



West Lodge Primary School Newsletter

Respecting each other, learning creatively, challenging all.

21st December 2016

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have enjoyed another exciting half term of learning at West Lodge culminating in some wonderful Christmas Concerts. I would like to say a big thank you to all the staff and children who worked so hard to produce concerts of such high quality. Each concert: Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 was a big success. I would also like to thank staff across the whole school, who have worked so hard to provide the very best for the children- with a wide range of learning experiences. We are very fortunate to have a governing board who bring an array of skills to the table and work tirelessly to provide support and challenge to ensure that we provide the very best education for the children of West Lodge. Joining the West Lodge Board of Governors this term are: Amar Patel - voted on as new parent governor following the election in November; Philip Lawder – a recently co-opted governor who is a published poet and author; Delphina Johnson – a recently co-opted governor with a background in HR and Chris Woolf, Headteacher at Pinner High, who will be joining in January. These new governors will add to the range of skills that we already have.

There have been many engaging events during this half term. Year 5 enjoyed their trip to the theatre to see The Tempest – they will be performing their own Shakespeare themed play in March, which we look forward to. A trip to the West End was enjoyed by Year 4, as they went to see Aladdin in November. Studying Ancient Greece has been an interesting topic for Year 6 and their topic culminated in some excellent Ancient Greek workshops this term. We enjoyed a wonderful Cluster Carols event in early December – where we joined with Nower Hill, Pinner High, Pinner Park, Cannon Lane and St John Fisher at the Pinner Baptist Church for a morning of festive singing. Our own Carol Concert, also held at Pinner Baptist Church, was a huge success and I would like to thank Mr Went, Mrs Taylor, Mr Revens, Miss Rolnick, Mrs Rajput and Mrs Richardson for working hard with the Choirs, Dance Club and Drama Club to prepare their performances for the evening.

On the 9th and 10th November, Local Authority advisers came into West Lodge to carry out a review of teaching and learning, in a similar format to an Ofsted inspection. The review went well and the advisers were very pleased with progress and learning at West Lodge. I have included a couple of quotes from the report, but the full report is available to view on the school website.

'West Lodge is a successful, highly inclusive and innovative school. The school has a strong focus on safeguarding as evidenced by the recent Section 11 audit. School leaders provide inspirational and reflective leadership, and they are ably supported by well informed and knowledgeable governors. Middle leaders are increasingly involved in monitoring and evaluation, and in supporting school priorities. This is no more evident than in the learning studies approach to pedagogical change. Teachers work collaboratively in research to test out new and innovative approaches to learning, so that best practice is disseminated across the school. The school offers an innovative and inspiring curriculum'.

We recently had our Basic Skills Quality Mark assessment and we successfully achieved the award. A letter from Quality Mark explaining the award is attached to the newsletter.

Thank you once again for all your continued support - wishing everyone a Merry Christmas, I hope the Christmas period is filled with joy and happiness for all.

Jim Dees, Headteacher

FOWLS

I would like to thank the FOWLS team for all their hard work and dedication this term. The term culminated in the Christmas Fair – which was a huge success, raising (including match giving) a total of £9,697. Thank you to everyone who gave up their time to support this event and to Jen Allsop (Chair of FOWLS) for working tirelessly to co-ordinate it all. This year FOWLS have supported the Roundhouse project and the building of the raised beds.

Match funding is a simple way through which we can maximise funds raised for FOWLS (a registered charity supporting the school). The majority of companies provide an opportunity to permanent employees to apply for match funding where the company will match £ for £ on the funds raised in a stall volunteered by the employee. For the Christmas Fair alone, we have raised £1,943.15 through match giving. In the past we have had a number of parents working in companies such as DHL, Barclays Bank and BSkyB who had applied for match funding. If you are interested to know more or would like to apply for match funding for our forthcoming FOWLS events please contact FOWLS Treasurer, Parvatha Swaminathan, at westlodge.fowls@barclays.com. Thank you to Parvatha for working so hard in her role as treasurer.

FOWLS events in the Spring Term: FOWLS Book Fair – 28th Feb, 1st March & 2nd March; FOWLS Quiz Night – 4th March



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Rights Respecting Schools



This half term, all children at West Lodge have strived to keep to the West Lodge Way and to ensure everyone's rights are being respected. Displays clearly remind children of their rights. The charters continue to remind children of their rights in the classroom, dining room and playground. Also, signs have been put up around school to show the rights which children have in different rooms and parts of school.

Additionally, the children in campaigning club have begun to make new posters which promote rights and these will be displayed around school in the coming weeks. Furthermore, the newly elected PALs (peer leaders) received training from Miss Rolnick and have been hard at work during lunch times. They have helped to teach new games and mediate between disagreements on the playground during lunch times, to ensure that all children have a positive lunchtime experience.

