

# WESTFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

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## January 2018

Welcome back and Happy New Year to children, staff and families following our Christmas break. Pupils have settled back quickly and we have enjoyed a calm start to the new term. I am sure this will be a taste of things to come and that children will continue to work hard and enthusiastically through the Spring term.

Mrs Hickey

### New Year Resolutions

If you are looking for something to encourage your children to adopt as a new year resolution, could we suggest home reading three times per week.

### **Helping your child with reading**

We often get asked how parents can help their children develop reading skills. Reading with your child is vital. Research shows that it's the single most important thing you can do to help your child's education. It's best to read little and often, so try to put aside some time for it every day.

Think of ways to make reading fun - you want your child to learn how pleasurable books can be. If you're both enjoying talking about the content of a particular page, linger over it for as long as you like.

Books aren't just about reading the words on the page, they can also present new ideas and topics for you and your child to discuss.

Tips for helping your child to enjoy books:

- Encourage your child to pretend to 'read' a book before he or she can read words.
- Visit the library as often as possible - take out CDs and DVDs as well as books.
- Schedule a regular time for reading - perhaps when you get home from school or just before bed.
- Buy dual-language books if English isn't your family's first language - you can talk about books and stories, and develop a love for them, in any language.
- Look for books on topics that you know your child is interested in - maybe dragons, insects, cookery or a certain sport.

Make sure that children's books are easily accessible in different rooms around your house.

Please remember that reading at home does not need to be an arduous task - ten / fifteen minutes three times a week is more beneficial than a forty five minute battle on a Sunday evening and is a fantastic way to support your child and their education. Thank you for your support.

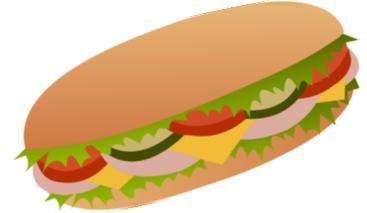


## Staffing news

We are pleased to announce that both Miss Plews and Miss Kenyon are pregnant. We expect that both staff will work until approximately May half term and commence maternity leave at some point following this date. Once we have completed the recruitment process later in the term, we will let parents know who will be covering both classes during maternity leave. I am sure you will join with me in congratulating both Miss Plews and Miss Kenyon.

## School Meals

From 5th February, our school sandwich supplier will be changing and although the price and menu choices will remain the same, we will be trying a white bread bun instead of sliced bread. Thank you.



## Westfield Sport

Our sporting teams are springing into action this term. This week has seen our Y5/Y6 Dodgeball team compete. Congratulations to the team who were overall winners of the Tigers Trust competition and thanks to Dunswell Academy for being such great opposition. Last week our Y4 Dodgeball team enjoyed similar success, winning the Tigers Trust Tournament for their year group. Within curriculum time our Y4 and Y1 pupils are enjoying a series of sport sessions delivered by qualified coaches. Keep up to date with all our PE news by following our designated PE twitter account @WestfieldCottPE

## Staying Safe

Teaching pupils to be safe is an important part of our work and our Y2 pupils have enjoyed scooter training this term along with the Y4 children who have completed their pedestrian training. Both year groups had a great day. We are also aware that many children were lucky enough to receive electrical devices for Christmas such as iPads or Smart phones. Could we please stress to parents the need to monitor children's online activity and be aware of privacy settings on social media Apps such as Instagram, Facebook and Snapchat. Talking to your children about the need to stay safe and encouraging them to report any unwanted or inappropriate material to a trusted adult is a great way to support children. Further information and advice can be found on [internetmatters.org](http://internetmatters.org)



## Diary dates— Spring term

Tuesday 9th January	School reopens
Wednesday 10th January	Y4 Pedestrian skills
Tuesday 23rd January	Y2 Scooter training
Tuesday 23rd January	Y3/4 and Y5/6 Dodgeball competitions
Thursday 1st February	Athlete Day—Sport Relief 2018
<b>Monday 12th February</b>	<b>HALF TERM</b>
Monday 19th February	School reopens
Thursday 22nd February	Y1 Victorian Day
Wednesday 28th February	Magic Theatre Company visit
Thursday 1st March	Whole school poetry share
Monday 5th March	Parent consultations
Tuesday 6th March	Parent consultations
Wednesday 7th March	Parent consultations
Thursday 8th March	Parent consultations
Wednesday 14th March	Y3 Hull Museums visit
Friday 23rd March	Term ends
Tuesday 10th April	School reopens

