



Westerton Primary Academy

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Vice Principal: Mr T Pool B.Sc. (Hons) PGCE

Leodis
Academies
Trust



18th March 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Colleagues

With Easter on the horizon, it has been great to see the improvement in the weather which brings with it more opportunities for our children to enjoy the great outdoors. It was great to see the school field in use again this week, Y5 enjoying a local area walk around the local reservoir and, with trips being curtailed last year, plans coming together for our regular residential visits to Ilam Hall and East Barnby. A huge thank you to staff who are planning and supporting these visits so skilfully.

Following our parents' evening last week, it was our great pleasure to look through your responses to our parental surveys. Your opinions are vital in helping us to improve our school and thanks to every one of you who took the time to join us in the conference room. We have already drawn up an action plan based on your feedback and will be letting you know about our next steps in future newsletters.

The full results of the survey can now be seen on the school website (Parents -> Parent View). It is a real testament to the Westerton team that 100% of parents said their child was happy at Westerton and 99% would recommend our school to another parent!

Goodbye!

This academic year will see the retirement of Mrs Lazarus as Deputy Principal. Mrs Lazarus has served the pupils and families of Westerton Primary Academy for 30 years and I'm sure you will want to join us all in thanking her for all she has done and wishing her all the best in retirement at the end of this academic year.

Mrs Lazarus kindly informed Governors and Trustees of her decision in the Autumn Term. This has allowed us to plan for her replacement alongside the appointment of the new Principal Mr Livie. Mr Livie alongside Mrs Rook, Chair of Governors, and Mrs Barton, CEO Principal for Leodis Academies Trust are working with senior staff at Westerton to appoint the new Deputy Principal and we will update parents about this in the coming weeks.

Congratulations to Mrs Moore who is leaving this week to work as a Careers Advisor at Woodkirk Academy. Caroline has worked at Westerton since 2019 but was part of our community as a casual LSA and member of our PTFA prior to then. We wish you all the best in your new role but please do keep in touch with us.

Welcome!

We would like to welcome Mrs Foster as an Early Years Learning Support Assistant. Mrs Foster has been working with the school for several weeks as a Casual Learning Support Assistant and we are delighted that she is joining us full-time.

Year 6 SATs & run-through

On Friday 25th March, Y6 will be taking part in a SATs run-through to prepare children and staff for the week itself in May. We are requesting that some children arrive slightly earlier than normal. A separate letter has been issued with further details.

A Maths Facts booklet, in preparation for the Year 6 SATs, has been uploaded onto our website (Helping children at home) for the children to practice -

<https://www.westerton.leeds.sch.uk/parents/helping-children-at-home/year-6-homework-grids> . A quick reminder that Year 6 SATs week is 9th–12th May, with our trip to Dalby Forest scheduled for Friday 13th May.

'I am enough assembly.'



This week we read 'I am enough' by Grace Byers in our assembly. The story talks about self-worth and embracing differences and that regardless of one's looks, abilities, or beliefs, every child is unique, able, and worthy of respect. During the assembly, Mrs Dufton encouraged the children to think about their own self-esteem. We looked at what was meant by having high self-esteem and we reflected upon what we are good at. Children were selected from each class to give feedback to their peers and look at something new that they may try next week. We would love if the children could be encouraged with this at home too!

Easter Hamper Raffle



We will be holding an Easter Hamper Raffle again this year in order to raise funds for our academy. We would like our families to donate, if possible, an item to their class – this could be a food item, Easter egg, activity sets, games etc as long as they are new and unused. As usual, all foods donated will need to be **nut free**. Please also check that the best before dates of items donated are after the 1st April. Please send in your donations by no later than Wednesday 23rd March.

Staff in school will collate all the items donated and will use the items to create Easter Hampers.

To be included in the raffle, £5.00 per entry can be made via Parent Pay. You will then automatically be entered into the draw for each 'virtual ticket' purchased. The raffle will be drawn at 3:15 pm on Monday 28th March in the school hall. You are welcome to join us for the raffle draw to see if you have won!

We hope that many of you will support our hamper idea and we look forward to seeing all the delicious hampers once they have been put together. Hopefully, they will raise much needed funds for the school.



