

Autumn Newsletter 2

It has been such a fantastic first few weeks of the academic year with so many wonderful learning opportunities. Here is a little glimpse into what has been going on.

What a wonderful start in **Year 3**. We are making great progress getting to know our new school and settling into new routines. We have practised saying the tricky word onomatopoeia and used it to write some brilliant nonsense poetry about cows that go tick tock and clocks that go vroom. Our new story is called Oliver and the Seawigs with crazy characters like Stacey de Lacey and Iris the mermaid. In maths, we are laying some foundations by working on the value of digits in two and three digit numbers. Finally, an important highlight of our week is PE, where we are learning some dances from around the world. We've done Samba and the Argentinian Tango so far!

Year 4 have had a busy start to the term, jumping head first into our topics; River Deep, Mountain High and States of Matter. Indoor athletics and Netball have been going well in our PE sessions, whilst we are focussing on sketching techniques in Art. And, as is customary at this time of year, we've made our Christmas Cards. It's never too early!

We've had a brilliant start to **Year 5** and the children have picked up the routines very well. The field has proved as popular as you'd expect and we've been making the most of it before it becomes too wet. Our Victorian topic is in full swing as the debate rages about whether the era was a dark age or a golden age.

Year 6 have had a fantastic start to the year launching their topic of World War 2 with a World War 2 Day. The children enjoyed dressing up as land girls, evacuees, armed forces members and many others – we even had a carrier pigeon complete with a message! The day involved learning about key events of the war, including hearing an authentic 'all-clear' siren; looking at artefacts from that period of time; learning the first aid skills ARP wardens would have to have; and being on fire duty using authentic stirrup pumps and hoses. The day really brought our topic to life. Coming up is our Design and Technology project where we make pasties from rationed ingredients. We are all looking forward to the final taste testing!

New to you uniform

We have had a great response to the online platform for purchasing pre-loved uniform.

Here is a reminder of the link:

<https://www.wearecress.com/school/s/west-bridgford-junior-school>

We are always on the lookout for extra items for the site. If you have any pre-loved uniform, with the school logo, that your child no longer needs and is still in good condition please send it into school.

Thank you for your support.



Playground update

We are thrilled that work will commence in phase one of our playground development during the October Half Term holidays. Our new amphitheatre will provide an excellent space for outdoor learning as well as a much-needed quieter space for some of our children to use during playtimes. The structure, complete with seating for a whole class and stage area, is fully equipped with an all-weather surfacing and planting areas for children to enjoy. This will be installed in the top corner of the playground ensuring there is still plenty of space for children to run freely, play games and for curriculum PE sessions. Many thanks to our HSA and your contributions that have part-funded this initial project.

HSA

Thank you so much to those parents who have expressed an interest in helping run events. Your support is very much appreciated and I am sure your year group rep will be in touch very soon. I am thrilled to tell you that Laura Stala-Kettle has offered to chair the HSA for this academic year and will be extremely grateful for any support you can provide. We will be in touch soon with dates for some autumn term events.

Identity Day

This week we held our Identity Day in school with the theme of **belonging**. The day started with a collaboration wide assembly to launch the theme of the day. Belonging is important because it helps us feel safe, valued, and connected to others. We shared our thoughts about why it feels good to belong, the different places we belong to, and how we are all part of the West Bridgford community.

We also explored stories about belonging and took part in activities inspired by those books.

To finish the day, everyone created a person to represent their unique identity, which will go on our new "Proud to be Me" displays in both schools.

We are excited to put these up so we can celebrate our identities and the things that make us special every day. There are a few fantastic examples on the previous page!

Harvest Collection

We are very lucky to have Ellen Dann from St Giles Church coming in to school on Wednesday 1st October to deliver our harvest assemblies.

As part of our harvest celebrations, we would like to make a donation to the Friary food bank in West Bridgford.

Please could you send donations of non-perishable items to school by Wednesday 1st October.

Suggested items include:

- Tinned food such as soup, stews and fruit
- Dried pasta and noodles
- Cereals
- Tea and coffee
- Biscuits
- Rice or lentils

Key dates for Autumn Term 2025

Monday 29 th Sept	Dukes Barn meeting on Teams 6pm
Wednesday 1 st October	Harvest assemblies
Friday 3 rd October	French Day- non-uniform
Tuesday 7 th Oct	Flu Vaccines
Thursday 9 th Oct	Show racism the red card
Friday 10 th Oct	Individual photographs
Monday 13 th Oct- Fri 17 th Oct	Y6 to PGL
Wednesday 15 th Oct	Year 4 to Perlethorpe
WB Monday 20 th Oct	Half term for 2 weeks
Monday 3 rd November	INSET day
Friday 7 th Nov	Non-uniform day- Chocolate donations
Tuesday 11 th and Wed 12 th Nov	Parents evenings
Friday 14 th Nov	Class 10 assembly, Children in Need and non-uniform- bottle donations
Monday 17 th Nov	PGL meeting on Teams 6pm (y5 parents)
Friday 21 st Nov	Class 9 assembly
Wednesday 26 th Nov	Maths parent workshop 6pm
Friday 28 th Nov	Class 4 assembly
Friday 5 th Dec	Class 1 assembly
Saturday 6 th Dec	Christmas Fair
Monday 8 th Dec	Friends of WBJs concert
Tuesday 9 th and Wed 10 th Dec	Year 4 and 5 Production @ WB Baptist Ch
Wednesday 10 th Dec	Year 6 to Holocaust Centre
Friday 12 th Dec	Community Sing
Tuesday 16 th Dec	Year 3 and 6 Carol Concert @St Giles
Wed 17 th Dec	Christmas Dinner and Christmas jumper day