



Federation Newsletter

October 2026

Dear parents/carers,

We are excited that from September our schools have officially become a Federation, with one governing body overseeing both schools. This will only strengthen our relationship and allow us to work together even more closely. As we come towards the end of the first half term of a new academic year, we wanted to share some of the wonderful things that have been taking place in both schools.

A few weeks ago, we held our Identity Day. We started off with a Teams assembly attended by all the children in both schools where we discussed how belonging is important because it helps us feel safe, valued and connected to others. We talked to the children about the different places we belong and how we are all part of the West Bridgford Community.

Next week, our Year 6 children are off to PGL for their residential and I have no doubt they will do a fantastic job of representing our school.

We will once again be starting our partner class work between schools – see more information later in the newsletter – which is a great opportunity for children to work together and build relationships. Some of the Year 6 children have also recently completed Sports Leader training at the Juniors and will be supporting our younger children at playtimes and lunchtimes in the near future.

As always, thank you for your support. I hope you have a relaxing half term break when it arrives.

Mr Willis

Reception

The children had lots of fun at their PJ Party last week! In school they have been continuing their phonics and starting to learn to write their own names. The children have been looking at autumn changes and making autumn trees. They have enjoyed harvest and learning all our songs. In PE the children have been following an obstacle course while learning to control their bodies.

Year 1

In English the year 1s have been labelling Supertato and writing sentences about Evil Pea. In Maths they are learning to compare numbers using greater than, less than and the equals signs. In Art lessons, the children are learning to use the dot technique to create a piece of artwork in the style of Roy Lichtenstein while in Computing the children have learnt how to click and drag.

Year 2

The children have written lovely, detailed recounts of their trip to Stonehurst Farm. After reading 'An Alien in a Jam Factory' the children wrote character descriptions of Scooter. In Maths, they have been finding fact families and related facts. As the spooky season begins, they have drawn some still life pumpkins in Art. The children have been learning the golden rule in RE 'Treat others how you'd like to be treated' and the children have had lots of discussions about what this means.

Year 3

Year 3 have settled into the Juniors really well. We have done so many amazing things – too many to mention them all here! In English, we have been looking at some nonsense and free verse poetry and used ideas from poems we have read to write poems of our own. As part of National Poetry Day, we all wrote a poem called 'Ten Things Found in an Explorer's Pocket' based on a poem we had read called 'Ten Things Found in a Shipwrecked Sailor's Pocket'. We then posted our poems through the letter boxes of our neighbours. Some of the neighbours who received the poems have written back to us to tell us how much they enjoyed these poems!

Year 4

In Year 4 the children are finishing the half-term just as strong as they started it. We completed our Float writing topic in English and used it as inspiration for our own 'Flight' stories. We have further developed our knowledge of states of matter in Science by looking at evaporation and condensation – something that will hold us in good stead as we move on to look at the water cycle! The children are also quickly becoming experts in all things rivers and have applied this knowledge locally by analysing the River Trent.

Year 5

Year 5 have been immersing themselves in the lives of the Victorians, attempting to answer the question about whether it was a dark age or golden age. The lesson about Victorian children in the workforce has certainly tipped the scales towards dark age. We are also in the throes of designing wallpaper using techniques from Victorian times. William Morris has been our inspiration, and although our designs will not be quite as fancy as his, we're still hoping to create a lovely effect.

INSET Day

A reminder that we have an INSET day on Monday 2nd November meaning that children will return at both schools after half term on Tuesday 3rd November.



Polite reminder

Please can we remind you not to drive on Avon Gardens or to the end of Exchange Road past the Junior School. We have had complaints from residents living in the local area that parents are driving on or blocking their drives. At both schools, we work incredibly hard to keep a good relationship with our neighbours. Further to this, the safety of our children is at risk with cars turning in tight spaces and occasionally mounting the kerb, especially during busy times such as drop off and pick up.

Year 2 trip to Stonehurst Farm

The year 2 children had the best time at Stonehurst Farm recently! They enjoyed a tractor ride, stroked guinea pigs in the cuddle corner, took part in a nature walk and played on the hay bales. We are so proud of our year 2 children they represented the Infant School so wonderfully. A massive thank you to all our parent helpers; trips would not be able to go ahead without your continued support.



Year 6

Year 6 are almost there: PGL awaits on Monday for a week of scaling, ascending and bonding. But before that, we have the small matter of heart dissection on a Friday afternoon! We've also been writing poetry around the theme of Remembrance, exploring conflict around the world and diving into everyone's favourite maths method, Long Division. Abseiling 40 feet will seem like child's play compared to that! When half term comes around, year 6 will certainly have earned it. They have had a brilliant first half term in school and we are proud of the way they are modelling excellent behaviour to the rest of the school.

