



Friday 6th October

Dear Parents / Carers,

Every now and then, it's good to share a little bit about what each year group is learning in class. Do remember that you can check out the 'Curriculum Tab' on the school website for details of what is being covered but here is a little flavour of what has been happening so far this half term...

Year 3 have made a really super start to their time at the Junior School. What a fabulous bunch of children! We have jumped in with some poetry, having fun playing around with words and now we are reading and writing about Oliver and the Seawigs. Ask your child if they can remember the short section of story we are learning with the actions! In maths, we are securing our understanding of place value up to 1000. These are fun, talk-filled lessons working with blocks that represent 100s, 10s and 1s. Finally, we are learning more about human and physical geography and linking it all back to our local community. We all enjoyed our first Year 3 trip, to find out all about the Methodist Church.

Year 4 have settled into their new classes really well; making new friends as well as well as enjoying their older friendships. They have made a great start to our topic 'River Deep, Mountain High' learning about the different features of rivers and using an atlas to identify the major rivers in the UK. In science they found out that gases are different from solids and liquids because their particles are much more spread out. The children had a great time at Perlethorpe, where they made some river sculptures in the woodland, used maps to do some orienteering and went river dipping to identify different species. In English, the children are loving reading 'The Abominables' by Eva Ibbotson and have just written their own poems based on 'The River' by Valerie Bloom.

Year 5 have had an absolutely fantastic start to term. The children have settled into routines and life at Cottages very quickly and there is a busy and happy vibe about the place. The Victorian topic has definitely captured everybody's interest, and we are enjoying exploring different aspects of the era to help us decide if it was a golden age or a dark age. We are already half way through our year group book, Street Child, which is keeping us on the edge of our seats and is inspiring some wonderfully creative writing. The weather has been kind to us over the last few weeks, and the children have enjoyed being outside for playtimes, basketball and Paceball. Music, French, art, PSHE, computing and RE are just a few of the other lessons that we have been enjoying. Things to look forward to include, work centred around Black History Month and our year group trip (more information coming soon!)

Year 6 have been very busy as usual. Our WWII topic continues, focussing on events leading up to the war. In English, we've been studying letters and diaries of those involved in evacuation, and have really enjoyed designing and making our rationed pasties in Design and Technology. Tag rugby and problem-solving have been our PE, the latter building up to a certain residential trip in a couple of weeks' time. Finally, in science we have had a really interesting afternoon dissecting a heart as part of our learning about the circulatory system.

HSBC Finance Award

As a follow up to our work with HSBC at the end of last year, Adam Henry visited us in assembly recently to present us with the Smart Money award. We are now an accredited school for finance education and look forward to continuing our work with HSBC in the future.

HSA Cake Sale

A big thank you to the HSA and to everyone who donated towards our cake sale last week. We raised an amazing £331.86 which will go towards our exciting playground project!

Harvest Donations

We were really grateful to Mark, the minister from West Bridgford Methodist Church, who delivered our Harvest assemblies last week. We also want to say a massive thank you to everyone who donated food to the Friary. We took the donations last Thursday and they wanted me to pass on their thanks to all of you.

EasyFundraising

Just letting you know that West Bridgford Junior School HSA are now registered with Easyfundraising, which means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online. Over 7,000 brands will donate to us when you use Easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself! These donations really mount up and make a BIG difference to us, so we'd really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. It's completely FREE and only takes a moment. You can find our link below:

[West Bridgford Junior School HSA Fundraising | Easyfundraising](#)

Spare Uniform

Much of the spare uniform that was in school has now been donated to The School Uniform Project in Nottingham. If you would like any good quality second hand uniform or would like to donate any that you have to them, please contact the project using the link below:

<https://himmah.org/projects/the-school-uniform-project/>

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter.

Best wishes,

Mr Willis

Key Dates for Autumn Term

Friday 6th October – Y5 and Y6 film night

Friday 13th October – Y3 and Y4 film night

Week beginning 16th October – Year 6 residential to PGL

Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th October – Year 3 Parents' evenings

Friday 20th October – Break up for half term

Monday 6th November – children return to school

Tuesday 7th and Wednesday 8th November – Year 4, 5 and 6 Parents' evenings

Thursday 9th November – Flu Immunisations

Week beginning 13th November – Anti-bullying week

Monday 20th November 6pm – PGL Meeting

Tuesday 5th December – STEM Day

Thursday 7th December – Friends of WBJS Concert

Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th December – Year 4 and 5 Production

Friday 15th December – Community Sing

Tuesday 19th December 6pm – Carol Concert at St Giles for Year 3 and Year 6

Friday 22nd December – INSET Day