



West Park Academy

Date: Dec 2020

Autumn Term No 2

Festive Season: This is a lovely time of the year in school. There will be some things we will need to do a little differently but there is still plenty of festive fun to be had. Although we can't offer a face to face nativity this year, we will be putting onto the website lots of photos and videos of what the children have been doing in classes including a Reception performance and Christmas parties. Dates for all activities are overleaf.



Santa Dash: As St Teresa's Santa Run has been cancelled this year, we have been asked to support this local charity by running our own school version - Santa Dash. This will take place on 7th and 8th December 2020, in the school grounds.



- Reception - Year 4 Monday 7th December 2020 - all day
 - Year 5 - Year 6 Tuesday 8th December 2020 - afternoon
- We are asking for a donation of your choice, all proceeds to go to St Teresa's Hospice. Children can wear something festive ie Santa hat/accessories suitable to run in. Children will also need a spare pair of shoes as it will be muddy. They will receive a biscuit, juice and be awarded a special Santa Dash certificate congratulating them on their efforts.

School Meals: We are working hard to try and accommodate hot school meals for all children as we move into winter. As of Monday 30th November 2020, we are able to offer these for EYFS/KS1 and now Year 3 and 4 and are hoping to extend this to Years 5 and 6 ASAP.



Christmas Lunch: Christmas Lunch will be on Wednesday 16th December 2020. If your child is normally on packed lunch you will have been sent a text with a link to an online form or you can inform the school office to order one by **Thursday 10th December 2020**.

Healthy Snacks: Please send a healthy snack into school for your child, a reminder that sweets and chocolate covered biscuits are not permitted. Also water bottles are just for water and not juice.

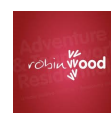
Christmas Activities: Wednesday 16th December will be a busy day for the whole school as EYFS and Year 1 enjoy their party; whilst Year 2 - Year 6 have fun with a Christmas Virtual Panto. The children can attend school wearing their Christmas outfits, (party clothes, Christmas jumper or Christmas accessories).



WPA Bauble Tree: Children are invited to bring in a bauble to hang on the outside Christmas tree near the wilderness area. It can be homemade with a message and will need to be waterproof. Just put them in the box provided outside the main office and Mr Mike will hang them for the children.



Robinwood: As we are unable to attend Robinwood this year we are hosting our very own alternative outdoor adventure activities in school with Year 5 on Thursday 17th December and Year 6 on Friday 18th December 2020.



Forthcoming Events:

Mon 7th Dec	All Day	Santa Dash - Reception - Yr4
Tues 8th Dec	PM	Santa Dash - Yr5 - Yr6
Wed 16th Dec		Christmas Lunch
Wed 16th Dec	Afternoon	Christmas Party EYFS/Yr1
Wed 16th Dec	Afternoon	Christmas Virtual Panto Yr2 - Yr6
Wed 16th Dec	11.30AM - 1.30PM	School Christmas Lunch
Thurs 17th Dec	All Day	Robinwood WPA Yr5
Fri 18th Dec	All Day	Robinwood WPA Yr6
Fri 18th Dec	End of day	School closes
Mon 4th Jan		School closed - Training Day
Tues 5th Jan	8:45AM - 9:15AM	School reopens

Reception Gate and Fence: Work is now complete on the Reception gate and fence. This was necessary for the safety and security of the children who are accessing the Reception bike area and the wilderness area as the old wooden gates needed replacing. Thank you for your patience whilst this was happening.



Children who are self isolating: If your child/ children are isolating, but are not poorly, they should be taking part in home learning. Teachers will set work daily so that they can keep up with their class/year group. This work is available on Microsoft Teams (EYFS work is set on Tapestry) and all children from Year 1 upwards have brought home a book with their log on details. Children should record their learning in the red exercise book sent home or take a photo and email it to the class teacher. This work will be marked and they will receive feedback on it. Should you require any support with this, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Absence: A few parents have been asking about the absence and what impacts on their child's attendance:

- a) COVID-19 absence is **not included** in the absence percentage
- b) We are required by policy not to authorise any holiday absence
- c) In the autumn term because we are so early into the new school year even a few absences can equal a significant % drop and for the vast majority of children this rectifies across the year. **We are required by policy to send letters to any child whose attendance falls below 85%.**

This will not include any COVID related absence.

Outdoor Play: Despite the nip in the air, we are continuing to develop our outdoor lunch times and playtimes. We have added to the den building, sport and small world activities with bikes and scooters and will keep you updated with photos of all the positive lunchtime play that is going on. Please ensure that your child has suitable outdoor clothing and footwear each day and that they **are**



Reception Applications 2021: This year as we are **unable** to offer any face-to-face visits we have a video for prospective parents available on our website, please take a look:
westparkacademy.org.uk

If you know anyone who is considering West Park Academy, then please direct them to this or to contact Miss Woodcock on h.woodcock@westparkacademy.org.uk to discuss further. Applications for Reception places September 2021 must be submitted to the Local Authority by 15th January 2021.

Breakfast Club: If you would like your child to attend breakfast club please arrive between 8:00am - 8:30am at the main hall doors the cost is £2:25 per day. Please book in advance at the main office due to limited places.



School Correspondence: Where possible we are now sending letters via email through ParentPay. Please look out for emails from platform@parentpay.com as this could be important information from school. If you have not activated your account on ParentPay please contact the school office to obtain username and passwords.

Contact Details: If you have moved address, had a change of telephone number or need to update emergency contact details we ask that you inform the school office immediately. This is to enable the school to contact you in an emergency should one occur.



Flu Injection Catch Up: A non porcine gelatine vaccine is available to those who have declined nasal spray due to porcine content. If you wish your child to receive this vaccine when stock becomes available, please contact the school immunisation team prior: email (preferred Option):

hdft.immunisationcatchupclinic@nhs.net - please tell us your child's name, date of birth, school they attend and which clinic you would like to attend and we will email you back with an appointment. Tel: 0300 003 2554

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We look forward to seeing you all back at school between 8:45am - 9:15am on Tuesday 5th January 2021.

