WEST KIRBY PRIMARY SCHOOL
Welcoming - Kind - Polite - Successful
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9th October 2026

Dear Parents & Carers,

World Mental Health Day – Bee Yourself, Bee Joyful!

Thank you to all our Parents and Carers for supporting today's non-uniform day and for your generous £1 cash donations, which will be donated to The Hive Youth Zone, Birkenhead.

Looking after our Mental Health and Wellbeing is really important, and encouraging children to talk about their feelings and engage in positive wellbeing activities can help them to feel happy, confident and thrive.

The Hive, based in Birkenhead, welcomes children from the age of 8 and offers a fantastic range of activities and opportunities. You can find out more on their website Homepage - The Hive Youth Zone and/or watch their new promotional video, which showcases everything they have to offer At The Hive I am... - YouTube

Educational Visit – London (Year 5)

Last week, twenty-five of our Year 5 children enjoyed a fantastic Educational Visit to London. This was the first time that we have embraced this visit, and what an amazing experience it was!

Throughout the day, the children explored some of the iconic sights of Westminster, experienced breathtaking views of the capital from the London Eye, enjoyed an informative tour of the Houses of Parliament and travelled on the London Underground. The children developed their understanding of our capital city, the Houses of Parliament and the British Values.

All of the children were an absolute credit to WKPS, demonstrating impeccable behaviour, enthusiasm, curiosity and genuine interest throughout the entire day. Their engagement, thoughtful questions and excitement made the experience even more special. We are incredibly proud of how they represented our school and hope that this memorable experience will stay with them for many years to come! Thank you to the WKPS staff who supported this visit. It couldn't have happened without them.

Residential Visit – Culmington Manor (Year 6)

Last week, our Year 6 children enjoyed a fantastic Residential Visit to Culmington Manor (Shropshire), where they had the opportunity to develop their independence, teamwork, resilience and confidence.

Throughout their time away, the children embraced a range of exciting activities and new challenges, often stepping outside their comfort zones and showing tremendous determination and courage. The staff shared that it was wonderful to see the children encouraging and supporting one another, celebrating each other's achievements and demonstrating such positive attitudes.

Residential Visits provide invaluable opportunities for children to develop important life skills, build friendships and create lasting memories beyond the classroom. We were incredibly proud of the children's enthusiasm, behaviour and willingness to give everything a go. They were a real credit to WKPS, and we hope they will look back on their time at Culmington Manor and remember it as a key moment of their primary school experience.

Thank you to the WKPS staff who supported the Year 6 residential, giving up their own time to enable this opportunity for the children to take place.

Learning this week…EYFS

This week, the children were very excited that some chickens visited EYFS! They found out lots of information about them and it was a great hook for learning their new story, 'The Little Red Hen'! EYFS have been introduced to the story map, and they have learnt different actions to tell the story. During the week, the children have been mark making and drawing shapes, patterns and letters in the flour and glitter in the Tuff Tray using different drawing and writing tools. The children have been making their own 'Little Red Hen' character using the play dough and pipe cleaners and feathers. They have also been busy developing their cutting skills by drawing a character from the story of the 'The Little Red Hen' and cutting it out to create their own super stick puppets. In the Small World Area, EYFS have been busy retelling the story of 'The Little Red Hen' using the props and the story map.

Learning this week…KS1

It has been a busy and exciting week in Key Stage One!

In Science, Year 1 and Year 2 have been exploring the season of autumn and observing the changes happening around us, ready for their visit to Ashton Park on Wednesday 14th October.

In English, Key Stage One have been reading the book Come to England and have been writing exciting sentences about London landmarks, using interesting adjectives, commas and conjunctions to add detail to their writing.

In Maths, Year 1 and Year 2 have started a new area of learning, focusing on addition and subtraction, developing their understanding and confidence with different calculations and strategies.

Learning this week…LKS2

This week in Year 3 and Year 4, the children have been reading the book Stone Age Boy by Satoshi Kitamura. They have been retelling the story from the point of view of the main character, exploring adding adjectives and prepositions to make their writing interesting and engaging. LKS2 have also been adding in dialogue between characters and learning how to correctly use inverted commas. There are lots of rules to remember when using inverted commas, but the children have done well to try and remember all of these in their writing.

In Science, LKS2 have been looking at skeletons, naming the bones within the human body. Year 3 and Year 4 conducted an investigation where they compared the length of different parts of the body, such as comparing the height and arm span.

