



West Drayton Academy Newsletter

www.westdraytonschool.com
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21st November 2025
Edition 11

Principal's update

Healthy eating is a national priority because it is a key part of public health and can help to reduce the risk of chronic diseases.

Growing healthily and maintaining a healthy weight throughout childhood is important for physical, social and mental wellbeing and readiness to learn. It also lays a foundation for future wellbeing, learning and employment. Oral health is also an important part of your child's general health.

At West Drayton, we want children to become more responsible with their eating habits and the choices they make. Our aim is to expand children's understanding of food choices beyond common snacks.

Health and happiness is one of our four Pillars.

Since our Food Policy review last year, I am pleased to report that we have seen tremendous progress. Snacks and packed lunches are predominantly healthy. Click here for a reminder of the [Food Policy](#).



Thank you for supporting our healthy foods initiative and for supporting a more healthy future for the children.

Have a great weekend and keep warm!

Richard Yates
Principal

Dates for your diary

26th November

Y3 Panto visit
Reception & Y6 Height and Weight Check (NCMP)*

8th December

Assessment Week

15th December

Y1 Panto: Beauty and the Beast

Christmas Fair

16th December

Nursery Christmas Show

17th December

Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day

18th December

Y1 Nativity Performance

Attendance

The class with the best attendance this academic year is:

1st place: 6C with 98.95%
2nd place: 2CS with 97.18%
3rd place: 3A with 97.14%

It will be a non-uniform day for 6C on Friday

28th November!

Well done!



Instagram

@WestDraytonAcademy



Piota App*

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Y3 Trip to Chiltern Open Air Museum

Year 3 took a trip back in time to the Chiltern Open Air Museum to experience the Stone Age first hand! Despite the weather and an unexpected tree on the road during our journey, the children had a wonderful time. The trip brought together everything we had learnt in class last term.

Students fully immersed themselves in ancient life. They learned how to create fires and build shelters using natural materials. Children practiced using a bow and arrow and even made their own spears from slate, reeds, and sticks. They also created some Stone Age artwork.

It was a fantastic, hands-on experience that made history come alive. We are so proud of the children's enthusiasm and resilience!



HEAD



HEART



HANDS



HEALTH

Tennis Taster Session

As part of school's ongoing commitment to providing broader PE opportunities to children across the school, this week Y1 and Y2 participated in a tennis taster session. The children were taught various skills, which extended their learning from the ball skills unit they did earlier this term. They really enjoyed the opportunity to try out this sport. They demonstrated the hands pillar through their engagement and the head pillar through their good listening skills. Well done Year 1 & 2! We look forward to receiving another taster of a different activity next half term!



*Reception & Y6 Weight & Height Check

**Wednesday 26th
November**

To opt out of this screening please notify the school office by Monday 24th November. The information has been shared via email.

If you have any questions, please contact school office.

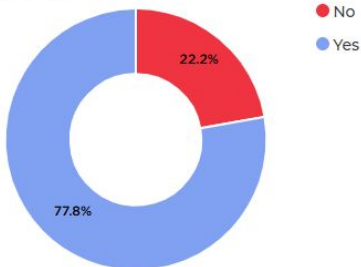
Votes for School

This week, during Votes for School, we discussed:

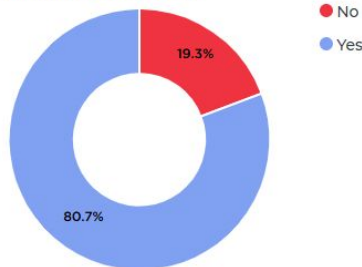
Should people still be given knighthoods? (KS2)

Should there still be knight? (KS1)

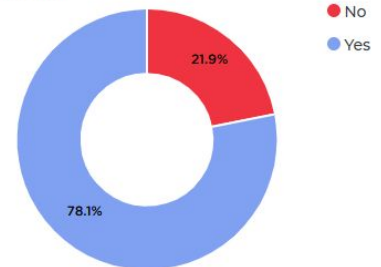
Your School



Regional (Greater London)



National



Coming up:

Should your school help you get ready to vote at 16? (KS2)

Should your school teach you about voting? (KS1)

Next week pupils will have the opportunity to discuss the importance of citizenship and media literacy in school.

