

## Our vision

Valued – Inspired – Prepared

## Our values

We shape our learners to be:

Safely independent – Respectful citizens

Inquisitive thinkers – Confident communicators – Resilient learners

Well, the highlight of the week would have to be the North Somerset dance festival at the Weston Playhouse on Wednesday evening. I was so immensely proud of all the Westhaven team, they were (and yes, I am unashamedly biased) by far the best performers of the entire evening. An enormous well done to all the learners and a massive thank you to all the staff that supported them, not just on the night but during all the practises at school too.

It was a very colourful day yesterday, with lots of us dressed up in various colours for world book day. Some of the costumes included dragons and dinosaurs, which are linked to the house mascots, well done everyone!

This morning I had the pleasure of visiting the new Baytree school in Clevedon, along with Oxford class and the staff team to say a belated goodbye to three of our former learners that started at Baytree at the beginning of this term. It was wonderful to see them happy and settled in their new school and we wish them all the best for everything in the future.

The new Westhaven shop, which is linked to the house system and we have named 'The Element Exchange', is now open for browsing. Lots of items are on display in the hall for the learners to choose from, by spending their 'Westhaven Wages' (class dojo/merit points). The items should be available to 'purchase' from next week, please see photo below:



You will also read below that we are going to acknowledge 'Wear a Hat' day for Brain Tumour research on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March and there is a very good reason for us choosing to do this. You may be aware that Miss Morley, our long standing and much-loved Science teacher has not been in school since December. She unfortunately suffered a seizure just before the new year and ended up in hospital, whereby they found that she had a brain tumour. She was operated on immediately and I am pleased to be able to inform you that she is making excellent progress with her recovery, in fact, she intends to come into school on the 28<sup>th</sup> March herself to see you, the children and her colleagues.



**Jamie Peacock**  
**Headteacher**

#### **Across the School:**

We began the week with phase assemblies, focussing on our school value of being 'Safely Independent'. We then also very much enjoyed celebrating World Book Day across the school on Thursday and saw some fantastic costumes.

#### **Lower School:**

There have been many moments to celebrate in Lower School this week, not least the wonderful array of colourful costumes we saw yesterday for World Book Day. However, one special highlight has to be the visit Oxford Class took today to visit their friends at Baytree School. It was wonderful to see them so settled in their new setting with new friends. We wish them so much happiness and success for their future.

#### **Middle School:**

In Middle School assemblies this week we were introduced to Kerry Boucher from the School Nursing Team who is running drop-in clinics with the learners. A link to the PowerPoint shared is here: [Widget Version of BNSSG School Nursing Drop-in Assembly Westhaven.pdf](#)

We also listened to a song about being safely independent and discussed what it means to be independent at school. This is a discussion we would value you continuing at home by discussing what your child can do independently at home and encouraging greater independence; remembering that independence can be supported through visual or written checklists.

## Upper School:

<https://www.weston.ac.uk/event/march-open-evening-school-leavers-and-adults>

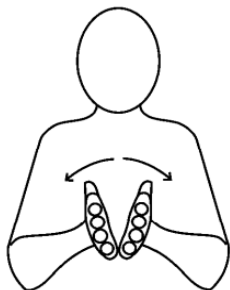
## Staff in the Spotlight: Mr R Young

<b>Favourite Book Quote</b>	"Not all those who wander are lost." - JRR Tolkien, The Fellowship of the Ring
<b>Favourite Quote about Reading</b>	"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." - Dr Seuss
<b>Favourite Book to Read to Children</b>	The Runaway Pea by Kjartan Poskitt
<b>Favourite Childhood Book</b>	Fantastic Mr Fox by Roald Dahl

## Word of this Week:

<b>KS1</b>	damage
<b>KS2</b>	havoc
<b>KS3, 4 and 5</b>	catastrophic

## Sign of this Week: book



## Maths Matters:



Ben has five coins in his pocket.

How much money might he have? If possible, talk to someone else about your ideas.

What is the smallest amount of money he could have?  
How do you know?

What is the largest amount of money he could have? How do you know?

What if he still had five coins, but only 1ps and/or 2ps? How much might he have now?  
Can you find all the possibilities?

How do you know you have found them all?

## Sports Desk:

As mentioned above the highlight of this week, possibly even year so far, was the Dance Festival on Wednesday. Our learners absolutely smashed their two performances. It was amazing to see the smiles on their faces during and after the performances. A huge well done and also a huge thank you to all the staff that helped organise the event, with a special thank you to Mrs Danvers and Mrs Thorne who choreographed the routines.

PE wise we have loved being back out in the sun and enjoyed some fantastic outdoor PE lessons which have been long overdue.

Last week's trophy winners were:

- Lower School – Bath
- Middle and Upper School – Newcastle and Leeds

Well done to all classes.

