

Our vision

Valued – Inspired – Prepared

Our values

We shape our learners to be:

Safely independent – Respectful citizens

Inquisitive thinkers – Confident communicators – Resilient learners

So, the penultimate week completed, only four days to go until we break up for Easter. Don't forget the end of term is on Thursday 28th as it's Good Friday on the 29th.

It has been yet another busy and enjoyable week at Westhaven. This morning the Middle and Upper School learners enjoyed watching a performance of Oliver Twist by M&M Productions. We were fortunate to have this funded through Happy Days children's charity.

I'm pleased to tell you that we had a number of the school governors in for the day yesterday and they had a really enjoyable day. Being a school governor is a significant commitment, which is an unpaid role. For them to give up their valuable time to come and spend the day at Westhaven and see how wonderful the learners are was extremely worthwhile.

Don't forget to wear a hat to school next Thursday to support national 'Brain Tumour Day'; Miss Morley will be in school on that day too and it will be lovely to see her.

Have a wonderful weekend, whatever you have planned,



Jamie Peacock
Headteacher

Across the School:

We had a positive start to the week with our House assemblies. This time around, we were discussing the characteristics that determine who is deemed a hero or heroine. In Lower School, the learners followed the story: [A Hero Like You | A story about everyday heroes](#) In Middle and Upper School, the learners discussed the video [WHAT IS A HERO?](#)

We discussed what true heroes and heroines do and what they mean to us.



On Monday we welcomed Gavin Hutchinson into school. He is working with North Somerset to write the Autism Strategy for North Somerset. He spent the day with us meeting with learners, staff and parents. Our School Council representatives met with Gavin and shared their views and the views of their peers. They were very confident in sharing their views. This is a summary of what was said:

- They feel safe in school as teachers(staff) keep them safe.
- They like learning in school - this was important to them and they frequently said that the learning is an important part of school.
- Being kind is important to them and people in school are kind.
- They find some lessons/subjects hard but adults help them.
- There are some things that they feel anxious about but they have been taught strategies and have help to use them.
- Their families, and people within the school understand their needs. They would like more people to understand their needs.

Gavin would also really like to meet with any adults who have an autism diagnosis; if you have an autism diagnosis and would be happy to share your experiences and comments towards the strategy please get in touch with the office.

In our class assemblies this week we have been looking at Neurodiversity week - which explores, celebrates and seeks to educate others about neurodiversity. Learners will have discussed this within their classes and explored resources on the website. It has been great to hear that lots of learners know about their diagnosis and their needs and that this has been shared with them at the right time for them as individuals. If this is something that you have not shared with your child and would like support to do so please get in touch with your learners' Head of Phase.

Lower School:

With the weather starting to feel more spring-like, the teachers have been taking advantage of getting their learners off site. They have been exploring the local community, identifying hazards, during their Skills for Independence lessons and Oxford class took a trip out in the minibus to Bristol airport. All learners have been able to demonstrate the Westhaven School values during their visits.

Middle School:

I have started showing new learners for September around. Our current Middle School learners have shown them such a wonderful Westhaven welcome and have been exhibiting wonderful examples of the Westhaven Way; showing kindness and great learning behaviour as well as confidence in their communication. We have many more visits for new learners and I am sure they will continue to be as wonderful.

The visits may have left some of our learners wondering about their classes for next year. When we share this with our learners and yourselves it is usually later in the year – it is a fine balance to ensure it is at the right time – not too early and not too late (both for the learners and for the staff!) However, if you are concerned about this and would like a conversation about next year please contact reception and I will endeavour to call and discuss this.

Upper School:

Upper School learners continue to display wonderful resilience and curiosity in their learning. For our Year 11 learners this has been demonstrated through completing coursework-based exams (almost there with a mountain of evidence from each learner from their qualification journey) and revising for exams commencing in term 5.

With the slightly warmer and drier weather this week, I have noticed more Upper School learners socialising, enjoying the table top football we have and sitting eating packed lunches on tables and benches in the Upper School area.

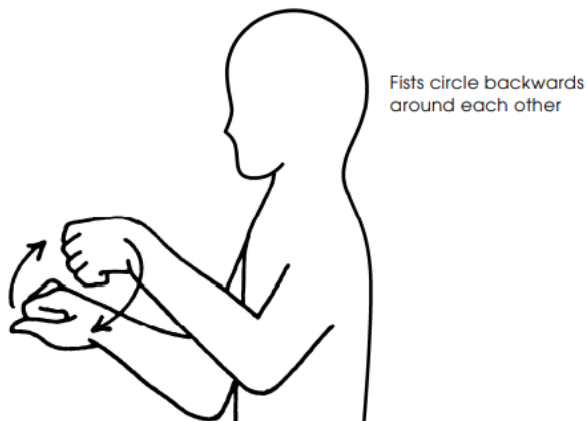
Staff in the Spotlight: Mrs C Miyagawa

Favourite Book Quote	<i>"Where there's life there's hope...and need of vittles." - The Lord of the Rings</i>
Favourite Quote about Reading	<i>"There is nothing more luxurious than eating while you read—unless it be reading while you eat." - E. Nesbit</i>
Favourite Book to Read to Children	'If You Give a Mouse a Cookie' by Laura Numeroff
Favourite Childhood Book	'The Adventure Book Series' by Enid Blyton

