

# Westdale Infant School

Headteacher - Mrs Rebecca Lewis

Digby Avenue, Mapperley, Nottingham, NG3 6ET

T: 0115 9531606 E: [office@westdale-inf.notts.sch.uk](mailto:office@westdale-inf.notts.sch.uk)  
<https://www.westdaleinfants.com/>



Welcome back and welcome to all our families. What an amazing start to the term we have had, lots of smiles and excitement. The children all look so smart and have settled in so well; we are so proud of them all. It's been a busy beginning to the term, getting to know all of our new friends, new teachers and our new classrooms. I wanted to give a big shout out to all of the team for working so hard to set up the learning environments at the end of the summer and beginning of the new term. We have pirate dens in Y2, new engineering stations in Y1 (to build roller coasters and fun fair rides) and an amazing new look in our Foundation 2 classes following redecoration and a revamp over the summer. Little Stars is all spruce and inviting too—with lots of busy areas and a wonderful restocked water investigation area and mud kitchen in their small playground. Mr Curtis has worked hard all summer too, both inside and outside of school—polishing floors, cleaning, building, painting and lots more—have a look below at some new things he made below! School is looking amazing, thank you team!

Mrs Lewis



A few pictures of our new look Robin and Wrens classrooms.



### Weekly Attendance Update

Year so far: 97.44% | This week: 97.95% | Target: 97%  
Well done everybody, we are above our attendance target!!!!



### **Car Parking on Digby Avenue**

Following the new crossing outside school being completed during the summer holidays, car parking outside school has significantly reduced.

Please take extra care when parking on Digby Avenue, you CANNOT park on the zig zag white lines attached to the crossing. Parking patrol cars do come down the road regularly and will issue fines.

Please also ensure you do not use the St Andrews House car park across the road from school. It is vital they have 24/7 access for emergency vehicles.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**16/09/2025**


**Wrens & Robins** Phonics Workshop at 9am

**Puffins & Kingfishers** Meet the Teacher Event at 5pm

**18/09/2025**

**Puffins & Kingfishers** Phonics Workshop at 9am

**Eagles & Owls** Meet the Teacher Event at 5pm



**Important Information**  
School calendar:

Next week's School Dinners will be Week 3 | Please note that dinner orders are taken a week in advance

**Inset Days for 2025/2026**

3 November 25  
12 June 26  
27 July 26

# Our Westdale Promise



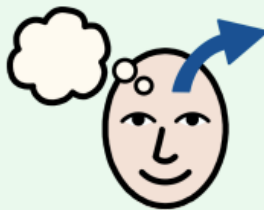
**Our hearts are caring and respectful.**



**Our hands are safe and helpful.**



**Our voices are kind and positive.**



**Our minds are open and resilient.**

This is the new look Westdale Promise.

Children will be learning all about this in classrooms and assemblies in school.

Ask your child how they can show you the Westdale Promise at home ...



## Parents & Carers of Westdale Group

We need you!! Our wonderful Parents & Carers of Westdale Group are looking for some additional members to support the school with fundraising for the children.

If you are interested and would be able to offer some time to help please contact the school office. This could be a small commitment of supporting our events by helping on the day or by helping us in the background.

The first meeting will take place on **Wednesday 24th September at 7pm at the Bread & Bitter in Mapperley.**

Please let the school office know if you will be attending and we can pass on your number.



## Meet our Governors



Hello everyone, my name is Kerry Reeves, and I have been a school governor for the past year, initially joining as a parent governor when my child was in Year 2. Although my child has now transitioned to Westdale Junior School, I remain deeply committed to supporting the school in my current role as a co-opted governor.

With over 18 years of professional experience in safeguarding and child welfare, I bring a wealth of knowledge and a strong dedication to pupil wellbeing. In my role as Family Help MASH Manager for Nottingham City Council, I lead multi-agency collaboration and strategic decision-making to protect and support vulnerable children and families. This work has given me a deep understanding of the challenges children face both in and out of school, and I am passionate about ensuring every child has access to a safe, inclusive, and nurturing learning environment.

As a governor, I contribute expertise in safeguarding protocols, risk assessment, and early help strategies to strengthen the school's approach to pupil wellbeing. I am particularly focused on improving attendance, promoting early intervention, and ensuring safeguarding remains a central priority in all aspects of school life.

As a co-opted Governor I promise to continue to bring a collaborative mindset, a strong sense of accountability, and a deep-rooted commitment to the welfare of children. I am proud to support the school's vision and values, and I am dedicated to helping every pupil thrive and reach their full potential.

# Site updates....a huge thank you to Mr Curtis for working so hard during the summer break



A new shed for the storage of our dinner tables— this frees up our PE store for more equipment for the PE provision!

All the railings outside the classrooms have been re-painted to look very fresh!


New wooden planters around the trees.

The hall floor is also looking extremely shiny!



You may have also noticed the new pedestrian crossing outside school on Digby Avenue. This was installed over the summer holidays and is proving a much safer way to cross on the busy road!

Please find information below to help you understand our class dojo messaging system, how, when and what it can be used for.



