

Dear Families,

It was a fantastic start to the school year at Westvale Park. Our new staff and pupils have settled in beautifully and are now very much part of the Westvale family. Last term was filled with energy and enthusiasm, with a wide range of trips, workshops and enrichment experiences taking place. We were especially pleased that more children than ever took part in clubs and sports, which continue to be a vital part of our outstanding personal development offer.

Beyond the classroom, pupils enjoyed a wealth of extra experiences that make Westvale Park such a special place to learn and grow. From school discos and pumpkin picking to themed workshops and community events, our aim is always to provide opportunities that go above and beyond—helping children build happy memories and a strong sense of belonging.

In a world that often feels uncertain, we have continued to prioritise diversity, inclusion and tolerance, ensuring these values are lived out across our school community. We were also proud to introduce a financial awareness curriculum last term, giving pupils valuable skills and understanding to help them make confident and informed decisions about money in the future.

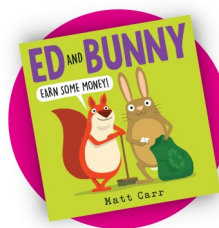
As we look ahead, we are delighted to be welcoming prospective parents on tours for our September 2026 intake. This marks an exciting milestone for Westvale Park as we prepare to become a full primary school with our very first Year 6 cohort.

Warmest regards,

Mrs Kelly

A big thank you to Mr. Hunt, who generously donated the school's first football kits for us to use at tournaments. The children have already proudly represented our school in their new kits, which looked fantastic on the

A huge thank you to Mr Berry, who kindly made all the wonderful wooden photo props for our Pumpkin Picking event. They added a fantastic touch to the day and were enjoyed by children and families alike.



**Our core values are:**  
**Family Gratitude Responsibility Diversity Excellence**  
*In term1 we have looked at the value of Family*

### Happy Bunnies Nursery

What a fantastic start we've had in Happy Bunnies! The children have settled in beautifully, learning our classroom routines and getting to know one another. We loved exploring The Colour Monster and talking about our emotions, even learning the different Makaton signs to match each feeling. The children created their own colourful monsters and did a wonderful job expressing how they feel. We then moved on to thinking about what makes each of us unique, using mirrors to paint self-portraits and chatting about our different eye and hair colours. In maths, we have been learning about counting and patterns, creating lovely autumnal designs with conkers and pinecones. It has been a joyful time filled with singing, dancing, painting, and exploring. We cannot wait to see what exciting adventures the next half term will bring!



### Forest School

Autumn is the perfect time to be outdoors, with leaves beginning to turn and the hedgerows bursting with berries. Here's a round-up of our Forest School sessions this half term:

Year 1 have met Green Dragon, our Forest School mascot, and have been learning the Forest School rules to ensure they can play and learn safely. This is particularly important as we prepare to introduce campfires in the coming weeks, with the weather turning chillier. The children have also been using bow saws and hand drills to make two Victorian toys – a spinner and a whizzer – linking beautifully with their classroom topic *A Toy Story*.

Year 2 have been embracing the joys of autumn. They have used blackberries as natural paint to create artwork, made streamers with conkers, enjoyed delicious apple and blackberry crumble, and had great fun exploring our brand new mud kitchens, kindly built for us by Mr Berry. A huge thank you to Mr Berry from everyone at Forest School!

Year 3 have been making excellent use of our woodworking 'tinker table', first introduced in the summer. Those who have chosen the activity have been designing and building their own woodwork models, some abstract and others more detailed. They have been safely exploring the use of pull saws, hammers, screwdrivers, and hand drills to achieve their creations. The children have also made their own stick charcoal in tins over the campfire, which they will use for artwork linked to their *Changing Ages* topic back in the classroom.



## Reception News

In Term 1, we have been focusing on helping the children settle into school and supporting them to build positive relationships with both their peers and staff. During our topic sessions, the children have been learning all about themselves and their community. We have spent time discussing our feelings and linking them to The Colour Monster's emotions. We have also explored our appearances, families, and what makes each of us unique. The children created wonderful self-portraits and had great fun learning about the different features of their bodies.

