



Westerton Primary Academy

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Leodis
Academies
Trust



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

Acting Vice-Principal: Mrs E Downes B.Ed. (Hons)

20th May 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Colleagues

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations – Visiting Author

Our children have been enjoying lots of different activities this week learning about the queen. HRH Queen Elizabeth even made an appearance in Mrs Makin's assembly (even if she was a life-size cardboard cut-out!) A former pupil of Westerton who is now a published author and illustrator, **Carl McKeown**, attended the assembly to share his book, '**The Queen Unseen**.' Carl read the book aloud to the children and discussed his creative methods and motivation as an author illustrator. The children had the unique opportunity to ask questions and share the text in detail. Many thanks to Carl for such an inspirational visit to start the day and best of luck with all book sales. We have permission to share the text on the website and it will be uploaded shortly for wider perusal.





The week ended with a Jubilee picnic with catering from our fabulous kitchen staff. Thank you to all the staff who made this such an enjoyable week for the children with such a variety of different activities, events and treats. Well done to parents too for the spectacular outfits creating a sea of red, white and blue in the hall today. Just wonderful!

Love the Hairnets!

Unfortunately, Covid has continued to impact on different staff groups this week, leaving several of our different teams short staffed. Our Office Team, our Lunch Supervisors, WKC and the SLMT have also had to cope with depleted numbers meaning many of us are multi-tasking to help each other out. Our Catering Team have also been a bit short staffed so they had a couple of helpers to serve the children their lunches this week. Mrs Makin and Mr Livie had them all very confused as to which jobs they might be doing next. (The many hats of a school Principal indeed. Get used to it Mr Livie! Now where is the plunger, mop and bucket?)



Superb Skippers – Y4

Many congratulations to our extraordinary Y4 Skippers who swept the board for Gold Medals at the Skipping Tournament this year. Just brilliant coordination and creativity with excellent sportsmanship too, thank you children for representing us so well. Special thanks also go to Mrs Mottershead, their incredibly determined coach, who ensured the children were given every chance to succeed.

Cricketing Corkers – Y5/Y6

Very well done to our Cricket Team from Y5 and Y6 who represented Westerton in a Leeds city wide cricket tournament event. They did incredibly well to come fourth out of twelve schools who had reached this level of participation. Again, the sportsmanship of the children was commendable, modelled wonderfully of course by our Faculty Leader for Sport, Mr Whawell. (Mr Whawell has a twin you know, I am sure they both secretly work at Westerton since he seems to fit so much into his time with us and we get two for the price of one! Note to self... must investigate further...)

Charity Fundraiser

At Westerton we are quite accustomed to our children showing their caring community spirit by becoming involved in fundraising for charities and donating to help those in need. Well, tomorrow evening, our colleague, Mr Conway will be setting off up to Scotland to begin the '**National 3 Peaks Challenge**,' to raise money for **Dementia UK**. His aim is to climb Ben Nevis, then Scafell Pike and finish off with climbing Snowden in just 24 hours! This is quite a challenge for a very worthy cause to battle a condition which sadly impacts on so many of our families and friends. Some parents and colleagues have voiced a wish to sponsor Mr Conway and wish him the very best of luck. For all who would like to contribute, please access the following link:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ben-richardson16?fbclid=IwAR22PloApdchkF7laygBV8yuBnio1k3zkenoUcP6URAoBLby-1sRRoanMVg&fs=e&s=cI>

We wish you the best of luck Mr Conway and are just very glad you have a week to recover! Stay safe and well please.

Mental Health and Well-Being Team Events

We are pleased to be hosting **2** events to promote parental engagement and understanding around Mental Health Provision in school. Both events will take place on **Wednesday 8th June**.

The Mental Health & Wellbeing Team will be available in the **school hall at Westerton Primary Academy** between **2-4pm on Wednesday the 8th June**.

Mrs Sayers, our MH&WB Lead will be joined by Miss Hewitt, our SENDco, Mrs Maskery, our Emotional Wellbeing LSA, and Miss Severn, our Pupil and Family Engagement Mentor, for this informative, informal drop in session. Refreshments will also be available.

Our MH&WB team will be available to discuss any questions or concerns that you may have about your child's mental health. Or, it may be that you would just like to know how we help and support with mental health in your child's school.

At Westerton and across Leodis, we are very keen to engage with our parents and carers about mental health provision in school and would like to invite you to attend to answer any questions that you may have or to find out what support is available for a range of topics including:

- Anxiety and worry
- Bereavement and loss
- Separation and changes
- Self-harming
- Local safeguarding concerns

E-safety

Promoting healthy relationships.

