

Friday 20 October 2023

Our vision

Valued - Inspired - Prepared

Our values

We shape our learners to be:

Safely independent - Respectful citizens

Inquisitive thinkers - Confident communicators - Resilient learners

As I write this week's newsletter, I sit and reflect on what has been a wonderfully successful term in so many ways. There have been countless occasions where your children have amazed myself, the staff team and their class peers. I hope you enjoy reading this edition as much as I have and that you all have a restful half term break.

It is clear, and so pleasing to me that the 5 core school values listed above are now becoming embedded across the school. Every day I have the privilege of walking around the school and witness even the simplest of interactions that prove your children are happy and growing in confidence and resilience.

You will be receiving a separate email from me indicating your child's attendance this term. I have mentioned this in a couple of my recent newsletters and this week I attended specific training from the DfE, along with all Headteachers, on both their and Ofsted's expectations regarding school attendance. Please do not be alarmed if the percentage of your child is low, let me reassure you that we are here to work with you on this, but there are measures we must adhere to improve attendance.

I wish you all a happy and healthy half term break, please don't forget that Monday the 30th October is a staff INSET day, therefore the children return on Tuesday 31st.

Yours sincerely



Jamie Peacock
Headteacher

Around the School

On Monday, we had an assembly all about Diwali. Mrs Mohide was our special guest and showed off her sari and told us all about how her family celebrates during the Festival of Light. The learners had some great questions for her and were very interested in her special dress.

We also learnt all about racism and how we can show it 'the red card'.

If you too would like to learn more about how we can stand together against racism, please follow the link:

<https://www.theredcard.org/>



Lower School:

This term has been very successful and I have been so proud of how well all the learners have settled into their classes and are showing that they are confident communicators, respectful citizens and inquisitive thinkers. All classes have also been working hard during their skills for independence lessons to become more safely independent.

Lower School had their first school council meeting this week where we discussed the school council vision and the format of meetings. Learners were keen to be involved in different roles to run these meetings.

We also had a fabulous disco yesterday and everyone showed impeccable behaviour throughout.

We are very sad to announce that Friday 3rd November will be Mr Ashworth's last day with us at Westhaven. He will be leaving to pursue his dream of becoming a teacher. We will be saying a final goodbye to him during our assembly at 1.45pm. Everyone is welcome.

Middle School

This week I ,unfortunately, lost my voice. It has, however, been a chance to practise my use of Makaton signs. I have been so impressed with the learners in working out what I have been saying, their kindness to empathise and their good humour to laugh with (at)

me. It has really reminded me how important sign supported communication is and how good our learners and staff are at this.

I am very proud of how well our Middle School Learners have settled into the new school year. We've had a hard-working term and are ready for a well-deserved break. We wish you a lovely half term however you choose to spend it.

Upper School:

Term 1, seems to have disappeared in a flash! I am immensely proud of the learners who joined Upper School in September. Learners have shown resilience and increased independence navigating the transition into Upper School and been confident communicators in getting to know their new Tutor teams. I have enjoyed chatting with learners over the term and hearing all about their new learning from pets in Spanish, putting a trangia together in D of E, sawing in DT, raking in LBS, naming food poisoning bacteria in Food and Nutrition to positioning a camera to take a photo in photography.

However, the highlight this week was the Halloween disco! The costumes were amazing and it was a challenge to choose the 'Best Costume'. We all enjoyed a dance at the disco. We wish you a lovely half term.

Staff in the Spotlight: Mrs E Thorne

Favourite Book Quote	<i>Matilda said, "Never do anything by halves if you want to get away with it. Be outrageous. Go the whole hog. Make sure everything you do is so completely crazy it's unbelievable". - 'Matilda' by Roald Dahl</i>
Favourite Quote about Reading	<i>"Read a lot. Expect something big, something exalting or deepening from a book. No book is worth reading that isn't worth re-reading." - Susan Sontag</i>
Favourite Book to Read to Children	Paper Dolls - Julia Donaldson
Favourite Childhood Book	The Last Noo Noo - Jill Murphy

Assembly Focus on Monday:

Lower School	No phase assembly - INSET day
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Middle School	
Upper School	

Word of this Week:

KS1	adore
KS2	cherish
KS3, 4 and 5	laud

Sign of this Week:



Mouse

Maths Matters: Maths Holiday Fun!



Why don't you have a go at baking together?

Practising measuring ingredients is great for improving maths skills and you might get something tasty to eat at the end of it! Good luck.

Sports Desk:

Wow! What an amazing first term. My first mention is of all our new learners who have settled in so well into the Westhaven way of PE; I have been so impressed with the effort and enthusiasm they've put into this term. Secondly, our new learners who were here last year have come back with the same amazing attitude towards PE and are

setting new personal bests every lesson. I hope everyone has a restful and enjoyable half term.

A huge well done to our three 'Sport Superstars of the Term' who were:

Lower School - Maggie

Middle School - Keiran

Upper School - Noah

DRAMA AT WESTHAVEN SCHOOL

Wow wow wow - what a fantastic first term of Drama at Westhaven! Well done to all Middle School learners for being brave and giving it a go.

I've enjoyed our time of creating and exploring together and looking forward to our Christmas adventures.

Mrs Evans





**Family
workshop**

Term 2



**Westhaven
School**

Speech and Language

Led by Michelle Hamill (Consultant Speech and Language Therapist from Sirona)

Where: Westhaven School

When: Monday 6th November {9.15-10.15}

What to expect: Speech and language provision at Westhaven -
Levels of support - Aided language displays - Much more!

Change of Menu:





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

Date	Location	Start point
Saturday 14.10.2023	Weston-super-Mare Pier to Pier	In front of The Grand Pier
Sunday 29.10.2023	Clevedon Poet's Walk	Salhouse field 'train station'
Saturday 11.11.2023	Weston-super-Mare Worlebury woods	Worlebury Woods car park
Sunday 26.11.2023	Portishead Docks and coast	Parish Wharf Leisure Centre
Saturday 09.12.2023	Weston Sand Bay	Sand Bay car park & bus stop
Sunday 16.12.2023	Clevedon 'Coleridge' walk	Clevedon sea front bandstand
Saturday 06.01.2024	Weston-super-Mare Uphill	Uphill Boatyard entrance
Sunday 21.01.2024	Nailsea Ty Sculpture Trail	Sculpture Trail car 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.



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Diary Dates:

Monday 6th November 2023	SALT Family Workshop 9.15 am - 10.15 am
Friday 17 November 2023	Children-in-Need
Friday 1 December 2023	Sleeping Beauty Touring Pantomime in
Friday 1 December 2023	Westhaven Christmas Fayre
Friday 15 December 2023	1.30 pm Christmas Showcases for Lower School and Middle School classes - parents and carers welcome
Friday 22 March 2024	M&M Production of Oliver Twist

North Somerset Term Dates - 2023/2024:

Term 1	04 September 23 - 20 October 23
Term 2	30 October 23 - 20 December 23
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
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Westhaven INSET Days (school closed to all pupils) - 2023/24:

- Monday 4th September 2023
- Tuesday 5th September 2023
- Monday 30th October 2023
- Thursday 4th January 2024
- 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
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