

Westdale Infant School

Headteacher - Mrs Rebecca Lewis

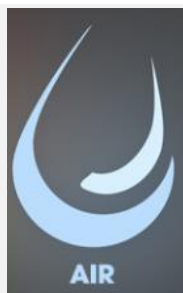
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Happy Friday and Happy Half Term! We cannot believe how quickly that first term has flown by and we wish you all a restful and fun-filled holiday. It was lovely to see so many of our families this week with Harvest Celebrations, Parents Evenings and when Year 2 performed some fantastic sea shanties!

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



Weekly Attendance Update

Year so far: **96.44%** | 14th – 18th October: **93.13%** | Target: **97%**

Harvest 2024

On Monday, we celebrated Harvest in school. We started the day with a lovely assembly for our Little Stars, Ladybirds, and Butterflies classes, where they sang beautifully for our visiting families and we also heard a story from Reverend Mike Forsyth.



In the afternoon, we had some very helpful volunteers walk down with us to St James' Church. Here, Y1 & Y2 did some super singing and got together to share our Westdale values, especially kindness.

Thank you for your incredibly generous food bank donations, and to those who helped us get safely to the church. A big thank you to Reverend Mike for visiting us and allowing us to use the church space for our celebration, and another for Mrs Jenkins, our music teacher, for teaching the songs and encouraging us to sing our hearts out! Happy Harvest everybody!



Upcoming Events

Monday 4th November

INSET Day (School Closed)

Tuesday 5th November

- School Starts
- Deadline for Christmas Drawings
- F2 (Ladybirds and Butterflies)
- Owl Visit

Wednesday 6th November

Diwali Assembly (internal)

Saturday 9th November

The Orchard Clean Up
(9:30am – 11:30am)

Important Information

School
calendar:



[School Dinners](#) will be **Week 1** when we come back.

Wraparound Payments

Please be aware that wraparound payments can only be refunded if we know about any changes or cancellations 24 hours in advance (or if we know your child is absent due to illness). Thank you.

Tummy Bugs

There has been an increase in the number of children at school with diarrhoea and vomiting consistent with Norovirus/viral gastroenteritis. Symptoms of norovirus include vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal cramps, headache and fever. The condition usually resolves within 24 to 48 hours.



Norovirus is very infectious. If your child develops these symptoms, and to prevent further cases in school, we would ask you to keep your child at home for at least 48 hours after the last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting. This is national guidance supported by Public Health England and our local Community Infection Prevention and Control team.

There is no specific treatment for norovirus, however it is important to encourage your child to drink plenty of fluids to prevent dehydration, and ensure all your family and visitors to your home are able to wash their hands with soap (preferably liquid soap) and water to help prevent the spread of infection.

If you are concerned about your child and symptoms do not seem to be settling, please telephone your GP or NHS Direct on 111.

POW Pumpkin Competition

Thank you so much to our POW Team for organising the school Pumpkin Colouring competition. We were over the moon to see so many wonderful entries with ingenious designs, bright colours, sparkles, stickers, and very creative ideas. The winning designs are shown below, and these children have received a certificate and prize, but well done to everyone for putting so much effort in. It has also been an excellent fundraiser for the school and we will let you know how much we raised and what we put the money towards for the children.

Our 2024 winners:

- Ada – Little Stars
- James – Ladybirds
- Jesse – Butterflies
- Marnie – Moonbeams
- Arlo – Comets
- Cristina – Suns
- Grayson – Rainbows



Don't forget you can see all the wonderful drawings on display at Mapperley Library!

Poppy Appeal 2024

We will be selling some paper poppies, reflector poppies, snap bands, ribbon wristbands and stickers. If your child wishes to buy an item, please come to the office with cash for the collection tin (any donation you feel is appropriate).