Roundhouse

Our Celtic Roundhouse project has been a hugely enjoyable and rewarding learning experience for the children. Each year group has had some involvement in the build – with children donning protective gloves and adding the daub mixture (horse dung, lime and sand) to the internal walls. Children in Years 3 & 4 have been involved in a number of workshops linked to their History topics. The children have learnt how to weave the hazel sticks to create the first part of the wall and how to make charcoal. There has also been a role-play session where they debated whether life was better as a Roman or a Celt. In addition to this, a Celtic storytelling session and a drumming workshop completed the learning experiences for the children.



Children as Researchers Course

Throughout this Autumn Term, twenty one children from Years 4, 5 and 6 have been involved in the 'Children as Researchers' project at Wembley Stadium. Altogether, the children had nine sessions where they developed their understanding of the different types of research. They also learnt the importance of researching ethically and were taught how to analyse data. They then conducted a piece of research based on areas of interest to them at West Lodge. After this they had a couple of sessions learning how to collate and present their findings. In total, each piece of research has taken the children around ten hours to complete from start to finish. This is an incredible amount of time and dedication and shows how seriously the children took this project.

The children presented their findings to each other and their parents on the final session. It was a real pleasure to see the children so confident and so proud of what they had achieved. The findings of their research will be shared with all the children and staff at West Lodge in January. We will then create an action plan to respond to their findings.

Here are the research projects:

Saanjh Lomash and Ayaan Rajput - **How resilient are children at West Lodge?**

Aaron Protheroe and Aditya Dham - **What is children's favourite online learning tool?**

Evie Alsopp and Maya Varsani - **How do children feel about homework at West Lodge?**

Freddie Taylor and Dylan Kinsella - **How do children problem solve at West Lodge?**

Amy Sathiyakumar and Jasmine Ahlawat - **Do children know the secrets of success and core values at West Lodge?**

Marley Keylock and Vanshika Sharma - **What is the most popular sport at West Lodge?**

Nina Jerrom and Lehansa Samaratunga - **Do children at West Lodge like outdoor learning?**

Shray Singhal and Sudarshan Krishnan - **Which gender is the healthiest at West Lodge?**

Summer Watson and Amelie Coyle - **What physical parts of the school need improving most?**

Zakariya Choudhury, Joshua Luiz and Oliver Baderman - **How can lunchtimes be improved?**



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Kaleidoscope

Kaleidoscope is now well into its second year and continues to be embraced by the West Lodge community. Children who benefit from opportunities to access some of their learning in Kaleidoscope or to spend their playtimes in there are never short of buddies wanting to accompany them! During the curriculum evening held earlier this term, it was lovely to be able to welcome parents/carers who have not previously had an opportunity to visit Kaleidoscope before. They were able to see the learning spaces the children use and talk to staff who work in Kaleidoscope.

During the spring and summer terms, we will be developing the outdoor area of Kaleidoscope. This will include a sensory pathway for the children to walk on, a mud kitchen and a sandpit. In preparation for the sensory path, the ground needs to be levelled and paved. If there is anyone who can help with this please let us know. Thank you.



Outdoor Play & Learning (OPAL)



As mentioned in the newsletter back in October, we will be launching an exciting new project to make our play times even better next term. The project, which we are running with advice and mentoring from OPAL (outdoorplayandlearning.org.uk), will start in January and our hopes are that this project will change the way we think and how we play together.

To facilitate this project we will need to buy some new resources and we will also require some loose parts. Loose parts are any materials that can be easily moved, combined, and incorporated into children's free play. The items we are looking for will enable us to enjoy a wider range of play experiences during playtime and are things such as: cones, buckets, ropes, bowls, crates, pots and pans, wooden spoons, guttering, old suitcases, cable drums, tyres and much more! A launch letter with more details about the project is being sent out with the newsletter. Please keep collecting any items which you think might be useful – we will be holding a collection week during the week beginning 16th January.

Digital Leaders

The Digital Leaders started their training this term by taking part in a Green Screen workshop led by a professional from the company that supplied us with the equipment. During the day, the children expertly filmed and edited a clip with the theme of 'Children in Need'. They focused on using interesting camera angles, adding moving backgrounds and selecting appropriate backing music to add to their movie. The final version of the short film can be viewed at www.westlodge.harrow.sch.uk/digital-leaders/.

Using their newly acquired skills, the Digital Leaders have been supporting the Year 4 Green Screen Club by setting up the equipment and assisting the children in using it correctly. They will also help with the editing of the film once all of the clips have been recorded.