World Down Syndrome Day - #LotsOfSocks (Monday 21st March)

Monday 21st March is World Down Syndrome Day. The 21st day of March was selected to signify the uniqueness of the triplication of the 21st chromosome which causes Down Syndrome.

At Westerton, we are taking part in the #LotsOfSocks campaign. The #LotsOfSocks campaign exists to raise awareness of Down Syndrome.

On Monday 21st March, we are inviting children and staff to wear brightly coloured and mismatched socks to mark World Down Syndrome Day. All you need to do is choose some socks that are going to get noticed - they might be mismatched socks or your craziest and most colourful socks, whatever you like! The idea is to start a conversation, so when people ask you about your socks you can tell them, *"I'm wearing them to raise awareness of Down Syndrome"*.

If you would like to find out more about World Down Syndrome Day and get involved, further information can be found at; www.worlddownsyndromeday.org.

World Autism Acceptance Week (28th March – 3rd April)



This year, World Autism Acceptance Week is marked from the 28th March to 3rd April. **World Autism Acceptance Week** aims to shine a light on Autism, to increase awareness and to celebrate the achievements of children, young people and adults with Autism.

In school, we will be taking part in Autism Acceptance Week through the sharing of some wonderful books and stories, all to celebrate inclusion and diversity. These texts will be shared within classes and also added to our new school library.

If you would like to find out more about World Autism Acceptance Week and get involved, further information can be found online at; www.autism.org.uk/get-involved/raise-money/world-autism-acceptance-week-2022.

Red Nose Day

The school has been resplendent in red today to celebrate Red Nose Day. Thanks must go to the Y6 School Council and Miss Haley who organised the red noses and activities for children to access throughout the school day.



To make your donation, please click on this link rather than logging into ParentPay in your normal way: <https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=6726>

Y5 & 6 disco

All tickets have now sold out and we look forward to an evening of moving and shaking next Thursday 24th March (5 – 7 p.m.)! Children will need to arrive and be collected at the main reception doors and loose change for refreshments would be greatly appreciated.

Easter Breeze Camp

You may have received a letter inviting you to Easter Breeze Camp over the Easter break for children between 8-12yrs old. Please fill in the form at the earliest opportunity as places are allocated on a **first come first served basis**. These are free places and will fill up quickly!
Please return your form to Mrs Sayers

Online Safety Survey

We have been asked by the Leeds Education and Early Years Safeguarding Team to circulate the link for an Online Safety Survey which they would like parents to partake in. Please click on the link to commence the survey <https://forms.gle/814YAwP1AtdSYXXWA>

The closing date is **31st March**.

Your School Lottery

This month, you have the chance to win a £500 bike voucher if you join Your School Lottery. Tickets are £1 each and there is a cash prize every week. Please see the attached leaflet or the website for further information. <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/>



Could a Career in Teaching be for you? We would certainly recommend it!

Westerton Partnership provides high quality Initial Teacher Training. You can apply for your opportunity to train to be a teacher NOW! Apply today on the DfE web page on the GOV.UK website by using this link: <https://www.apply-for-teacher-training.service.gov.uk/candidate:>

328W – Primary 3-7 Programme

328X – Primary 5-11 Programme

Please visit our school webpage for more information.

Community News

iZwiZ Robotics Easter Club

Please find attached a flyer with details of the iZwiZ Robotics Easter Club.

Easter Holiday Camps

Please find attached a flyer regarding activities at Woodkirk Valley Football Club.

Dates for your diaries

Thursday 24 th March	5.00 – 7.00 pm Year 5 and 6 Disco
Friday 25 th March	Ilam Hall and East Barnby Payment Deadline
Monday 28 th March	Year 4 and 5RW Intensive Swimming Week
Friday 1 st April	End of Term
Tuesday 19 th April	Start of Term
	Year 4 Intensive Swimming Week (4 days)
Thursday 21 st April	Year 4 Ilam Hall Meeting at 4.00 pm

As always, have a lovely safe and relaxing weekend everyone.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T Pool', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

T Pool

Vice Principal and the Westerton Team