Learning this week…UKS2

In Science, Year 5 and Year 6 have been planning and carrying out an investigation into the question: “How does the type of exercise affect our heart rate?” They have been using oximeters to measure and record their heart rate, developing their understanding of how to conduct a fair test, collect reliable results and identify patterns in their data.

In English, UKS2 have been developing their creative and descriptive writing through Beowulf. They have taken on the role of Beowulf and written a letter to his father, focusing on writing in character, using appropriate vocabulary and developing their ideas clearly and effectively.

Last week, Year 5, in Maths and Science, have also explored how data can be collected and represented. Year 5 and Year 6 pupils conducted a playground activity survey, investigating how active children felt during playtime. They collected and organised their findings using tally charts, frequency tables and pictograms, developing their skills in data handling and interpretation.

WKPS Curriculum

A reminder that information about our school curriculum is available on the WKPS website, under the Teaching and Learning Tab. Our curriculum Road Maps and Knowledge Organisers provide Parents and Carers with a clear overview of what children are learning across different subjects, including the key knowledge and vocabulary they are expected to develop.
We encourage you to explore these resources with your child, as they provide a valuable opportunity to talk about their learning, reinforce key concepts and further support their knowledge and understanding at home.

Parents’ Evening Reminder

A reminder that appointment times for our upcoming Parents’ Evenings on Tuesday 20th October and Thursday 22nd October are now available to book via Arbor.
These meetings provide an important opportunity to meet with your child’s class teacher, discuss how they have settled into their new class and routines, and hear about their progress during the first few weeks of the academic year. It is also an opportunity to raise any concerns that you may have. All appointments will take place face to face and will last 10 minutes, ensuring that we can offer appointments to as many families as possible across the two evenings.
We look forward to welcoming you into school during the final week of Autumn One.

WEST KIRBY PRIMARY SCHOOL

HARVEST DONATIONS

Let's make a difference together!

This Harvest Festival we are collecting food donations for the Wirral Foodbank again, who in partnership with the Trussell Trust work hard to provide food to people who find themselves in difficult situations.

Year Group	Please donate
Year F1	Tinned Fruit
Year F2	Tinned Vegetables
Year 1	Tinned Custard
Year 2	Shower Gel
Year 3	Coffee
Year 4	Deodorant
Year 5	Tinned Rice Pudding
Year 6	Tinned Meat

Wirral foodbank

Your donations will help local people and families in our community who are facing difficult situations.

Please bring in your donation on

Monday 12th October.

Our donations will be collected by Wirral Foodbank on Tuesday 13th October after the Year 3 Harvest Festival Assembly.

WEST KIRBY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Support for Our Families

Information, advice and support for your child and family

FAMILY TOOLBOX

Practical advice and tools for family life, including managing behaviour, wellbeing and relationships.

www.familytoolbox.co.uk

branch WIRRAL

Emotional wellbeing and mental health support for children, young people and families in Wirral.

www.branch-wirral.co.uk

SEND Local Offer Wirral

Information and advice for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and their families.

www.sendlowirral.co.uk

the hive YOUTH ZONE

A safe, supportive place for young people aged 8–19 (up to 25 with additional needs) to take part in activities, make friends and build confidence.

www.thehiveyouthzone.org

YOUNGMiNDS

Expert advice and support on children and young people's mental health, with useful resources for parents and carers.

www.youngminds.org.uk

Children's Bereavement Centre

Specialist support for children and young people who are bereaved, and for their families.

www.childrensbereavementcentre.co.uk

MyMind

For better mental health

Mental health and wellbeing support for people across Wirral, including children, young people and families. Offers a range of services, resources and guidance.

www.mymind.org.uk

Additional support at WKPS

MHST Team

We work closely with the Mental Health Support Team (MHST) in Wirral.

Wirral Early Help

We work closely with Wirral Early Help to support families.

School ELSA

We have a School ELSA as part of our Pastoral Support, who provides emotional support for children in school.

If you are unsure, please ask staff at WKPS and we can offer signposting advice.

[SEND Support]

SENDLO
WIRRAL'S LOCAL OFFER OF SEND SERVICES

.Live

Supporting SEND Together

Over 50 SEND services for you to meet

12 October

The Hive, Birkenhead

Register for one of 3 sessions

9:30-11:30

13:00-15:00

15:00-17:00

Or come along on the day!