Harvest

The children at both schools enjoyed an assembly with Rev Joanna Seabourne from St Giles church. They spoke about being thankful for the things we have and caring for others. Thank you for all the generous donations – The Friary have now collected these and were very grateful.

Time to say goodbye

A fantastic celebration of a combined 65 years at West Bridgford Infant School!

On Friday we enjoyed a whole school sing-a-long, with reminiscing, songs and many cards made by the children for **Mrs Severn and Mrs De Boer**, two of our long-standing midday supervisors. We wish them a long and very happy retirement.



Parents' Evening

These will take place after school on **Tuesday 13th October** and **Thursday 15th October at the Infant School.**

Your child's class teacher/s will have allocated you a parents evening slot and you will have received a slip in your child's book bag confirming this time.

Each parents' evening appointment will be 10 minutes long. It will also give you a chance to see your child's class room and their learning environment.

Parents' evenings at the **Junior School will take place after half term on Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th November (Thursday 12th for 5MG).**

Partner Classes

As we continue our collaboration journey, there are lots of ways we are working together more closely. One of these, is the pairing of infant and junior classes infant to allow them to come together on occasions for shared learning experiences. We know the children love getting together, whether online or in person, and will benefit from this valuable interaction.

The classes will be paired as follows:

Class RA (Mrs Angus) with Class 5H (Mrs Hebbs)

Class RP (Mrs Pavier and Mrs Pickering) with Class 5M (Mr Martin)

Class RG (Mrs Gilbert) with Class 5MG (Mrs Minta and Mrs Green)

Class 1ST (Mrs Smith and Miss Trippier) with Class 3C (Mrs Cox)

Class 1C (Mrs Chappell) with Class 3D (Mr Dudgeon)

Class 1S (Miss Saunders) with Class 3P (Mrs Pritchard)

Class 2PG (Mrs Penhale and Mrs Graham) with Class 4J (Mr Jinks)

Class 2DW (Mrs Dinsdale and Mrs Ward) with Class 4OA (Mrs Owen-Jones and Miss Aleksic)

Class 2 H (Mr Heeley) with Class 4M (Mrs Moss)

Year 6 won't have partner classes in the same way as other year groups. However, each year 6 class will be paired with a year group at the infant school and we will look to arrange specific opportunities for those classes throughout the year.

West Bridgford Infants Key dates for Autumn Term

Friday 9 th October	Year 1 Disco 4:45-5:45pm
Friday 9 th October	Year 2 Disco 6-7pm
Tuesday 13 th October	Parent/Carers Evening
Thursday 15 th October	Parent/Carers Evening
Friday 16 th October	Break the Rules Day
Monday 19 th October-Monday	Half Term
Monday 2 nd November	Inset Day
Thursday 12 th November	Class 2H Assembly 2.30pm
Thursday 18 th November	Class 2DW Assembly 2.30pm
Thursday 26 th November	Class 2PG Assembly 2.30pm
Tuesday 1 st – Thursday 3 rd December	Yr1 & 2 SEND meetings
Thursday 10 th December	Christmas Performance, St Giles 10am
Friday 11 th December	Christmas Performance, St Giles 10am
Friday 5 th February	Inset Day
Monday 7 th June	Inset Day

West Bridgford Juniors Key dates for Autumn Term

12 th October- 16 th October	Year 6 to PGL
Thursday 15 th Oct	Class 4J Forest School session
W/B Mon 19th – Fri 30th Oct	Half term for 2 weeks
Monday 2 nd November	INSET day
Wednesday 4 th Nov	Year 4 Perlethorpe trip
Thursday 5 th Nov	Flu vaccines
Friday 6 th Nov	Individual school photos
Mon 9 th or Tues 10 th Nov	Year 5 Framework knitter's trip
Tues 10 th and Wed 11 th Nov	Parents evenings
Thursday 12 th Nov	2.30pm Class 6S assembly, Class 5MG
Friday 13 th Nov	Parents evening
Monday 16 th Nov 6pm	Children in Need
Friday 20 th Nov 2.30pm	PGL meeting on Teams (y5 parents)
Friday 27 th Nov 2.30pm	Class 5M assembly, non-uniform day
Wednesday 2 nd Dec	Class 4OA assembly, non-uniform day
Friday 4 th Dec 2.30pm	Year 6 Holocaust Centre Trip
Saturday 5 th Dec	Class 3D assembly
Monday 7 th Dec 2pm	Christmas Fair
Tues 8 th & Wed 9 th Dec 6pm	Friends of WBJS concert
Friday 11 th Dec 3.30pm	Year 4 and 5 Production @ WB Baptist
Tuesday 15 th Dec 6pm	Community Sing
Wed 16 th Dec 2pm	Year 3 and 6 Carol Concert @ St Giles
Fri 18 th Dec	Rocksteady Concert
	Last day of term