Road Safety & Junior Travel Ambassadors (JTAs)

The JTAs have been very busy this term. The role of the JTAs is to promote safer travel and to encourage the use of sustainable transport.

You may have seen the orange jacketed JTAs on Friday mornings, notebooks in hand, patrolling the school entrance on West End Lane. Over the last few weeks they have been rewarding positive behaviour with stickers, and jotting down in their notebooks when they see poor practice. One child was observed scooting over the zebra crossing – do ensure your child dismounts from his or her scooter or bicycle before crossing the road. On another occasion, a parking attendant was patrolling the area, and issued a number of parking tickets. Please do ensure you only park in designated areas, and remember that the visitors' carpark is for badge holders only.

The JTAs have also been counting, on a weekly basis, the number of bikes and scooters in the bike shed. The school is really keen to promote the use of bikes and scooters, and we have a target of increasing the number of children using this method of transport by the end of the summer term.

Finally, Rayyan Khan and Karina Cooper were very proud to represent the school at the STARS award ceremony put on by TfL. The STARS award promotes sustainable transport and we were delighted to receive a Silver Award for our Travel Plan last year. Our next challenge is to achieve the Gold Award. Please do support us by leaving your car at home whenever possible.

I would like to remind everyone to ensure that they remain respectful to the local residents if driving to school. Please don't block driveways or park on double yellow lines. I would urge everyone to walk to school where possible – if you do have to drive please park in a safe place away from the school entrance and walk the remainder of the journey. I would encourage everyone to adhere to the three core principles of our school travel plan:

- Encourage an active lifestyle
- Improve safety for pupils on the school journey
- Cut down pollution



West Lodge Primary School Newsletter

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Newsletter Autumn 2

Year 3 and 4 Sportshall Athletics Competition, Whitmore High School

West lodge were aiming for their 3rd victory in as many years at this cluster competition. In an extremely close contest, the original scores had us as outside the top 3 but after a recalculation, there were just 8 points between the top 3 with West Lodge pipping Norbury by just 4 points! Well done - a fantastic team performance!

Squad: Julian, Rian, Eshan, Angel, Boyko, Aarav, Amelie H, Amelie C, Jenani, Lowena, Florence and Audrey

Year 5 and 6 Sportshall Athletics Cluster Competition, Harrow Leisure Centre

Weeks and weeks of preparation paid off as West Lodge qualified for the Harrow finals in emphatic style, storming to victory by 64 points. The relay teams in particular were especially good! The Harrow indoor sportshall athletic finals are in January and see us pitched against the winners and second place teams from the other two cluster competitions. This will be a sterner test for this squad. The winners of the Harrow finals qualify to represent Harrow at the West-London finals.

Squad: Tiyyara, Anna H, Eva, Anais, Sofia, Alexia, Calvin, Ella, Joshua, Mia, Anna C, Greta, Imad, Adam, Keighley, Alex, Nina, Zakariyya Shafi, Roshni, Max, Amelia P, Brian, Matthew W, Zee, Sravan, Lola, Freddie and Charlie

Year 5 and 6 Table Tennis

West Lodge Primary School sent two teams of four players to the Harrow Primary Schools Table Tennis Competition which took place at Harrow Leisure Centre on 14th November 2016. The children played against teams from 7 other Harrow Schools, showing great competitiveness and spirit.

Squad : Matthew, Joshua, Krish, Keigan, Keighley, Roshni, Imad and Matthew

Year 3 and 4 Tag Rugby Festival

With rugby union switching to a friendly only format at primary schools, this was the second rugby festival of the year. The children who took part had a great time playing at Harrow rugby club demonstrating fantastic team spirit. Special mention to the Year 3 children for stepping up and showing great maturity!

Squad: Amelie H, Josh, Yash, Ameile C, Catthy, Rowan, Mia, Elouis, Ariv, Layla, Janet, Mohammed, Sofia, Aaron, Arman, Tatjana, Jessica, Aarav, Raafey, Rian, Eshan, Nabil, Ella, Ojas, Deji, Shyam, Boyko, Darren, Audrey and Arjun

Year 5 and 6 Gymnastics Competition

With the number of schools attending at an all-time high, this was a hotly contested competition. Norbury and Cannon Lane were the most impressive teams but the West Lodge squad should be proud of their performance. Both Amelia and Ella C received judges' award for their performances on the vault.