In Partnership with:

KOALA North West Supporting children & their families

The Hive

WIRRAL

Health & Safety and Safeguarding Reminders

- Please ensure that your contact information is fully up to date on Arbor. The Arbor app is free to download and use on your phone or computer.
- Please ensure that adults who are collecting your child are correctly listed on Arbor.
- Please ensure that children are not on any bikes or scooters on the playground before or after school.
- Please ensure that the Trim Trail on the MUGA Playground and the EYFS area are not used before or after school.
- Please remember, as per our Collection of Children Policy, EYFS and KS1 children can only be collected by a person who is 18 years or older.
- Please remember, as per our Collection of Children Policy, KS2 children can be collected by a responsible person who is 16 years or older.

School Holidays

- **As October half term approaches, please ensure that your child is in school for the final 4 days of the final week, and no holidays are taken.**

- **Attendance Matters –** please ensure that your child is in school as much as possible, please do not book holidays and/or long weekends during term time.
- Please ensure that you check the West Kirby Primary School Holidays, which are on our website.
- 2026 – 2027 and 2027-2028 are available on the website, please take note of Dates and Inset Days.
- In line with DfE and Wirral LA guidance and policies, holidays will not be authorised in Term Time; Educational Penalty Notices may be issued.

Communication – Phase Emails

Our phase email addresses are a convenient way to share information with class teachers or ask questions about your child. However, please do not use these email addresses to report absences or share important information about changes to drop-off or collection arrangements, as emails may not be seen in time. For any important or time-sensitive information, please contact the School Office directly.

EYFS	eyfs@westkirbyprimaryschool.co.uk	Phase emails will be received by Mrs Catt
KS1 Year 1 & Year 2	ks1@westkirbyprimaryschool.co.uk	Phase emails will be received by Mrs McCann
LKS2 Year 3 & Year 4	lks2@westkirbyprimaryschool.co.uk	Phase emails will be received by Miss Raraty
UKS2 Year 5 & Year 6	uks2@westkirbyprimaryschool.co.uk	Phase emails will be received by Miss Gerrard

Please be aware that our staff are not expected to read or respond to emails outside of their normal working hours.

We aim to respond to emails, where a response is needed, within 48 hours of the next working day, although this may take a little longer during particularly busy periods

Key Dates

- **2026 is the National Year of Reading**

- Tuesday 13th October: Year 3 Harvest Festival– Parents/Carers are warmly invited to attend – 9:00am in the School Hall
- Wednesday 14th October: KS1 Seasonal Walk (am)
- Thursday 15th October: Come Dine With Year 5 (11:30am). Bookings close on Arbor at 5pm on the 13th October. Only parents who have booked and paid may attend.
- Tuesday 20th October : Parents' Evening (3:30pm – 6:30pm)
- Thursday 22nd October: PTA Spooky Hair Day (£1 donations)
- Thursday 22nd October: Parents' Evening (3:30pm – 6:30pm)

- **Friday 23rd October : Inset Day – School Closed to Pupils (all day)**
- **Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October : October Half Term (School Closed)**

- Monday 2nd November : School Reopens for Autumn Two at 8:40am (Waves for children who have booked and paid from 7.45am)
- Tuesday 3rd November – EYFS Maths Workshop (2:00 – 3:00pm)
- Thursday 5th November : Flu Immunisations (F2 – Year 6). You will receive information directly from Vaccinations in Schools. Please follow their link and complete the questions in order to give consent, or to opt out for your child. This service is run by the NHS and **not** by WKPS. Any queries or questions should be directed to the NHS service and not the school office.
- Saturday 7th November : EYFS Open Day (10:00am) for new families wanting to join our school community in 2027. Please contact the School Office to book a place.
- Tuesday 10th November : EYFS Open Day (9:00am, 1:00pm, 3:45pm) for new families wanting to join our school community in 2027. Please contact the School Office to book a place.
- Wednesday 11th November: PTA School Disco. F2, Year 1 and Year 2 (3:20-4:30pm)
- Wednesday 11th November: PTA School Disco. Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 (4:45 – 5:45pm)
- Thursday 12th November: SEND Drop In – Join Mrs McCann our School SENDCo to enjoy a tea/coffee and a catch up. An opportunity to ask questions and clarify any information (8:45 – 10:00am).

Upcoming PTA Events

Our school website calendar has been updated and contains dates that we are aware of. We will do our best to adhere to these, but there are times when last minute changes have to take place. West Kirby Primary School - Calendar

Have a lovely weekend.

Regards,

Mrs E Bailey
(Headteacher)