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NEWSLETTER 18 - 31ST JANUARY 2024

FEBRUARY HALF TERM FOOTBALL COURSE

There are still places on the February Half Term Football Course. For more details please visit our website <https://www.westfieldinfants.co.uk/news/february-half-term-holiday-club/80762>

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS



Headteacher Tea Party 26/01/2024



Rocket Awards 29/01/2024



Handwriting Stars 29/01/2024



Reading Stars 29/01/2024

Congratulations to the children who went to the Headteacher's Tea Party on Friday and those who received awards in assembly on Monday.

More photographs are available on the website

<https://www.westfieldinfants.co.uk/page/achievements/63794>

PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE

We had 123 replies to the Parent Questionnaire in November. Thanks to everyone for their feedback. These are the results.

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know - n/a - blank
1	My child is happy at this school.	93	29	1	0	0
2	My child feels safe at this school.	103	20	0	0	0
3	The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved.	82	38	0	0	3
4	My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively.	10	12	6	5	90
5	The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year.	80	34	6	0	3
6	When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly.	69	29	1	2	22
7	Does your child have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND)? If yes, the survey asks parents how strongly they agree with this statement:	Yes				19
	'My child has SEND, and the school gives them the support they need to succeed.'	13	4	2	0	0
8	The school has high expectations for my child.	69	42	1	0	11
9	My child does well at this school.	86	34	1	0	2
10	The school lets me know how my child is doing.	73	41	4	2	3
11	There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school.	83	34	0	0	6
12	My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school.	72	39	2	1	9
13	The school supports my child's wider personal development.	70	45	1	0	7
14	I would recommend this school to another parent.	Yes		119		
		No		2		
		Maybe		1		
		No reply		1		

There was lots of positive feedback from parents. The main area identified to improve was the variety of after school clubs available. In response to this we now have a Lego Club on Mondays for Year 1 and Year 2 children which has been very popular. This is in addition to the sports clubs on Tuesday and Wednesday which currently offer Dodgeball and Multiskills. We will continue to look for other after school clubs which are suitable for our children.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Part of the money raised from the Christmas Fair and Santa Dash has been used to buy some new musical instruments. We will start using these in school during music lessons next half term.



BABY NEWS

We are delighted to announce Miss Worton gave birth to her baby girl on Monday - both are doing well.

WINTER COAT APPEAL

Thanks to everyone who donated to the Winter Coat Appeal. We are no longer accepting donations but if you need a winter coat they are available from Yeadon Library. They have adult and children's sizes.

SCHOOL BEHAVIOUR POLICY

We have attached the school behaviour policy as well as the child friendly version for you to look at. The children are aware that excellent behaviour is expected across all areas of school including lunchtimes. The children are expected to Shine and they know exactly what this means as each letter of the word Shine corresponds to an aspect of good behaviour. We have tried to keep our system as simple as possible so that all children have the opportunity to get it right. They are also aware of the sanctions if they do not follow the rules. Our children are not perfect but the vast majority of them respond well to the system with only the odd hiccup, which is to be expected!

Please take time to have a look at both versions and discuss with your child what they think.

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

UPDATE ON FUNDRAISING

After 2 weeks of collecting loose change we have raised £131.68. Year 1 red have raised the most so far with over £40. Please keep sending in your loose change until Friday 15th March.

GOVERNOR NEWS

Governors must produce a governance statement annually.

Governance Statement 2023/2024

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the 3 core strategic functions of a Primary School Governing Body are:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
2. Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils;
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

Governance Arrangements

The Governing Body of Yeadon Westfield Infant School is made up of a total of 12 Governors (including the Headteacher): 2 staff Governors, 3 elected Parent Governors (currently full), 1 Local Authority Governor, 1 Foundation/Trust Governors and 4 Co-opted governors. Co-opted governors are appointed by the Governing Body and are people who, in the opinion of the governing body, have the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school.

The full Governing Body meets once each half term, and during these meetings we consider the different aspects of the school in detail. These topics include; Resources where we focus on finance,

premises and some personnel matters; and Teaching and Learning where we look at the curriculum, school performance and data. Once a year we establish a Headteacher Performance Management Sub Committee to review the performance of the Headteacher against a set of objectives. We also have other ad-hoc committees that meet if required to consider specific issues.

Attendance record of governors

Overall Governors have good attendance at full Governing Body meetings, and we have never cancelled a meeting because it was not “quorate” (the number of governors needed to ensure that legal decisions can be made) ensuring our statutory responsibilities are met.

The work that we have done in the governing body

The focus of the Governing Body over the past academic year has been to support the school in the aftermath of the pandemic and to minimise the impact on our children. It was a very challenging year with a number of absences from the teaching team; however the team coped very well with all the challenges and we are now seeing things return to normal. We are now focussed on delivering the objectives set out in the school development plan and looking at Governor development. The main themes of the school development plan are Quality of Education, Behaviour & Attitudes, Personal Development, Leadership & Management and Early Years.

