



Westwood Academy

Westwood Weekly

Friday 17th November 2023

Dear Westwood Families,

This week kicked off with a burst of color as odd socks adorned lots of wiggly toes at Westwood. This set the stage beautifully for our Anti-Bullying week assembly celebrating the beauty of our differences and making sure everyone is included. We tested out seeing who was invited to Club Westwood (spoiler - it was everyone!)

Our students showcased remarkable maturity and thoughtfulness in engaging Anti-Bullying workshops and classroom activities throughout the week. Today was a joyous spectacle with spots and Pusey's galore. I was absolutely blown away by the generosity of the school cake donations to raise funds for Children in Need. There were a lot of crumbs and smiles coming out of the main hall this morning 😊

A quick note on communication, as we don't want any messages slipping through the net - Class Dojo is used by class teachers only for messages, however, please do continue to reach out to Mrs Clarke and I on the gate or via the office inbox if you need.

Wednesday was Egyptian day in year 4, and we had Pharaohs, gods and goddesses instead of students that day. The children thoroughly enjoyed their Egyptian drama, crafts and storytelling. Thank you to Mrs Smith, Mrs Freeman and all involved who made this a day to remember.

A big shout out to our Upper Key Stage girls' team for a fantastic day of matches against other schools – it looked like a wonderful day, and I know your teachers were so pleased to have been able to join you. We have some home matches coming up at Westwood in the coming weeks, so stay tuned!

In a proud moment for Westwood, we welcomed Hadleigh Library to assembly, who had come to present Westwood students with a trophy for the most participants in the Summer Reading Challenge. An incredible accomplishment and a huge well done to all who took part.

Wishing you all a glorious weekend,

Mrs Perryman



Attendance: Our school target is 97%

This week: **96.16%**

Year to date: **96.12%**



We expect pupils to be in school everyday.

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

This week, **Year 4** got **98.00%**, the highest in the school. Well done!

Key Dates (new/changes this week in bold)

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
1.12.23 Year 5/6 Football against Holy Cross - Girl's game 2pm, Boy's game 2.45pm
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
13.12.23 Year 6 height and weight
13.12.23 Nursery & Reception production 2.15
 14.12.23 Christmas lunch for pupils
 19.12.23 Christmas Productions (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

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!



☀️Calling all Parents and Guardians!☀️

We have a special request that can make a big difference to our play and lunch times.
We are in need of any tennis and basketballs for our playground equipment cupboard.
Even if you can spare only 1, every little helps!

If you have items you might be able to spare, please drop them off at the school
reception, thank you 😊



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@westwoodacademy.org 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.

Year 1 - Ben and Hollie Rose Fred

Year 2 – Matilda and Archie Jasper

Year 3 – Oliver and Ava Gracie

Year 4 – Sonny and Sonny Mickey

Year 5 – Evie and Alfie Andrei

Year 6 – Mia and William Ross

Lunchtime- Manni and Lacey

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.

Deanes Clubs

If your child does not want to continue with any after school clubs please advise the school office as we do hold a waiting list for clubs. Many thanks.

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.

Achievements.

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



Nieve took part in the South Essex Gymnastics Club competition at the weekend. Nieve was awarded Gold in Vault and Floor, together with a special recognition ribbon for Floor. This was Nieve's first time competing since joining SEGSC 9 months ago and she can't wait to compete in another one. We are all very proud 😊

Since joining the Marching band that visited school, Zara and Lia (year 5) have already matched and played in the remembrance Sunday parade in Rayleigh. They had a brilliant time!



Enquire about lettings!
Prices per hour:
Westwood Academy



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

Nursery News.

The nursery key workers are able to be contacted via Tapestry or on class Dojo – please feel very welcome to reach out with questions or updates regarding your child. Any admission queries, please kindly contact nursery@westwoodacademy.org.

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.

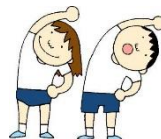
Please make sure that packed lunches are healthy, nut-free and provided in lunch boxes that are cleaned daily.

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.



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



Anti-bullying week – The highlights!

A huge thank you for working with us to support Anti-bullying week this week. And what a week it's been!

We've had some fantastic classroom activities taking place as well as an anti-bullying workshop. Some of our wonderful Academy Committee have visited the school and spoken with staff and children, gathering their positive views and you as parents, have really helped us plan next steps with your excellent response to our anti-bullying survey. To continue our collaborative work on managing bullying in schools we would like to

share the following websites who offer supportive and practical advice for parents:

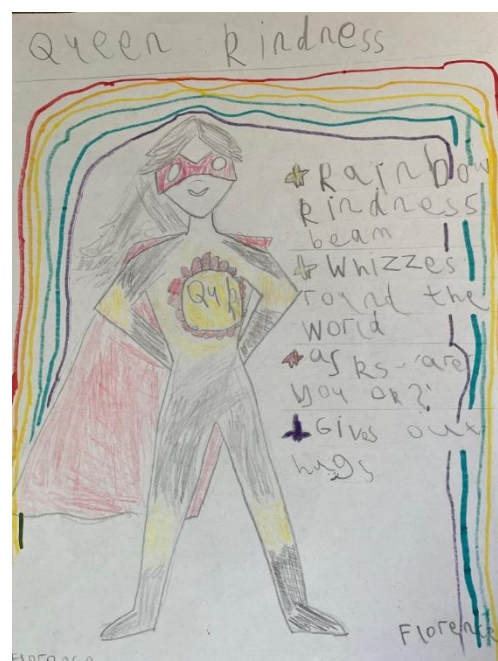
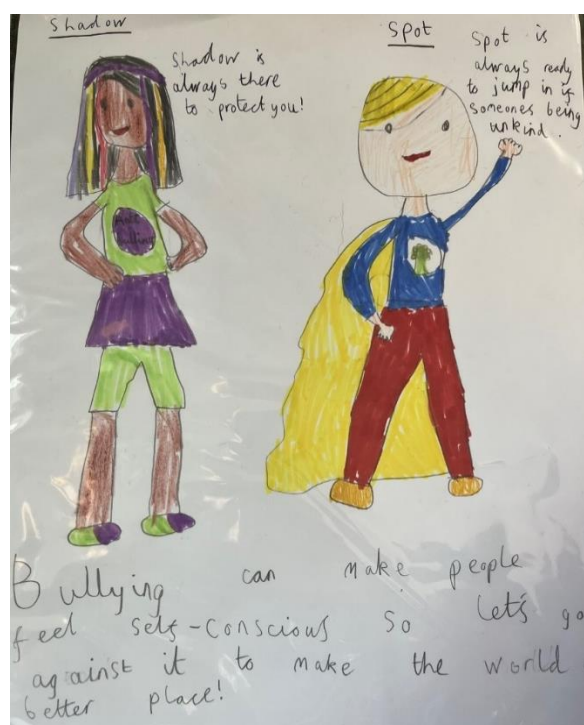
<https://www.nationalbullyinghelpline.co.uk/kids.html>

- Online advice plus a helpline to discuss more specific concerns.

<https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/tools-information/advice-and-support/advice-parents-and-carers> - Lots of links within this one to other

online resources including videos.

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/bullying/>

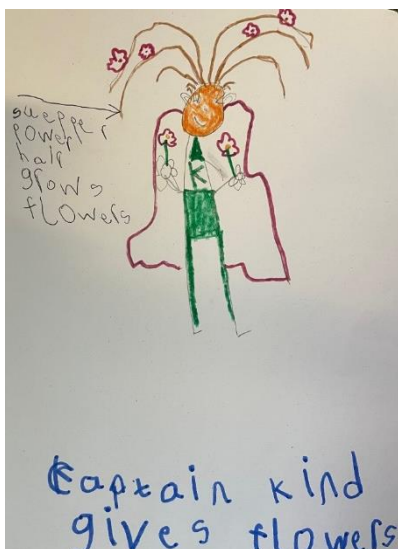
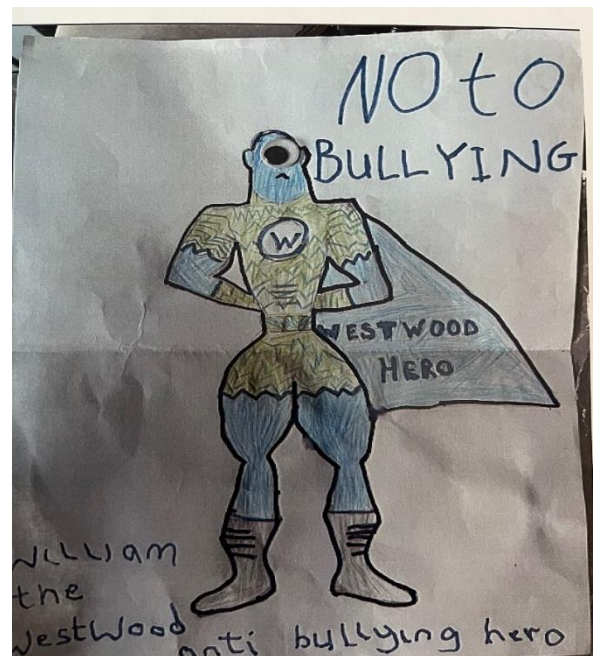


From your feedback we will be focussing on the following:

- Communication – if there is a yellow or red card incident in school, parents will be informed. Follow ups may be used to ensure issues are managed efficiently both in the moment and beyond.