Word of this Week:

KS1	cafe
KS2	eatery
KS3, 4 and 5	tavern

Sign of this Week: recycling



Maths Matters:



Peter, Melanie, Amil and Jack received a total of 38 chocolate eggs.

Jack had one less than Peter.

Peter had five less than Melanie.

Amil had half as many as Melanie.

Peter had two more than Amil.

How many eggs did each person have?

Headteacher Awards:

- Max in Leeds class and George H in Cardiff class for their area and perimeter work in maths
- Dexter in Newcastle class for his lovely and much improved handwriting

Sports Desk:

We have very much enjoyed being back outside for PE this week, we have been finishing off our sport topics in middle and upper school with competitive and non-competitive matches of hockey and handball. I was blown away by the levels of the games and, more importantly, the sportsmanship was absolutely amazing.

Well done everyone on a fantastic term.

Trophy winners were:

Lower School – Hull

Middle and Upper School – Exeter and Cardiff.



The Hangar HAF Easter Programme

The Hangar located on Rectors Way, Weston-super-Mare are offering sessions for young people to learn skills in trade development, such as carpentry, brick laying and plumbing. It is also offering early training for PT instructing. These sessions are open to young people who receive benefits related free school meals. Please click the link below for more information:

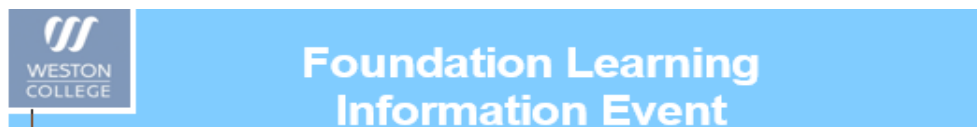
[The Hangar Sessions](#) – all holiday activity and food sessions are available in one place for families to see <https://eequ.org/northsomersethaf>



'Wear a Hat Day' is Brain Tumour Research's annual event raising money to bring hope to brain tumour patients and their families. Please click on the link below for further details:

https://braintumourresearch.org/pages/wear-a-hat-day?fbclid=IwAR16UCzBE4V_nXCY1-0_WBtb_-orDTYKPQmEiwYPluHZ2GRanQN0EMZbiUs

If your child would like to take part we are asking for a £1.00 donation as a suggested minimum.



We welcome all parents and carers of young people leaving school in the next academic year to come in and find out what we have on offer within Foundation Learning.

This will be an interactive and engaging event allowing you to meet staff, ask questions and to explore what happens next.

The information event is being held on:

Thursday 25th April @ 5:30pm

The event will be held at the Knightstone Campus, Weston College

SENDSenses


'Our mission is to support mental health and wellbeing for people of all ages and abilities in Bristol and the surrounding areas through our immersive sessions. We centre our sessions around connecting back into our bodies through the nature around us, as well as using our senses (especially through the soles of our feet).'



We believe that this strengthens our body and mind, creating more resilience, self-esteem, better wellbeing, social interaction, motor skills and lots more! We strive to provide a safe, nurturing and fun environment for people to explore and learn how to use their bodies as a tool to self-regulate, reducing stress and anxieties. Offering 1:1 and group sessions.'

Check out their website [www.https://www.sendsenses.com/](https://www.sendsenses.com/) and taste their sessions in an open day, please find information below:





Westhaven School

Family workshop
Term 5

Keeping safe online workshop

Led by Tammy Chaplin and Joanne Evans

Where: Westhaven School **When:** Wednesday 1st May March {9.15-10.15}

What to expect: - Talking to your child about keeping safe online - Online wellbeing for learners with SEND - Online safety resources for learners with SEND - Parental controls - Questions

Please complete the following form to confirm attendance. We hope to see you there!
<https://forms.gle/y4mUmFGH62sYq1CD8>



I'm supporting

**World Autism
Acceptance Week** 
2nd-8th April 2024

What is World Autism Acceptance Week 2024?

World Autism Acceptance Week is an annual event that is held all over the world to teach more people about Autism.

World Autism Acceptance Week aims to teach people about Autism and how it affects people, with the hope that more people will be accepting of Autism and better educated on the topic.

When is World Autism Acceptance Week 2024?