Following a review of 2022 – 2023, key successes include;

- an increase in the number of children achieving a Good Level of Development (now 73.5%) at the end of Reception year. This is well above the National and Leeds average.
- An improvement in reading, writing and maths at expected levels of attainment in Year 1 with good improvement in writing in particular
- Some increases in the progress of those pupils in receipt of pupil premium and the narrowing of the gap with non-pupil premium children
- Overall performance in all areas is continuing to be above the national average
- A small increase in the number of children achieving greater depth in writing and maths
- Continued work within the Trust to develop external moderation of teaching assessment and improve overall teaching and learning
- the continued development of curriculum subject leaders and linked Governor curriculum leads
- children generally well-behaved despite all the challenges
- a focus on the health and emotional well-being of children, staff and parents
- continuing to raise the profile of governors through the newsletter.

Key challenges have included;

- a fall in overall attendance although this is now starting to show signs of improvement
- a reduction in the number of children achieving greater depth in reading

Recently Health and Safety and Safeguarding Audits have been completed on the premises to ensure we are compliant with policy and legislation.

The Governing Body has also reviewed and approved a number of school policies which is a key role.

Minutes of Governing Body meetings are public documents –you can ask at the school office if you would like to see any of the minutes of our meetings.

The nominated Governor for Safeguarding, Amanda Stainton provides a report to the governors about any safeguarding matters

Future plans for the governors

The key focus areas for the 2023-2024 academic year are:

- continuing to build on the success of the new phonics scheme – Success for All
- self-regulation and fine motor skills for reception
- developing a two-year rolling programme for the curriculum to be able to accommodate mixed-age classes focussed on subject delivery
- ensuring we have the right strategies and systems in place to meet the needs of all children especially those with specific needs
- continuing to implement our positive behaviour system to ensure consistency across the school and high standards of behaviour across the school day
- ensuring that governors visit school often to see our plans in action
- ensuring good mental health support is available across the whole school community
- a continued focus on term time absence and late arrival at school
- We have also set aspirational targets to get more children working at greater depth.

The Governing Body will also have some specific objectives within a Governing Body Development Plan which will include continuing to raise the profile and accessibility of the Governing Body, supporting the Head and staff in raising further attainment levels across the school and continued professional development by taking advantage of training opportunities.

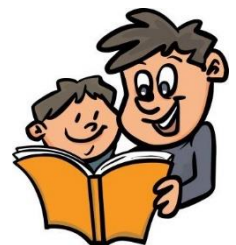
How you can contact the governing body

We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents – please contact the Chair of Governors, Mrs Stainton, via the school office. You can see the full list of governors; their attendance at meetings on the Governors' page of the [school website](#).

REMINDERS

SHARE YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING

Please remember parents/carers of Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children can book to share their child's learning on Tuesday 6th February, Wednesday 7th February and Thursday 8th February between 3.10pm and 3.30pm. Please use the form at this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/KA44FYEFhz> to book a place



SPEAK UP QUESTIONNAIRE

The Speak Up questionnaire at the link below is an opportunity for you to bring to our attention any aspect of school life for your child (such as friendship issues, worries about school work, concerns about lunches etc.) that we can help with. Depending on the nature of issues raised, it may be Mrs Fryer, your child's class teacher or Ms Lowry who deals with the concern.

<https://forms.office.com/e/Ai6pFaWNqD>

USEFUL WEBSITE LINKS

Keep up to date with school news and blogs by downloading the School Spider parents app and selecting Yeadon Westfield Infant School. To receive instant messages and use the payment facility you will need to log in.



SECOND HAND UNIFORM AND THE WESTFIELD PANTRY

Parents and carers at Westfield Infants have access to our stock of second hand uniform and food parcels from The Westfield Pantry. To find out more information, please follow the links below:-

- [The Westfield Pantry](#)
- [Second Hand Uniform](#)

PUPIL PREMIUM AND FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If you're on benefits and your child is entitled to universal infant free school meals anyway or brings a packed lunch, it's still important to register for a free school meal to ensure school doesn't miss out on funding called pupil premium. Find out more information on our [school website](#).

EASY FUNDRAISING

Please support Yeadon Westfield Infant School at [Easy Fundraising](#) when doing your everyday shopping.



NURSERY PLACES SEPTEMBER 2024

If your child was born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021 and you would like to register for them to start our nursery in September 2024, please contact Mrs Middleton at sbm@westfieldinfants.co.uk. You can also call in and pick up a form from the school office.

STARS BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB NEWS

We are celebrating Valentine's Day at STARS this week with red playdough hearts, Valentine colouring and crafts.

STARS Before and After School Club is open to children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 & 2 and siblings at the Junior school. To find out more information about opening times and prices, please visit the [STARS page](#) on our website. To arrange a visit to STARS, please contact the school office on 0113 2505449.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
W/C	05/02/2024	3.10pm – 3.30pm	Shared Learning
Friday	09/02/2024	3.10pm	School closes for the half term break
Monday	19/02/2024	8.40am	School opens for Spring Term 2
W/C	04/03/2024		Parent Consultation Appointments (more details to follow)

COMMUNICATIONS SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

EMAILS:	25/01/2024 – Request for Joggers/leggings 30/01/2024 – Headlice (Year 2 Blue) 30/01/2024 – Changes to PE this week for Reception 31/01/2024 – Cardboard boxes (Year 1 & 2)
SENT HOME VIA CLASS:	-
COLLECTING:	Batteries for recycling, pens for recycling
WEBSITE UPDATES:	Achievements, Governance Statement, PE funding, Online Safety Policy, Collective Worship Policy