



# West Drayton Academy Newsletter

www.westdraytonschool.com  
01895 442904  
wdaoffice@theparkfederation.org

June 23, 2023  
Edition 32

## Principal's update

Thank you for attending today's KS2 Sports Day in substantial numbers - the cooler weather allowed for a terrific days racing! On the next couple of pages, there are pictures of many happy children!

A quick reminder that the community celebration picnic will be on July 6th.

At this time of year, the heat can make things uncomfortable in school. Each day, please ensure that you provide a full water bottle, apply sunscreen before they attend school and provide a named sun hat or cap to protect them from the sun when outdoors. We do all we can to make the children feel more comfortable.

Finally, I have recently received a number of applications for exceptional leave for family holidays. Please be aware, I am unable to authorise family holiday during term times as it does not constitute 'exceptional circumstances'. Good attendance at school is vital for all children so that they make good progress and reach their full potential.

Have a great weekend.  
Richard Yates

## Health & Fitness Week

Last week saw the return of our much loved Health & Fitness week, a week jam-packed full of activities, movement and a whole lot of fun! We couldn't have picked a better week as the weather was incredible from start to finish! Miss Callis kicked off the week with a whole school outdoors assembly to get everyone energised and ready for the activities that awaited them.

The days were filled with climbing, bollywood dancing, bmx bike-riding, cooking, tennis, races and SO much more! We even had a visit from a Team GB athlete who delivered an assembly on Wednesday. We ended with our KS1 & KS2 Sports Day which were so well attended by parents!

The children had a great time and showed fantastic sportsmanship. It is safe to say that it was a tiring but enjoyable week for everyone. We are very much looking forward to doing it all again next year!

## Dates for your diary

- 26th June**  
KS1 Sports Day  
9:00am - 12:00pm
- 30th June**  
Y2 Local Area Visit
- 4th July**  
Y6 Transition Day
- 5th & 7th July**  
Strike Action
- 3rd July**  
Y4 Go Ape
- 6th July**  
Lark in the Park (ActionAid)  
Community Picnic  
12:00 - 12:45 pm
- 10th July**  
Y3 Visit to KidZania
- 10th - 13th July**  
Y2 Visit to Crazy Golf
- 12th July**  
Y5 End of Year Disco
- 13th July**  
Nursery Graduation &  
Sports Day  
Y6 Production  
(12:45 pm - 2:45 pm)
- 14th July**  
Y6 Leavers' Party
- 18th July**  
Parents' meetings  
End of Year Cake Sale
- 21st July**  
Y6 Leavers' Assembly  
End of School Term



**BELIEVE • EMPOWER • ACHIEVE**  
*Unlocking children's potential by knowing them, believing in them and providing opportunities to succeed*



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## Religious Observance

The Participation Team at the London Borough of Hillingdon have advised us that pupils are only entitled to one day of authorised absence for religious observance each academic year. Therefore, if pupils take a second day for religious observance it will be recorded as unauthorised. If you have any questions please contact the school office.



## Family Fun Day & Lark in the Park

We are all looking forward to our Summer Celebrations and Community Picnic on Thursday 6th July. It will be a fun packed day, watch this space for more information.

If you are interested in selling any items e.g food, games or face painting, you can reserve a table for £20.

All proceeds will be going towards the PTA for the school. For more details contact the school office of text TABLE on 07718492006.

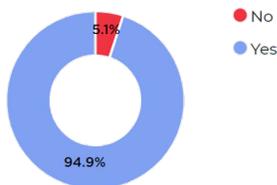
Get ready for our Summer Fun Day!!!

## Votes for schools

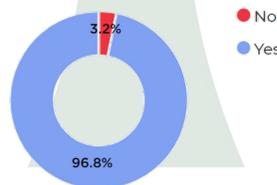
Last week during Votes for school we debated:

**Do you care about our rivers and seas being clean?**  
West Drayton Academy vs National results

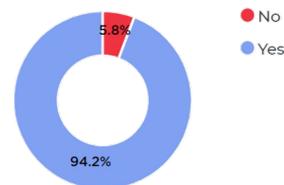
Your School



Regional (Greater London)



National



## Coming up

**KS1 Do we know how to make refugees feel welcome?**  
**KS2 Does the UK make refugees feel welcome?**

To celebrate Refugee Week and this year's theme of "Compassion in Action", voters are exploring the ways in which we can make refugees travelling to the UK feel more welcome.



## Youngest Word-Millionaire

Meet our youngest word-millionaire in school, Alayna Minhas from year 2. Congratulations to Alayna on this wonderful achievement and we look forward to many more students becoming word millionaires.

Well done!



**Millionaire!**

Accelerated Reader



## Phonics Screening Check

This week all children in KS1 completed their Phonics Screening Check. It was wonderful to see the children approach their assessment with such enthusiasm and a positive attitude. Both children and staff have worked tirelessly to ensure WDA children are equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge required to be successful. Our systematic approach to developing children's Early Reading skills has been key to ensuring children are able to use their secure phonic knowledge to decode words accurately. It is important to note that not all children learn at the same pace and therefore any child who has not reached the expected level will continue to receive extra support within school to ensure they can improve their decoding skills, and will then have the opportunity to retake the phonics screening check at the end of Year 2.

Decoding words is only just the start of unlocking the wonderful world of books and stories waiting to be discovered! "You can find magic wherever you look, sit back and relax all you need is a book."  
Dr Seuss



## Talk PANTS: NSPCC Programme

This week KS1 assembly followed the Talk PANTS NSPCC programme. Talk PANTS helps children understand that their body belongs to them, and they should tell someone they trust if anything makes them feel upset or worried.

The Talk PANTS campaign helps parents of 4-11 year-olds keep their child safe. In school, we support parents, carers and guardians by delivering assemblies and class-based activities to reinforce the PANTS rule.

Further information can be found at:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/> KS2 Assembly will take place next week. If you have any questions please contact the safeguarding team Mrs Sall, Mrs Roca and Miss Howard.

## Attendance

The class with the best attendance this week is:

1st place: 5S with 98.3%  
 2nd place: 1S with 98%  
 3rd place: 1D with 97.8%

**It will be a non-uniform day for 5S on Friday 30th June. Well done!**

**At West Drayton Academy, we are continuing to develop our work on promoting emotional wellbeing and positive mental health for all of our children.**

We are looking for 3 parents to join The Change Team .  
 If you are interested in supporting the children, school and sharing parent's voice please contact the school office or Mrs Sall.

**TALK PANTS**  
**AND STAY SAFE, LIKE PANTOSAURUS**

**P** RIVATES ARE PRIVATE  
**A** LWAYS REMEMBER YOUR BODY BELONGS TO YOU  
**N** O MEANS NO  
**T** ALK ABOUT SECRETS THAT UPSET YOU  
**S** PEAK UP, SOMEONE CAN HELP

**NSPCC**  
 EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR