



West Drayton Academy Newsletter

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

4th October 2024
Edition 4

Headteacher's update

For the last four years, the Park Federation has been working with a charity called ActionAid on a project called 'Global Park 70'. 'Global' because we are helping to support women and girls from around the world, 'Park' because we are the Park Federation and '70' because we are helping 70 people.

ActionAid is an international charity that works with women and girls living in poverty. For women and girls, poverty means having fewer opportunities than men and boys. In the world's poorest places this means women and girls often face discrimination, exploitation and violence. From the moment they're born, many girls are seen and treated as less than boys. All over the world women and girls have fewer choices than men and boys. At West Drayton, girls and boys are treated equally.

Each year, the West Drayton community donates money to ActionAid. This year's first opportunity to donate is 'Help at Home' Week. There's a brief summary in this newsletter. Let's raise some money and teach our children some important life skills and values at the same time.

Thank you.

Parents Meetings

Parents' Meetings

With the start of new academic year, we are pleased to see that children have now settled well into their classes and routines - and this is a good time to invite parents to discuss children's progress and answer any questions.

This year we are offering extended consultation with your child's class teacher - this will allow you to discuss more personalised support for your child if needed and provide an opportunity for a holistic review on their academics and beyond.

The meeting will be held on **Monday, 4th November**, and in coming days you will receive an invitation via email to book your slot. Meanwhile if you have any questions or need any support please do not hesitate to contact us.

Dates for your diary

7th October

Help at Home Week

9th October

School Photography
(Portraits)

21st - 23rd October

Black History Month
Class Visits

23rd October

Flu Vaccination

24th October

Y4 Roman Workshop
Nursery Halloween Party

4th November

Parents' Meetings
(Schools is closed for children)

8th November

Diwali Fair

Attendance

The class with the best attendance this week is:

1st place: 3A with 100%
2nd place: 6C with 97.2%
3rd place: 5S with 97%

It will be a non-uniform day for 3A on Friday 11th October.

Well done!

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Black History Month

Black History Month began on Tuesday 1st and will continue throughout the month of October. We are all busy with our learning about different events and influential figures.



We would like to invite our parents and community into our classrooms to share our work towards the end of the month. Please join your child's class from **2:20pm** on the dates shown. Entry to the school will be through the main reception area where a member of staff will guide you to sign in. The session will conclude at **2:50pm**. please exit via the reception doors and pick up your child at hometime in the usual way from the main gate.

Due to swimming lessons Y5 class visit will be in the morning at 9:00am.

Black History Month Class Visits

Monday 21st October
Y2 & Y6

Tuesday 22nd October
Reception & Y4

Wednesday 23rd October
Y1 & Y3

Wednesday 23rd October
Y5 at 9:00 am

Help at Home

Part of West Drayton's curriculum offer is the '100 Club' - this provides your children with 100 opportunities to engage in a range of 'wow' experiences, develop essential life skills and further grow their knowledge. Each activity or experience that the children complete will earn them one stamp on their 100 Club passport. We want all children to fill their passports before they leave us in Year Six.



'Help at Home' week begins on **Monday 7th October** and incorporates numbers 11 and 33 on the **100 club list** - helping out at home and supporting a charity.

We would like you, parents and carers, to sponsor the children to complete household chores. This could be making their bed, washing up, tidying their rooms or washing your car. All money raised will be donated to the Park Federation's partner charity, ActionAid.

Although we want to raise money for good causes, we also want to teach children about kindness, responsibility and to appreciate those people who help look after them every day...you!

By the end of the week, we want to find out how many beds have been made and how many rooms have been tidied!



HEAD



HEART



HANDS



HEALTH

Wellbeing Award for Schools

We are thrilled to announce that our school has been awarded the Wellbeing Award for Schools, a recognition we achieved through Award Place in partnership with National Children's Bureau. This award reflects our dedication to promoting the emotional and mental well-being of all our pupils and staff, creating a nurturing and supportive school environment.

