

# Westvale Park Primary Academy and Nursery News

## Term 5 2026

Dear Westvale Families,

As we move towards the final week of another fantastic term, I wanted to reflect on the many successes and memorable experiences that have taken place across our school community.

Alongside the excellent academic progress demonstrated by our children this term, we are equally proud of the rich personal development opportunities that continue to shape the wider life of our school. At Westvale, we are deeply committed to ensuring that every child discovers their talents, develops confidence and feels a true sense of belonging within our community, which sits firmly at the heart of our school values.

This term has been filled with exciting opportunities beyond the classroom. Children across school have enjoyed a wide range of educational visits and experiences which have enriched learning, broadened horizons and developed independence and resilience. These opportunities play a vital role in helping our children become confident, thoughtful and active citizens.

One of the highlights of the term was our annual May Day celebration, which once again brought our school community together in such a joyful and traditional way. The children represented the school beautifully through their enthusiasm, teamwork and pride.

Our extracurricular offer continues to grow from strength to strength, with a wide range of clubs helping children explore new interests and passions. This term, we were particularly excited to introduce our very first bowls club, led by Mrs Kellar, a trained junior coach. It has been wonderful to see children embracing a completely new sport whilst developing new skills and confidence.

We are incredibly proud that our children continue to thrive not only academically, but also socially, emotionally and personally. Their kindness, respect, determination and enthusiasm reflect the values we strive to nurture every day at Westvale. As always, our successes are made even more special through the support of our families and wider community. Thank you for your continued partnership, encouragement and commitment to our school as we look forward to a positive and exciting final week of term together.

Warm regards,



## Our core values are:

**Family Gratitude Responsibility Curiosity Diversity Excellence**

*In term 5 we have looked at the value of Diversity*

### Early Years News

This half term, the children have enjoyed lots of exciting learning linked to our stories and topics.

We began with Superworm, where we learned about minibeasts and how to look after them carefully. The children enjoyed exploring outdoors, spotting bugs, and talking about why living creatures are important. We also created minibeast artwork and enjoyed retelling the story through role play.

Next, we explored Jack and the Beanstalk. The children learned about growing and what plants need to stay healthy, including water and sunlight. We carried out a science experiment to see whether a plant could grow without sunlight and made predictions about what might happen. Alongside this, we explored castles and learned about the different parts of a castle, as well as who might live there. The children loved building castles and using their imaginations during role play activities.

Most recently, we have been reading The Little Red Hen. One morning, a surprise loaf of bread arrived in the classroom with the story! The children wrote signs to help look after the bread for the Little Red Hen and discussed why it is important to care for things. To finish our learning, we made our own bread. The children carefully mixed, kneaded, and baked the dough and were very proud of their finished loaves.

We are so proud of all the children's enthusiasm and hard work this half term.



This half term, Reception had the exciting opportunity to visit St Joan's Farm. We had a fantastic day learning in the forest, enjoying tractor rides and meeting lots of different animals while discovering more about how they live and are cared for. We even had the unforgettable experience of seeing a baby lamb being born.

It was a wonderful way to bring our learning about minibeasts, growing and farms to life this half term. A special thank you to our very own Sienna and Aphelia, who helped to host the day and made everyone feel so welcome.



## Forest School News

We have been taking full advantage of the (mostly) sunny weather at Forest School, enjoying woodcraft outdoors, using our Thump Stump to learn how to hammer nails, bow saws to create minibeasts and peelers to create books.

Year 1 have been connecting with nature, thinking about the parts of a tree and their functions, as well as finding out how hard garden birds work to feed their babies as they were challenged to find woolly camouflaged caterpillars to feed our wooden baby bird. Years 2 and 3 have been thinking about what seeds need to germinate (whilst sowing their own) and the parts of a plant (whilst digging in strawberry plants and sunflowers).

Loose parts play continues to be very popular, with children using their problem-solving and gross motor skills to create on a large scale; most memorably, creating an arena with a target to practise using bows and arrows.

Our Eco Committee have been busy keeping Westvale's eco-friendly ethos front of mind, as well as taking part in lots of 'actions for nature'; our No Mow May blue hearts are displayed in the field, reminding us to keep wilder areas of grass for wildlife. They have also been busy taking part in The Great Big Spring Clean, as well as choosing plants for our new Sensory Garden flower bed at Forest School.



