

# Autumn Newsletter 1

We are delighted to welcome everyone back for a new school year and are pleased to see how quickly the children have settled into their new classes, embraced new routines, and approached the term with enthusiasm and positivity.

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 WBJs team and to come to school with a great attitude, ready to learn. We ask that children wear:

- Plain black school shoes or fully black trainers
  - Black, grey or navy school trousers, smart shorts, skirt or pinafore (no joggers, leggings or sports shorts)
  - 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). No hoodies please.
- The school PE kit consists of:
- Black or navy shorts, joggers or leggings
  - A white or green t-shirt

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.

## 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 avoid sending children with sweets, biscuits, crisps or chocolate bars. Thank you for your support with this. A reminder that break-time snacks should not contain nuts, chickpeas, peas, beans or sesame.

## Parking and driving

Please help us keep our school community safe by driving carefully and parking considerately during the busy start and end of the school day. Your cooperation helps protect our pupils and shows respect for our neighbours.

## Curriculum Information

Please do take the time to look at the Curriculum tab on our school website [www.wbjs.com](http://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.

## Attendance and absence

Regular attendance at school is extremely important and we monitor this very closely. If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, please make sure you contact the school office via email or telephone on the first day of absence. Although we want the children in school as much as possible, we do ask that if your child is not well enough to attend school that you keep them at home. This is to ensure that vulnerable members of our school community are also protected.

## Arbor

Please can we ask that all parents log in to their Arbor account and make sure the details we hold for your child are up to date. Please make sure there are at least two emergency contacts listed and that all medical details are correct. Please also check that all of the consents are up to date for things such as local visits and photographs.

## Homework expectations

The current homework expectations in each year group are:

**Years 3 & 4:** Reading at least 4 times a week; times table practice at least 3 times a week (usually through TT Rockstars). Spellings will be sent home weekly. Please help your child to learn these.

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 5:** One piece of English or Maths work each week. Spellings will be sent home weekly alongside regular reading and times table practice.

**Year 6:** One piece of English work and one piece of Mathematics work each week. Spellings will be sent home weekly alongside regular times table practice for those who need it. There is also an expectation that children read regularly for pleasure.

Homework that is sent home will be linked to the children's learning in school and will therefore reinforce and deepen their understanding. At some points in the year, there may be other more open, creative homework tasks linked to the topics being studied.

## A message from the HSA

Hi all, and welcome back from your Home School Association - a small but mighty band of parents who fit fun and fundraising around the demands of work and family! Last year we funded some incredible projects, including the new Amphitheatre and the Outdoor Library; the Sensory Garden at Cottages; the Champions Badges and the Year 6 celebrations. We also paid for each class to attend a Forest School session with an outside provider which the kids loved. The children enjoyed PJ Parties, Discos, Socials, Cake Sales, Wear it Wacky days, the Christmas and Summer Fairs and, of course, many of us adults also got to kick back at the annual Curry and Quiz night!

And now we're looking forward to another fantastic year of super experiences and raising money for even more exciting projects for your children. So, if you fancy making a difference and helping to organise or volunteer for one of our events, please do get in touch - all of this can only happen because of people exactly like you!

Looking forward to hearing from you!

Laura Stala-Kettle (Celandine's mum)

HSA Chair [wbjs.hsa@gmail.com](mailto:wbjs.hsa@gmail.com)

## Key dates for Autumn Term 2026

|                                                                    |                                      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> Sept                                       | Class 6W Forest School session       |
| Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> Sept                                    | Identity Day                         |
| Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> Sept                                     | Year 6 WW2 day                       |
| Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> Sept                                     | Class 4OA Forest School session      |
| Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> Sept 6pm                                   | Dukes Barn meeting on Teams          |
| Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> Sept                                    | Harvest Assemblies                   |
| Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> Oct                                       | Class 4M Forest School session       |
| Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Oct                                         | French Day                           |
| Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> Oct                                       | Class 6DN Forest School session      |
| Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> Oct                                         | Show racism the red card             |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> October- 16 <sup>th</sup> October                 | Year 6 to PGL                        |
| Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> Oct                                      | Class 4J Forest School session       |
| <b>W/B Monday 19<sup>th</sup> Oct – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> Oct</b> | <b>Half term for 2 weeks</b>         |
| Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November                                    | INSET day                            |
| Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> Nov                                      | Year 4 Perlethorpe trip              |
| Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> Nov                                       | Flu vaccines                         |
| Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> Nov                                         | Individual school photos             |
| Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> or Tues 10 <sup>th</sup> Nov                | Year 5 Framework knitter's trip      |
| Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> and Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> Nov              | Parents evenings                     |
| Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> Nov                                      | 2.30pm Class 6S assembly, Class 5MG  |
| Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> Nov                                        | Parents evening                      |
| Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> Nov 6pm                                    | Children in Need                     |
| Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2.30pm                                 | PGL meeting on Teams (y5 parents)    |
| Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2.30pm                                 | Class 5M assembly, non-uniform day   |
| Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec                                      | Class 4OA assembly, non-uniform day  |
| Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2.30pm                                  | Year 6 Holocaust Centre Trip         |
| Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec                                       | Class 3D assembly                    |
| Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2pm                                     | Christmas Fair                       |
| Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> and Wed 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec 6pm            | Friends of WBJS concert              |
| Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec 3.30pm                                 | Year 4 and 5 Production @ WB Baptist |
| Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec 6pm                                   | Community Sing                       |
|                                                                    | Year 3 and 6 Carol Concert @St Giles |