

Wellbeing Newsletter

Hello from the Wellbeing team.

It is that time of year again when we start to think about transition. Our children growing and moving to a new class within the school and our year six children leaving for secondary school.

Just when you feel that you know everything there is to know about your class, it's time to prepare them (and yourself) for the next academic year. A new teacher and a change in surroundings can be unnerving for some children. By taking time to talk about worries, in school and at home the children will become much more relaxed about the move.

There is some information in our newsletter regarding transition, which we hope will ease your concerns.

Please take a look through our Wellbeing newsletter and hopefully you will be able to participate in some of our planned activities.



TERM 5

Find us on Facebook and keep up to date with school information.

West Minster Primary School Information Page

Wellbeing News:

Wellbeing Wednesday: Once a fortnight we hold a 'tea and toast' breakfast on a Wednesday morning. Drop into the Parent Hub from 8.45-10am. All parents/carers are most welcome. Pre-school children or other children that you may look after are also welcome. Wellbeing Wednesday mornings are a wonderful opportunity for parents/carers to get together, share ideas and challenges over a cup of tea and a bite to eat. Jacci, Claire and Sally are also on hand to chat about issues relating to school. Wellbeing Wednesdays allow the opportunity for a more informal chat. Hope to see you there. We are always eager to improve our 'get together' please share your ideas with us.

Parent and Toddler group: The group is held by Sally in the Parent hub every Wednesday at 2pm. Come along with your toddler and enjoy a chat with other parents. We would like your feedback on how we may develop this group in the future.

Family Games Club: The group is held fortnightly on a Thursday straight after school in the Parent Hub – Family Games Club is a time to enjoy some traditional games with your child with no technology in sight! Free refreshments provided....3.20 – 4.20pm. Just turn up.

Kindred spirit support group: The group is held by Sally and Claire in the parent hub on the 2nd Thursday of the month from 9am-10am. This alternates between West Minster and Rose Street. Maybe you have a special guardianship or Child Arrangement order. Do you have a family member's child living with you? Please come along and join us; refreshments provided and younger children are welcome too.

Dads Matter: Our dad's matter group is up and running, taking part in projects to enhance our children's school and community. If you are a dad, step dad, grandad, uncle or big brother then this is for you. "Sheerness West dads are the best" Check out the Facebook page: Sheerness Dads Matter and keep up to date with their projects and meetings.

Share a Story is back....Our popular 'Share a Story' group will resume again after the summer break, in the Parent Hub. This group allows time for you to come into school and spend quality time with your child, sharing books...Starting in September. Ask at the office for details.



Other News:

Parenting Workshops: Sally will be hosting some parenting workshops, in the Parent Hub. They are focusing on positive Parenting as sometimes we get locked in a negative cycle.

The topics Sally will be covering are bedtime routines, sibling rivalry, Parenting in public, and the importance of boundaries and consistency.

The workshops will be held on: 11th 18th and 25th June and 2nd July 2018. All at 9am. Call this number 07764327344 to book a place.

Transition:

Transition to a new class or keystage within school:

- There are opportunities for all children to visit their new classroom and class teacher.
- Certain children may need a carefully thought out and individualized transition plan. This will involve working closely with parents/carers in order for the preparation to continue over the summer holidays e.g a book with pictures of the new classroom and members of staff working with the child.
- Detailed information sharing between teachers takes place during these important transition times.
- Internal transition dates: Mon 9th July to Tues 24th July.

Transition between Year 6 and Year 7

- Close liaison/discussion takes place between primary and secondary staff to enable a smooth transition for all children and pupils with SEN.
- Transition day visits are arranged, with the Wellbeing Team for children that may be anxious.
- A child with an Education Health Care Plan in place will have a detailed transition plan. This will ensure that the most appropriate provision is in place.
- A special transition workshop will take place during June for our year six children.
- Transition dates: Highsted Weds 4th July. Borden Thurs 5th July. Fulston Thurs 5th July. SCC Mon 9th to Fri 13th July. Westlands Mon 9th to Fri 13th July. Oasis Academy Mon 9th to Fri 13th July.
- Don't forget to apply for free transport for the transition week to Sittingbourne schools: julia@travelmasters.co.uk at least two weeks in advance.



