

Westgate Academy Newsletter

Friday 13th March



Our Westgate Stars – 13th March

Loki	Monty
Dakota	Lucy
Lancaster	Ivy
Hampden	Eliza
Boudicca	Eva
Darwin	Ellis
Spitfire	Nyasha

Thor	Hana
Claudius	Zoe
Heimdall	Dougie
Seacole	Lily
Tennyson	Seren
Caesar	David

The best attenders for the week ending 13th March are Seacole with 98.15%; Dakota with 98%; Odin with 97.69%; Hampden with 97.67% and Hadrian with 97.66%.

Spelling Shed winners - Y3 winner - Karen – Boudicca; Y4 winner - Kara - Thor; Y5 winner - Tofunmi – Nightingale; Y6 winner - Nyah – Spitfire.

Red Nose Day – 20th March

School Council are currently getting ready for Red Nose Day, more information will follow next week.

They are also selling Red Noses, which will cost £2.50, from Monday 16th March. *This year the noses are a customisable Red Nose... the Design-Yer Nose.*

Grab your markers, stickers and crayons, or go all out with sparkles, bling, pom-poms and bows. Anything goes, with a Design-Yer Nose

School council have decided to hold a nonuniform day on Friday 20th March which will cost £1. They would like everyone to try and wear as much red as possible.

Parking outside schools

Thank you to everyone who is dropping off and picking from school by foot – either you have walked from home or you have parked in the carpark and walked across to school to collect you child. We really appreciate how you have helped to keep our children safe.

Unfortunately, we have a few members of the school community who are dropping off and pick up on the road side outside of school. Pick-up and drop-off times are busy outside. This can cause an increased safety risk to both children and parents.

Parking restrictions outside schools

Understanding yellow zigzag markings

Near the front entrance we have yellow zigzag road markings with the writing 'School Keep Clear'. They indicate the part of the road where motorists should not wait, stop, or park a vehicle. Information about parking on zigzag lines can be found here - [Highway Code](#)

Parking on yellow zigzags

You can legally park on yellow zigzags under certain circumstances.

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Yellow zigzags without accompanying signs advise motorists not to wait or park there at any time for the safety of children and others. We can and do issue tickets for parking on them, based on causing an obstruction to other motorists or pedestrians.

Safety tips for parking outside schools

When picking up or dropping off children at schools, you should do the following:

- Allow yourself plenty of time as the area is likely to be busy.
- Do not park on yellow zigzag lines and avoid parking opposite them, unless in a parking bay.
- If you decide to park further away, please be considerate of local residents and avoid blocking driveways or accessways.
- Use the carparks across the road.

We have asked the local police and Civil Enforcement Officers (traffic wardens) to support us in keeping all of our children safe.

Supporting Parents to Support their children Online

The world can be a really difficult place and it is made worse by some people as they hide behind an online persona. Thank you to all of our parents for the support they give our children to ensure they are safe online. We've found a really interesting article which might help parents with this constant battle - [Children and technology: Age-appropriate usage advice | NSPCC](#).

Relief Midday Supervisor at Westgate Academy

We are currently advertising for someone to step in occasionally and support our fabulous lunchtime team. If you are interested, please [click here](#).

Some Dates

- Week beginning 16th March – practice SATS week - year 6
- Friday 20th March – Red Nose Day
- Monday 23rd March – Planetarium in school - year 5
- Monday 23rd March – ILP reviews – year 6
- Monday 23rd March – Road Safety Walk – year 4
- Tuesday 24th March – ILP Reviews – year 5
- Monday 30th March – Road Safety Walk – year 4
- Wednesday 1st April – Topic celebration – year 4 in the hall
- Wednesday 1st April – Topic celebration – year 6 in classrooms
- Thursday 2nd April – Last Day of the Term
- Tuesday 21st April – First day of term 5
- Thursday 23rd April – Weights and Measures – year 6
- Friday 24th April – Repton Swimming Gala – Regional Qualifiers

Headlice

Recently, cases of head lice have been identified across the school and we wanted to make sure you were kept informed. Whilst lice are nothing more than a nuisance, it is important that children are checked on a weekly basis so that any head lice can be dealt with quickly and before they are allowed to spread.

Here is some simple advice you may wish to follow to keep head lice outbreaks to a minimum.

- Check your child's hair once a week.

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- Use a proper detection comb – with teeth no more than 0.3mm apart to trap head lice. The comb is usually white in colour so that lice can be easily identified.
- If you find live lice, check the whole family

Further advice on the treatment of head lice can be found on NHS website -

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>



British Science Week Competition 2026



Do you think you can make the best boat in our school?

Mrs Drew and the science ambassadors are challenging you to | build the best boat/raft which you can bring into school and test on **Tuesday 24th March**.

Competition rules:

*You are only allowed to use **one type of material**, e.g. foil, card, etc, to make your boat. You can use glue or tape to stick part together.

*The material you use/start with should be **21 x 30 cm**. This is to make sure it is a fair test!

*Only one boat per person is allowed to be entered.

How will it be tested?