## Year 1 News

A real highlight was our trip to Hever Castle. The children behaved beautifully and thoroughly enjoyed exploring the castle and its grounds, despite the bitter wind! They were especially excited to spot the different features of a castle, which links perfectly with our History topic this term.

We were lucky to enjoy some sunshine once again for our May Day celebrations. The children took part in a range of craft activities, lawn games and even performed for our volunteers and visitors. They all loved having a turn on the Maypole!

In Science, the children have become budding florists! They have learned about the different parts of a plant and flower, as well as the differences between two types of trees, which they enjoyed spotting around Hever! Next term, we will build on this knowledge by exploring the life cycle of a plant and observing the different stages of a seed's growth.

In Art this term, we have explored the work of Paul Klee, focusing on how he used colour and shape to create his artwork. We then created our own pieces inspired by his style. We even took our learning outdoors to Forest School, where we searched for shapes in the natural environment. We can't wait for you all to see our work at the gallery walk!



## Year 2 News

Year 2 have had a terrific half-term of fun learning. The term started with a brilliantly inspiring workshop where children reenacted The Battle of Hastings, planned their own invasion of England and experienced Medieval battle weapons and board games. It has been wonderful to welcome every child into English lessons now everyone has graduated from our phonics program. Children wrote their own inventive versions of the book 'The Dragon Machine' by Helen Ward, and more recently have written party invitations, nature documentary scripts and 'lost and found' posters linked to 'Toys in Space' by Mini Gray. Another highlight of the term was investigating minibeasts in our local microhabitats using pooters as part of our Science learning. We caught and examined ants, spiders, millipedes, centipedes, earwigs and many more animals. All were returned safely to their homes after the experiment. Next stop for term 6: High Ashurst!



## Year 3 News

The children have thoroughly enjoyed exploring the traditional art technique of Batik. They carefully created their own designs on fabric using hot wax before adding colour with watercolours. They were fascinated by the process and produced some fantastic final pieces.

Our Victorian Day was a real highlight of the term and gave the children a wonderful opportunity to step back in time and experience what life may have been like for Victorian children through a range of hands on activities. Ask your child whether they think they would have enjoyed being a Victorian child at school!

The children have also enjoyed practising their Spanish by learning how to order ice cream confidently using new vocabulary and phrases. Perhaps they could practise ordering an ice cream for you at home.

In Computing, the Stoats and Owls have been developing their coding skills by creating simple programs and learning how to debug them when things did not work as expected. The children have shown great resilience and problem solving skills when fixing errors in their code.

In Science, our learning has focused on forces and magnets. The children investigated friction by testing toy cars on ramps with different surfaces and explored how magnets attract and repel different materials. There has been lots of enthusiastic scientific thinking and investigation throughout the topic.



## Year 4 News

Year 4 are busy preparing for the times tables assessment, which will take place during the first two weeks of June. The children have shown great resilience as we practise daily and many are becoming much quicker and more confident. Please continue supporting your child with TTRS over the half term holiday so their recall remains super speedy.

In English, we have enjoyed reading *Weslandia* and discussing the imaginative world created by the main character.

In Maths, we have continued our learning about fractions and decimals, applying our knowledge to money and using the £ symbol correctly.

Our Tudor History topic has created lots of excitement, especially learning about Henry VIII and his wives. In Computing, the children have been developing their coding skills by spotting and fixing errors in programmes.

In Science, we have explored solids, liquids and gases and investigated how materials change when heated or cooled.

In Art, we have compared the work of Andy Warhol and Hans Holbein the Younger while developing our own portrait drawing skills.



## Year 5

During our two weeks of swimming lessons, the children showed great determination and grew in confidence while developing their swimming skills.

In English, the children wrote imaginative narratives inspired by Medusa from *Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief* and thoughtful letters linked to the life of Anne Frank, showing empathy and maturity in their writing.

In Maths, we have focused on angles, with the children becoming confident using protractors to measure and draw accurately. Science lessons explored human development from birth and the stages of growth.

In History, we learned about Reigate Fort and its role in Britain's defence during both World Wars. In Art, the children studied the work of Ivon Hitchens and created their own stitched landscape pieces inspired by his artwork.

We are incredibly proud of the enthusiasm, resilience and hard work shown by the children this half term and hope everyone enjoys a restful break.



## SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT

We are delighted to celebrate an exciting sporting achievement by Lenny in Year 4 over the Easter holidays. Lenny qualified for and attended his first G1 U9 national event in Bolton, taking part in a challenging two day competition against players from across the country.