## Class Dojo

**To safeguard the wellbeing and work-life balance of our staff, we will be introducing a Class Dojo Policy. While this piece of work is completed, please use the following guidance for appropriate use of the parent-teacher messaging facility.**

**The quiet hours for teachers will be from 5pm until 8am, all day Saturday and Sunday. Please do not expect a response during quiet hours. Thank you.**



To send a general short message that doesn't need a response from the teacher e.g. Bobby's P.E pumps are in his bag, I have forgotten the water bottle- please can you provide a drink today?



To send a message about absence from school, medical appointments, dinner enquiries or pick up arrangements. These messages come via the school office.

To share a photo from home that your child would like to share with the class e.g. a swimming certificate, a day out etc.

To enquire about your child's progress- a telephone call or face to face meeting is more appropriate for these matters.

To request some support from the teacher via a phone call or a meeting face to face.

To make a complaint. Any complaints should be put in writing and sent to the school office for the attention of the class teacher in the first instance.

**All communications with teachers, especially via text message where both tone and meaning is open to interpretation must be respectful and considerate.**

**Your support and cooperation is appreciated.**

## Eco Team

Over the holidays, our vegetable planter has absolutely thrived, producing a fantastic array of impressive vegetables! Mrs Lewis and Mr Curtis have been having a brilliant time picking some of the tomatoes for their sandwiches, and they couldn't stop raving about how "delicious" and "nice and juicy" they are. It's great to see our hard work paying off!

We've also got some humungous cucumbers growing, along with extremely long beans and crunchy red and orange peppers that are simply begging to be eaten. And let's not forget the pumpkins that are just starting to make their appearance; they're bound to become a highlight in our veg-

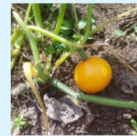
The office staff have mentioned how lovely it is to see the children after school, happily coming to pick and nibble on the fresh produce. It's wonderful to see them engaging with nature and taking an interest in healthy eating. The Eco Team has truly made a positive impact, and we can't wait to see what other surprises our vegetable planter has in store for us! Let's keep up the great work and see how much more we can grow this season!



Growth over the summer.



Pumpkin



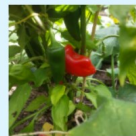
Pumpkin



Long beans



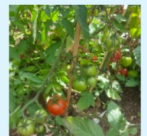
Crunchy orange peppers



Tasty red peppers



Humungous cucumbers



Juicy tomatoes

# Can you help our School?

We are looking for new volunteers to take on important roles at school.

Classes supported by teachers will be voting for the following next week:



**Class Ambassadors**—2 per class, their role will be to meet and greet all visitors to classrooms.

**House Captains**— Year 2 only—2 representatives for teams Fire, Air, Earth and Water

**Eco Team**— 2 representatives from all classes, to carry on the important work of promoting and caring for our school and world.

If your child is interested in any of these important roles, they can talk to their class teacher (or send their interest on dojo)

If your child is interested in being a Member of School Parliament, they can complete an application form from their class teacher and return them to Mrs Lewis. Alternatively—e mail the office with your child's voice of why they would like to be a member of the School Parliament and why they would be good in this role (see below for job specification).

 **APPLICATION FORM FOR**   
**MEMBER OF SCHOOL PARLIAMENT**

Closing date: Thursday 18th September

Handed to: Mrs Lewis

**Characteristic of a MSP**

- ◇ Good at listening to others
- ◇ Good at talking in a group
- ◇ Responsible and kind
- ◇ Cares about our school
- ◇ Wants to make a difference

Thank you for your

**Responsibilities of a MSP**

- ◇ Meet half termly with the headteacher
- ◇ Talk about good things in school and how we can make it even better
- ◇ Talk about what is going well and why
- ◇ Gather the ideas of children in your class
- ◇ Help to think of ideas and make decisions to make our school a better place

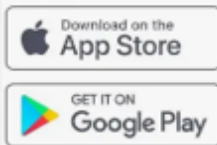
**I think I would make a good MSP because:**

We will announce who is on our school parliament in assembly on Monday 22nd September.

## **Reading records – Boom Readers**

Previously, we've relied on traditional paper copies for home-school reading diaries. However, after a trial last year and some valuable feedback from both parents and teachers, we've embraced **Boom Readers**, an electronic reading record.

In a world that's constantly evolving, this tech-savvy approach is not only quicker and more efficient but also much more durable—no more soggy, lost, or damaged diaries cluttering up and weighing down book bags!



On Friday, your child will bring home a Boom Reader sheet this week which explains how to download the app '**Boom Reader Parents**' from the App Store or Google Play. You can simply scan the QR code which will direct you to the page.

Once you've entered the **school code** and **pin code** for your child, you'll be able to have a go at using it. With just a simple scan of a book's barcode using your camera (or searching manually if you prefer), you'll can easily select the book title and author to add reading entries. You can record the number of pages read and leave comments. You'll also be able to see their teacher's praise and prompts to celebrate reading progress and support the next steps in your child's reading journey. |

As a fun incentive for kids: the more they read, the more gemstones they earn in in the app to accessorise their personal avatars with cool outfits, hairstyles, skateboards, and even pets! This will run alongside our new in-school reading prizes for 2025.



Please have a go at using it over the weekend. If you need any more guidance, there is a thorough tutorial on YouTube if you search 'How to use Boom Reader'. If you're still struggling, we will help you get set up after the 'Meet the Teacher' events running next week. Have fun!