School Uniform policy

- It is mandatory for all pupils to wear the complete school uniform each day with the appropriate footwear, unless a specific non uniform day or exemption has been announced.
- If a pupil does not wear the correct uniform, a phone call will be made to inform the parents and remind them of the school's uniform expectations.
- Parents to communicate to the school immediately if there is a temporary reason why their child cannot wear the correct uniform (e.g. medical reason) and requesting exemption for a short period.
- It is expected that all uniform is clearly labelled, and school will endeavour to return lost uniform items where a clear, identifying label is present. With changing weather, children are leaving their coats and other winter accessories behind, please make sure they are clearly labelled so that they can be returned

PE Kit

In the interests of health and hygiene, it is essential that children have a change of clothes and footwear for PE. If children are timetabled to do PE or games in the morning, they will come to school wearing their PE kit.

Children must change back into their uniforms after the session. On the days where they have an afternoon session, they come in their school uniform and they will bring their PE kit in a bag. Children will change into their PE kit at an appropriate time.

Pupils may wear one pair of small, stud earrings which must be worn in the lower ear lobe. **All studs must be removed for PE by the pupil or taken out at home.** Stud earrings that cannot be removed by the pupil for PE lessons will be covered with a plaster or tape. Religious symbols can be worn as long as teaching, safety and security are not impaired.

Complete uniform policy is available on our school website, for more information click here: [School Uniform Policy](#)

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HEALTH



Christmas Fair

Monday 15th December
3:30pm - 5:00pm

Join us for a fun-filled
family evening!

Enjoy Raffles, Festive Food,
Games & Music

See you at the Fair!

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What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TRACKING DEVICES

Bluetooth tracking devices like Apple's AirTag and Samsung's SmartTags have exploded in popularity, with millions sold each year. These small tools help people locate their lost items, but their discreet design has also made them attractive for more sinister purposes. From stalking to bullying, tracking devices present unique risks that trusted adults need to understand and address.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

STALKING AND HARASSMENT

Because of their tiny size and unassuming appearance, tracking devices can easily be hidden in bags or clothing. They've been used to monitor individuals without their knowledge, with a lawsuit in the US labelling AirTags "the weapon of choice of stalkers and abusers". In the UK, use of tracking devices in coercive control and stalking cases reportedly rose by 317 percent between 2018 and 2023.

TOOLS FOR BULLYING

Tracking devices could allow bullies to follow or locate their targets even outside of school. This makes it difficult for children to find refuge, potentially extending the trauma of bullying into spaces - like home - that should feel safe and secure.

FALSE ACCUSATIONS

Because tracking devices are linked to user accounts, they could be misused to "prove" ownership of someone else's possessions. Someone could, for example, plant a tracker on another person's belongings to falsely claim them as their own.

INVASION OF PRIVACY

These devices are designed to share location data with the user via other people's phones, which can unintentionally broadcast someone's movements without their consent. This makes them vulnerable to being monitored by strangers without realising.

DIFFICULT TO DETECT

Many tracking devices are designed to be discreet, but that also means they're easy to hide. Without proactive checking or the right tech to detect them, children and young people might not realise they're being tracked.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WATCH FOR WARNING SIGNS

If a child's peers always seem to know their location - whether in person or hinted at online - it could be worth checking for tracking devices. Some, like AirTags, will eventually make a noise if separated from their owner. Listen out for a chirping sound.

USE DETECTION APPS

Apple devices running iOS 14.5 or later will notify users of unknown AirTags nearby. Android users can install Apple's 'Tracker Detect' or the third-party app 'AirGuard' to scan for tracking devices from various manufacturers.

CHECK LIKELY HIDING SPOTS

Common places where trackers may be planted include jacket linings, bag seams, pockets, or under bike seats. If you find one, take a photo of the serial number before disposing of it - this could help police trace the account it's linked to.

HAVE THE CONVERSATION

Talk to your child about what tracking devices are, what signs to look out for, and how they might be misused. Emphasise the legal consequences of using them to prank, harass, or monitor someone.



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CHAMPION OF THE WEEK

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

- Sunny G
- Kiyara M

Year 2

- Neeva R
- Sid K
- Maisie - Mae H

Year 3

- Magizhini B
- Chemutai R
- Uttara G

Year 4

- Ishaanvi S
- Abhiram A

Year 5

- Arnika S
- Shima K
- Pendo N

Year 6

- Benjamin T
- Sreemanth A

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