## Headteacher Awards:

- Jacob in York class for increased resilience and communicating confidently
- Naomi in York class for her wonderful English work
- Leo in Bristol for his extremely well written letter to Adele the pop star
- Billyjo in Truro class for his exceptional Maths, and also his artistic creations
- Millie S from Liverpool class for her fantastic Art work



'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=IwARI6UCzBE4V\\_nXCYI-0\\_WBtb\\_-orDTYKQPmEiwYPluHZ2GRanQN0EMZbiUs](https://braintumourresearch.org/pages/wear-a-hat-day?fbclid=IwARI6UCzBE4V_nXCYI-0_WBtb_-orDTYKQPmEiwYPluHZ2GRanQN0EMZbiUs)

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



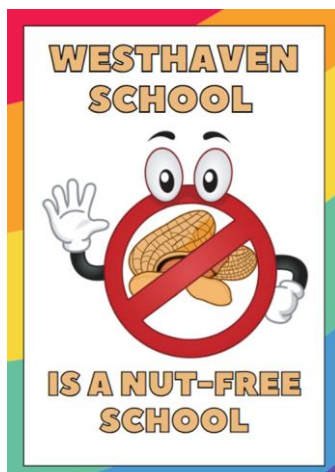
To ensure that we can continue to provide a full catering service when faced with staffing challenges, we would be interested to hear from any parents/carers that might be interested in helping out as a Kitchen Assistant on an ad-hoc basis. Full training would be given in advance. This post would be subject to an enhanced DBS clearance

and two satisfactory references and would be paid at a competitive hourly rate. This arrangement would constitute a zero hours contract with no guarantee of work. Please contact Trudy Hudson for further details.



Paul and Michael raise two sets of twins, their eldest of which have autism and epilepsy. In Diffability, they talk about their lives and the challenges they face, about products that make their lives with the boys easier, and they speak to special guests. Whether your child's Diffability is anxiety, mental health, ASD, ADHD or any other kind of diagnosis, this podcast is here to show you that you're not alone in your calling to raise your child with a Diffability.

Tune in on Spotify: [Diffability Spotify Podcast](#) or Apple Podcasts: [Diffability on Apple Podcasts](#)



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.



**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](#)



# Westhaven School

## 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.

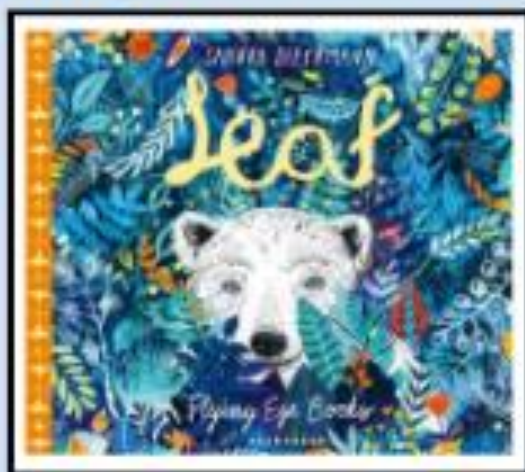
**Entries close Monday 25th March.**



# Westhaven School

## 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-FK8HocValI>

**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.**



## Advanced Parenting Groups

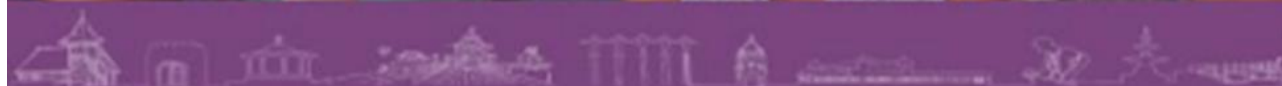
Parenting isn't easy even when your child is well and happy. Sometimes all we need is a little advice and guidance to get us back on track when things are tricky.

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](mailto: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?** 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of each month

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

**What time?** 09:30 – 11:00

**When?** 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month (9<sup>th</sup> Jan 24)

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

**What time?** 09:30 – 11:00

**When?** 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:parenting.groups@n-somerset.gov.uk)



people  
first

# GAMES GROUP



## Weston-super-Mare

### Winter 2023—Spring 2024

December: 5th, 19th

January: 2nd, 16th, 30th

February: 13th, 27th

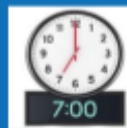
March: 12th, 26th

April: 9th, 23rd

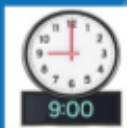
A free and friendly board games group for young people with a learning disability and/or autism.

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

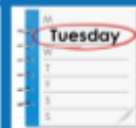
Start at    Finish at



7pm



9pm



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

Empowering voices.  
Enabling choices.



Registered charity number 1159184

communications@nspf.co.uk  
www.nspf.co.uk



## Cycle lessons for young people with additional needs.

**We have availability on Saturdays for free 1:1 cycle lessons, using our fantastic range of adaptive bikes and trikes. The 30 minute sessions are a great way to introduce cycle skills and develop further confidence.**



Email [strawberrylinprojects@gmail.com](mailto:strawberrylinprojects@gmail.com) for further information

### Diary Dates:

Friday 22 March 2024	M&M Production of Oliver Twist
Thursday 28 March 2024	'Wear a Hat Day' for Brain Tumour Research
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 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 pupils) - 2024/25:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024</li><li>• Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2024</li><li>• Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2024</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025</li><li>• Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2025</li><li>• Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2025</li></ul>
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