

# Westdale Infant School

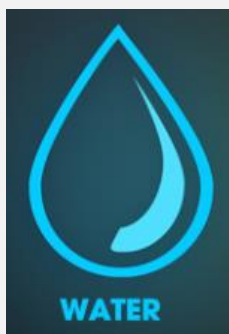
Headteacher - Mrs Rebecca Lewis

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Happy Friday! We hope you all have a wonderful and restful weekend. We ended the week with the school being filled with the delicious smell of cheese, onion and potato pasties – well done CookStars! Thank you to our families who have donated spare uniform and Ladybirds and Butterflies have made one more request, does anyone have a play till that is no longer needed? The “café” is struggling to take any money!



A big congratulations to this week's House Point Winners, **WATER!**

## Weekly Attendance Update

Year so far: **94.75%** | 13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> January: **94.46%** | Target: **97%**

## World Book Day 2025 - Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March

We will send another reminder nearer the time but please note that **World Book Day** is on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March this year. The focus for World Book Day this year is 'Read Your Way'. Research shows that children feel reading is something they have to do, rather than something they choose to do. 'Read Your Way' encourages everyone to let go of reading pressures and expectations and empowers children and young people to have fun discovering reading on their own terms.

Therefore, we would like to invite children to **wear anything on World Book Day that makes them happy** - whether that's World Book Day dress-up, their pyjamas, their uniform or any other clothing. We would also like children to **bring in their favourite book** as the children will be sharing them with another class during the afternoon. We can't wait to see what everyone brings to school!

**READ  
YOUR WAY**



## Upcoming Events

03.02.25 – 07.02.25

Children's Mental Health Week

06.02.25

Safer Internet Day

08.02.25

POW Valentine's Disco

14.02.25

Break Up for Half Term

## Important Information

Please can we ask all parents and carers to ensure they have up-to-date contact details registered with the office.

School calendar:



Next week's [School Dinners](#) will be **Week 3**. Please note that dinner orders are taken a week in advance.

## SENCO Role Update – Message from Mrs Lewis

As you are aware, I have been continuing the role as Senco during the Autumn term with the intention of relinquishing the role due to being full time head. I have really enjoyed my role as Senco over the past 3 years, I have learnt so much, met with so many new people, families and professionals, and have really reflected and developed my vision for an inclusive education that has hopefully, with the dedication of a strong school team, enhanced our provision at Westdale.

It is with much reluctance that I am having to hand over this role, however the knowledge and dedication that I have gained will continue to shape our school in its future journey and development as part of my leadership role. Mrs Chamberlain will now be transitioning into the Senco role starting from January 2025. Mrs Chamberlain is part of our Senior Leadership Team and has a wealth of experience, a deep commitment to inclusion and is very excited to be taking on this new role, working alongside myself. To support in this there will be a period of transition and induction as follows.



### **From January 2025:**

- Mrs Lewis will continue with the Senco role for children in Foundation 1 and 2 (Little Stars, Ladybirds and Butterflies)
- Mrs Chamberlain will take over the role of Senco in Y1 (Moonbeams and Comets)
- Mrs Lewis will continue with the role of Senco for children in Y2 (Suns and Rainbows)

The intention is for Mrs Chamberlain to take on the full role in September 2025. To support Mrs Chamberlain in this new role, she will be out of class on a Wednesday fulfilling her new Senco role. Moonbeams will be taught by Mrs Jess Bembridge who is well known to our school and the Moonbeams class and is delighted to join our team on a more long-lasting basis.

I am very proud of the reputation and provision that Westdale offers all our children and look forward to supporting and working alongside Mrs Chamberlain to continue our journey in making Westdale the best it can be for everyone. If you would like to find out more about our SEN offer at school, please have a look at our [SEN policy](#) on the school website, and our [webpage](#) dedicated to our SEN offer.

## PE at Westdale

A warm Westdale Welcome to our new PE coach - Ms Claire Appleby. Claire started with us last week and visited each class to get to know the children. Claire will be in school on a Tuesday and Wednesday - taking classes for PE. She comes to us from Next Level Sports and has a wealth of experience working in schools both as a sports lead and as a qualified teacher/ teaching assistant. She has extensive experience as a Sports Development Officer and Sports Outreach worker. We are very lucky to have her and look forward to her input in widening our sports offer to our children - with future lunchtime and an afterschool club planned for the spring.



## Devices in School

We hear that Santa delivered smart watches to some of our children at Christmas! Please can we remind all families that devices with cameras are not allowed in school, in line with our safeguarding policy to protect everyone. Can we also ask that if you would like to send a tablet or similar device into school with your child that it is handed into the office at drop off and collected from there at the end of the day. Thank you for your support!

### Staff Shout Out

We would like to say a huge thank you to Mr Mason this week! Mr Mason has been with us since September and has become an essential part of the Westdale family in his role as a Teaching Assistant. We appreciate all his hard work, kindness, and calming nature, providing a warm and nurturing environment for the children. Thank you Mr Mason!



### Kickboxing Trial

Our kickboxing trial was a huge success on Friday morning! The children loved learning the different techniques and having the opportunity to practice. Thank you to Sam Wood from White Tiger Kickboxing for providing such a fun and informative session and we have attached a leaflet to the round up if you would like more details.

### Norovirus Guidance Reminder – Message from NHS

We have seen many outbreaks of norovirus, the winter vomiting bug, across our communities and would like to remind everyone of our guidance – please see the attached information poster and our [website](#). To avoid further spread, we follow guidance from UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA): Children to return to school *48 hours after symptoms have stopped* and they are well enough to return'. Thank you for your support!

### St Andrew's House – Thank You!

We had such a lovely surprise this week when St Andrew's House (our neighbours over the road) brought a card in from one of their residents, Winston. He wanted to say thank you to the choir children who performed before Christmas and brought so much joy! Well done to our wonderful choir.

### The Dog House – Channel 4

Could you provide a loving home for a rescue dog? The Channel 4 series, The Dog House is looking for couples, individuals, friends and families who are seriously considering bringing a rescue dog into their lives and are willing to share their reasons for doing so.

Please follow this link to apply: [The Dog House | Channel 4](#) or email [thedoghouse@fivemilefilms.co.uk](mailto:thedoghouse@fivemilefilms.co.uk)

### Family Prom: Fire and Ice!

Mrs Jenkins, our fantastic music teacher, is part of the Nottingham Philharmonic Orchestra and would love to share an upcoming event with you all. Presented by Aled Jones, this Family Prom features some exciting music such as scores from Harry Potter, Frozen, and Chariots of Fire. Please follow [this link](#) if you would like to know more!

Have a lovely weekend everybody!

