activities may change due to weather conditions and /or number of attendees.

How to Book

All bookings must be placed in advance via our website www.deanessportscentre.com

We are unable to offer refunds should you cancel your child's attendance.