The award is valid for the next three years, during which we will continue to enhance our well-being initiatives. Our commitment includes providing tailored support and resources that help foster resilience, emotional intelligence, and overall mental health among our pupils.

As part of this exciting journey, we are pleased to introduce our Pupils' Wellbeing Team. This team will consist of selected pupils who will act as ambassadors for well-being, helping to promote positive mental health practices among their peers. They will be involved in organising events, workshops, and activities aimed at raising awareness of well-being and mental health issues within our school community.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone, staff, students, and parents, who have contributed to this achievement. Together, we look forward to building an even stronger culture of well-being in our school, ensuring that every child feels valued, supported, and equipped to thrive.

Stay tuned for more updates on our well-being initiatives and how our Pupils' Wellbeing Team will be making a difference!



OUR SCHOOL HAS ACHIEVED THE

Wellbeing Award for Schools

Developing positive relationships with parents

2024 - 2027

Accredited by   

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Flu immunisation for pupils in school years Reception - Year 6

Wednesday 23rd October

To give consent for your child to have the flu vaccination please click here:

<https://nwl.schoolvaccination.uk/flu/2024/hillingdon>

Even if you do not wish for your child to have the vaccine, please complete the online form so that it can be recorded.



Hillingdon

Immunisation Team
Contact Details



hillingdon@v-uk.co.uk



0208 150 1220

WORKING ON BEHALF OF



Get ready for Photography Day on

Wednesday 09/10/2024
at West Drayton Academy

Look out for the order form coming home with your child



www.schoolphotographs.co.uk



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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

HOW TO COMBAT ONLINE BULLYING

Defined as "ongoing hurtful behaviour towards someone online", cyber-bullying makes its victims feel upset, uncomfortable and unsafe. In the digital world, it has numerous forms – such as hurtful comments on a person's posts or profile; deliberately leaving them out of group chats; sharing embarrassing images or videos of someone; or spreading gossip about them. Cyber-bullying can severely impact a young person's mental health ... so, in support of Anti-Bullying Week, we've provided a list of tips to help trusted adults know what to look for and how to respond to it.



1. GET CONNECTED

Playing online games together with your child or connecting with them on social media (providing they're old enough) is not only fun but also an excellent way of establishing some common ground to discuss things you've both seen or done online – as well as keeping an eye on who your child is communicating with in the digital world.

2. KEEP TALKING

Regular chats with young people about their online lives are good practice in general, but they can also be an excellent refresher to help prevent cyber-bullying situations. Topics you might want to revisit include why it's important to only connect online with people we know and trust, and why passwords should always remain secret (even from our best friends).

3. STAY VIGILANT

Observe your child while they're using technology and just after they've used it. Are they acting normally, or out of character? Possible signs of a problem may include seeming quiet or withdrawn, jumpy or anxious, angry or repeatedly checking their phone. When you feel it's the right time, you may want to check in with them to see if everything is OK.

4. MAKE YOURSELF AVAILABLE

If an online bullying incident does occur, it may take a while before your child is ready to open up about what happened. Just gently remind them that they can always come to you with any problems – and that they won't be in trouble. You might also suggest a trusted family member they could turn to, in case they feel too embarrassed to tell you directly.

5. BE PREPARED TO LISTEN

When conversations about online bullying do take place, they're likely to be difficult, emotional and upsetting for both you and your child. Actively listen to your child while they're bringing you up to speed, and try not to show any judgement or criticism even if they haven't dealt with the situation in exactly the way you would have hoped.

FURTHER SUPPORT AND ADVICE

If you or your child need additional help with an online bullying issue, here are some specialist organisations that you could reach out to.

