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8.9.23

**Westfield Weekly**

ISSUE

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Dear Parents

Welcome back to the new school year at Westfield and a very special welcome to all the new children and families who have joined us this September. We are particularly proud of all our Nursery and Reception children who have started school so confidently this week. It has been so lovely to welcome all the children back to school.

This year’s school priorities are:

* To develop the school’s reading culture;
* To improve attainment in writing and maths;
* Building resilience and aspiration to be compassionate citizens.

***School Information***

**Calendar Dates**

Our list of calendar dates for the new academic year will be shared with all parents in next week’s bulletin.

**Learning Journals**

Children have all been provided with a new learning journal (not nursery). The journals are intended to be both a learning tool for the children and a communication tool for you, so please take time to look through them. Please complete the contact details and home collection details in the front of the journal as soon as possible. Please also read and sign the home school agreement. The journals are for you and your child to fill in as appropriate. Learning journals should be in school every day as children do use them in lessons. Teachers will initial any messages you send in the journal so that you know they have seen them; in this way, we will ensure that no important messages get missed. Please record every time you read with your child and for the older children, please encourage them to record their own reading at **least 3 times per week**. Reading and vocabulary are a focus in school so we will be monitoring home reading regularly.

Important contact e-mail addresses for the school are as follows:

enquiries@bw.keystonemat.org (School Office)

starting@bw.keystonemat.org (Bourne Westfield Nursery/Slippers)

reception@bw.keystonemat.org

year1@bw.keystonemat.org year2@bw.keystonemat.org

year3@bw.keystonemat.org year4@bw.keystonemat.org

year5@bw.keystonemat.org year6@bw.keystonemat.org

If you are e-mailing, please include the name of your child and the name of their class teacher so that the information can be shared promptly. E-mails should not be sent directly to staff members.

**Change of Contact Details**

If you have moved house during the summer or have changed your telephone number, please make sure you inform us as soon as possible. Any updates can be sent via the year group e-mail addresses above.

**Year 4 - Swimming**

Swimming for all year 4 children will commence on Monday 11th September – a Parentmail with the information has previously been circulated.

**Year 6 – Aylmerton Residential Visit – Parents’ Meeting**

After previous very successful trips by Year 6 children to Aylmerton in Norfolk, we shall be returning there again next summer from 8th – 12th July. There will be a meeting for parents and children on **Tuesday 19th September at 6:00pm**, where discussion will take place on the facilities, possible itinerary and cost. We would very much like to take all of our Year 6 to Aylmerton so please come along to find out more.

**Year 6 – Secondary School Transfer**

Please keep an eye out for information regarding the secondary school transfer for children currently in Year 6. Applications must be made by 31st October 2023 – please make sure you do not miss this important deadline.

**Years 1-6 – After School Clubs**

Information regarding school-led clubs will be shared separately by Parentmail/google form. This will go out on Monday 11th September with sign up by 13th September.

**Permission for Child to Walk Home/Walk to Meet Parent/Collect a Younger Sibling - Y5 & Y6 only**

If you haven’t yet done so, but would like your child to walk home at the end of the day, walk to meet you on the school site or collect a sibling in KS2, please e-mail the relevant year group e-mail address so this permission can be shared with staff.

**Opal - Up and Coming Plans – Can you help?**

We are looking forward to extending our Opal provision over the coming months and we need your help! We would love to set up some new areas such as:

* Large sandpit – We would need an area digging out, lining, and then filling with sand… a lot of sand! Do you have any contacts who could perhaps help us with any of this?
* Paved area with raised wooden planters for growing – We would love to have an area specifically for planting and growing throughout the year. Can you help? Who could help us with supplying paving slabs? Can you help us prepare the ground or help us put together some planters from old pallets – or do you have a contact who could supply us with some wood?
* Pallets… we need lots of pallets for various projects. Do you know anyone who could perhaps deliver some to us on an ongoing basis? That would be very much appreciated.

**Parent Play Days**

We are also planning some ‘Parent Play Days’ during this school year, where you will be invited in to learn a little bit more about our amazing Opal project and be able to experience first-hand the amazing play opportunities on offer as the children demonstrate their competence and creativity.

New children in Reception will receive a separate letter explaining all about Opal on Parentmail shortly.

Please email: [Judi.main@bw.keystonemat.org](mailto:Judi.main@bw.keystonemat.org) if you can help or have any useful contacts for us in the Community. Thank you for your ongoing support with our Opal project.

**Friends of Westfield** – Follow us on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/FriendsWestfieldBourne>

Welcome to all our new parents/carers! To introduce ourselves, Friends of Westfield is a fundraising group made up of parents, teachers, friends and supporters of the school. Money raised by the group is used to enhance our children’s time at Westfield and has been spent on a wide range of indoor and outdoor projects/equipment over the years. Please do follow our Facebook group to stay up-to-date on all our latest events and ways you can support us.

Last school year we staged a wide range of events & fundraisers: a Christmas Reindeer Run & Raffle; we produced some lovely Christmas cards & gifts through Class Fundraising; we held three seasonal discos; our popular Mother’s & Father’s Day Sales; Easter Family Bingo; a Summer Family Fun Afternoon; the Year 6 leavers pool party plus a number of smaller pop-up uniform and other sales. We were also thrilled to launch the Swap Shack, a free resource for the whole school community to use.

We were very thankful for great support for all events & projects. You can also help us fundraise by joining the school lottery - <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/bourne-westfield-primary-academy> or donating/buying from our preloved uniform shop.

This year we have lots more exciting ideas and plans already but **WE NEED YOU** to help us… do you have organisational, creative or practical skills you can offer to our small but eager team of FOW volunteers? Our **AGM and 2023/24 planning meeting will be held on Monday 18th September at school from 6pm –** we’d love to see lots of new faces there! You can get in touch with us via Facebook or [friendsofwestfieldbourne@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofwestfieldbourne@gmail.com) You can also speak to Amanda Nightingale or Jo Challinor (Co-chairs of FOW) most days in the Year 2 area at pickup if you’d like to know more about FOW.

**Thank You to Friends of Westfield**

I would like to add my personal thanks to the Friends of Westfield for all the support they gave to the school last year. During the summer they have provided each class, including Nursery, with £150 to buy items of their choice to enhance their classrooms. They also opened the Swap Shack on two days to allow parents to pick up any uniform items ahead of the new term starting.

**Bourne Westfield School Lottery**

For those new to the school or aren’t aware, the Friends of Westfield run a School Lottery. The winnings increase as more people join – if you want to join for just £1 per ticket, per week and have a chance of winning the weekly draw, then please go to [www.yourschoollottery.co.uk](http://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk), search for Bourne Westfield and follow the on screen instructions. Congratulations to all of the parents who were winners of the school lottery during the summer holidays.

And last but not least … we have had a tremendous start to the new academic year. The children have returned so enthusiastically, and the school is buzzing in anticipation for what promises to be another very exciting year.

***Atkinson’s Announcements***

**Parking**

If you are driving to school to drop off/collect children please ensure you park considerately. The zigzag lines outside the school are there to ensure our children are able to get to school safely. Stopping or parking on the zigzag yellow lines is not permitted from 8:00-9:00am and from 3:00-4:00pm. Please do not park on the entry or exit roads to the school or on any side roads where your parking causes an obstruction to local residents. If one of our neighbours does speak to you about where you have parked, please be polite to them. If you arrive early for drop off/pick up, please do not sit in your car with your engine running – it is an offence to leave vehicle engines running unnecessarily when stationary.



Miss K Atkinson

Headteacher