



Washingwell Primary School

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Newsletter Number: 4

Date: Friday 27 September 2024

Attendance

	Mars Nursery	Mars Reception	Jupiter Y1	Venus Y2	Earth Y3	Neptune Y4	Saturn Y5	Mercury Y6
Weekly Attendance %	94.4%	98.9%	98.9%	98.3%	97.6%	100%	86.9%	98.3%
Whole School attendance %	96.7%							

News

This week's school achievers are...

Achievement for All

Mars: Zachary Layton

Earth: Olive Jones

Jupiter: Evelyn Bennett

Neptune: Maddie Lazarus

Venus: Max Woodhams

Saturn: La Stanley

Mercury: Abbie Bennett

Parent Questionnaire

Thank you for all those parents who responded to our parent questionnaire. We had extremely positive comments which we really appreciate however, we also had some which were less positive and will need further consideration and reflection – we do value your comments and are taking them seriously. Please bear with us as we work on these areas; each week we will give you updates as to how we are developing and acting on all comments in our new section 'You spoke, we listened..'

Areas we are already addressing:

Whizz Kids

As you recall, our Teaching Assistants have kindly stepped up, volunteering to stay late so we could keep our provision open whilst we recruited new staff. I can now tell you that we have successfully employed two new Teaching Assistants who will take the lead on running these sessions: Miss Head and Miss Bainbridge. We are hoping that they will be in place by October half term, at which point, a more focused and enjoyable programme will be launched.

Our after school provision is a child-lead provision and as such, our staff go with the interests of the children attending. It is totally play based and a time to relax, therefore the programme will be developed around themed sessions as well as free-play.

Please keep a look out on our school newsletter for our new launch date and programme of activities.

After School Clubs

We are also currently looking at our offer for after school clubs. This offer is different from our wrap-around-care, Whizz Kids, as after school clubs are for children wanting to learn a new skill, take part in team activities or enhance any current skills and interests they have. These clubs are not child care based like Whizz Kids.

Our teaching and support staff work tirelessly throughout the school day and beyond to ensure that our children get the best possible learning on a daily basis. After school time is taken up with other aspects of their jobs like paperwork, leading subject areas, attending meetings, speaking with parents and other professionals, which must take priority over after school activities (although many staff would enjoy doing these if they had the time!)

Taking all this into consideration, we are currently drawing up our extra-curricular offers and hope to have this with you in the next week, with the aim of clubs starting after October half term.

School Lunches

We have passed the comments raised by parents onto our school meal provider and are awaiting a reply.

FUNdraisers

Washingwell **FUN**draisers

- Putting the 'fun' in to fundraising -

Registered Charity Number: 1166523



Our FUNdraisers are working hard behind the scenes to help the school in raising vital funds to support the enrichment activities we offer in school. This year, they have already agreed to support with cost of one of our Music Workshops and will be contributing in some form, to wards our ongoing updating of non-fiction books in our school library.

With this in mind, they have already planned some events for this coming term but would really like to recruit more enthusiastic volunteers who want to support them in their vital role. We will be holding two coffee events, in the school hall, where we would encourage yourself, grandparents, aunties, uncles etc to come along and see how they can support.

Monday 7 October 2.30pm & Tuesday 8 October 9.00am

If you can't attend one of our recruitment coffee events, then Fundraisers will also be holding a planning meeting to discuss this terms events which will be held **Tuesday 1 October, 6.00pm in the Gibside Hotel** All are welcome.

Support doesn't always mean giving up a lot of time as we recognise people have busy lives with many commitments. It could be collecting something on behalf of the group, wrapping gifts, selling raffle tickets, setting up for events, serving tea & coffee at an event ... the list is vast and varied and there is definitely something for everyone.

Below is a list of events that the FUNdraisers have already planned.

HALLOWEEN DISCO

Thursday 24 October 2024



Mars, Jupiter, Venus
3.30 -4.30pm

Earth, Neptune, Saturn, Mercury
4.45 -5.45pm

Tickets will go on sale week commencing 7th October at a cost £4.50 and will include a hot dog, drink and prizes.

They will also be holding our school Christmas Fayre on **Friday 29 November**. More details of this will follow in later newsletters. In preparation for this, we will be holding a non-uniform day in school on **Thursday 7 November** for donations of the following:

Mars, Jupiter & Venus – chocolates and sweets

Earth, Neptune, Saturn, Mercury – bottles

Easyfundraising

The FUNdraisers have also registered with easyfundraising which is a simple way for us to earn cash back on any purchases made by yourself or family member. Easyfundraising partners with over 7,000 brands who will donate part of what you spend to a cause of your choice. It won't cost you any extra. The cost is covered by the brand.

To sign up, please click on the link below. It is so simple and gives back great returns on everyday purchases. Once signed in, you can then refer a friend or family member, making the return even greater for the school.