Childline: talk to a trained counsellor on 0800 1111 or online at www.childline.org.uk/get-support/

National Bullying Helpline: counsellors are available on 0845 225 5767 or by visiting www.nationalbullyinghelpline.co.uk/cyberbullying.html

The NSPCC: the children's charity has a guide to the signs of bullying at www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/ and can be reached on 0800 800 5000

6. EMPOWER YOUR CHILD

Depending on their age, your child might not want a parent "fighting their battles for them". In that case, talk through their options with them (blocking the perpetrator, deleting the app and so on). By allowing your child to encourage them to report the offender to the app or game in question – ideally with screenshots to support their complaint. Most games and apps have reporting tools specifically to stamp out abusive behaviour and protect users.

7. REPORT BULLIES ONLINE

Cyber-bullying often takes place through a particular app, social media platform or online game. If this is happening to your child, encourage them to report the offender to the app or game in question – ideally with screenshots to support their complaint. Most games and apps have reporting tools specifically to stamp out abusive behaviour and protect users.

8. ENCOURAGE EMPATHY

Protecting themselves online is the priority, of course, but young people should also feel empowered to help if they witness other people falling victim to cyberbullying. Even if they don't feel confident enough to call someone out on their abusive behaviour online, they can still confidentially report that person to the app or game where the bullying occurred.

9. SEEK EXPERT ADVICE

Victims of online bullying frequently experience feelings of isolation and anxiety, a loss of self-esteem and potentially even thoughts of self-harm or suicide. If you think that an incident of cyber-bullying has affected your child's mental wellbeing, then seek psychological support for them. There are some useful contact details in the central panel below.

10. INVOLVE THE AUTHORITIES

If the nature of any online bullying makes you suspect that your child is genuinely in imminent physical danger – or if there are any signs whatsoever of explicit images being shared as part of the bullying – then you should gather any relevant screenshots as evidence and report the incidents to your local police force.

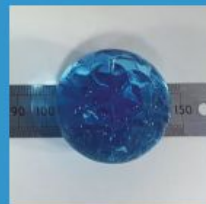
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CONSUMER SAFETY ALERT

Water Beads

Risk of serious harm or death



Water beads are small plastic balls that expand on contact with liquid and can become up to 400 times bigger. They are sold for various purposes, including toys. If swallowed, they can cause a blockage in the gastrointestinal tract that requires surgical removal but will not show up on X-ray, making it difficult to detect. If accidentally inhaled, they can lead to coughing and choking.

Consumers are asked to be alert to the potential dangers of water beads to children:

- Always store them out of sight and reach of children
- Keep them away from young children under 5 years old
- Only let older children use them if closely supervised by an adult

Common names for water beads include aqua gel, biodegradable balls, floating pearls, gel beads, jelly balls, jelly water gems, sensory beads, silicone orbs, water absorbing beads, water balls, and water crystals.



Office for Product
Safety & Standards

Office for Product Safety and Standards
4th Floor Cannon House
18 The Priory Queensway
Birmingham B4 6BS

Starting secondary school

If you have a child born between
1 September 2013
and **31 August 2014**

You must apply for a school place by
31 October 2024

For full details, key dates
and to apply online, visit
[www.hillingdon.gov.uk/
schooladmissions](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/schooladmissions)
or email
admissions@hillington.gov.uk



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Weekly Champions



The Four Pillars are West Drayton's values that thread through the curriculum. Every day, we aspire to demonstrate and apply these values in everything that we do. We believe that the Pillars will help to prepare our children for today, the next stage of their education and beyond.

Each week, from each class, one child will be selected as the Weekly Champion. The champion is somebody who has consistently exhibited their class value of the week.

Year 1

Jonah Aster

Olivier
Wieloplski

Pranavie
Guruparsad

Year 2

Nirvana
Baptiste-Chetram

Utara Gupta

Cemutai Rono

Year 3

Mohammadarsh
Jamadar

Alex Chamelian

Ishaanvi
Suriyadevi

Year 4

Ryad Asseum

Eliza McCallum

Humira Meah

Year 5

Ibrahim Ahmed

Yvonne Osaze

Hashir Siddiqui

Year 6

Aaliyah Payton
Freeman

Jessica Ciano

Anupriya Kumar

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