

Westdale Infant School

Headteacher - Mrs Rebecca Lewis

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Happy Friday everybody! We are starting to feel very Christmassy in school with our choir performance and hearing the nativity rehearsals. We are also very excited to decorate the big school tree next week with all the lovely decorations you have been bringing in.



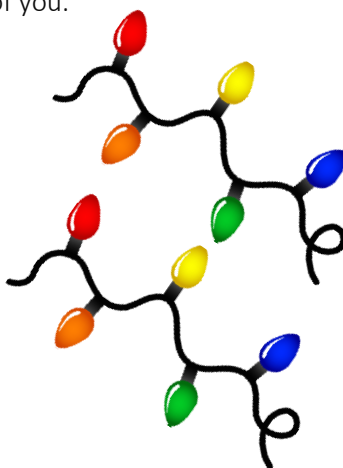
A big congratulations to this week's House Point Winners, **WATER** and **AIR**!

Weekly Attendance Update

Year so far: **95.76%** | 25th – 29th November: **93.07%** | Target: **97%**

Choir Performance – Mapperley Christmas Festival

We had a great time on Sunday 24th November hearing our wonderful choir perform at the Mapperley Christmas Festival. It was fantastic to see so many of you there to support our children (especially in the wild weather) and see them sing their hearts out up on stage. Everyone was very brave, and Mrs Jenkins is super proud of each and every one of you.



Upcoming Events

Tuesday 3rd December

School Tour – September'25
Starters (9:30am)

Important Information

Our new [school video](#) is ready!
Take a look and we would love to hear what you think.

Quick link to our [school calendar](#):



Next week's [School Dinners](#) will be **Week 2**. Please note that dinner orders are taken a week in advance.

Y2 RNLI Visit

Year 2 had a wonderful visit from Geoff at the Royal National Lifeboat Institution on Tuesday this week. Geoff talked about what the RNLI do and showed us a great video of the volunteers in action rescuing people and animals. We saw what the very first RNLI lifeboats looked like - they were similar to the ones on the Titanic! He showed us lots of life saving equipment, taught us about the dangers of water and how to stay safe. We learnt the 4 step rules:

1. Stop and think
2. Stay together
3. Float
4. Call 999



Thanks for a brilliant talk, Geoff! We all learnt lots and really enjoyed our morning.



School Nativities

It's that special time of the year and we are so looking forward to sharing our Christmas performances with you! The singing is wonderful around the school at the moment!

Celebrating difference is one of our key curriculum drivers at Westdale and we also like to celebrate this during our nativities. Please remember our children are very young and whilst some children love to perform, for others it can be a stressful time. Lights and noise can distress some children and we will be aiming to accommodate all needs during the performances. Lots of our children also find it hard to sit still for any length of time! This may mean some children are with an adult, have resources to support them, or may come and go during the show. We know you will support all their efforts and celebrate how different children access and show their own unique style!

- Y1 (Comets and Moonbeams) is Tuesday 10th December at 2pm
- Little Stars is Wednesday 11th December at 9:30am
- F2 (Ladybirds and Butterflies) is Wednesday 11th December at 2pm
- Y2 (Suns and Rainbows) is Thursday 12th December at 2pm



Two guests per child are welcome, no booking required.

Please arrive at school via the Digby Avenue entrance ten minutes before the start time.

Christmas Updates

- Our first batch of **Christmas Drawings** came back to school last week and everything looked great! You should be starting to receive your orders via bookbags.
- Thank you for bringing in **Christmas Baubles** for the school tree! We can't wait to decorate it next week.
- Don't forget there is a **Christmas Packed Lunch** available on Wednesday 11th December. You will have received a ParentMail form to complete, please can this be done by **Monday morning** (especially if you do want to order a packed lunch as no sandwiches can be ordered after then!)
- Veolia are running a [Christmas Poster competition](#) and you could be in a chance of winning four tickets to the local pantomime!

Staff Shout Out

This week we would like to sing a huge thank you to our wonderful music teacher, Mrs Jenkins! This is a particularly busy time of year with Christmas Performances and nativities, and we see how hard she is working to get all those practices in. The children adore music sessions at Westdale and it's a joy to hear them using their voices and bringing such cheer to the school! Thank you Mrs Jenkins, we appreciate you!



School Admissions

Nottinghamshire County Council have asked us to share some information about applying for a reception school place and transferring from infant to junior school (Year 3) in September 2025.



Applications opened on Monday 4th November 2024 for children living in Nottinghamshire. Children who are 5 years old between 1st September 2025 and 31st August 2026 or who are transferring from an infant school (Year 2) to junior school (Year 3) in September 2025, and require a school place for September 2025, need to apply before the **closing date of 15th January 2025**.

We recommend that parents and carers apply online at www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/admissions, you will then be able to view the outcome of their application on National Offer Day on **15th April 2025**. For those families who do not apply online, and do not provide an email address, their outcome will be posted 2nd class on 15th April 2025 and no outcomes can be given over the telephone.

Parents are encouraged to read the oversubscription criteria carefully for their preferred schools and use all **4** preferences. Please see the attached NCC document for more information.

POW Christmas Wreath Making

We had a brilliant turnout for our Christmas Wreath Making sessions, raising money for the school through Parents and Carers of Westdale (POW). Thank you so much to those who attended, we loved seeing your creations and hope you enjoyed the evening. And thank you to our POW Team for organising the event!

Department of Education – Privacy Update

The DfE have issued a privacy statement update on how they use your information regarding attendance data collection. Please find the statement attached.

Have a lovely weekend everybody!

