

Friday 12th January 2024

## Our vision

Valued - Inspired - Prepared

## Our values

We shape our learners to be:

Safely independent - Respectful citizens

Inquisitive thinkers - Confident communicators - Resilient learners

Good afternoon and a belated happy new year to everyone and welcome to the first newsletter of 2024. I sincerely hope that you are continuing to read and enjoy receiving this communication from us and find it both informative and useful.

As I mentioned last week, all of your children and all the staff have returned in good spirits following a much-needed Christmas break. We have now completed the first week back and things have gone very smoothly. The children have begun new topics and I have visited every class and spoken to all the learners.

I look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible into school next Tuesday for parents evening, or whether you have opted for an online discussion with your child's class teacher. If you haven't signed up yet, please do so by clicking the link below:

<https://www.westhavenschool.org.uk/booking/>

The booking system will close on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January at 12 noon.

I wish you all a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely



**Jamie Peacock**  
Headteacher

**Lower School:**

The learners in Lower School have had a positive return to school and seem happy to be back into routine.

We started the week with an assembly focussing on kindness. We shared the story: A Little Spot of Kindness by Diane Alber. We were able to think of many ways that we could be kind and show kindness to others and we had great fun acting out the examples.

[!\[\]\(3dfb8d66e81160ad61421a3452093d1b\_img.jpg\) !\[\]\(21ece2018b00c7267b3324c50bbed633\_img.jpg\) A Little Spot of Kindness By Diane Alber READ ALOUD](#)

### **Middle School:**

Middle School has started the term with assemblies surrounding kindness. We have discussed what it means to be kind and how kindness can affect yourself and others around you. This has been a focus this week and Mrs Cantello has been giving out Middle School award stickers for those who have been making an effort to show kindness to others. This links well to our PSHE topic this term of managing feelings and also links to our social curriculum topics exploring the Superflex and the unthinkables. Superflex is a superhero that finds solutions to common social problems and defeats the evil unthinkables. This is a link to more information on this:

[Social Thinking Curriculum: What are the Unthinkables? - Therapyspot](#)

### **Upper School:**

Upper School learners have returned in good spirits and settled back into routine well. A busy week started with an assembly on kindness, reflecting on the differences between nice vs kind. It was lovely to hear all the examples of kindness from learners. Functional Skill exams in English and Maths took place on Monday and Tuesday, great resilience and effort was demonstrated by all - Well Done. Year 11 Photography group enjoyed a trip to Bristol to a special photography exhibition on Wednesday and the College Link program commenced for Year 11 and Year 13 learners on Friday.

### **Staff in the Spotlight: Mrs K Plume**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Favourite Book Quote</b>               | <i>"Life starts all over again when it gets crisp in the fall". The Great Gatsby</i> |
| <b>Favourite Quote about Reading</b>      | <i>"I am too fond of reading books to care to write them.". Oscar Wilde</i>          |
| <b>Favourite Book to Read to Children</b> | Room on the Broom by Julia Donaldson   |
| <b>Favourite Childhood Book</b>           | Winnie the Pooh by AA Milne and EH Shepard   |

**Word of this Week:**

|              |          |
|--------------|----------|
| KS1          | spoilt   |
| KS2          | indulge  |
| KS3, 4 and 5 | besmirch |

**Sign of this Week:** thank you



**Sports Desk:**

Our first week back has been a really positive one. Lower School have been working on their teamwork skills during PE lessons, whilst Middle and Upper School classes have begun their touch rugby lessons, alongside boccia. This term's house competition is a boccia tournament, so we will be preparing learners for this towards the end of the term. We have also welcomed Tilly and Josie from Somerset County Cricket Club for our term of specialised cricket coaching; our learners who have PE on a Thursday are our lucky ones this year, as this will fall into their PE lessons.

**Headteacher Awards:**

- Maximum from Cardiff class for his incredible maths work
- Ruby, Liam and Anthony for their work in English about their new William Shakespeare topic 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'

**Family  
workshop**

**Term 3**



**Westhaven  
School**

## Family wellbeing

Led by Tammy Chaplin, Joanne Evans

**Guest: Adrian Hemmings**

**Where:** Westhaven School

**When:** Monday 22nd January {9.30-10.30}

**What to expect:** Signs of poor mental health - Five ways to wellbeing - Capacity cup theory (Dr Emma Hepburn, 2021) - Mental health and wellbeing support team at Westhaven - Who can help



# Westhaven School

## House Boccia Competition

Term 3 2023/24 House Event



between Friday 12th January and Thursday 25th January.



