

Westhill Primary
Headteacher: Mrs Jennifer Burns

November 2023

WEEKLY BULLETIN
Week Ending 10th November 2023

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Kindness—Respect—Responsibility—Togetherness

Remember that next week is a short week as school and Nursery will be closed for In Service days on Thursday 16th and Friday 17th November. Our next bulletin will be issued on Friday 24th November.

Children in Need

This year we will be holding Children in Need Day on Wednesday the 15th of November. The pupils in Primary Three have been working hard to organise some activities to raise money.

Out of Uniform

Pupils can come to school in their pyjamas on the 15th of November if they wish. They don't need to bring in a specific donation for this, they will use any money that they bring in for the other activities that we have organised.

Burpee Challenge

Jo Wicks and Pudsey bear have set all classes a challenge to complete 1000 burpees in one month! Pupils can complete these in class during the week and can choose to take up the challenge at home at the weekend.

Fun Day in the Gym

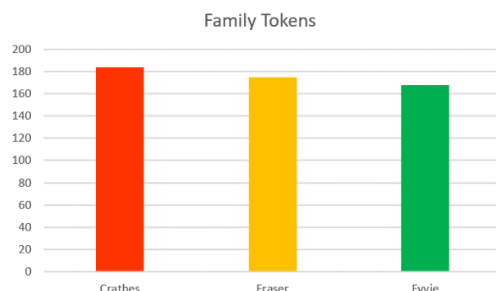
There will be various activities for the children in the gym and each class will have the opportunity to visit the stalls on Wednesday. Most activities cost 20p to do and some cost 50p. We do have some shopping bags which the children have designed which cost £2. If pupils choose to bring in money, we ask that they bring in no more than £5 and that this is in change. It gets very difficult to run the stalls if there are lots of notes and large coins. There will also be a Just Dance station set up for pupils to join in with. This will not cost any money.

This will be a fun day and we aim to raise lots of money for Children in Need.



Family Tokens

Crathes have built a bigger lead this week with 184 points but the other families are not far behind with Fraser on 175 and Fyvie on 168 tokens.



Trophies

Many congratulations to Louise and Imogen who were soloists at our choir's performance for parents on Wednesday. They both sang very well and it takes a lot of courage to perform in front of other people. They have been awarded the trophy for Togetherness!



Well done and thank you, to P4 for the leadership work they have done around expectations in the playground. They presented their work and the final poster in our Assembly on Monday. We were all impressed and they have been awarded the trophy for Responsibility!



Also, well done and congratulations to P1 who shared their leadership learning with us in Assembly on Monday. They have been looking at Kindness and like P4, shared their work with the whole school. They have been awarded the trophy for Kindness!



Accountant needed

In addition to our school budget which we receive from Aberdeenshire Council, we also have a School Fund which is managed separately. As part of our financial regulations, we need to have this Fund audited on an annual basis.

Our usual auditor has recently retired and so we are looking for someone who could help us with this. If you know of anyone who might have some time to give us, please let us know.

Tempest Photography

We have taken some lovely photos of your children today! Don't forget the photographer will be back for Nursery photos on Monday and will take any sibling groups for Nursery children then.

Traditionally we have alternated individual photos with class photos. We have reflected on this and will now be offering an individual photo each year with class photos taken in P1 and P7 only.

As we did not have enough time today, this year's P1 and P7 photos will be taken in February.

Leadership

Part of our work in school is to encourage all our young people to participate in the life of our school. Traditionally this is done through groups such as Eco-Committee and Pupil Council. While these play an important role, as a staff we were aware that this only involved a small number of children and we wanted to expand the opportunities for more children to feel involved.

As a result we have given each year group a leadership responsibility and tasks to do across the school year. Last term, Primary 6 pupils prepared and led an assembly on Black History Month; their posters are in the main foyer. Next week P3 are leading the fun day to raise money for Children in Need.

Please see below for the work in P4 and P1.

P4 Leadership

Over the past few weeks the P4 classes have been working together on creating a Playground Charter. They gathered ideas and thoughts from pupils and staff before deciding what to include. The charter is based on the school values of Kindness, Togetherness, Responsibility and Respect and the children thought hard about what these values look like in the playground. In small groups the children then created posters and voted for their favourite. Here is the winning design created by Ellie, Rosa, Angus and Maisie. Last week a small group of children reported back to Mrs Burns and on Monday of this week, another group of volunteers shared the work with the school at Assembly. We have been really impressed with the team work, thoughtful responses and leadership shown by the P4 pupils.

P1 Kindness

P1 have prepared kindness posters and put them up around the school to show the expectations we have for our school value.

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!

[Helping-develop-a-positive-outlook.pdf \(glowscotland.org.uk\)](https://glowscotland.org.uk/helping-develop-a-positive-outlook.pdf)

Anti-Bullying Week



Anti-Bullying Week takes place from Monday 13th – Friday 17th November 2023. Too often, we are silent when we see bullying take place, silent about the hurt bullying causes, and silent when we hear bullying dismissed as 'just banter'. It doesn't have to be this way. Of course, we won't like everyone and we don't always agree, but we can choose respect and unity. This Anti-Bullying Week let's come together to have discussions about what bullying means to us, how banter can turn into something more hurtful, and what we can do to stop bullying. Together,

we can make a difference and take a stand against bullying. From the playground to Parliament, and from our phones to our homes, let's make a noise about bullying.

We would really appreciate it if you can speak to your children about the importance of always following our School Values of 'Kindness, Respect, Responsibility and Togetherness' and encourage others to do the same. The week will be kicked off with Odd Socks Day on Monday 13th November, where adults and children wear odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique.

Fundraising

School Disco—15th November

Full details on the attached, book now to secure your child's space.

Christmas Fair—2nd December 10am—1pm

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>

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

Christmas Dates for your Diary

- Saturday 2nd December Parent Council School Fair 10am -1pm
- Tuesday 12th December P2/3 Nativity Performance 2pm
- Wednesday 13th December P2/3 Nativity Performance 9.30am
- Thursday 14th December Elf on the Shelf
- Friday 15th December Elf on the Shelf; School Christmas lunch; wear your Christmas jumper to school
- Monday 18th December P1 and P2 party after break; P3 Party in the afternoon
- Tuesday 19th December P5 Party in the afternoon
- Wednesday 20th December P6 party in the afternoon
- Thursday 21st December P4 party in the morning; P7 party in the afternoon
- Friday 22nd December P4-P7 Church Service