

Westhill Primary  
Headteacher: Mrs Jennifer Burns

October 2023

Westhill Drive  
Westhill  
AB32 6FY  
Tel: 01224 472900



westhill.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk  
www.westhill-pri.aberdeenshire.sch.uk

## WEEKLY BULLETIN Week Ending 13th October 2023

### Kindness—Respect—Responsibility—Togetherness

It's been lovely to see you all this week at our parent meetings. I hope that you found them helpful. We have had a few relief teachers working with us this term and all of them have been extremely complimentary about our learners. We are very proud of the children and also the way the teachers organise their classes which makes it easier for any visitors who come in.

This will be our last school bulletin of this term as school closes to P1 to P7 pupils at 3.15pm on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October. We look forward to seeing everyone again on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October.

#### Staffing Updates

##### **Congratulations to Mrs Gwynne!**

Mrs Gwynne has been successfully appointed to a new post of Pupil Wellbeing Worker which she starts at Westhill Academy after the holidays. We are really pleased for her and we know she will be brilliant! She will continue to work with us as a PSA on Mondays.

**P7A-** P7A have been joined this week by Mr Northcroft. He will be working on Thursdays and Fridays and Mrs Legaz will work Monday to Wednesday. Mr Northcroft will be in post until Mrs Muir returns from maternity leave.

**P4B-** After the holidays, P4B will be joined by Miss Kessack who will be working alongside Mrs Macdonald and Mrs Hamer.

#### Spare Clothes

As the weather is changing, please remember that children should bring a jacket with them every day as we try to get outside as much as possible. It would also be a good idea if they could bring spare clothes to keep in their bags in case of a fall where they might need to get changed. We do have some spare clothes in school but it would be helpful if children had their own. Please ensure names are on everything.

#### Choir Performance

The pupils who sing in the school choir are going to perform their songs on the 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023. This will take place straight after school in the gym hall. Families are invited to come along and listen to their performance. More details will follow after the holidays.

#### Educational Psychology Service Family Nurture Leaflets

Our Educational Psychology Service developed a series of leaflets for families to access with helpful advice on a range of topics. For your interest and awareness, I have included the link below. Others to follow!

[Understanding-and-responding-to-anxiety.pdf \(glowscotland.org.uk\)](https://www.glowscotland.org.uk/understanding-and-responding-to-anxiety.pdf)

## Rotary Competitions

There are three attachments from Westhill and District Rotary this week. Some of our pupils have had success in these competitions over the last couple of years.  
Some additional information is included below:

### Young Artist Competition

#### Local Heat

The final entry date for the local heat is **15<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

#### Prizes

A perpetual trophy will be awarded to the overall club winner along with an appropriate gift voucher to the value of £25. Winners of the other two age groups will also receive gift vouchers. At all stages of the competition, competitors will receive a certificate of participation. The School or Organisation which the winning entry has listed on their entry form will also receive a gift voucher to the value of £25

#### How to Enter

Entry forms are available from the Westhill club coordinator Jim Arbuckle on [j.w.arbuckle@btinternet.com](mailto:j.w.arbuckle@btinternet.com)  
Entries, along with the appropriate entry form, should be handed to the school admin office by **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023** from where they will be collected by the club coordinator

### Young Photographer Competition 2023-24

#### Local Heat

The final entry date for the local heat is **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

#### Prizes

A perpetual trophy will be awarded to the overall club winner along with an appropriate gift voucher to the value of £25. Winners of the other two age groups will also receive gift vouchers. At all stages of the competition, competitors will receive a certificate of participation. The School or Organisation which the winning entry has listed on their entry form will also receive a gift voucher to the value of £25

#### How to Enter

Entry forms are available from the Westhill club coordinator Jim Arbuckle on [j.w.arbuckle@btinternet.com](mailto:j.w.arbuckle@btinternet.com)  
Entrants should complete an entry form and email it, along with their entry photograph, to the club coordinator by **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

## Young Environmentalist Competition

#### Local Heat

The final entry date for the local heat is **12<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

#### Prizes

A perpetual trophy will be awarded to the overall club winner along with an appropriate gift voucher to the value of £25. Winners of the other two age groups will also receive gift vouchers. At all stages of the competition, competitors will receive a certificate of participation. The School or Organisation which the winning entry has listed on their entry form will also receive a gift voucher to the value of £25

