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[www.westgateprimary.co.uk](http://www.westgateprimary.co.uk)  
[admin@westgateprimary.co.uk](mailto:admin@westgateprimary.co.uk)

### WELCOME BACK

Another very busy term has started here at Westgate! A look at the Diary Dates section on the next page will tell you a lot about how busy it is... We welcomed Jessica in Y5 on Monday this week, who joins us after moving from elsewhere in Leeds to Otley. I know that everyone in Y5 has already made her feel very much at home.

Last week saw us also welcome Mrs Pamela Gill, Town Mayor of Otley, to judge the Easter Bonnet competition. As part of her visit, she also spent time chatting to children over lunch-time and stayed with us for Friday's Celebration Assembly.

Nursery parents received their offers of school places over the Easter holidays. As expected, demand was high in Otley this year, as it was across Leeds as a whole. We are really pleased that all of our parents have been offered one of their preferences and nobody has been placed at a school outside of the Otley area, other than Farnley and Askwith schools. While we know



that some parents are disappointed not to have been offered a place at Westgate, I am sure that all our children will go on to have a very happy and successful reception year, whichever school they go to in September, because of the good start they have had this year.

Helen Carpenter  
Head Teacher

### RACE EQUALITY WORKING PARTY

The Race Equality Working Party has continued to work on the long term equality plan, ensuring that there's an exciting programme of visitors which promote a range of faiths and cultures. In the Spring term, African Voices led an exciting activity day with Year 5 and 6. This challenged their perceptions of Africa, explored the diversity of the continent and developed their understanding of contemporary issues. In addition to this, a Buddhist lady came to work with Year 5 and 6 to talk to the children about her faith. Towards the end of the Spring term, BASIK – Build A School In Kenya, came to talk to the children in assembly about the charity and how we can help. We presented them with a cheque from the money we raised in the bun sale earlier this year. It is wonderful to see how we at Westgate can make a difference to some of the children's education in Kenya, so thank you for all your contributions. We are looking forward to an exciting summer term with Year 1 and 2 visiting the Hindu Temple and Year 3 and 4 visiting the Gurdwara. In July, it is Disability Awareness Day (D.A.D) so on the 8th July all the children will get the opportunity to work with the charity 'Scope'. School council will also be getting involved this term with Race Equality Issues and helping to promote diversity. We are also pleased to re-establish our Spanish school link where Year 3 and 4 will be emailing and writing letters to the children in Maracena, a town near Granada.

### EASTER BONNET COMPETITION

Congratulations to everyone who took part in the Easter Bonnet competition this week! Some beautifully creative entries were received from every year group. The Town Mayor of Otley, Pamela Gill, did us the honour of judging; a very difficult job indeed! After much deliberation, the results were as follows:

**Winner (KS1/ FS):** Georgia Bentham

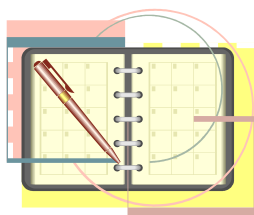
**Winner (KS2):** Isobel Wilks

**Highly Commended:** Milli Pollhammer; Tilly Morley; Lizzy MacDonald; Robin Marsh; Katie Elder; Bronwyn Sneath & Grace Martin; Jenson Brogden. Well done to everyone!



## DATES FOR THE DIARY

Please make a note of the following dates for this term, if you haven't already! Additional dates will be provided as confirmed in subsequent newsletters.



30/04/14 Class photographs  
 30/04/14 veterinary Nurse visit to Nursery  
 01/05/14 Nursery trip to see Monday's Child  
 01/05/14 Cross Country Meet at the Whartons  
 05/05/14 Bank Holiday- school closed  
 08/05/14 KS2 Hope & Social song workshop 09:00  
 08/05/14 Y5 visit from Otley Fire Station pm  
 12/05/14 Friends of Westgate meeting 19:30 The Fleece  
 15/05/14 YR trip to Meanwood Valley Urban Farm  
 16/05/14 Wake Up Shake Up competition  
 19/05/14 Y3/4 visit to Gurdwara (am only)  
 19/05/14 Maypole Dancing 14:00 YR- Y6  
 19/05/14 Walk the Walls 15:15  
 20/05/14 KS2 Hope & Social song workshop 09:00  
 21-22/05/14 Y5 Whitby residential  
 21/05/14 YN Maypole Dancing 11:15 and 14:45  
 22/05/14 Polling day; **school closed to Nursery only**  
 22/05/14 Y6 visit to Leeds Grand Mosque  
 22/05/14 Y1 Gym Festival at PHGS  
 23/05/14 Training day: school closed to pupils. Break up for half term  
 02/06/14 Back to school  
 05/06/14 Y3/4 Roman Day in school  
 06/06/14 Y2 visit Armley Mills  
 07/06/14 Hope and Social 11:00 Yorkshire Festival concert in Otley Market Square  
 10/06/14 Y1 visit Armley Mills  
 12/06/14 Otley Road Safety Quiz  
 16-18/06/14 Y6 Robinwood residential  
 19/06/14 Cross Country Meet at Pool CE  
 21/06/14 Otley Carnival  
 22/06/14 Otley Cycle Club Family Festival  
 25/06/14 Y6 mini-Olympics afternoon at PHGS  
 26/06/14 Y1/2 visit Hindu Temple  
 26/06/14 Y5 taster morning at PHGS  
 26/06/14 YN Induction meetings 15:45 and 17:00  
 01/07/14 Y3/4 meet Tom Palmer at Otley Library

