

Autumn Newsletter 1

A warm welcome back after the summer break to all our parents and carers. We have had a brilliant first two weeks in school with lots going on. Year 3 have settled in brilliantly and we are very proud of all of them!

At the start of the school year, we would like to take the opportunity to remind you about our school uniform and PE kit. We want the children to look smart, to feel part of the WBS team and to come to school with a great attitude, ready to learn. We ask that children wear:

- Plain black school shoes or black trainers
- Black, grey or navy school trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore (no joggers or leggings)
- A blue or green gingham dress
- A green polo shirt (either plain or with the school logo)
- A navy-blue sweatshirt, jumper, cardigan or fleece (either plain or with the school logo) Not hoodies please.

The school PE kit consists of:

- Black or navy shorts or joggers
- A white t-shirt
- Trainers or plimsolls

For health and safety reasons, jewellery is not allowed in school, with the following exceptions:

- Items worn for religious observance
- Children with pierced ears may wear plain studs to school, although these will need to be removed, by the children themselves, when taking part in PE
- A watch (not a smart watch)

If ears are newly pierced, earrings can be taped so children don't miss PE. However, this must be done at home, before school.

Healthy snacks

Please could we remind you of school's recommendations regarding healthy snacks. We feel a snack at morning break is essential for keeping up children's energy and suggest options such as: fruit, vegetable sticks, breadsticks, cheese, rice cakes, plain popcorn or crackers. Please do not send children with sweets, biscuits, crisps or chocolate bars. Thank you for your support with this.

Nut Free School

You will probably be aware that we have a number of children in school who have nut allergies. For these children, peanuts and ground nuts can cause a potentially life-threatening allergic reaction. If someone has a nut allergy, it is not just eating nuts that can cause a severe reaction. Just being touched on the skin or smelling the breath of someone who has eaten nuts or a product containing nuts can trigger anaphylaxis.

To safeguard these children, **we cannot have nuts in school in any form.** We ask, therefore, that you do not include any nuts or nut products in your children's lunch boxes, for their snack or as treats. We ask you please to be vigilant, checking ingredients on products if you are unsure. We appreciate your ongoing support with this - the welfare of all our children is our paramount concern.

Midday Vacancy

Are you a friendly, hardworking, caring and positive person who would like to work with children? We have a vacancy for a midday supervisor, required to work 7 hours 30 minutes per week, term time only, from 11.45 am to 1.15 pm each day as part of a hardworking team of professionals, to start as soon as possible. The job would involve supporting children in the dining hall and when playing in the playground. Please visit the school office or e-mail sbm@wbjs.com for more details.

HSA- we need you!

Over the years we have had a very successful HSA which have put on some fantastic events for our children and families and raised incredible amounts of money for our school. We are putting out a plea for anyone who may be interested in chairing the HSA as our previous chair, Claire Hughes, stepped down at the end of last year. If you are interested, please contact Mrs Bancroft.

Homework expectations

The current homework expectations in each year group are:

Years 3, 4 & 5: Reading at least 4 times a week; times table practise at least 3 times a week. This is usually through TT Rockstars. Spellings sent home weekly.

Our focus in these year groups is on reading and times tables as we know how vital these skills are in order to access the rest of the curriculum.

Year 6: One piece of English work and one piece of Mathematics work each week. Spellings sent home weekly. Reading at least 4 times a week.

Year 6 homework is different to the other year groups with the intention of preparing them for secondary transition.

Arbor

The school office will have contacted you regarding your details on Arbor.

Please can we ask that you check all the details we currently hold for your child including any medical information.

We also request that you complete the consent section and add a second contact if you have not already done so.

ASDA reward pot

ASDA are running a 'Cashpot for Schools' initiative. To support our PTA, all you have to do is opt-in through the Asda Rewards app, choose our school, shop and scan in store or shop online at Asda.com. Between 2nd September and 30th November – every time you shop with Asda using your Asda Rewards app, Asda will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to our school.

Parking

Please can we ask parents and carers to be mindful of local residents when parking around school and ensure you are not blocking people's drives. We ask that wherever possible you avoid driving down the end of Exchange Road outside school. We want to keep all of our families safe so ask that you drive slowly and carefully and avoid pulling up onto the pavement.

Key dates for autumn term

Thursday 19 th Sept	WW2 day Year 6
Wednesday 25 th Sept	Harvest Assembly
Thursday 10 th October	Individual photographs
Week beg 14 th October	Year 6 PGL residential visit
Tues 15 th & Wed 16 th Oct	Year 3 Parents Evenings
Week beg 21 st & 28 th Oct	Half term
Monday 4 th November	INSET
Friday 8 th November	Class 12 assembly
Monday 11 th Nov	Identity day and Anti-bullying week
Tues 12 th & Wed 13 th Nov	Year 4, 5 and 6 Parents evenings
Friday 15 th Nov	Children in need
Monday 18 th Nov	PGL info evening for Year 5 parents
Wednesday 20 th Nov	Parents Maths workshop
Friday 22 nd Nov	Class 9 assembly
Friday 29 th Nov	Class 6 assembly
Friday 6 th Dec	Class 3 assembly
Saturday 7 th Dec	Christmas Fair
Monday 9 th Dec	Friends of WBJS concert
Tues 10 th & Wed 11 th Dec	Y4/5 Christmas Production
Friday 13 th Dec	STEM Day
Friday 13 th Dec	Community Sing
Tues 17 th Dec	Carol Concert Y3 and 6
Friday 20 th Dec	Finish for Christmas
Monday 6 th Jan 2025	First day of Spring Term

Curriculum Information

If your children are anything like mine, when you ask them what they have been learning about at school, you often get very little in reply! Please do take the time to look at the Curriculum tab on our school website www.wbjs.com which has lots of information about what each year group are learning. The long-term plan will give you a brief overview in each subject for the whole year while the medium-term plan will tell you in more detail what your children are learning each week. The knowledge organisers explain the key knowledge we want the children to know and remember in each foundation subject. If you have any questions about the curriculum or want to know more, please ask your child's class teacher in the first instance.