#### How to Enter

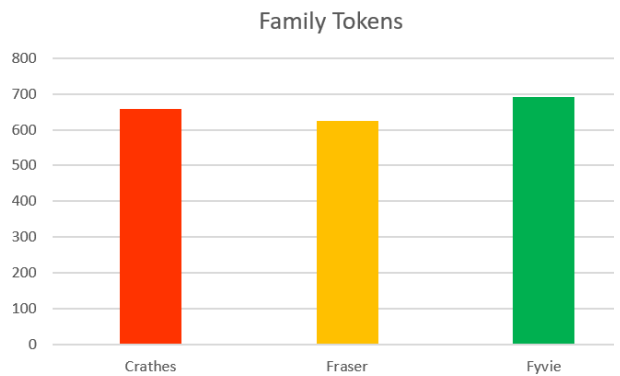
Entry forms are available from the Westhill and District club Young Environmentalist coordinator Margaret Currie at [mhopecurrie@gmail.com](mailto:mhopecurrie@gmail.com)  
Entries, along with the appropriate entry form, should be handed to the school admin office by **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024** from where they will be collected by the club coordinator.

## Black History Month

Our P6 pupils gave a really interesting assembly about Black History Month making us aware of lots of famous people who have achieved great things.

## Family Tokens

We have finished the term with some very close results so it will be very interesting to see how the totals go next term! Congratulations to Fyvie who are in the lead with 820, very closely followed by Crathes with 812 and the Fraser not far behind with 777 tokens. Well done everyone for all your hard work! The totals will return to zero at the start of next term although we will keep a record for the final totals for the trophy at the end of the session.



## Trophies

P6 were awarded the 'Togetherness' trophy for their work on Black History Month.



P2A received the 'Respect' trophy for their good manners in the school lunch hall



P3B were awarded 'Responsibility' for the progress that they are making in their class encouraging each other to be responsible.



## Choir

Our choir gave us a super performance of 'I'm Still Standing' and 'Don't Give Up on Me' on Thursday. It is lovely to see so many of our children joining the choir and enjoying their singing. Thank you to staff who organise this.



## Church Service

Our P1-3 pupils enjoyed a lovely Harvest service at the church today. Thank you to Reverend Stella for leading this for us. It was great to see our pupils sitting and listening so well in church.

### How to discuss any concerns:

If you have a concern about your child, please request a phone call from their class teacher in the first instance. Staff will return the call as soon as possible. Should the matter require further discussion, please contact the relevant member of the senior management team. This year Mrs Borthwick will be the point of contact for children in Nursery, Mrs Burns will be point contact of for P1, Mrs Dahl will be the point of contact for children in P2- P4 and Ms Symington will be the point of contact for children in P5-7.

### PE days

1A	Monday and Friday	5A	Wednesday and Friday
1B	Monday and Friday	5/6A	Tuesday and Thursday
2A	Monday and Thursday	6A	Wednesday and Thursday
2B	Monday and Thursday	7A	Wednesday and Friday
3A	Tuesday and Thursday	7B	Wednesday and Friday
3B	Tuesday and Friday		
4A	Monday and Tuesday		
4B	Monday and Thursday		

### Dates for your Diary

Please find below link that will allow you to download the school calendar to your phone:

<https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/27286/2022-2023-school-holidays.ics>

- 13<sup>th</sup> October School closes for October holidays
- 30<sup>th</sup> October School re-opens
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November and Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November In Service days 2 and 3
- 22<sup>nd</sup> December School and Nursery close for Christmas Holidays
- 8<sup>th</sup> January School and Nursery re-open
- 8<sup>th</sup> February – 12<sup>th</sup> February School closed mid term holiday
- Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February and Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February In Service days 4 and 5
- 28<sup>th</sup> March School Closes for Easter holidays
- 29<sup>th</sup> March Good Friday Public Holiday
- 15<sup>th</sup> April School re-opens
- Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April and Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April Parent Interviews
- 6<sup>th</sup> May Public Holiday
- 5<sup>th</sup> July School closes for summer holidays