01/07/14 YR Induction meeting 14:00  
 03/07/14 Y6 PHGS Induction day  
 03/07/14 Governors meeting  
 07/07/14 Y6 Wharfemeadows bowling (am)  
 07/07/14 Meet the teacher Y2/4/6  
 09/07/14 Meet the teacher Y1/3/5  
 16/07/14 School reports out  
 16/07/14 Foundation Stage Sports Day  
 17/07/14 School Sports Day  
 17/07/14 Y6 Leavers' Play and Party 18:00  
 21/07/14 Y6 Leavers' Assembly 09:00  
 21/07/14 School Talent Show  
 22/07/14 Break up at 15:15 for summer holidays: No WOOSH after school.  
 01/09/14 Training day  
 02/09/14 School re-opens for the new year  
*Information about individual events to follow as necessary.*

## FRIENDS OF WESTGATE

The grand total raised by this year's Easter fair was just over £1900! Thank you to everyone who donated, attended, spent, and most of all, volunteered and organised- above all, to Gail Brogden, Debbie Parapia and Liz Bownes who masterminded the day in question- no mean feat!  
 Preparations will begin soon for Otley Carnival and volunteers to help with costume preparation will be gratefully received by Cathy MacDonald.

## TOUR DE FRANCE AND HOPE AND SOCIAL

As part of the Yorkshire Festival celebrating the lead up to Le Grand Depart, the Leeds band Hope and Social are going on a Tour of Infinite Possibility. In short, this means that they are playing a series of gigs that anyone can join in. Westgate will be learning singing parts and maybe some handbell parts, so that children can be part of their gig on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2014 at 11:00 in Otley Market Square. Two members of the band will come to lead 2 workshops with KS2 children on 2 dates in May to help us with learning the songs... and one of them might be filmed for broadcast on the TV! See <http://www.hopeandsocial.com/tip/> for more information.



**hope & social**

### WESTGATE WINDFALL

April's winners are:

1<sup>st</sup>: Maggie Simpson (£94)

2<sup>nd</sup>: Deborah Lee (£23.50)

3<sup>rd</sup>: Emma Cochrane (£11.75)



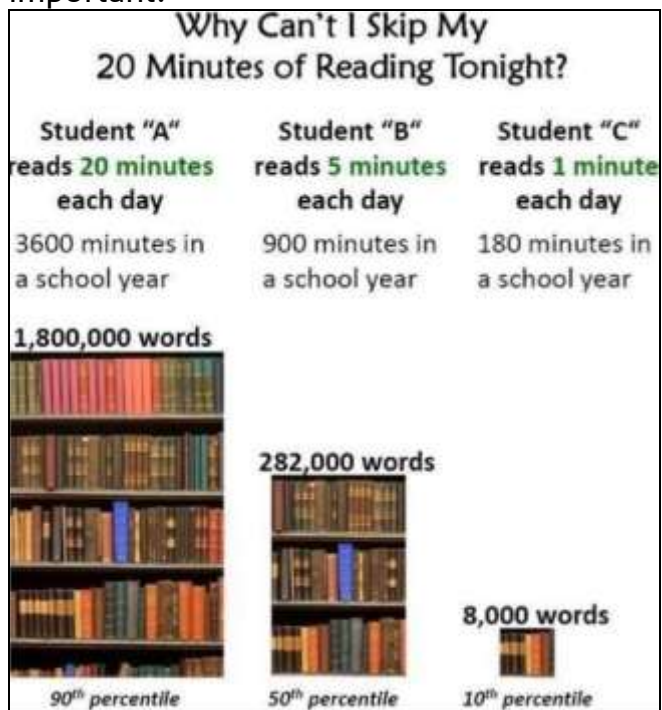
We currently have 47 members. If you would like to join the monthly draw, please see Mrs Finlay in the office for application details. You can pay by standing order or cash/ cheque in advance. All proceeds go to Westgate School Fund, which is used to purchase resources, to fund visitors to school and to subsidise trips for all pupils.

### FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

Please note that music tuition fees are now due: £15 for instrument hire for the term and £25 for cellos. Lesson fees are £30 for the term. All cheques should be payable to Westgate Primary School. Thank you!

### BOOK CORNER

This week, some statistics to remind us all why reading regularly at home is so important:



By the end of Year 6, Student A will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student B will have read only 12 school days. While 20 minutes all in one go might not be appropriate for all learners of all ages, it is important to set aside regular time to read each day. This is highly likely to have a significant impact on each student's vocabulary, their success both in school and in later life.

*Thank you to every parent who ensures their child reads regularly at home, and who encourages a love of reading ☺.*