



July 2021

Message from Mrs Gardiner

I can't believe I am writing this for the last newsletter of the year. We have had so much to celebrate this year and I am incredibly proud of everyone at West Vale Academy. Over the last month we have seen all KS2 classes going over to Clay House woods to take part in bush craft activities and going to CJ Adventures to take part in street surfing, climbing and archery which all really enjoyed. A big thank you to Miss Townend for arranging this. Year 6 went to Robinwood on their residential visit. I would like to thank all the staff who gave up their time to take the children and support them over this fantastic weekend. The children were a credit to the school and we felt very proud of them and seeing them overcome new challenges. We have continued with our afterschool clubs and invested in a dance teacher so all classes have had specialist teaching. Many schools have put these types of activities on hold however we understand how important it is for our children to access all areas of the curriculum and therefore have gone that extra mile to ensure we put all the procedures in place for these activities to go ahead. Staff have been busy writing end of year reports for all the children and these will be with you later this month. We are still bound by Covid restrictions with regards to transition day and sports day but we still intend to do these in a different and Covid safe way so that all children will still have the opportunity to take part. As parents can't attend sports day, we will ensure plenty of photos on Seesaw and I'm sure that your children will share the day with you when they get home. We have invested money into our new library and we will share photos of this area on the website once completed. We are also purchasing new dining room furniture in order to enhance the space and children's dining experience. Our recent MAT school improvement visit was incredibly positive and they have agreed that we are a good school and still improving. This is credit to all staff and the investment that has been put into West Vale. I hope you all have a wonderful summer and hope that the restrictions are lifted soon. A huge thank you for all your help and support over the year.

Reminders re bubble closures

The children who are entitled to receive Free School Meals can request a packed lunch to collect from school. Please notify the office before 9.15am on Monday 5th July.

Please remember that if children are isolating they need to adhere to the following rules:

- Do not go to school or public places (such as parks, shops etc)
- Do not go on public transport or use taxis
- Do not have visitors in your home—except for people providing essential care

Please visit the governments website to check full details for isolation.

All work for the bubble closures will be online via Seesaw.

West Vale Academy
Stainland Road
Greetland
HX4 8LS

01422 372804 - admin@westvaleacademy.org.uk

Principal: Mrs F Gardiner
Vice-Principal: Mrs S Scott

Part of
Great Heights Academy Trust
School Street, Greetland,
Halifax, HX4 8JB

MAT@greathightstrust.org.uk

MAT CEO:
Mrs A Bennett
Chief Operations Officer:
Mrs J Firth
Chief Finance Officer:
Mrs A Rawson

Class 1

Class 1 have had a very exciting half term so far. They have started their new class book 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'. In DT the children looked at the differences between a fruit and a vegetable. After, they made their own fruit salad by using careful cutting fruit and they tasted it too! It was delicious. Well done Class 1



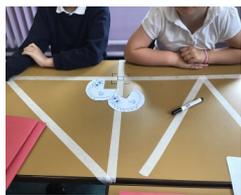
Class 2

The children in Class 2 have been very busy learning about lots of different sculptors. In art lessons, they have used sugar cubes, plastic spoons, spaghetti and pizza dough to create their sculptures. In English, they have started reading a new class book called 'The King Who Banned the Dark'. The children enjoyed thinking of reasons why the dark should and should not be banned.



Class 3

Class 3 have really enjoyed learning all about the Ancient Egyptians. They had a go at making their own pyramids, learnt all about the artefacts and found out about King Tutankhamun. In Maths they have been learning about right angles, acute angles and obtuse angles along with direction. Class 3 loved their trip to The Boiler House, especially rock climbing!



Class 4

Class 4 have been learning about electricity. They have learned about how electricity flows in a circuit and tested different materials to work out whether they were conductors or insulators. They then practiced building our own switches and then designed and built our own torches. Miss Ashton was so impressed because they all turned on!



Class 5



Class 5 have been having lots of fun over the past few weeks learning about the Amazon Rainforest in South America. They have explored some of the threats to the Amazon and created persuasive video adverts to raise awareness of these issues. They have also learned about the Andes and volcanoes and created their own model volcanoes in groups. In Science, they have been investigating reversible and irreversible changes. They created a chemical reaction when they 'exploded' their



volcanoes and learnt about how this was an irreversible change. They looked at how changes can be reversible and observed this when melting chocolate and creating new individual chocolates by allowing it to solidify in new moulds.

Class 6



Last weekend, Class 6 went on their residential weekend to Robinwood. They all had an amazing time and were a credit to West Vale Academy. They have been zip wiring, canoeing, building rafts, solving problems and caving, amongst many other activities. They overcame barriers and it was amazing to see the teamwork, support and cooperation of this fantastic cohort of pupils. Well done Class 6.



Need Support? - Numbers you may find useful