### **Whole school:**

All classes will be involved in a house Boccia competition this term. The competition will take place during one of this term's PE lessons.

1st in phase: 100 house points.

2nd in phase: 75 house points.

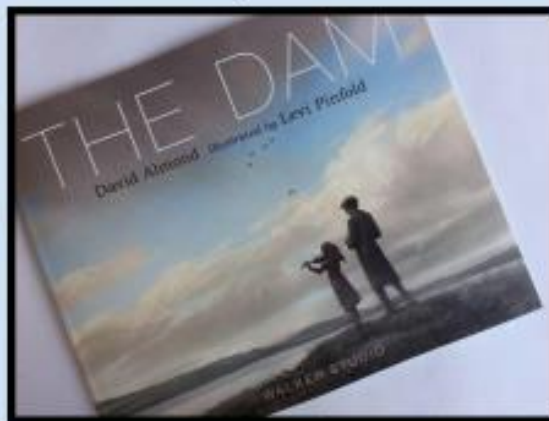
3rd in phase: 50 house points.



# Westhaven School

## Book of the term- Term 3

The Dam by David Almond



A link to a virtual copy of the book:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O9CldkW2xjs>

**Whole school house challenge:**



Create a model of a dam.

Read through *The Dam* by David Almond.

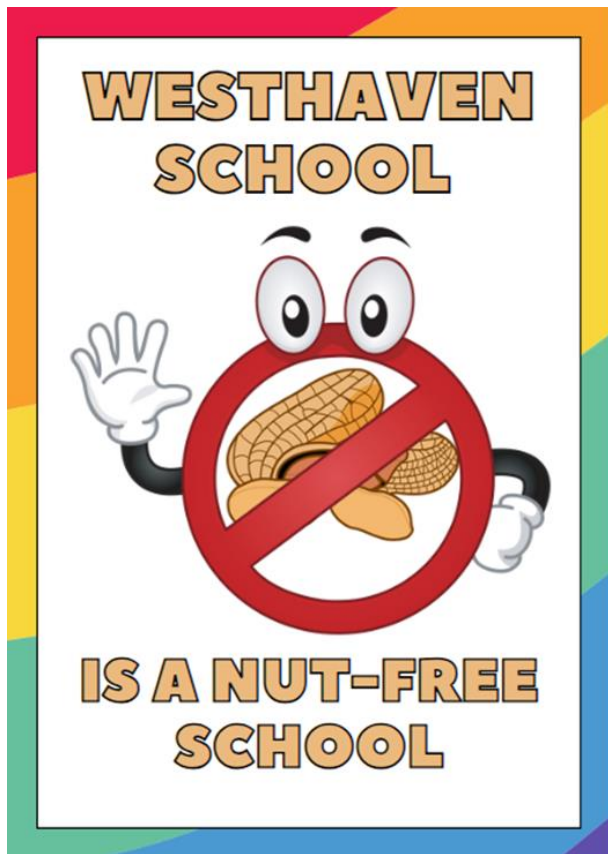
Build a model dam, using any materials you wish.

Ideas:

- Build a den outside using natural materials and take a photo.
- Use recycled materials to build a dam.
- Use lego/blocks to build.
- Get creative with your food and take a photo.

Entries close Thursday 25th January.





We have some learners in our school who have nut allergies. *Anaphylaxis (allergic reaction)* can occur as a result of digestion, inhalation or any other contact with nut-based products.

For their safety, please can we request that you do not send your child into school with any nut-based products for packed lunches, break time snacks or for any other occasion. This includes products that may contain traces of nuts.

With very many thanks for your understanding and cooperation.

# Weekend Walks



A free and friendly group for young people aged 16-25 with a learning disability and/or autism

| <u>Date</u>          | <u>Location</u>               | <u>Start point</u>          |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Sunday<br>21.01.2024 | Nailsea<br>Ty Sculpture Trail | Sculpture Trail car<br>park |


to


Come and meet people and keep fit. Please arrive at the start point ready for 10:00am. We hope to see you there.



01934 426086

Empowering voices.

Enabling choices.