As a year group, we have been developing our counting skills, learning to recognise numbers and understand their cardinal value. The children have enjoyed representing numbers in different ways using a variety of objects.

We are all incredibly proud of how well they have settled into school and the enthusiasm they have shown in their learning!



## Year 1 News

During September and October, Year 1 have been diving into our topic A Toy Story, exploring how toys have changed over time. The children have enjoyed discovering the similarities and differences between toys from the past and those we play with today, even creating their own imaginative versions inspired by both eras.

In Science, the children have been busy investigating everyday materials. They have shown great enthusiasm in identifying materials by their properties and are growing increasingly confident in using scientific vocabulary to describe them.

In Art and Design, our focus has been on Textures. Pupils have been hands-on experimenting with different materials and linking their scientific knowledge to their creative work. They studied the artist Robert Rauschenberg, paying close attention to the textures and surfaces he used. Bringing all their learning together, the children produced wonderful final pieces in Rauschenberg's style, creating collages of toys using a variety of materials.



## Year 2 News

What an astonishing first half of the term we have had! We have been learning all about the Great Fire of London. As part of our topic, we visited the Tower of London, where we time travelled back to 1666 to discover exactly what happened on the fateful day the fire began. We also had the opportunity to see the famous ravens, the Crown Jewels, and Tower Bridge.

Times Tables Rock Stars launched with great excitement, with every child dressing up as a rock or pop star and beginning their times tables journey. The children have shown fantastic enthusiasm during our weekly inter-class competition, 'Battle of the Bands'. Practising every day is the quickest way to achieve lightning-fast multiplication recall. Keep it up, children!



## Year 3 News

What a fantastic start to the term it has been for Year 3! We began with ten days of swimming, and the children impressed everyone with their determination and progress across different strokes. Their behaviour was exemplary throughout; they truly did our school proud.

As part of our Changing Ages topic, we travelled back in time to the Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages. The children particularly enjoyed creating their own cave paintings using natural tools and taking part in our Stone Age Day, where they made arrows, fired bows, explored ancient bones and produced their own artwork.

In Science, we have been busy sorting and classifying rocks according to their properties, while in Computing we have been learning about emails, sending our own messages and recognising spam.



## Year 4 News

What an amazing start to the year we have enjoyed! During our first week, we read *The Dot*, a story that has greatly influenced our thinking. It tells of a little girl who didn't believe she could enjoy art lessons but soon discovered that, with a growth mindset, anything is possible.

We created yetis to represent the things we cannot do yet but will achieve with practice and perseverance. We also made growth mindset trees using the skill of pointillism (painting with dots – see the connection?) to remind us throughout the year to persevere and always have a go. In English, we have written a film script based on our book *Tar Beach*, while in Science we have been learning all about the digestive system – even acting out the journey of a piece of bread as it was digested!

Our History learning has focused on the Ancient Egyptians. We have explored the lives of the Pharaohs and the fascinating process of mummification. The children's enthusiasm shone through during our themed day, where everyone dressed up brilliantly – and of course, we had to walk like an Egyptian!

In Maths, we have extended our understanding of place value to four-digit numbers. We can now read, write, order, round, and estimate them on a number line, and we are currently exploring addition and subtraction using formal column methods.

In Wellbeing, we have reflected on our individual skills, talents, and character traits that make each of us special.

In RE, we have been learning about Hindu worship and have explored shrines that may be found in homes. In Art, we have been investigating patterns and printmaking, and we are very excited to begin creating prints of our own cartouches soon.



## Year 5

During September and October, our Year 5 Wildcats and Roe Deer classes have been busy with a wealth of exciting learning experiences.

In Maths, the children have been exploring place value with numbers up to one million and investigating multiples, common multiples, prime numbers, and factors. They have shown excellent understanding and enthusiasm for these challenging concepts.

In English, the children have written imaginative science fiction stories inspired by *Robot Girl*, focusing on making their writing more cohesive by using conjunctions and a range of adverbials to connect ideas smoothly. They have also produced detailed non-chronological reports based on *Hidden Figures* – the remarkable story of the women who helped shape NASA's history.

In Spanish, the children have been learning how to describe the weather and use precise vocabulary to explain location and temperature, building their confidence in everyday conversation. In Science, they have been exploring the properties and changes of materials, thinking and investigating like real scientists. They can now confidently identify examples of reversible and irreversible changes.

Our History lessons have centred on World War II, a topic that has truly captured the children's interest. A highlight was the special workshop where pupils dressed up and explored life on the front line, trying on uniforms, handling gas masks, and discovering what rationing was like during the war.

In Wellbeing, the children have reflected on what makes them unique and individual. Through the beautiful book *Rain Before Rainbows*, they have learned important lessons about resilience – understanding that even when challenges arise, perseverance and mutual support help us move forward.

It has been a wonderful start to the school year, full of curiosity, creativity, and achievement. We are incredibly proud of all our Year 5 pupils for their hard work and enthusiasm.



## SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT



We are incredibly proud of Year 5 pupil, Gwen Foster, who was named as a winner in the prestigious

2025 WellChild Awards, in association with GSK, after being selected from hundreds of nominations nationwide. Gwen was nominated by her proud parents, Matthew and Jenny Foster.

On Monday, 8 September, Gwen received her award at a special ceremony held at the Royal Lancaster Hotel in London. She had the wonderful opportunity to meet the WellChild patron, Prince Harry, The Duke of Sussex, along with other celebrity guests.

Her mum, Jenny, who nominated her for the award, said, "Whether excelling in school, inspiring others through sport, or championing a cause close to her heart, Gwen embodies the spirit of the WellChild Awards – refusing to let her medical needs limit her dreams and proving that, with determination, anything is possible."

We are delighted to share some exciting news about Arabella in Year 3. In September, she took part in the Vitality Westminster Mile, joining a world record attempt for the largest number of people to complete the same one-mile run dressed as superheroes.

Arabella, dressed as Black Widow, ran the full mile — impressively completing it two minutes faster than she managed last year! The attempt was a success, and the world record has now officially been broken. A certificate from Guinness World Records is on its way. Well done, Arabella – we are so proud of you!



We always love hearing about our pupils' achievements outside of school. Whether it's a sporting success, a musical performance, a community award, or any other personal milestone, we would be delighted to celebrate it in our school newsletter. If your child has recently taken part in an exciting event or achieved something special beyond the classroom, please share the details with us by contacting the school office.

# GLURBS

## LANGUAGE LEARNING MADE SIMPLE

- Completely safe, ad-free and designed by the specialists at Language Angels for children to learn and play independently in a way parents can trust.
- ★ It's not just fun, it's effective - from first word to fluency.
- ★ The more you play, the more you learn!
- ★ Boosts memory, creativity & communication.

**HOW TO GET AN ENTIRE YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION FOR JUST £1.99:**

1. Register a new account
2. Go to 'Settings'
3. Tap LAOFR25

ON MOBILE? [CLICK HERE](#)

## Could You Lend a Hand? Volunteers Welcome



We are always grateful for the generous support of our school community and are currently looking for volunteers to assist with a variety of activities. Parents, carers and grandparents are all warmly invited to get involved.

There are many ways you could help, such as running or supporting a homework club, hearing pupils read, assisting with gardening or DIY projects, or joining the chicken care rota. Whether you can offer regular help or just an occasional hand, your time and skills make a real difference to our pupils and the wider school environment.

If you would like to volunteer or find out more, please contact the school office.

## Autumn Term 2- Term Dates

Monday 3rd November @7:30pm	PAPAYA parent talk
Tuesday 4th November	PAPAYA Workshops Year 4 and Year 5
Monday 10th November	Odd Sock Day for Antibullying week
Tuesday 11th November	Remembrance Day
Wednesday 12th November	POW Mufti donation day
Thursday 13th November	Ranger Stu workshop EYFS
Friday 14th November	INSET DAY
Thursday 20th November @8:50am	Owls Class Assembly
Thursday 27th November @8:50am	Otters Class Assembly
Friday 28th November @3:30pm	POW Festive Afternoon
Wednesday 3rd December	Nursing Team for Flu Vaccinations
Thursday 4th December	POW Christmas Discos
Monday 8th December	Charity PJ Day (East Surrey Hospital)
Monday 8th December	Aurora Trust TTRS Competition begins
Tuesday 9th December @9:15am	EYFS Nativity
Thursday 11th December	POW Elfridges
Friday 12th December	RED TED picnic for children with Autumn term invite
Tuesday 16th December @2:15pm	KS1 Nativity
Tuesday 16th December @6pm	Carols by Candlelight KS2
Wednesday 17th December @9:00am	KS1 Nativity
Thursday 18th December	Christmas Jumper and Lunch Day
Friday 19th December	Pantomime
Friday 19th December	Winning House Mufti
Monday 5th January 2026	INSET DAY
Tuesday 6th January 2026	First Day of Spring Term

### Parent Code of Conduct – Working Together for Our Pupils

The Trust is committed to maintaining a culture of mutual respect, open communication and shared responsibility across all its academies. The Parent Code of Conduct outlines the standards of behaviour expected from parents and carers to ensure positive and productive relationships between home and school. By working in partnership, we create a safe, supportive and inclusive environment where every pupil can thrive. Parents and carers are encouraged to familiarise themselves with this Code and to uphold its principles in all interactions with the Trust and its academies.

**The Parent Code of Conduct is available to view on the school website.**



### Staffing Update – Farewells and New Beginnings

This term, we say farewell to Mr Shepherd, who will be leaving us at the end of term. We would like to thank him sincerely for his contributions over the past three years, particularly for his work in developing music across the school. We wish him every success in his new childminding venture.

We also said goodbye to Mrs Hodges, our Year 1 Teaching Assistant, who has moved on to an exciting new opportunity in physiotherapy. We thank her for her dedication and care during her time with us and wish her all the very best in her new role.

We are also delighted to have welcomed several new members of staff this year. If you would like to put names to faces, you can find all staff photographs on our school website.

Dear Parent/Carer

If you consider that there are exceptional circumstances relating to your request, please let the school have full details. Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis.

### **Penalty Notices to Address Poor Attendance at School**

A Penalty Notice may be issued as an alternative to the prosecution of a parent/carer for their child's unauthorised absence from school (absence without the agreement of the school or not covered by a medical note) and will be used by Surrey County Council in the following circumstances :-

1. Pupils identified by police and Attendance Advice Officers (formerly Inclusion Officers) engaged on Truancy Patrols and who have incurred unauthorised absences.

2. Leave of absence in term time (5 days or 10 sessions or more).

Please be aware that the School Attendance (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2024 state that Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. They may request that Surrey County Council issue Penalty Notices when the absence is not authorised. Warnings will not be given where it can be shown that parents have been notified that such absences will not be authorised.

3. Finally, the issuing of a Penalty Notice will also be considered where it is judged that a parent is failing to ensure their child's regular school attendance.

This will be considered when a pupil has incurred 10 or more unauthorised sessions in the previous 10 school weeks, which may include a pupil arriving late after close of registration.

If you believe at any stage that your child's absence from school may leave you liable to receive a Penalty Notice, it is extremely important that you act without delay to secure their regular attendance.

If you have any questions or require further support to achieve an improvement in your child's attendance, please contact your child's school or the Attendance Advice Officer (Mrs Burdfield).

### **Penalty Notice relating to Exclusions**

If a child is excluded from school, Section 103 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 places a duty on parents/carers to ensure that their child is not in a public place without justifiable cause during school hours. This duty applies to the first five days of each exclusion. Failure to do so will render the parent/carer liable to a Penalty Notice. (Alternative education provision will be made available from the sixth day of any exclusion.)

### **Amount Payable for a Penalty Notice and Consequences for repeat unauthorised absences**

1. If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children in a rolling 3 year period since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.

2. If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 19 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at the flat rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.

3. If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to this child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you will NOT receive a third penalty notice – Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, per parent/carer per child, in the Magistrates Court under s 444 Education Act 1996.

**Surrey County Council is not responsible for authorising pupil absence and therefore cannot withdraw any Penalty Notice requests without the written permission of the Headteacher.**

Advice and support is available from an Attendance Advice Officer by contacting Surrey Attendance Service as follows :-

South East - Tel: 01737 737777