At breaktime, on **Tuesday 24th March**, you will be invited to test your boat by seeing how many marbles it can hold.

The winner will be the boat that can hold the most before sinking! Winners will receive a certificate and prize!

Who will be crowned as Westgate's brilliant boat builder?



WESTGATE EGG DECORATING COMPETITION

**Not every egg at Easter needs to be chocolate!
Instead, get creative and decorate an egg for
our EGG-CELLENT competition.**

Theme: Anything you want your egg to become!

How: Bring your entries in between 16th March up
to 30th March and add it to the EGG DECORATING
COMPETITION table in the main corridor.

REMEMBER: Label with your name and class.

All entries to be received by Monday 30th March.

So EGG-CITED to see what you come up with!





At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about WHATSAPP



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

WhatsApp is a free messaging app owned by Meta, allowing users to send text and voice messages, share multimedia, make video calls, and chat in groups. With end-to-end encryption, only the sender and receiver can view messages. This may offer privacy, but it also comes with risks that parents and educators need to be aware of.

GROUP CHAT PRESSURES

Group chats enable multiple users to message in the same space, but this can also make it easier for young people to feel excluded or overwhelmed. Negative comments can escalate quickly, and young people may feel pressure to respond or stay engaged even when the conversation is uncomfortable or upsetting.

EXPOSURE THROUGH CHANNELS

'Channels' are an optional feature that allows users to follow updates from public figures or organisations; however, there is no way to block this feature or filter its content by age. Young users may encounter adult or distressing content, including misinformation and harmful ideologies.

SCAMS TARGETING YOUNG USERS

Scammers are increasingly using WhatsApp to trick users into sharing personal information. Common scams include fraudsters posing as family members in an emergency or tricking users into revealing security codes. These can lead to identify theft or access to private conversations.

UNWANTED CONTACT AND LOCATION SHARING

WhatsApp users can share their live location, and if not managed carefully, this can allow others – even those in mutual groups – to track someone's whereabouts. Also, without the right privacy settings, young users may be contacted by strangers.

DISAPPEARING AND HIDDEN MESSAGES

WhatsApp offers features like disappearing messages and 'Chat Lock', which can give users a false sense of security. While intended to protect privacy, they can be used by young users to hide inappropriate conversations or content, making it harder for adults to spot potential issues.

COMMERCIAL AND AI CONTENT

WhatsApp now includes ads in the 'Updates' feed and has introduced an AI assistant – Meta AI – across the app, which cannot be removed. These additions raise concerns about targeting, privacy, AI use, and the type of content children and young people might interact with.

...ONLINE...

Advice for Parents & Educators

REVIEW PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Help young users check who can see their profile photo, status, and location. Activate the 'Silence Unknown Callers' setting and set group chat invitations to 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except...' for added safety.

TEACH HOW TO SPOT SCAMS

Encourage caution around unusual and unexpected messages, especially if they involve money or codes. Help young users understand the signs of scams and what to do if they receive a suspicious message. Enable two-step verification to add an extra layer of protection.

BE OPEN ABOUT HIDDEN CHATS

Discuss why children and young people might use features like disappearing messages or 'Chat Lock'. Encourage them to share if something made them uncomfortable, even if the messages are gone. Let them know that privacy should not mean secrecy.

TALK ABOUT ADVERTISING AND AI

Explain that WhatsApp now includes ads and AI tools. Discuss the difference between genuine and sponsored content, and the potential for AI to share inaccurate or age-inappropriate responses. Encourage young users to think critically before trusting or interacting with these features.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



See full reference list on our website

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Easter Clubs

PREMIER HOLIDAY CLUBS

EXCITING games, **SPORTS** competitions, and **FUN** during the **EASTER HOLIDAYS!**

Book today
premier-education.com

Premier Education

Trustpilot
Based on 20,000 reviews

YOUR NEAREST HOLIDAY CLUBS...

30th March - 2nd April & 7th - 10th April

- Travs St Lawrence C of E Primary School - DN7 6QE
- Newark Magnus Academy - NG24 4AB

7th - 10th April & 13th - 17th April

- Lincoln Bishop University - LN1 3DY
- Metheringham Primary School - LN4 3BX
- Bourne Westfield Primary Academy - PE10 9QS
- Welton St Mary's C of E Primary Academy - LN2 3LA
- The Lincoln Manor Leas Junior School - LN6 8BE

PLEASE BRING
A packed lunch
Plenty of water
Suitable clothing
Loads of energy!

PRICES
EARLY YEARS £18 PER 4 HOUR SESSION
09:00 - 16:00: £30 (Full Day)
08:00 - 17:00: £35 (Extended Day)

OUR VENUES

PLEASE CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION
01522 704387
Office-167@premier-education.com

THE EASTER STORY BRICK BY BRICK

3 APRIL, 9AM - 11.30AM

A fun-filled morning for Primary School age children (R-Y6), featuring the Easter Story in Lego, games, crafts, music, cooking, sports and prizes!

£5

SIGN UP NOW

St Peter's Church Eastgate, Lincoln, LN2 4AA

stpeterineastgate.org.uk
tel: 01522 546226