[www.nspf.co.uk](http://www.nspf.co.uk)

[communications@nspf.co.uk](mailto:communications@nspf.co.uk)

The Campus, Highlands Lane,  
Weston-suoer-Mare, BS24 7DX

# Time Out For Parents



## Handling Anger in the Family

Sessions for anyone parenting children aged 5 to 16

### Date

Friday, 12.30pm – 2.30pm  
26<sup>th</sup> January, 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 9<sup>th</sup>  
February, 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024

### Venue

Locking Castle Church  
Jasmine Way  
Locking Castle  
Weston Super Mare,  
BS24 7JW

### Booking & Further Information

Contact Cathy Bond  
Mobile 07875 442139  
Email [parentinglcc@gmail.com](mailto:parentinglcc@gmail.com)

 **positive**parenting

Common sense, jargon-free information and ideas to help  
you to engage with your children and boost your relationship





# Time Out For Parents

## Handling Anger in the Family

*Positive Parenting Time Out for Parents* courses from Care for the Family provide common sense, jargon-free information and ideas to help you to engage with your children and boost your relationship.

If you have children aged 5 to 16, then *Time Out for Parents – Handling Anger in the Family* is for you. Over four sessions, you'll increase your skills and confidence as a parent and discover practical tools to help you and your children deal with the ordinary, everyday anger that all families experience.

### The Sessions

- Session 1 Managing our anger – part 1
- Session 2 Managing our anger – part 2
- Session 3 Helping children manage anger – part 1
- Session 4 Helping children manage anger – part 2



Care for the Family Garth House, Leon Avenue, Cardiff CF15 7RG  
Tel (029) 2081 0800. [www.careforthefamily.org.uk](http://www.careforthefamily.org.uk)

Care for the Family is a registered charity (England and Wales 1066905, Scotland SC038497).  
A company limited by guarantee no. 3482910. Registered in England and Wales



people  
first



GAMES GROUP



Weston-super-Mare

Winter 2023—Spring 2024

December: 5th, 19th

January: 2nd, 16th, 30th

February: 13th, 27th

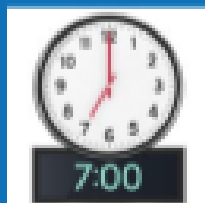
March: 12th, 26th

April: 9th, 23rd

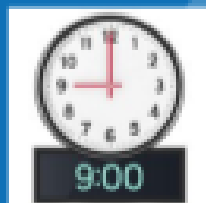
A free and friendly board games group for young people with a learning disability and/or autism.

NSPF groups are free of charge. Bring a game along if you wish.

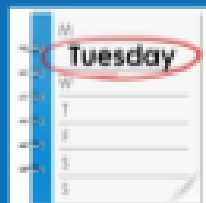
Start at    Finish at



7pm



9pm



At The Campus  
Highlands Lane  
Weston-super-Mare  
BS24 7DX

Empowering voices.  
Enabling choices.



Registered charity number 1159184

[communications@nspf.co.uk](mailto:communications@nspf.co.uk)  
[www.nspf.co.uk](http://www.nspf.co.uk)

Diary Dates:

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Tuesday 16 January 2024 | Parents Evening (3.05 pm - 6.10 pm)   |
| Friday 22 March 2024    | M&M Production of Oliver Twist  |
| Friday 19 July 2024     | Last day in school for learners this academic year (Monday 22 and Tuesday 23 July are INSET days) |

**North Somerset Term Dates - 2023/2024:**

|        |                                |
|--------|--------------------------------|
| Term 3 | 04 January 24 - 09 February 24 |
| Term 4 | 19 February 24 - 28 March 24   |
| Term 5 | 15 April 24 - 24 May 24        |
| Term 6 | 03 June 24 - 23 July 24        |

**Bank Holidays (school closed to all pupils) - 2023/2024:**

|                      |            |
|----------------------|------------|
| May Day Bank Holiday | 6 May 2024 |
|----------------------|------------|

**Westhaven INSET Days (school closed to all pupils) - 2023/24:**

- Monday 22nd July 2024
- Tuesday 23rd July 2024

**North Somerset Term Dates - 2024/2025:**

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| Term 1 | Monday 02 September 2024 to Friday 25 October 2024 |
| Term 2 | Monday 04 November 2024 to Friday 20 December 2024 |
| Term 3 | Monday 06 January 2025 to Friday 14 February 2025  |
| Term 4 | Monday 24 February 2025 to Friday 04 April 2025    |
| Term 5 | Tuesday 22 April 2025 to Friday 23 May 2025        |
| Term 6 | Monday 02 June 2025 to Tuesday 22 July 2025        |

**Bank Holidays (school closed to all pupils) - 2024/2025:**

|                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| May Day Bank Holiday | Monday 05 May 2025 |
|----------------------|--------------------|