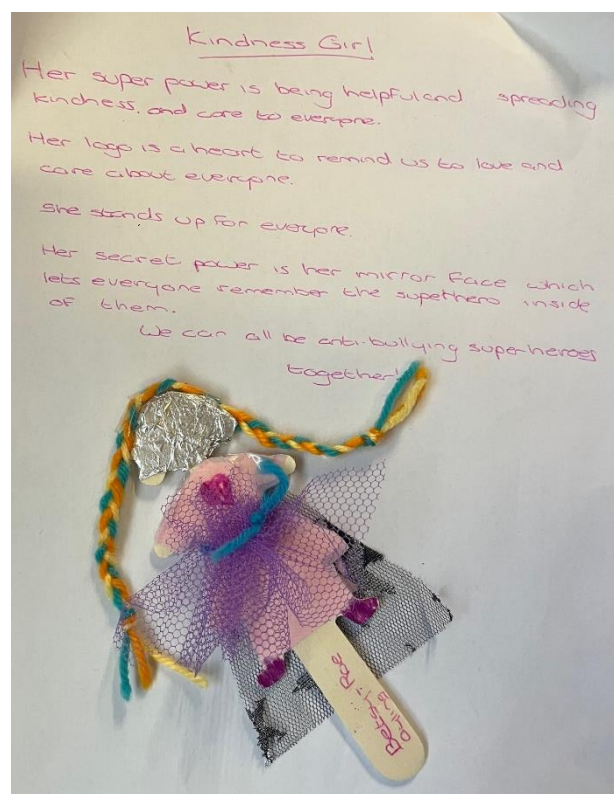
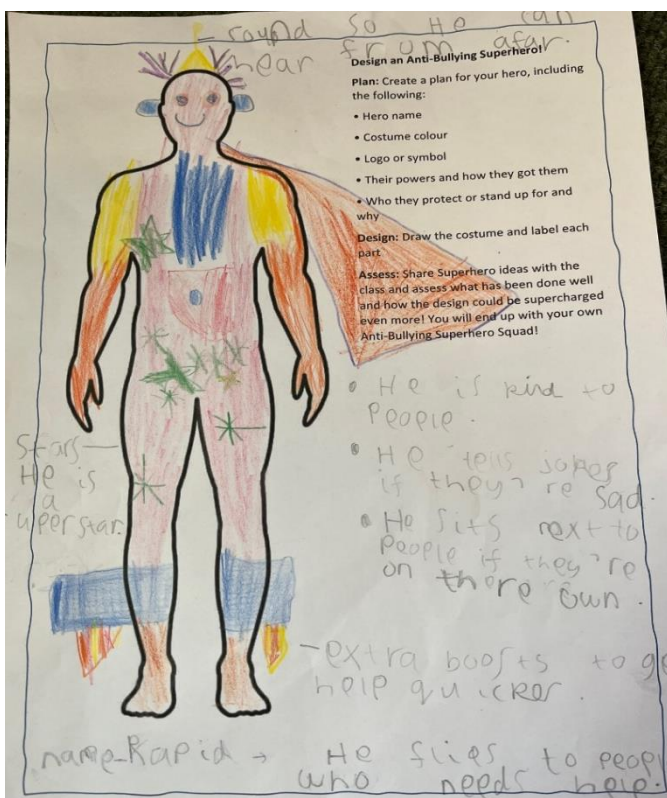
- Lines of reporting – If you have a concern the following system should be followed:

1. Notify your child's class teacher
2. If further support is required contact Mrs Tong via the school office.
3. If the problem persists, contact a member of the senior team – Miss Richmond, Mrs Clarke or Mrs Perryman



- Sharing information – Content covered in class may be shared though class dojo to allow further discussions at home.

And finally, we've been blown away by the quality of entries into our Anti-Bullying Superhero competition! Well done to everyone who took part. Given the quality it was impossible for us to select one winner so we have chosen multiple winners! A huge well done to Austin, Sydney, Harper, Jude, Florence, Betsy-Rae and Archie. Amazing designs! We're so proud of you!



JOIN US IN HADLEIGH EVERY WEEK TO

LEARN AN INSTRUMENT & JAM IN A BAND

FREE 2 HOUR
TASTER SESSION!

**The
Rock
Project**
School of Rock & Pop

- Learn Drums, Guitar, Bass Guitar or Vocals
- Gain confidence whilst having fun with like minded friends
- Play in a band each week
- No experience necessary
- Ages 7-11 & 11-18

"Our son loves coming to the Rock Project. He has learned so much, and his self esteem has really improved. We made the best decision signing him up. Big thanks to all the tutors".

SCAN HERE
TO ENQUIRE



LEARN - PLAY - GIG

WWW.THEROCKPROJECT.COM / 07305 994808



THE ROCK PROJECT HADLEIGH.ESSEX



Essex Fire Museum Open Days

Sunday 26th November 2023

Sunday 17th December 2023

10.30am to 4.00pm

(Last suggested entry time: 2.30pm)



Visits must be pre-booked via:
museum@essex-fire.gov.uk

Address: Essex Fire Museum, Grays Fire station,
Hogg Lane, Grays, RM17 5QS