



November 2021

Message from Mrs Gardiner

We have made a fantastic start to the half term with a school trip to Nell Bank, Halifax Panthers sharing the healthy message of hydration and an artist working with children in school. Children are enthused with their learning and we are always ensuring we interest and excite them. Clubs have started again this week and we have some new clubs – Science in particular has shown to be very popular.

Parking still remains an issue and we had a near miss recently with a car which had parked near school almost knocking a child down as they reversed to leave. Please do not park on Calder Street or Albert Street. If you drive to school please use the carparks close by and walk that extra little bit. It is vital that we keep our children safe. For cars parked illegally, we will continue to share registration plates with the police who may visit homes to educate about safe parking around school.

The Educational Welfare Officer has been in school to look at our attendance records. Attendance is vital for your child to receive the education that they need and any attendance below 96% is a cause for concern. The EWO will work with school and families where attendance is an issue. Please do your best to ensure your child regularly attends school and they are on time – learning starts at **8.50am**, after this time your child is late and missing out on vital learning.

Please do follow us on Twitter and Facebook – lots of messages are on here also. All information is sent to parents via Parent-thub, Seesaw and is on the website, please do look here first rather than contacting our very busy office.

It is with a heavy heart that I write about myself and Mrs Gunter leaving. We are both pursuing new professional challenges and are confident that we are leaving West Vale Academy in very safe hands.

We will miss the staff and families very much but in particular the wonderful children who make this school such a special place. I look forward to the next few weeks being filled with fun and excitement on the run up to Christmas.

Facebook and Twitter

We are now updating the Twitter and Facebook pages regularly, please follow us on :



@westvaleacademy



West Vale Academy

Contact update

Please could you ensure that all your contact information is up to date with school. If you change your address or mobile numbers we need to know so that we hold the correct details.

A Big Thank You !!!

Thank you for all your support on the School Council non uniform day, we raised £82.00 which will go towards future School Council fundraising ideas.

Dates for your Diary

Friday 12th Nov	PFA Non Uniform Day
Friday 19th Nov	Children in Need - Red Nose Day
	Non Uniform Day—more details to follow
Friday 3rd Dec	Christmas Fayre 5pm—7pm
Monday 13th Dec	Class One Nativity
Tuesday 14th Dec	Class Two Christmas Show
Wednesday 15th Dec	KS2 service
Thursday 16th Dec	Christmas Party Day
Friday 17th Dec	Reward day—singing competition

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

Class 1

All of the children have settled back into the new term fantastically, displaying a positive attitude to learning. Before the half term the children in Class One visited North Dean Woods to observe the signs of Autumn. They noticed the leaves had fallen from the trees and turned yellow, red, brown and pink in colour. They also received a letter from the Witch stating she had lost her hat, bow and wand as she did in the story 'Room on the Broom'. Whilst on our walk they managed to find these items and will be posting them back to her soon. Well done everyone.



Class 2

In Class 2 they have enjoyed a fantastic school trip to Nell Bank In Ilkley. During our trip the children made stick monsters, went on a mini beast hunt and enjoyed some free time in the music and playground areas. The children were all brilliantly behaved and were an absolute credit to West Vale Academy. In the classroom the children have been working hard in phonics and guided reading and their progress has been wonderful to see.



Class 3

Class 3 have had an extremely busy start to this half term. They have been immersing themselves into the woodland experience, by visiting Forest School at Cross Lane School. They have worked in teams to use their imaginations to explore the wildlife and what can be done there. They solved problems on their own with very little to no adult input. The children learnt how to tie knots prior to entering the woodland. They then applied this new skill to make their own swings using trees and ropes. They learnt about the safety steps to follow which meant they could enjoy happily and independently explore the woodlands. They will continue to explore climbing skills and more of what the woodland has to offer!



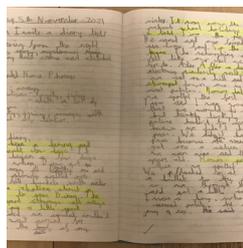
Class 4

The children in Class 4 have been really enjoying their recent computing module, where they have been learning about changing variables in games. They have created games involving falling objects, been able to record a score and end the game after a time limit. They have also been enjoying learning about digestion in Science and modelling the digestive system. They are learning even more about this with our new book (The Incredible Book Eating Boy) where the main character, Henry, is eating books. They do not think eating books is very good for Henry's digestion, but they will have to read on to see what effect it has on him!



Class 5

Class 5 have begun their latest English book this half term. It's a thought-provoking book called 'Journey to Jo-burg'. The children are really enjoying it and have produced some fantastic writing around it. Elsewhere in the curriculum we have been testing the strength of carrier bags made from different materials in science. We have also enjoyed going to the swimming pool. Mr Baker is super impressed with class five and the effort they are putting into everything they do.



Class 6

Year 6 have been learning all about the circulatory system this week in Science and Guided reading. We have learned about the organs involved. We have discovered some amazing facts about different animal's hearts and heart rates. In English we have written a balanced argument together about screen use and will be writing Independent balanced arguments about school uniform next. We enjoyed our rugby sessions and competing in cross country trials.



Need Support? - Numbers you may find useful

Women's Domestic Violence – 0808 2000 247 Men's Domestic Violence Helpline - 0808 801 0327 Childline - 0800 1111
NSPCC 24 hour free phone service - 0808 800 5000 Police (if not urgent)- 101 Women's refuge – 0845 155 1485 Social Services – 01422 393336
Safeguarding Children—If you are ever concerned about any child please speak to Mrs Gardiner or Mrs Lawrence