This year, World Autism Acceptance Week will take place from 2nd to 8th April 2024. World Autism Acceptance Week is always planned around World Autism Acceptance Day, which is on 2nd April.

The theme for World Autism Acceptance Week 2024 is colour, **so make sure that you wear as much colour as you can!**

What is the history of World Autism Acceptance Week?

World Autism Acceptance Week hasn't always had this name. The event used to be called World Autism Awareness Week. However, the name has been changed due to a lot of people already knowing about Autism.

The first Autism Awareness Week was held in 2007, with the aim of making more people aware of Autism and how it can affect people.

The aim of this week has now changed from awareness to acceptance.

How can you take part in World Autism Acceptance Week 2024?

One of the easiest and most important ways to involve yourself in World Autism Acceptance Week 2024, is to educate yourself and others on Autism. You can do this by using some of the many resources found here: [Twinkl World Autism resources](#)

Get colourful this April by:

- ★ Holding a Colourful 5k walk/run/cycle
- ★ Holding a Colourful dress down day
- ★ Holding a Colourful bake sale

For more information go to: [Autism acceptance week](#)

House Egg Decorating Competition

Term 4 2023/24 House Event



between Monday 19th February and Monday 25th March.



Whole school:

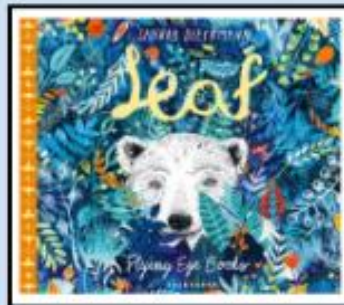
- Use a drained real egg or a plastic/china egg.
- Decorate a single or multiple eggs.
- Make a scene to house your egg too if you wish.
- Be as creative as you can in your decorating using any materials you like.



Decorate an egg.

Book of the term- Term 4

Leaf by Sandra Dieckmann



A Makaton version of the book:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=11AXeFpT7K8&t=1s>

Joanna Page -CBeebies bedtime stories:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H-FK8HocVqI>

Whole school house challenge:

**DESIGN YOUR OWN
BOOK COVER!**

Design your own book cover.

This can be digital or completed by hand, you can use an existing book as a starting point or make up your own.

Tip: The inside of a recycled cereal box makes a great book cover.

Entries close Monday 25th March.



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.




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



7pm

Finish at



9pm



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



Parenting isn't easy even when your child is well and happy. Sometimes all we need is a little advice and guidance to get us back on track when things are tricky.

The Family Wellbeing Parenting Team have an offer of 13 advanced parenting groups which are free to attend and run by trained facilitators. All groups are evidenced based meaning they employ tried and true methods built on research that demonstrate positive outcomes and are most likely the most reliable way to approach parenting.

For information on the advanced parenting groups please search for "North Somerset Advanced Parenting Groups" on your chosen search engine or scan the QR code below.

- Incredible Years Autism & Language Delay
- Incredible Years Preschool
- Incredible Years School Age
- D.A.R.T – Domestic Abuse Recovery Together
- Parents Plus: Adolescent Programme
- Parents Plus: Working Things Out
- Parents Plus: SEND
- Parents Plus: Parenting When Separated
- Non-Violent Resistance
- Mellow Parenting

For more information, please contact the Parenting Team:
parenting.groups@n-somerset.gov.uk



The Parenting Village Coffee Morning

"It takes a village to raise a child" originates from an old African proverb and conveys the message that it takes many people to provide a safe and healthy environment where children can flourish.

The drop in is a relaxed and friendly place where parents and parenting specialists will be on hand to share resources, offer support, a listening ear or just spend time talking about what it's like to be a parent.

When? 1st Friday of each month

Where? Castle Batch Children's Centre, Bishop Avenue, Weston-super-Mare, BS22 7PQ

What time? 09:30 – 11:00

When? 2nd Tuesday of each month (9th Jan 24)

Where? Oldmixon Family Centre, Monkton Avenue, Weston-super-Mare BS24 9DA

What time? 09:30 – 11:00

When? 3rd Monday of each month

Where? The Barn, Great Western Rd, Clevedon BS21 6HB

What time? 11:00 – 12:30

*Parents of children of all ages welcome.
Free refreshments*

For more information, please contact the Parenting Team: parenting.groups@n-somerset.gov.uk



Diary Dates:

Thursday 28 March 2024	'Wear a Hat Day' for Brain Tumour Research
Friday 19th April 2024	Deadline: Please can all Readathon money be logged and sponsor cards be returned to school
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
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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
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Westhaven INSET Days (school closed to all learners) – 2024/25:

- Monday 2nd September 2024
- Tuesday 3rd September 2024
- Friday 8th November 2024
- Monday 6th January 2025
- Monday 21st July 2025
- Tuesday 22nd July 2025