SEND and mental health

In addition, Jane Sayers will also be available at our Leodis Parent Coffee Morning hosted at **The Woodkirk Bungalow on Wednesday 8th June 9.30 - 11.30am**. This is a drop in coffee morning and Leodis Support Service will be available along with the following:

- Kooth-Online mental health support
- Contact- SEND support and advice
- Scope- Disability & equality advice
- Forward Leeds- Alcohol & Substance abuse support

We look forward to welcoming you on the 8th June,

Musical Evening

Our talented, young musicians showcased their budding skills during our ever popular musical evening yesterday. Many congratulations to all our participants and huge thanks to all our staff who supported the event, including our peripatetic colleagues who gave their time to support their groups in the first possible performance since the pandemic. The hall was full of parents, carers and siblings who enjoyed the show and who we also thank for supporting at home with the musical practising required to develop such talent. Well done to Mrs Bedford, our Faculty Leader for the Arts, who organised the event.

Musical Tuition Evening

We will soon be auditioning children who would like to have music tuition starting in September. Mrs Bedford will be holding a Zoom meeting to provide further information for parents about these opportunities, on **Tuesday 7th June at 4.00 pm**. If your child is hoping to have music lessons, it is important that you attend the meeting so that you are aware of all the information required. To join the Zoom meeting, please contact the school via email or ask your child's teacher for details.

Topic: Musical Tuition Evening

Time: Jun 7, 2022 04:00 PM London

Children who already have music lessons do not need to reapply as they will automatically be carried over.

Medicines

Please could we remind you that if your child requires medicine during the school day, that a parental agreement to administer medicine form is completed. This can be located on our website or you can obtain one from the office. If antibiotics are prescribed for three times a day, we would encourage these to be administered at home. Please ensure that **all** medication is sent into school in the original packaging and is clearly named. Further information can be found in the Health, Safety and Well-Being Procedures policy on our website <https://www.westerton.leeds.sch.uk/key-info/policies>.

Sports Days

Our sports days are fast approaching and we are hoping for some sunny or at least dry weather so that they can all go ahead without postponements. Should postponement or cancellations be necessary, we will inform parents as soon as possible on the day for each event. The dates for each year group are as follows:

Wednesday, 22 nd June	10.00 am	Nursery (NJW and NBC)
	1.30 pm	Nursery (NEF and NBC)
Thursday, 23 rd June	1.15 pm	Reception
Tuesday 28 th June	9.00 am	Year 3 and 4

Thursday 30 th June	1.00 pm	Year 5 and 6
	9.00 am	Year 1
	1.00 pm	Year 2

Parking – Pedestrians and Mini Police

Thank you to the parents who forwarded photographs of cars parked illegally and dangerously near the school, on the pavements and even on the zig-zags. We absolutely share your frustration with the poor standard of unsafe parking in the area and all evidence has been forwarded to the police. They have assured us they will use the registration plates to track down the perpetrators. Whilst it may seem appropriate and even satisfying to print the details of the vehicles herewith (name and shame if you will) it would be a breach of GDPR and confidentiality. We do not have the jurisdiction to do so or be involved officially.

However, our forthcoming activities next half term with the PCSOs will involve our KS2 children in ‘**Mini Policing**’ and ‘**Pedestrian Training**.’ They will be very rigorously patrolling the immediate area to help ‘encourage’ high quality parking and road safety. Watch out for those designer tickets!!

Health and Safety – Cycling/Scooters

Please do continue to be mindful of Health and Safety and the need to wear **protective helmets** if riding scooters or cycling to and from school. Whilst the school, of course, have no legal jurisdiction or capacity to enforce this, we do hope that our additional curricular provision involving ‘*Bikeability*’ is helping to keep our children safe by influencing good habits.

Parents of young children, please remember, **we cannot allow cycling or scooting on the playground** at drop off and collection times due to the congestion at these times, the slope of the playground and the **risk of collisions** with other children and parents. Thank you all for your understanding and close monitoring with this.



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

Leeds Leisure Centres will be hosting various swimming lessons over the half term break. A flyer is attached and further details can be found the centres’ Facebook pages.

Dates for your diaries

Friday 27 th May	End of Summer Half Term 1
Monday 6 th June	Back to School – for the last leg!
Friday 10 th June	Year 6 to East Barnby – Residential Weekend
Monday 13 th June	INSET Day – this follows the exhausting Y6 residential weekend trip and allows time for much-needed rest and recuperation for all participants.

Have a lovely half term break everyone, please do stay safe and well. We look forward to welcoming you back on the 6th June.

Yours faithfully

S. R. Makin

Stephanie Makin

Principal and the Westerton Team