Y1 Pedal and Push Party

On **Tuesday 15th October**, Y1 children took part in a 'Pedal and Push Party' to celebrate wheels! We invited everyone to bring in a bike, scooter, or tricycle to match the theme of our newest book 'Mrs Armitage's Wheels' by Quentin Blake. We had such a fun morning in the playground and talked about the different styles of 'ride on' vehicle, and we were very impressed with the children's enthusiasm and knowledge of safety.

Y2 Pirate Day

Year 2 had an arrrr-some pirate day on Thursday! In the morning, they box modelled their very own pirate ship and put it to the test to see if it could float. In the afternoon, they performed their sea shanty songs to families; they were brilliant!



F2 Fire Services Visit

Ladybirds and Butterflies had a very exciting afternoon on Wednesday with a visit from the Fire Services. The firefighters kindly showed the children all around their fire engine and talked about their safety clothes they wear. They even sprayed the big fire hose for us! It was a super afternoon and the children loved it.



CookStars

We run a cooking club for our Year 1 and Year 2 classes which takes place after school on Friday afternoons. If you would like to know more, or to book your child on, please follow this link: <https://portal.cookstars.franscape.io/class-overview/570>. Bookings are available and the closing date is 1st November.

Car Parking on Digby Avenue

Please can we remind all families to take care when parking outside the school for drop off and pick up times. We had a serious incident this week where our neighbours, St Andrew's House, could not access their property to help someone in a medical emergency. Many thanks for your support.



Choir Performance – St Andrew’s House

Our wonderful choir visited our neighbours over the road at St Andrew’s House to sing some Harvest songs. The residents always love to see and hear the children sing and we are so proud to see the brave choir performing with big smiles! Well done!



Secret Santa Plea

We know it is rather early to mention Christmas... but we still need a new Santa! If anyone would like to volunteer, we ask that you are available on Thursday 19th December for a couple of hours in the morning. Please contact the office if you would like to volunteer or know more!

Staff Shout Out

This week we would like to say a huge and special thank you to all our staff. Everyone has stepped in, stepped up, and gone above and beyond to make sure the children and school are safe and happy! We appreciate you all so much and are very lucky to have such a hardworking, caring and kind team.



Tractor Park / Valley Road Playground News

We received some good news this week as our former Year 2s (now Year 3 at Juniors) helped with the playground design ideas that were put in their funding application: <https://www.gedling.gov.uk/resident/latestnews/articles/new-play-area-for-carlton-park.php>

POW Events

Family Quiz: Come along as a family, and/or pair up with another to make a group of 8. £10 per family which includes the quiz, and hot dogs and chips. BYO drinks. There'll be quiz rounds for both children and adults, with prizes for both, along with other fun games, and a prize for the best fancy dress. Friday 15th November, 6pm till 9pm, in the St James Church Centre. Please see your ParentMail account to book.

Wreath Making: We still have a few spaces for the wreath making event on either Monday 25th or Tuesday 26th November! Please see your ParentMail account to book.

St James Church Event

Superheroes Assemble! We are thrilled to announce our family-filled Pumpkin Heroes party on Thursday 31st October from **4-6pm**. Come dressed as your favourite superhero and join us for an evening of fun and celebration. There will be a prize for the best superhero costume for both adults and children! Enjoy food, dancing, and lots of games. Suggested donation of £3 per child.

You can sign up using this link: [Pumpkin Heroes Party \(31-Oct-2024\) · ChurchSuite Events](#)

Parent & Carer Involvement Group

The Children and Young People services would like to gather your thoughts on their provision. Please see a flyer attached to the round up with details about a monthly online forum where families are invited to discuss any new resources, listen to speakers, and also gain insight on lived experiences.



Canoville Coaching Half Term Football Camps

Please find a flyer attached to the round up which details local football camps in the half term holiday.

You can also book a place through this link:



https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf_r5ut0EPHhHnNQJ5Id9ZoBLMohj20JyQE147_s7Ap_qfHw/viewform

Have a lovely holiday everybody!