Attendance: Why is it important for your child to be punctual? The Local Authority and schools have an expectation of at least 96% attendance for all pupils. Persistent lateness can be legally counted as unauthorised absences, which can cause disruption to the rest of the class, cause embarrassment to the child and make it harder for the child to settle as they may have missed vital instructions. Being 15 minutes late each day during an entire school year is the same as missing two whole weeks of school. A text messaging service is now in place at West Minster, you are now able to text on the morning of your child's absence by 9.30am **07874873901**. At West Minster we believe that by talking to parents and helping improve attendance, together, we can ensure that your child is successful as they move into secondary school and through into later life! Please make an appointment with Mrs. Langford-Hodges who will be happy to talk and offer support.

Attendance is always important, but especially throughout May for our year two children as they will be taking their SATs, and our year six children are sitting their SATs during the week of 14th May. A special SATs breakfast is provided for the year six children at 8.15am to ensure that all children are in school on time, fed, watered and ready without any rush.



Message to Year 6:

Next week you will be sitting your SATs tests. We know you have been putting in a lot of work in preparation and we want you to do your best. Have an early night before the test, rest and eat well. Every morning school will provide a breakfast in your classroom for you all to enjoy together - don't be late!

Every child in year 6 across the county will be sitting these tests at the same time. This is so the Government can measure standards of children in year 6 across the whole country in English and Maths. What these tests don't measure are other important things that you have achieved in your time here. Things like independence and confidence and the way you all have grown as a team and support one another. They don't measure the sporting achievements you have made or the skills you have developed in art, or how well you play a musical instrument. They don't measure how unique and special every single one of you are; or the wonderful friendships you have made.

The smiles we see on your face every day when you come into school and the determination to succeed are priceless to us. We are very proud of you and we know that you will do your best to achieve the very best in your SATs.

Good luck from the Wellbeing Team xx

Care Bears: This term our Care Bears will be presenting an assembly about Invisible disabilities. To raise awareness we are planning to hold a 'pajama day' on the last day of term (Friday 25th May) this was the fabulous idea of one of our Care Bears. The pajama day is all about raising the awareness of invisible disabilities – it is not a fundraiser and you will not be asked for any donations.



You may wish to have

a look at this website:

www.invisibledisabilitiesuk.org

Welcome to the Wellbeing Team:

Mr. Nigel Cates – Assistant Head of School / Inclusion Manager / Safeguarding

Mrs. Claire Carter – Wellbeing Manager / FLO / Safeguarding

Mrs. Jacci Fitch – Pastoral Support Worker

Mrs. Sally Creavin – Family Support Worker

Mrs. Michelle Davies – SENCO

Mrs. Donna Langford-Hodges – Attendance Officer

Ms. Irene Montgomery – Inclusion Support

We believe that our school should provide a caring, positive safe and stimulating environment that promotes the social, physical and moral development of the individual child. We are also here for families! From time to time every family faces challenges, such as bereavement, changes in circumstances, behaviour issues, the list goes on! Please do come and speak to us if you are finding things difficult or if you need some support. We may not know all the answers but we will do our best to help. After all, a problem shared is a problem halved!



Upcoming Events

14th May 2018 Year six SATs week

15th May 2018 Dads Matter meeting at the Co-op club 7pm

16th May 2018 Wellbeing Wednesday 8.45-10am (fortnightly)

16th May 2018 Parent and toddler group 2pm (weekly)

23rd May 2018 Family Games Club 3.20 – 4.20-pm (fortnightly)

25th May 2018 – Invisible disabilities pajama day

11th June 2018 Parent forum 8.45am in the Parent Hub

11th 18th and 25th June and 2nd July 2018 parenting workshops in the Parent Hub 9am

5th July 2018 Year Six Prom 7.30-9.30pm Layzells

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Fulston Thurs 5th July.

SCC Mon 9th to Fri 13th July.

Westlands Mon 9th to Fri 13th July.

Oasis Academy Mon 9th to Fri 13th July.

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