Year 5: Ronnie, Henry, Charlie and Reece; Year 6: Nina, Ella C, Lehansa, Greta and Amelia

Year 6 Netball Match v Earlsmead

The first centre pass was taken from Earlsmead, but it wasn't long before West Lodge had intercepted the ball and the first point was scored by Joshua for West Lodge. Three more in the net and one for Earlsmead set the score at 4/1 to West Lodge at half time. Earlsmead seemed to step up their game in the second half, scoring 3 more goals in the third quarter. In the final quarter West Lodge scored again, but that wasn't enough to hold on to a win, as Earlsmead came back to score two more points, crowning them the winners making the final score 6/5 to Earlsmead. The game was evenly matched and West Lodge did themselves and their school proud!

Squad: Roshni, Hannah, Alexia, Ahana, Keighley, Skyla, Zee, Joshua and Krish

Year 6 Netball Match v Pinner Park

West lodge had a good warm-up consisting of long stroll to Pinner Park. The home side got off to a strong start leading 1-0 after the first quarter but West Lodge were able to level the scores thanks to Hannah. The third quarter again saw Pinner park take the lead 2-1, however the away side came from behind again with 2 well taken goals from Roshni giving West Lodge a 3-2 win!

Squad: Roshni, Hannah, Alexia, Ahana, Skyla, Keighley, Krish, Joshua and Zee



West Lodge Primary School Newsletter

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Year 6 Netball Match v Pinner Wood

With some year 6 boys unavailable due to a football league match taking place at the same time, Year 5 Keigan Elliott stepped into help the 'B team' out and performed superbly. The home side stormed to a 4-0 lead but West Lodge produced a stunning comeback scoring 3 well taken goals to bring the score back to 4-3. Unfortunately there was not enough time to score a fourth goal!

Squad: Sophie A, Skyla, Keighley, Poppy, Ella C, Emily and Summer

Year 6 Netball Match v Pinner Wood

In a close match, Pinner Wood proved tough opponents, securing a 2-0 victory despite West Lodge's best efforts. Greta, Roshni, Hannah and Zee all came close to scoring. The team will be hoping for a better result against Earlsmead.

Squad: Roshni, Hannah, Alexia, Mia, Greta, Ahana, Rayyan, Keigan and Amelia

Year 6 Boys Football v Cannon Lane

West Lodge dominated this game from kick-off, creating a host of chances and scoring six goals which could easily have been in double figures. The first half saw us score 5 times in a superb display of attacking. With quite a few changes at the break, we were not quite able to continue in the same fashion in the second half. However there were still plenty of chances to add to the scoreline but Imad made the victory secure with the sixth goal.

Squad: Zee, Rayyan Khan, Adam, Alex, Imad, Zak Shafi, Leo, Joshua, Otto, Kyle, Luke and Miles

Year 6 Boys Football v Pinner Wood

Pinner Wood proved tough opponents on a tough playing surface. West Lodge took a while to adapt to the conditions. Despite being unable to play their usual passing game, they created a number of good opportunities in the first half with Josh, Otto and Alex going the closest. With the game goalless at the break, the excitable home fans raised their voices even more after the re-start. Playing downhill in the second half, the home side started strongly, creating a few chances but West Lodge still had chances to grab a win with Alex and Pratham just missing the target. The game finished 0-0 and on the balance of play a draw was a fair result. West lodge remain unbeaten this season with just one league match against Vaughan to play.

Squad: Yousef, Luke, Kyle, Otto, Joshua, Zak Shafi, Zak Simmons, Leo, Alex, Pratham and Imad

Year 5 and 6 Indoor Cricket

WL3 - Roxeth 1: For our first group match we found ourselves up against Roxeth. The teams were evenly matched making for a very tight game. In the end, Roxeth just managed to overpower us. We should be very proud of the way we bowled.

Squad: Pratham, George, Om, Adam, Alex, Aryan, Rayyan, Kyle (Captain)

WL1 - WL2: Wow, what a 'local derby' this was! We had two very strong teams playing and, for the most part, the best players managed to cancel each other out. After some truly amazing fielding by Jamie and some lovely batting from Keigan, West Lodge 1 won. Congratulations to both teams - a really hard fought battle!

WL1: Yousuf, Imad, Raiyan, Zakariya, Kaelen, Keigan, Charlie and Jamie **WL2:** Dylan, Dehan, Leo, Krish, Luke, Shray, Rayyan, Sufyaan and Krish

Next term we have the following events to look forward to: Year 6 hockey, Year 5/6 sportshall athletics, Year 6 netball, Year 6 girls and boys football, Year 5/6 tag rugby league, Year 5/6 badminton, Year 3 /4 gymnastics.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Remember to keep active!

Mr Nevins, Mr Went, Mr Dees, Mr Bennett. Mr O'Rourke, Miss Kerl, Mr Beckwith and Mrs Gobindlal
PE Team