This was a huge milestone for Lenny and provided a fantastic opportunity to compete at a higher level, gain valuable experience and learn from other talented players. We are incredibly proud of the confidence, determination and resilience he showed throughout the event.

Following this achievement, Lenny is now ranked 26th in the county and 6th in Surrey for boys born in 2017. What a fantastic accomplishment. Well done, Lenny!



## Accelerated Reader Millionaires

Congratulations to our Accelerated Reader Millionaire readers this term.

Daphne and Grace in Year 3 have achieved Millionaire status, and Evelyn in Year 5 has reached the fantastic milestone of Double Millionaire. Whilst Evie in Year 5 has wowed us by reaching triple Millionaire status!

We are incredibly proud of their commitment to reading and this wonderful achievement.



Keep an eye out for children proudly wearing their TTRS "Gone Green" badges around school. These badges are awarded to pupils who can answer all their times table facts in under four seconds, showing fantastic dedication, fluency and hard work. Well done to all of our maths superstars!

## SEND in the Spotlight

At Westvale, we ensure that all children, including those with SEND, are fully included in learning and supported to access the curriculum. Our Ordinarily Available Provision (OAP) sets out the high-quality teaching, reasonable adjustments and universal support that all pupils can expect as part of everyday classroom practice. It reflects our strong commitment to inclusion and early support, helping to remove barriers to learning and enable every child to achieve their best. Our OAP does not require a diagnosis or an Education, Health and Care Plan and forms the foundation of our graduated approach. The full OAP document is available on our school website. [Westvale Park Primary Academy - Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities](#)

## Pupil Wellbeing Champions.

Led by Mr Reeves (one of our Staff Wellbeing Champions) our Pupil Wellbeing Champions have been out on the playground all term, starting each playtime from their base in the Wellbeing Champion Zone. Their role is to identify and support children who may be finding playtimes difficult, inviting them to join in games, chat with them or helping them find friends to play with.

They have already made a fantastic start and it has been wonderful to hear the positive feedback from both children and parents whose children have already felt the support of the Wellbeing Champions. We are very proud of the kindness, care and responsibility the children have shown in this role and look forward to seeing the continued positive impact this will have on the children at Westvale.



## Summer Term 5 & 6 Dates

Tuesday 19th May 9am	SEND coffee morning—neurodiversity
Wednesday 20th May	World Bee Day—EYFS Dress up day
Thursday 21st May 8:50am	Ducks Class Assembly - parents welcome
Thursday 21st May 3:30pm	Year 1 & 5 Art Gallery Walk
Friday 22nd May	Great Athletes Day—sponsorship
<b>Monday 25th May—Fri 29th May</b>	<b>Half term</b>
Week commencing Monday 1st June	Year 4 National Multiplication Tables Check
Wednesday 3rd June	Teach Rex Workshop Reception and Year 1
Thursday 4th June 8:50am	Roe Deer Class Assembly - parents welcome
Week commencing Monday 8th June	Year 1 National Phonics Screening Check
Thursday 11th and Friday 12th June	Year 2 High Ashurst Residential
Thursday 18th June 6pm	New Reception (2026/27 cohort) Information Evening
Friday 19th June	Meet the teacher transition morning
Saturday 20th June	Horley Carnival
Monday 22nd June 2pm	EYFS Sports Afternoon (Happy Bunnies, Squirrels, Hedgehogs)
Tuesday 23rd June 9am	KS2 Sports Day
Tuesday 23rd June 1:30pm	KS1 Sports Day
Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th June	Year 2 Feet First Walking Training
Thursday 25th June 3:30pm	POW Summer Fair
Friday 26th June	INSET DAY—No pupils
Monday 29th June	INSET DAY—No pupils
Monday 6th July	Year 3 Nower Trip
Wednesday 8th July 9am	Happy Bunnies Got Talent Show
Wednesday 8th July 6pm	Celebration Evening
Thursday 9th July 11am	School Music Concert and Family Picnic (not Happy Bunnies)
Thursday 9th July 11am 4:30pm and 5:45pm	Summer Discos
Friday 10th July 9am	Reception Graduation
Wednesday 15th July—Friday 17th July	Year 4 Thames Young Mariners Residential
Tuesday 21st July	Final RED TED picnic of year—by invitation
Wednesday 22nd July	Winning House Non Uniform Day and Last Day
Thursday 23rd July	Summer Holidays begin

Watch out for POW updates and dates

