



to question is to grow

Western House Academy

PRINCIPAL UPDATE

September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to all our existing community and a huge welcome to our new children and families. I hope you all had a fantastic summer and all the children have returned to school looking smart and ready to learn. Thank you.

Here are some reminders about routines and expectations at WHA:

Reading

Last year we reviewed how we taught reading and it has proved very successful. Here is a reminder:

Each child will have three hours of whole class Reading. This will be an opportunity to explore a quality text with the class teacher. This will mean by the end of each academic year each year group will have explored 6 texts from the 100 recommended children's books. In addition to this, each child will have a reading book which will be **changed once a week**. They will have a list of activities to do with the reading book during the week. It is expected in Reception to Year 4 that children will read and complete an activity each night and parents need to sign the home school diary to indicate this has been done.

Attendance

We expect children to be in school on time every day. Should your child be ill then please can you contact the office, giving the reason for the absence. If any religious celebrations fall during a weekend, we would expect the children to be in school on the Monday.

Homework

Homework for English and Maths will be handed out in **every year group** on a **Friday**. **Years 1, 2 & 3** will be expected to return the homework by the following **Wednesday** and **Years 4, 5 & 6** will be expected to return their homework by the following **Tuesday**. Spellings will be given out on a Monday and tested the following Monday.

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Chief Executive & Federation Principal
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Uniform

The children have started the year looking smart and it is important that standards remain high. Please note the following expectations:

- Children will need their PE kit in school all week.
- Children must not wear trainers to school (unless a note is provided).
- No jewellery. Only stud earrings to be worn (these will be covered on PE days).
- Headscarves and hair accessories must be in the school colours (white, black, burgundy, pale blue or grey).

Class Names

All classes are now named after famous British characters or people and each group has a focus.

Early Years and Year 1 Vice Principal – Mr R Jones			
Nursery	Miss H Savage	1 Dondaldson	Miss S Bemmer (Year Leader)
Reception Matilda	Miss H Edwards (Year Leader)	1 Potter	Miss K Tangjerd
Reception Tiggywinkle	Miss C McClean	1 Rosen	Miss M Mills
Reception Elmer	Mrs P Sharma		

Years 2 and 3 Vice Principal – Mrs K Parmley			
2 George	Mrs T Ghosh (Year Leader)	3 Sherwood Forest	Miss S Khehar (Year Leader)
2 Victoria	Mrs M Khural	3 Bracknell Forest	Mr C Robledo
2 James	Miss O Cranfield	3 New Forest	Ms W Stuart-William

Years 4, 5 and 6 Vice Principal – Mrs H Kearney			
4 Scott	Mrs A Mangat (Year Leader)	6 Morgan	Miss L Hocking (Year Leader)
4 Blake	Mrs K Parmar	6 Perry	Miss A Mann
4 Morris	Mr J McCarthy	6 Southgate	Ms M Spencer
5 Wham	Miss T Marzolini (Year Leader)		
5 Coldplay	Miss S Vallone		
5 Ezra	Mrs A Goody & Mr M Olney		

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A Multi-Academy Trust

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Community Concerns

Since returning from summer, we have had numerous complaints from our local residents about how and where parents are parking. On a couple of occasions, the person affected has been late for work due to parents parking inconsiderately or in spaces not allocated to them. When they have spoken to our parents they have been abusive; this is not in line with the values and ethos we promote with our children. Please be considerate of our neighbours and remember to use the drop and go system or the community centre car park.

Playground before and after school

The playground is not staffed until 8:45am in the morning and parents are advised that the children are the responsibility of the parents until then. No children are to ride scooters, bikes or go on the outside play equipment before or after school.

We operate a successful drop and go system but please be mindful that children in Reception and Year 1 are too young and should not be left unattended.

We are looking forward to continuing to build upon our successes of last year and move our school in the direction of becoming the community's number one choice of Primary School.

The Senior Leadership Team are always around on the playground at the beginning and end of the day and we welcome parents to come and chat with us. Should you need to arrange an appointment with one of us, please speak to my Personal Assistant Nicole McCaig. I look forward to speaking and seeing many of you during this term.

Fondest regards,

Mrs Coral Snowden

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Significant Dates

Monday 24th September	Meet the Teacher Parent Workshops (Years 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6)
Tuesday 25th September at 8:30am	Meet the Teacher Parent Workshop (Year 2 Repeat)
Wednesday 26th September at 3:30pm	Meet the Teacher Parent Workshop (Year 5)
Thursday 27th September at 8:30am	Meet the Teacher Parent Workshops (Year 1 Repeat and Reception)
Thursday 27th September at 6pm	Year 6 Residential Trip Meeting followed by SATs Information Meeting
Friday 28th September at 8:30am	Meet the Teacher Parent Workshop (Year 5 Repeat)
Thursday 4th October	Heroes Day (dress up day and themed lunch)
Friday 5th October	Individual Photographs
Monday 8th to Thursday 11th October	Year 6 Bikeability (pre-booking required)
Thursday 11th October	Year 2 Trip to Whipsnade Zoo
Friday 12th to Monday 15th October	Year 6 Residential Trip
Monday 15th October at 2pm	Year 3 Extreme Earth Extravaganza - Parents Invited
Thursday 18th October	Federation Basketball Tournament (Years 3 & 4)
Tuesday 30th October at 2:30 to 7pm	Parents Evening
Thursday 8th November	Federation Multi-Skills Festival (KS1)
w/c 12th November	Anti – Bullying Week
Wednesday 14th November	Federation 5-a-side Football Festival (Years 5 & 6)
Thursday 15th November (evening – time to follow)	Key Stage One Assessment Evening
w/c 3rd December	Assessment Week
Friday 14th December	Cinderella Pantomime Visit to School
Tuesday 18th December	Nursery Sing-a-long – Parents Invited
Wednesday 19th December	Nursery Christmas Party
Friday 21st December	INSET DAY (school closed to pupils)
Phonics Evening for Reception & Year 1 parents	Dates to follow