

Principal's update

Following last term's assessments, teachers have been analysing the resulting data and working to identify children's 'gaps' in their learning and subsequently plan the next steps. Brilliantly led by Mrs Nel, who oversees assessment at West Drayton, we provide personalised targets for all children, we modify the curriculum to ensure 'gaps' are revisited and we offer a range of intervention and booster sessions.

Tuesday is parents' evening. Once again, meetings with teachers from Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be in the Small Hall. Meetings with teachers from Years 3 to 6 will be in the Large Hall. The meeting will be a great opportunity to reflect on current learning and discuss future targets.

Dates for your diary

16th & 17th January

Parents' Consultations for Nursery

17th January

Parents' Evening
(Reception to Y6)
3:30pm-7:00pm

Attendance

The class with the best attendance this week is:

1st place: 5R with 100%
2nd place: 3A with 98.3%
3rd place: 1D with 98%

It will be a non-uniform day for 5R on Friday 20th January. Well done!

Writing Moderation

This week the teachers met with their colleagues from across The Park Federation to moderate some of the independent pieces of writing the children have completed so far this year.

Why do schools do moderation?

Moderation is used to ensure that teachers are making consistent judgements about standards, so that assessment judgements made for any one pupil are accurate, fair and comparable with those made for all other pupils.

Following moderation the following strengths and areas to develop were highlighted:

Strengths

- Writing portfolios showcase the progress children are making within their writing
- Learning chunks support children to develop their writing effectively

Next Steps

- Greater opportunities for children to develop independent writing across the foundation subjects

WDA Pantry

Thank you for your generous donations towards WDA Pantry. Your support has been vital in supporting our families in this difficult time.

Please continue your support as it makes such a difference to the families in distress.

THANK YOU!



Votes for Schools

Last week, during Votes for Schools, we debated:
Is New Year an important holiday?

West Drayton Academy vs National results



Next week we will be discussing:

Will science solve the world's problems?

Voters have the opportunity to better understand the wheres, whats and whys of some of the biggest scientific breakthroughs of 2022. The lessons ask them to consider the role future innovation and discoveries could play in tackling global issues.

Improving provision in Reception and Nursery

In early years, we strive to provide the best possible education for our children. Throughout the autumn term, the team worked hard to develop and improve the learning opportunities we provide for children through detailed planning and provision.

We plan and teach short, whole class lessons and provide opportunities for children to develop and practice these skills through our continuous provision: carefully planned play based activities that gives children the opportunity to develop language, social skills, challenge their thinking and embed concepts. It also provides the context for staff and child interactions with rich opportunities for modelling and extending speech and vocabulary.

This year, we have updated our resources and the organisation of our classrooms which has had a huge impact on how children engage in learning activities. Our planning formats have been updated to allow staff to plan in more detail, allowing for key questions, vocabulary and purposeful activities to be planned and adapted across all areas of learning.

To ensure that we are providing the best possible opportunities, we invite external advisors to review our early years practice. Our most recent review highlighted the improvements in our planning systems and in the classroom provision - children were seen to be engaging with their peers, showing interest and curiosity in their learning and demonstrating age-appropriate maths and literacy skills. Staff were seen to be engaging well with children and could use questioning to further their thinking. Following our review, we will continue to develop planning so that purposeful opportunities linking to our focus text are provided to further develop communication and literacy skills.



Y2 visit to the library

This week, year 2 visited West Drayton Library to support their text, *Little Red Reading Hood* by Lucy Rowland. The children were able to explore various sections of the library, such as nonfiction and fiction texts.

The librarian also provided the children with lots of information about how the library works and answered some questions that the children had. They then spent some time reading their favourite books, as well as some new ones!

