

# Wood End Park Academy

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October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Wishing you a welcome return to the second half of the autumn term. We have another jam-packed newsletter showcasing our highlights from October. Year 6 performed two festival assemblies as the first in our series of culturally- themed performances. Thank you to all the parents who attended these.

We have started our charity work this month with Reception, years 1 and 3 collecting money for the charities their pupils raise money for. We will soon be starting our drive to raise money for our Federation- supported charity of Action Aid.

Enrichment opportunities for the pupils has also started with visits to places of worship (Year 5 to the Gurdwara) , sports events and visitors in school too.

Three year 4 pupils will be participating in the Federation Spelling Bee on 8th November. We wish them the best of luck with this !

Parents Meetings return this month with face- to - face meetings after school on Tuesday 7th and Thursday 9th November. Each parent must book an appointment so you can find out how your child is getting on plus view the work of your child too. You will be able to take away useful activities that your child will benefit from too.

In November we are also hoping to have our first meeting with our Parent Councillors. We are keen to start the Parent Council again so if you are able to be part of this do let the front office know. The parent council would be a group of parents keen to help set up events for the children or community that they feel would be of interest and strengthen our partnership with the community. Some schools parent councils set up discos or food festivals for example.

Thank you for all of your ongoing support with everything WEPA does. We have more parents supporting our attendance drive with more children attending school more often but unfortunately we are currently 2% below the national Average. We know Wood End Park is not an average school so do work with your child to get their attendance to 100% each week. These pupils do gain prizes in our half termly prize assembly and could get an invitation to a pizza and Christmas cracker celebration party. All pupils with 100% from starting in September receive an automatic invite to this.

If your child is reluctant to come to school for any reason please do seek to speak to our Attendance Officer , Ms Williams or Deputy Principal , Mrs Gamble who can organise for you to meet them or another senior member of staff. We want to work with you on ensuring your child is at school as much as possible to learn as much as possible.

## Committed to Pupils Learning

Please note holidays during school time are not allowed. All term time holidays would be unauthorised and you may be issued a penalty notice (fine).

Please also try to arrange all appointments for e.g. doctor's etc out of school hours.

Children being absent from schools means they are missing important learning time.

# Events

## Reception Charity Day

On Friday 13th October 2023, Reception dressed up for RSPCA. Children came to school dressed up in a variety of fabulous animal costumes.

Each year group raises money for an allocated charity. Reception has the RSPCA: the royal society for the prevention of cruelty to animals.

In Reception we have taught the children how important it is to care for all living things; people, animals and nature.

It was lovely to hear about how the children help take their dogs for walks and they love cuddling their animals.

Thank you to all of the staff and parents, we appreciated all of the donations.

Thank you from the Reception Team.



## Special Assemblies

The month of October marked two important religious assemblies with Year 6 leading, that parents, children and staff thoroughly enjoyed! Our Eid assembly was presented first. 6TW and 6FK re-told the story of why many Muslims celebrate Eid today. The narration was supported by a fantastic role play that helped many of the audience members truly understand the significance of the festival. The assembly gave an important message about sacrifice and it was wonderful to hear many words of thanks from the children to their teachers, parents and each other!

6LD, 6JR and 6KS led a brilliant Diwali assembly with clear narration and drama to retell the story of Rama and Sita. Diya lamps were lit and children sang in beautiful harmony, a Diwali song to wrap up the performance!

We wish all of our families who celebrate the above festivals during the year!

# Events

## Year 4 Basketball Tournament

The children in Year 4 competed in the Park Federation basketball tournament tremendously. They represented the school admirably and placed a high level of effort. We are thrilled that the children were able to place joint third with two other schools. However, most importantly we are proud that the children represented Wood End Park Academy with great character, teamwork and sportsmanship.



## Gurdwara Trip Year 5

Year 5 had a great opportunity to visit a local Gurdwara where they got the opportunity to consolidate their learning. Children were very excited to see the Gurdwara as they had many questions to ask the main spokesman. All children were so well behaved and the Gurdwara committee commented on how exceptionally polite they were. Muhammed from 5KB said "This was a great trip and now I will definitely remember what was taught in R.E". It was great to hear children drawing similarities and differences between Sikhism and other religions. Bentley explained that a Church and Gurdwara both have stained glass windows and Rayyan noted that a Mosque does not have pictures where a Gurdwara does.

Mr Bansal



# Events



## **Year 2 Drama Workshop**

In the workshop, children had to imagine that they were going around the world. They had to find a present for the King. First they had to build a plane, children were asked what items they needed in order to build a plane.

Once that was finished, they then needed to recruit members for the plane: Pilot, Co-pilot, Cabin crews - They all had to also explain the role of each person.

Once they had finalised the members, children began their trip. However, a problem occurred! The plane ran out of fuel and they had to make an emergency landing in Antarctica. The children had to identify what types of animals can be found in Antarctica, describe what the weather was like, and explain what clothing items are needed for the weather.

They then managed to find fuel for the plane and continued their journey.

They finally reached Australia. The children then describe what sort of animals they would find in Australia and then they went on a hunt for a present for the King. They found a boomerang for the King. They then finally returned back to London and gave the King his present!

The children thoroughly enjoyed the workshop. They couldn't stop talking about it when we returned back to our classes.

Comments from the children: It was really fun! I loved going around the world!

They were talking about how the different animals looked and making the sounds as well.

Miss Akhtar

## **Years 1 and 2: Micro Bits**

Year 1 and Year 2 students will begin the Autumn 2 Computing Club by looking at Micro Bits and exploring all the wonderful features which support students with coding and digital making. Micro Bits are hand held robotic devices which are plugged into the computers and coded to play games, make sounds and music and display emotions and words to the screen. This ongoing project will allow students to become more confident with block coding and explore new programs which will enhance their problem solving skills.

We cannot wait to see what the children program!

## **Year 1 Fundraiser**

Year 1's charity is The Salvation Army which is an international charitable organisation. The Salvation Army was founded on 2 July 1865 in London, which is 158 years ago.

Its founders sought to bring salvation to the poor, destitute, and hungry by meeting both their "physical and spiritual needs". It is present in 133 countries running charity shops, operating shelters for the homeless, and disaster relief and humanitarian aid to developing countries.

We asked for donations of cakes and snacks to sell so we could raise funds to send to the Salvation Army. We raised a bit of money but will have another cake sale soon to raise more money.

Mrs Mamombe

# Events

## Year 3 Charity Day

At WEPA, we embrace and celebrate the spiritual and moral development of our children. As a result, our children are happy to support their fellow citizens by supporting charities and charitable causes. Last term, the Year 3 children raised £45 to support the work and aims of Oxfam by 'Naming the Teddy'.

Mrs Evans (who listens to children read every afternoon) choose the lucky name out of many hopefuls.

Rahma from 3AT was the lucky winner. She was thrilled to be the lucky recipient of adorable Teddy.

Please keep your eyes peeled for more opportunities to support charities.

Year 3 Team



On Wednesday 18th October, a group of 29 Year 6 children went on a day trip to Lille in northern France.

After a very early start, we took the Eurostar train and arrived in Lille just before lunch. Mrs Strinic led us on a guided tour of the Old Town - we learnt about the city's history and saw its fine buildings, including the Opera House, Chamber of Commerce and the Old Stock

Exchange. Once we had ordered - in French! - and eaten our lunch in the main square (Place du Général de Gaulle), we made our way to the zoo. The weather was kind and we therefore saw lots of animals: sloths, rhino, a huge porcupine, red pandas and meerkats to name just a few! Our day ended with a walk back to the Eurostar station and a stop-off at the souvenir shops where magnets, sweets, pens and snow globes were popular purchases. A fantastic day was had by all!

Aashi said: "We saw cannon balls from the 18th Century still embedded in the walls of some of the buildings in the Old Town!"



# Events

## Wellbeing Ambassador

The Wellbeing Ambassadors are a very dedicated team.  
The team meets every Wednesday at 3-30pm.

Our team each week are working from a book for children called Mindfulness by The Police community clubs of Great Britain.

This involves a story and then an activity here is one for you to try.

### Meanings

Join the words to match the statements using a line.

<b>Mindfulness</b>	An intense and eager interest in something
<b>Optimism</b>	Giving someone support confidence or hope.
<b>Enthusiasm</b>	A feeling of worry, nervousness or unease
<b>Emotions</b>	Thinking positively about the future
<b>Encouragement</b>	How you feel about things
<b>Anxiety</b>	Recognising and talking about your emotion

*Mental health is just as important as physical health.*



**SCHOLASTIC TRAVELLING BOOKS**

**COME TO the BOOK FAIR!**

FREE BOOKS FOR YOUR SCHOOL WHEN YOU BUY AT THE BOOK FAIR!

A POP-UP BOOK-STORE WITH HUNDREDS OF BOOKS FROM JUST £2.99

**YON GATES** £12.99 £7.99

**SPEAK UP!** £7.99

**OH MAYA GODS!** £7.99

**DOG MAN** £12.99 £9.99

**PERCY JACKSON** £7.99 £2.99

**The Baddies** £7.99

**BLUZY BARKY BOATS** £6.99

LAST YEAR YOUR SUPPORT HELPED DONATE £5.3M IN FREE BOOKS TO SCHOOLS NATIONWIDE

**November Book Fair**  
Everyday from  
Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November - Friday 10<sup>th</sup>  
November

3.20pm – 4.00pm  
Location: KS1 Hall

All books purchased will earn Wood End Park Academy points to buy new books for our classrooms.

Parents can now pay for books online while they're at the Fair!

Parents will be able to scan the code on their phone to easily access our parent pay website.

If you can't make it to our Book Fair, try our Gift Vouchers available at <https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/gift-vouchers>

They're a great way to ensure your child doesn't miss out.

# Information



Please note all payments for trips, workshops and clubs must be made on parent pay.



Please provide your child with a named water bottle for school. No glass bottles allowed.

Proper hydration allows pupils to focus better and stay productive longer.



## **VERY IMPORTANT:**

### **WEPA APP FOR SCHOOL UPDATES**

We are aware some parents have still not downloaded the school app. We will be communicating important information throughout the Year via our app, so it is imperative all parents and carers download this at your earliest convenience by following the steps below:

Step One:

For Apple devices please use

<https://itunes.apple.com/gb/app/piota-schools/id1333103848?mt=8>

For Android devices please use

[https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=uk.co.piota.schools&hl=en\\_GB](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=uk.co.piota.schools&hl=en_GB)

Step Two:

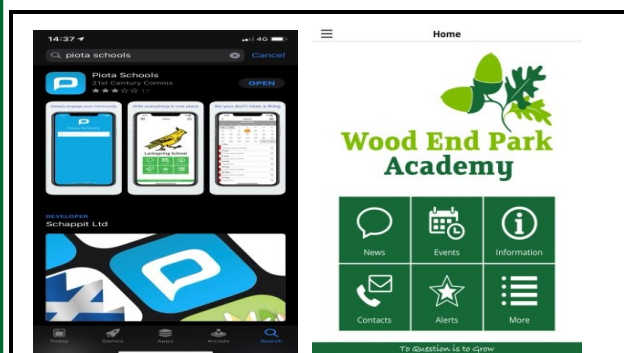
Type in 'Wood End Park Academy'

Step Three:

Go to 'More' then 'Settings'

Step Four:

Go to 'Notifications' Please tick your child's year group.



### **School Dates for 2023/2024**

#### **Autumn Term 2023**

Staff Development Day	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October
Half Term	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October – Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
Term Ends	<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2023</b> <b>2.30pm</b>

#### **Spring Term 2024**

Term Starts	<b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024</b>
Half Term	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
End of Term	<b>Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024</b> <b>2.30pm</b>

#### **Summer Term 2024**

Term Starts	<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024</b>
Half Term	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2024
Term Ends	<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024</b> <b>2.30PM</b>

- \*Staff Development Day Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2024
- \*Staff Development Day Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2024
- \*Staff Development Day Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2024
- \*Pupils do not attend on these days

**Please note holidays taken during term time will not be authorised**