



# Westwood Academy

## Westwood Weekly

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

Dear Westwood Families,

This week, our school is aglow with festive spirit! Little elves have graced us with their presence, and Year 3, along with Leah (Year 5), added a musical touch to December the first with enchanting violin and saxophone performances this morning.

Beyond the magical elves, our CEO, Mrs Stalham, visited on Tuesday. The children demonstrated excellent learning behaviours, and we even squeezed in a spirited game of dodgeball with Year 4!

From our local church, Richard shared insights on Christmas celebrations with Year 1, while our emergency services delivered safety lessons for Years 3 and 5.

Special thanks to the parents who assisted Mr Eade with the nativity stage today, teamwork at its finest – we are very grateful to you all.

Speaking of Mr Eade, please join us in celebrating 33 years of Mr Eade at Westwood!! And he's not alone, we also have Mrs Smith in year 4 who has been teaching young minds at Westwood for 25 years!

Mark your calendars for Christmas Jumper Day next Thursday, and don't miss our KS2 carols – fa la la!

Have a fantastic weekend,

Mrs Perryman



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

This week: **95.64%**

Year to date: **95.93%**



**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 **98.67%**, the highest in the school. Well done!

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

4-8<sup>th</sup> 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  
 6/7/13/14<sup>th</sup> 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!





A gentle reminder: Please ensure your child's jumper or coat has their name, and we'll take care of reuniting it with them promptly if it does get lost.



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  
Wednesdays 2.55pm nursery**

### 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- Ivy and Jessica Luca

Year 1- Florence and Bibianne Ezra

Year 2 – Charlotte and Emmy Ivy L

Year 3 – Ezra and Gracie Wynterbelle

Year 4 – Brody and Dylan Joseph

Year 5 – Jessica and Andrei James

Year 6 – John and Noah Sienna

Lunchtime- Albie and Oscar



### Reporting absence.

If your child is absent from school, please contact the **office directly** as soon as possible to make the school aware of the absence and the reason why. Class Dojo is an excellent platform to communicate with the class teacher regarding class based tasks, please do not share absences over Class Dojo.

### Sickness

If your child is off school due to sickness the guidelines have changed. You now only have to stay at home for **24 hours** and not 48 hours

### Achievements.

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

### 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](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions).



## SEN Coffee morning

A huge thankyou to those parents who attended last Friday's SEN coffee morning. It was great to catch up with you and talk openly about the provision for children with SEN both at Westwood and beyond. I hope you found the content useful and supportive.

A huge thankyou to our Academy Committee representative Laura, who was able to once again signpost lots of outside support. We are so lucky to have her expertise!

We have agreed that our next session will spotlight ASD as the number of diagnosed cases has risen exponentially in recent years. Our next coffee morning will be in the Spring term on Wednesday 28th February between 9am and 10am. More information to follow closer to the time.

## PE

As the cold weather takes hold we may face unexpected changes to our PE sessions. To ensure children are able to take part in their weekly exercise, could we please request that a pair of trainers or plimsols are sent into school to remain in class from next week. Many thanks for your support.

## 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	<b>6</b>
95%	50	2 weeks	<b>10</b>
90%	95	3 weeks 4 days	<b>19</b>
86%	135	5 weeks 2 days	<b>27</b>
80%	195	7 weeks 4 days	<b>39</b>
75%	242.5	9 weeks 3.5 days	<b>48.5</b>
70%	290	11 weeks 3 days	<b>58</b>
60%	390	15 weeks 3 days	<b>78</b>
50%	485	19 weeks 3 days	<b>97</b>

## 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.

## 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.

**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](mailto:nursery@westwoodacademy.org).



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

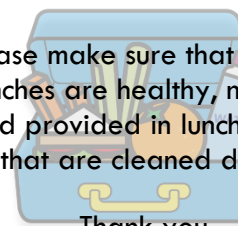
For support with home learning,

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](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.



**Westwood  
Academy**



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



## The Santa Bus Is Back!

Essex Libraries is spreading the joy of the festive season with the return of their Santa Bus. Funded by The Community Partnership Fund and in partnership with the Essex Children and Families Wellbeing Service, the bus is back again for 2023!

This initiative aims to not only target families who may not have the chance to attend a Santa experience this year, but it also works as a tool to engage children with literacy in new and exciting ways.

During their visit with Santa, children will have the opportunity to read a book with him and talk about what they want for Christmas this year. They are then taken into the library to do crafts and Santa's elves will help children sign up to the library or pick out a book to read over the winter period.

A couple of things to be aware of when booking:

- Please only book for the number of children, adults can come along but do not need to book a space.
- If you only want to take part in the crafts and refreshments, you do not have to book.

**Bookings for this event went live on Monday 20 November at 5pm!**

Please visit: <https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/news/the-santa-bus-is-back> for full details of how to book

Dear families,

The Deanes School Sports Partnership and Community Sports Centre will be running Activate holiday camps for children on free school meals over the Xmas holidays. The camps are free and each day children will participate in sporting and enrichment activities, as well as receiving lunch each day. We have four venues running over this Christmas holiday (Our Lady of Ransom Primary School / Canvey Infant School / The Deanes School / Watermans Primary School). Camps will be taking place between 9.30am - 3.00pm each day on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December / Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December and Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January.

You should have received an email with your Wonde code and within this email there is a link which will take you to the booking page.

There are also a limited number of spaces for children not on free schools and these places are available for children from 'low-income' working families, may be vulnerable and/or experience inactivity and social isolation without access to this free support. Should you feel you fit this criteria please email [management@deanessportscentre.com](mailto:management@deanessportscentre.com) as you will not receive the Wonde code.

Further information can be found via this link with details on camp dates and times available here:

<https://www.activeessex.org/children-young-people/essex-activate/winter-holiday-clubs-essex-activate/>

Should you have any further questions on these camps please contact [management@deanessportscentre.com](mailto:management@deanessportscentre.com)



**THE DEANES**  
SPORTS CENTRE







# A VERY *Merry Musical Day!*

THURSDAY 21ST DEC  
10.30-4PM  
WESTWOOD ACADEMY  
SS7 2SU

RETURN AT 3.45PM TO WATCH  
THE CHRISTMAS SHOW!



£25 AGE 5+

CONTACT LAURA  
07887690425