<https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/washingwellcps/2PV07R/c2s/ZdU7Z020/CE955/facebook/>

Rag Bag Textile Recycling

Thank you to all who have donated clothes and textiles into our Rag Bag recycling bin – we earned **£52.80** with this collection. Keep recycling!

Pre-loved Uniform

We have now joined in with the Gateshead West Uniform Scheme. Below is information as to where you can now get pre-loved uniform and other items. More information will follow early next week.



Ryton Monday 30th September

6pm - 7pm

Blaydon Friday 4th October

3:30pm - 5pm

Ryton Saturday 12th October

10am - 11:30am,

Blaydon Saturday 19th October

9am - 11am

Ryton Monday 28th October

6pm - 7pm



www.facebook.com/gatesheadwestprelovedschooluniform

<https://www.gatesheadwestuniformscheme.org.uk>

contact@GatesheadWestUniformScheme.org.uk

and find us as gwusne on Vinted



Reminders

Themed Lunch

Our school meals provider, Orian will be holding a themed lunch – Pasta Party! – on Thursday 3 October 2024. If you would like your child to participate in this, please sign up via School Hub.

Prospective Parents for Nursery/Reception 2025

If you know of parents who have children who will be starting either Reception or Nursery in September 2025, school tours can be arranged via our school website; www.washingwell.org.uk

Asda Rewards Cashpot for Schools

Asda have a new Cashpot scheme which we would like you to sign up to. It is really simple, just follow the steps below. So far, our total is **£192.59** which is amazing after only two weeks so, keep donating - **64 days left!**



Forthcoming Events and Key Dates

Planned Staff Training and Arranged Class Cover for the week ahead.			
Staff Member	Class	Date	Cover
Mr Nicholson	Venus	Monday 30 Septembr 2024 -am/pm	Mrs Bridger
Miss Johnson	Mercury	Monday 30 Septembr 2024 -am/pm	Mr Stephenson
Mrs Erskine	Saturn	Tuesday 1 October 2024 – am/pm	Mrs Bridger
Mr Nicholson	Venus	Thursday 3 October 2024 -pm	Ms White

Wednesday 2 October 2024

Year 5 visit Whickham School – pm

KS2 Cross Country Event at Watergate Park – consent required for invited children

Thursday 3 October 2024

National Poetry Day

Themed lunch – Pasta Party! Please place your order via School Hub

Friday 4 October 2024

Year 5/6 Girls Football 12.30pm – consent required for invited children

Thursday 10 October 2024

World Mental Health Day

Friday 11 October 2024

Year 5/6 Tag Rugby event - consent required for invited children

Monday 14 October 2024

Poetry week in school

Tuesday 15 October 2024

School photographs – individual and family groups

Tuesday 22 October 2024

Harvest Assembly 9.15pm – parents welcome (more information to follow)

Thursday 24 October 2024 **NEW**

Halloween Disco – EYFS & KS1 3.30 - 4.30pm; KS2 4.45 – 5.45pm

Friday 25 October 2024

School closes for half term

Tuesday 5 November 2024

8.40am – school reopens to all pupils.

Wednesday 6 November 2024

Year 6 visit Whickham School – pm

Thursday 7 November 2024 New

Non-uniform day – donations for school fayre

Monday 11 November 2024

Anti-bullying week in school

Monday 11 November & Tuesday 12 November 2024

Parent consultation evenings 3.00 -6.00pm

Friday 15 November 2024

Children in Need – more information to follow

Wednesday 20 November 2024

SEND review meetings

Monday 25 November 2024

Assessment week in school

Friday 29 November 2024 NEW

School Christmas Fayre – more information to follow

Monday 2 December 2024

Polar Express day – more information to follow

Flu immunisations

Tuesday 3 December 2024

Year 6 visit Whickham School – pm

Monday 9 December 2024

Christmas lunch & Christmas jumper day

Tuesday 10 December 2024

Key Stage 2 Christmas performance – 9.30am and 2.15pm

Wednesday 11 December 2024

Music workshops - am

Thursday 12 December 2024

Early Years & Key Stage 1 Christmas performance – 9.30am and 2.15pm

Friday 13 December 2024

Neptune Christmas party 1.15pm

Monday 16 December 2024

Earth Christmas party 1.15pm

Tuesday 17 December 2024

Jupiter Christmas party 9.15am

Venus Christmas party 1.15pm

Wednesday 18 December 2024

Mars Christmas party 9.15am

Saturn Christmas party 1.15pm

Thursday 19 December 2024

Mercury Christmas party 1.15pm

Friday 20 December 2024

Carols around the Christmas tree 2.00pm – parents invited

School closes for Christmas holidays 3.20pm - No Whizz Kids after school session

Monday 6 January 2025

School re-opens to all pupils 8.40am

*A reminder that we are a Safeguarding School and we have a duty to pass on any concerns to
Children's Services*