



West Park Academy

Date: January 2024

Spring Term 1

Welcome back to school. The morning may be slightly lighter but it is extremely cold. Please make sure children have coats, hats, gloves etc clearly labelled with their name on.



Children's Mental Health Week will take place from 5th - 11th February 2024. This year's theme is '**My Voice Matters**'. On Monday 5th February 2024 we would like the children to come into school dressed in colours that make them happy.



The Mental Health team will be leading assemblies and completing work in class around My Voice Matters. The children will be provided with the tools they need to express themselves.

When we feel empowered, there is a positive impact on our wellbeing. Children who feel that their voices are heard and can make a difference, have a greater sense of community and self-esteem.

Safer Internet Day Safer Internet Day will take place on **6th February 2024**, with celebrations and learning based around the theme 'Inspiring change?' In school the children will take part in an assembly and carry out some follow up activities in class.

We want children to make a difference with their actions online and navigate online changes. Websites, games, apps are constantly updating and changing, this can cause a lot of anxiety for children. Especially when all of a sudden they can't do something they found easy because of a change or update. We want to encourage the children to be resilient and know where to go for support.



Lates: The school day starts at 8:45am. Being on time is important for your child's wellbeing, achievement and wider development. Coming in late to a lesson that has already started can mean missed learning and can leave your child feeling anxious. Late marks affect the overall attendance and may result in a fine.



Forthcoming Events:		
Sun 28th Jan	All Day	Santa Rerun - St Teresa's Hospice
Wed 31st Jan	All Day	Glow Day - Hub, Yr1, Yr2 & Yr3
W/C 5th Feb		Parents Consultation - Complete online form sent via text message
Fri 9th Feb	All Day	Yr2 Educational Visit - Locomotion Shildon Museum
Fri 16th Feb	3:30 PM	School closes for half term
Mon 26th Feb	8:45 AM	School re-opens
Tue 5th - Mon 11th March		Bookfair see opening times
Thurs 7th March	All Day	World Book Day - come to school in PJ's
Tues 12th March	ALL DAY	Tempest Class Photographs
Thurs 28th March	3:30 PM	School closes for Easter Hols
Mon 15th Apr	8:45 AM	School re-Opens

School Uniform: We have collected a lot of lost property due to things being unnamed. Please can we ask you to name everything including drinks bottles, lunch bags/boxes, hats, gloves, scarves, and shoes. We understand that some of the children are too young to be fully responsible for their belongings and this is something we are teaching them every day, but it does help us to return them to you.

School Uniform Pop-Up: West Park Academy have some new and used good condition, clean uniforms, P.E kits and shoes available for parents/carers. There is no charge but any donations are welcome but not compulsory. Please call at the shed on Wednesday 24th January or Tuesday 13th February 2024 between 2pm - 4pm.

If you are unable to visit on these dates, please see Mrs Conroy or email on DWPI.conroy@westparkacademy.org.uk

World Book Day is fast approaching!

Thursday 7th March 2024.

World Book Fair: The bookfair will be in school from Tuesday 5th March 2024 until Monday 11th March 2024.

The Bookfair will be open at the following times:

5th March 3.30- 4.15pm

6th March 8:30-9:00am 3:30-4:30pm

7th March 8:30-9:00am 3:30-4:30pm

8th March 8:30-9:00am 3:30-4:30pm

11th March 8:30-9:00am 3:30-4:30pm

Our annual bookfair will be returning as normal back to the hall, where you can browse the book cages and purchase some lovely books for you to enjoy with your children at home.

These books can be purchased in the hall on the day (cash only) but if the book is not available, we can order these at the end of the fair and they will be delivered to school.

Vouchers (£1) will be given out to the children on Monday 4th March 2024 these can be used when you purchase a book.

Remember when a book is purchased you are supporting school as we can buy books to help the children's learning. We look forward to seeing you all there.

E-Scooters - E-Scooters are banned from school premises due to safety reasons Please do not bring them into school at all.



Helmets - We are looking for helmets for the children to wear at playtimes whilst playing on the bikes/scooters. If you have a helmet that your child no longer uses and is in good condition, school would be very grateful to receive donations.



The Eco Ambassadors are very keen on recycling and reusing and would like the school to take part in the Big Battery Hunt which is a nationwide campaign. Used batteries can be brought into school where there is a school recycling container for batteries.

Healthy Lunch: We all want our children to feel good about themselves. A healthy lunch every day will give your child the energy and nutrients they need to grow, develop and learn. Our school dinners provide children with healthy, tasty and nutritious food but are also designed to appeal to their tastes. If you do choose to send a packed lunch, please can you ensure that there are **no sweets or fizzy drinks**.



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 £3:00 per day. There is no need to book your child in.



Friends of West Park Academy: West Park Academy would like to invite parents, teachers and friends of West Park Academy to join Mrs Conroy to help organise events to raise funds to spend on memorable experiences for our children. We would like to meet up once every half term to discuss ideas, plan events and decide how best to spend the funds raised so that all the children across the year groups benefit. Our aim is to enhance the learning opportunities for all our children.

Fund raising activities in the past have included Christmas and Easter raffles. The funds raised will be spent on a whole range of things to support our wonderful children and families.

We always welcome new ideas and any contributions are welcome. Please contact our Home School Family Support Worker, Mrs Conroy, on 01325 380792 or email on:

DWPL.Conroy@westparkacademy.org.uk

Outdoor Play: Despite the nip in the air, we are continuing to play outdoors at lunch times and playtimes. Please ensure that your child has suitable outdoor clothing and footwear each day and that they **are clearly named**.



Santa Rerun for St Teresa's Hospice: Unfortunately, as you know St Teresa's had to cancel their annual Santa Run in December due to the unsafe weather conditions, however they are happy to announce that the **Santa RERUN** will take place on **Sunday 28th January 2024** at West Park Academy. You can still sign up to take part - participants will receive a Santa suit (adult) or Santa hat (children). You can complete the circuit at your own pace and receive a medal and refreshments when you cross the finish line.

