

Principal's update

Following the pandemic, it is evident that some children are still finding it hard to 'catch up' and achieve age expected outcomes, both academically and socially. At West Drayton, we are still working hard to provide additional support for those children that need it.

Many teachers are offering before and after school booster sessions. In KS2, 28 children are receiving intensive, daily phonics support. 15 children, across years 2 to 5, are receiving higher level maths tutoring twice a week. 20 children in year 6 have a reading mentor - an adult who reads with them every week and 'checks in' to ensure they're mentally and socially well.

To further support your child's learning, we must ensure they have good attendance. At present, there are many children with attendance below 90%. This is well below average. Senior leaders are currently meeting with families to offer support and guidance.

Please avoid taking extended trips abroad. Long periods away from school has a significant impact on children's learning. It is our legal and moral obligation to keep children in school. Finally, if your child has very mild ailments, I request that you send them into school. We will contact you if they need to go home.

By working together, we can help our children to succeed.

Dates for your diary

13th December

ActionAid Christmas Jumper Day
 Children's Christmas Lunch
 KSI Nativity Performance (1:45 - 2:45 pm)
 Nursery Christmas show:
 Nursery AM 10:45 -11:15am
 Nursery PM 2:45 - 3:15 pm

14th December

Y3 Visit to Beck Theatre
 KSI Nativity Performance (9:30 - 10:30 am)

15th December

Reception Visit to Bakery
 Christmas Carols in the Yard

16th December

End of term



Dick Whittington Panto

KS1 thoroughly enjoyed The Dick Whittington Panto who visited the school on Wednesday 7th December.

We experienced the adventures of Dick and his cat Percy. The production was full of fun, laughter and entertainment for all.



Attendance

The class with the best attendance this week is:

1st place: 6C with 95.5%
 2nd place: 5Z with 95%
 3rd place: 6B with 94.4%

It will be a non-uniform day for 6C on Friday 16th December. Well done!



Festive Story Session

It's always a delight to welcome families with their children into our beautiful school library. To celebrate the forthcoming festive season, we held two after school Christmas story time events on the 7th and 8th December for the children from Reception and their families.

It was fantastic to meet so many parents and introduce them to the school library and their children's weekly class library routines. As the wintry afternoon darkened, the children and their parents enthusiastically enjoyed our special, Christmas story - "The Littlest Reindeer" by Moira Butterfield. The atmosphere in the library felt full of seasonal joy as this beautifully illustrated story about Christmas Eve unfolded and magically captivated everyone.

Finally, to end our festive afternoon, we all enjoyed some Christmas songs - the children treated their proud parents to a rousing rendition of their favourite festive songs. Thank you to all who attended both events and I look forward to welcoming more families to our next Story time events.

Audrey Abdullaj - School Librarian



Nursery Postman visit

Postman brought a special Christmas message for the Nursery children yesterday.

Children were overjoyed when the message was read aloud to them by the postman.

We are very grateful to Elfie and Emilie's grandfather for being a postman for our children.





West Drayton Academy Newsletter

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Y2 Visit to St Martin Church

On Monday 5th December, Y2 visited St Martin's Church in West Drayton, a short walk away from our school. Visiting this local church was one of Y2's 100 club opportunities. The trip was linked to the learning in RE lessons this term when we have been looking at Christianity and how Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus. Last week we looked at the features of the church and the children enjoyed spotting these, such as the font and stained-glass windows.



Reverend Rosie welcomed children on arrival, gave a tour of the church and spoke to them about the wonderful history of St Martin's. The children were particularly inquisitive about the ominous box hanging from the ceiling but were relieved to learn that it held the microphone speakers to project the sermon!

We had a wonderful trip out and are very grateful to Reverend Rosie for welcoming us.

Christmas Jumper Day
Tuesday 13th December
Donate £1 to wear your christmas jumper for act:onaid
Please pay cash to class teacher

West Drayton Academy
Believe • Empower • Achieve

WDA School Pantry

West Drayton Academy will be collecting donations for our "School Pantry".

The Pantry is to help by providing additional support for our families during this difficult time and the cost of living crisis we are facing. Last year, WDA collected 100's of items which were distributed to our families who asked for help.

If you would like to make a contribution to our collection, please give your child any donations and they will be collected, alternatively donations can be dropped off at our collection points in the Reception playground, Main playground and at the school Reception.

Please see a list of items below that we are particularly requesting, however, all items will be accepted:

Carrier Bags Rich Pudding Pasta Sauce Tea/ Coffee Long life Fruit Squash Long life milk Dried noodles	Honey Custard Sugar Jam Sanitary Items Toiletries (soap, shower gel, toothpaste)	Tinned Fruit Tinned Vegetables Tinned Fish Tinned beans Spaghetti Microwave Rice Packets Biscuits
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We also collect: dog/cat food, nappies, body wipes, household cleaning items and washing powder.

If you feel that you and your family would benefit from a food parcel, please email wdaoffice@theparkfederation.org or text 0718492006. Please be assured your request will be kept in strictest confidence. Many thanks for your support.



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Unlocking children's potential by knowing them, believing in them and providing opportunities to succeed

House Photography Competition Winter in West Drayton

All you need to do is take a picture of Winter
in West Drayton and send it to

wdahouse@theparkfederation.org

If your picture is chosen, you will then win
20 house points for your team!

Entries due by Wednesday 14th Decemeber

