

School Newsletter 9

May 2017



www.waterthorpeinfantschool.co.uk



Dear parents, carers and families

We are now at our favourite time of year, when the sun is shining and the children can enjoy a range of activities outside. This is an important time for the children in Y2 who will be taking their SATs (Standard Assessment Tests) in May. This may be the last year of SATs, if the government listen to the assessment task force, headteachers and parents across the country. To help our Year 2 children to do their very best this year please ensure that they go to bed early and have a good breakfast. Please do not take Year 2 children on holiday in May. Please also be assured that we approach the tests like other activities in class and the children often do not even know they are doing and therefore do not get anxious. We will continue to have the range of activities in school that ensure children experience a broad curriculum and that they take part in those memorable experiences that many of our previous pupils often come back and talk about. All our staff work hard to ensure that our school is a happy, safe and exciting place to learn in.

Please regularly visit our website at www.waterthorpeinfantschool.co.uk to find out about events in school. The 'News Update' tab is changed weekly. Your comments, as always, are welcomed and I would be happy to see you at any time if you want to catch me in the playground or call in at the office to make an appointment. If you do have any concerns or worries please have a word with your child's teacher first as I know that they will do their best to help and to put your mind at rest.

Helen Stokes (Headteacher).

Senior leadership team



Mrs Helen
Stokes
Headteacher



Mrs Caryn
Moffatt
Foundation



Mrs Shelly
Appleby
Key Stage 1



Mrs Michelle
Taylor
Special Needs

This is the [School](#) version of the February Newsletter.

F2: Red Base, Y1: Blue Base & Y2: Yellow and Green Base

To help you in seeing which items, you may need to take action on, a list is below:

Items for action

Actions:

- To view Mrs Taylor's class dance film go to <https://youtu.be/42ioGF9-WLs>
- To view Mrs Appleby's class dance go to <https://youtu.be/R3XW9Lqoys0>
- To view Miss Wilson's class dance go to <https://youtu.be/qU2oiX--LAU>
- Please park considerately and make sure you close the school gate and put the top latch on at lunchtimes
- If you would like to volunteer for the Sports Festival in Y1T on 9th May, please contact the office or Mrs Taylor in Blue base
- If you would like any advice or support, please come to the office between 8:45a.m. and 10a.m. on 10th May and we will take you to the MAST worker
- If your child is in Y2, please ensure that you have returned the swimming letter and you send swimming kits to school every Monday
- If your child is in Y2H please ensure you have pre-ordered a grab bag or send sandwiches to school every Monday
- Please return the scooter-skills letter to apply for a place on 11th May
- Please collect sponsors for our School Sponsored Obstacle/Bounce on 18th May
- Please ensure children are in school for class photos on 25th May
- Please return the zoo letter and payment or deposit as soon as possible
- Please wait until after 26th May to hear whether volunteers have a place: If you wish to be present when we draw out names, this will be done on 26th May at 3p.m. in the office
- Please can we remind families to ask children **not to ride scooters or bikes in the playground** as there are a lot of younger children who could very easily get knocked over. Thank you.
- Please let the office know if your child no longer wants to attend an after-school club so we can offer their place to someone on the waiting list
- Please look at the Y2 transition booklets for information about moving to the Juniors in September: <http://www.waterthorpeinfantschool.co.uk/moving-to-emmanuel-junior-academy/>
- Please donate any spare clothes to the school office
- Please send your child with a sunhat or cap on sunny days and apply long-lasting suncream before school to exposed body parts
- To claim the 30 hours Nursery childcare, please register with the tax office online and bring the following to the school office:
 - 11 digit-reference tax code
 - National Insurance number
 - Your child's date of birth

Governors

Mrs Lisa Michie has come to the end of her term of office as a parent governor and has therefore resigned her post. Mrs Michie has been an excellent Chair of Governors and the school would like to thank her for the contributions that she has made to our school.

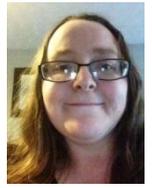


Mrs Claire Knott has been appointed as our new Chair of Governors and has stepped up from her previous role as Vice Chair. Mrs Amy Cartwright is now our new Vice Chair of Governors.



We also have two new governors to welcome to our governing body. These are:

- Mrs Vicky Fitzpatrick who is mum to Ethan in Y2 and Holly in Y1
- Mrs Sara Shaw who is mum to Alfie in Y2 and Kieran in Emmanuel



Dance performances



In the Spring term our Key Stage 1 children worked with Charlie Armitage on their dance skills. In April, each class performed a dance for the school and for their families. We filmed the dances that they did for school and wanted to share these with you; particularly for the families that were unable to attend the performances. Some of these films have been uploaded to You tube for you to view. Unfortunately, we have not been able to publish all the films as we do not have internet permissions for one pupil. To view the films please click on the links below:

- To view Mrs Taylor's class dance film go to <https://youtu.be/42ioGF9-WLs>
- To view Mrs Appleby's class dance go to <https://youtu.be/R3XW9Lqoys0>
- To view Miss Wilson's class dance go to <https://youtu.be/qU2oiX--LAU>

Keeping our children safe



This week we have observed that some Nursery parents, bringing or collecting children at lunchtimes, are not putting the latch over the gate and on the odd occasion the gate has not been closed at all.

It is important that you close and put the top latch on the gate. We do not want any of our children to get out of the gate onto the road. Your children will soon be in school and playing in the playground. Please help us with this.

Parking is always a problem and it gets very congested at key times. Please try and park away from school and walk for the last part of the journey. Do not park on the zig-zags, pavements, drive, staff carpark etc. This can make congestion worse and cause problems for other people. Please be considerate. In the summer term we are taking part in the Sheffield 'No Cars days'; more information to follow.

- Please park considerately and make sure you close the school gate and put the top latch on at lunchtimes

EVENTS COMING UP:

Ball Skills Festival Y1T Tuesday 9th May

Mrs Taylor's class have been sent a letter about the Westfield Sports Festival on Tuesday 9th May. The class will be leaving school before dinner time as the event starts at 12.15pm. Therefore we will be having an early dinner. Children will need to order a grab bag before the day, or bring a packed lunch.



On this day, children will need a packed lunch or a grab bag, shorts and a T-shirt, suitable footwear and an extra drink. We also need adult volunteers for the trip.

- If you would like to volunteer for the Sports Festival in Y1T on 9th May, please contact the office or Mrs Taylor in Blue base

MAST Coffee Morning/drop-in Wednesday

The next drop-in is on Wednesday 10th May. If you would like to book an appointment with a support worker, please call at the office and we will arrange it for you. Alternatively, Mrs Stokes can introduce you to the worker or you can go to either Waterthorpe or Emmanuel School Office and you will be taken to a worker or the coffee morning at your request.



- If you would like any advice or support, please come to the office between 8:45a.m. and 10a.m. on 10th May and we will take you to the MAST worker

Year 2 Swimming starts 8th May

We have been able to secure swimming lessons for all our Y2 children by working in partnership with Westfield Secondary School. The children will attend a weekly 40-minute swimming lesson as part of our swimming programme.



Swimming will take place every Monday afternoon, beginning 8th May 2016 until 10th July.

- If your child is in Y2, please ensure that you have returned the swimming letter and you send swimming kits to school every Monday
- If your child is in Y2H please ensure you have pre-ordered a grab bag or send sandwiches to school every Monday

Scooter Skills Thursday 11th May

We noticed how many children have been riding scooters to school during The Big Pedal event and we have been able to arrange some scooter sessions. This is a fun day for your child to learn scooter skills during school time. The children will work on scooter skills in the playground with a Sustran Bike-it officer.



- Please return the scooter-skills letter to apply for a place on 11th May

SPONSORED Obstacle/Bounce Thursday 18th May

We have hired an inflatable obstacle course in school and a Bouncy castle in nursery for our sponsored event. The children enjoy the day and all the money raised will help to provide additional activities in school for the children. This year we would like to raise money for 'Treasure chest' story books. The maximum number of laps will be 5/bounces will be 50.



Please collect your sponsors (sponsor sheet sent home previously and available from the office) and bring the form to be signed on the day of the event. Prizes will be awarded to the children who raise the most money in each class.

- Please collect sponsors for our School Sponsored Obstacle/Bounce on 18th May

Class photos 25th May



Class photos will be taken on 25th May in the morning. The photographer starts at 9:15a.m. so it is important that children arrive at school on time to avoid missing their class photo. The photographer will return in the afternoon for Nursery children. If your child is not in Nursery on 25th May you are welcome to bring them in for the photo at either 9:30a.m. or 1p.m. Please speak to Nursery staff to arrange this.

- Please ensure children are in school for class photos on 25th May

Zoo trip to Twycross Friday 30th June



We continue to hear that a small minority of parents are feeling unhappy about how we plan to select parent volunteers to join us on the trip. This trip has got limited places and we assure you that we have got a fair selection process:

- I am sure that you will all agree that we should give priority to those parents who regularly volunteer their time for reading, ironing, kerbcraft, cooking, walking children to different events, organising Maths Bags and Story Sacks etc. Without these volunteers your children would not get to do many of the things we arrange in school.
- There are some children who have very specific special needs and would not be able to access school trips without the support of their parents and we will be arranging for these parents to attend.
- We will then draw names from the remaining volunteers.

We know that the children will enjoy the trip with the staff and their classmates and that is the purpose of this event. Please can we ask parents to accept we are being fair in our decisions and trust that we will take good care of your children. Trips are a lot of work for school staff and it is quite upsetting for them to be criticised for their hard work.

- Please return the zoo letter and payment or deposit as soon as possible
- Please wait until after 26th May to hear whether volunteers have a place: If you wish to be present when we draw out names, this will be done on 26th May at 3p.m. in the office

Club News



All clubs will continue next half term with the children currently attending. Clubs will run until the last week of this half term and will restart the first week back after the holidays. All our clubs are full and most have waiting lists.

We have added a sports club on Tuesdays for children who didn't get a place in other clubs. There are 3 places left that are now open to anyone. (Contact the office if interested.)

- Please let the office know if your child no longer wants to attend an after-school club so we can offer their place to someone on the waiting list

Arrangements for moving to a new class in September

On 16th June 2017 we will be able to tell you who will be your child's classteacher next year. Over the last half term in summer teachers/Teaching Assistants will visit children in their classrooms and all children will take part in a class swap on 14th July where they will spend the day in their new classroom.

The children in Red Base and in Y2 will stay in their current classes when they move up in September. Due to changes with pupil numbers in Y1, and the large number of boys in one class, we have decided to mix the Y1 classes up a little when they move to Y2 in September. We will be talking to the children about which friends they would like to be with as well as utilising the expertise and knowledge of the staff when grouping the children.

'Transition to Emmanuel' booklets have been sent out to all Y2 children. These contains all the key dates. Please ask at the office if you have not received a booklet and your child is in Yellow or Green Base. Copies of these are also available on the school website.

Westfield School have altered their transition arrangements and reduced their two week programme to one week. It is possible that this may have a small knock-on effect with our Y2 arrangements as the Junior staff will not have as much time available to spend with Y2 during the transition.

- Please look at the Y2 transition booklets for information about moving to the Juniors in September: <http://www.waterthorpeinfantschool.co.uk/moving-to-emmanuel-junior-academy/>

Request for spare clothes

Please donate any children's trousers, pants, socks and tights that your children have outgrown. We still need to replenish our stock of spare clothes. Thank you.



- Please donate any spare clothes to the school office

Sunny Days

Please apply sun screen/cream to your child on sunny days. As the application of cream in school is difficult to manage we would prefer you to use the sun screen/cream that only needs applying once a day as this can be done in the morning before school. If absolutely



necessary, we are able to help your child apply cream but this must be brought to the office and labelled clearly with your child's name and class.

Please can children also bring a sunhat or cap to wear when playing out in the sunshine. (Please write your child's name inside the hat/cap.)

- Please send your child with a sunhat or cap on sunny days and apply long-lasting suncream before school to exposed body parts

Items for information:

Tax-Free Childcare

Tax free childcare is available to many parents who are working, self-employed or on certain benefits. This can save you a great deal of the cost from Breakfast club, Kid's club and additional Nursery hours. For information about eligibility and how to apply visit: <https://childcare-support.tax.service.gov.uk/moreinfopar/1/?returnURL=%2Fpar%2Fapp%2Fapplynow>

Free 30 hours Nursery for working families

Our Nursery is offering access to the free 30-hour places for families where parents work more than 16 hours/earn more than £115 a week each

Applying for 30 hours free childcare

You'll be able to apply for 30 hours free childcare and Tax-Free Childcare in a single online childcare service application. If you're eligible, the Tax Office will open a childcare service account for you (you only need to complete one application for all your children). You will receive a 30 hours eligibility code, your unique 11-digit reference number. This code is important as you'll need it to claim your free childcare.

To apply: Go to <https://childcare-support.tax.service.gov.uk/par/app/applynow>

To claim the 30 hours please bring the following to the school office:

- 11 digit-reference tax code
- National Insurance number
- Your child's date of birth

The school office will check the code with the local authority and confirm your eligibility.

Every three months, you'll need to reconfirm that you're still eligible for 30 hours free childcare. You'll be reminded to reconfirm you're still eligible 4 weeks before the deadline. If you also receive Tax-Free Childcare, you'll be able to reconfirm your eligibility for both schemes at the same time. You don't need to bring your code to school every time you reconfirm however, you should notify us if you fall out of eligibility. You can apply for 30 hours free childcare for another child at any time. If you don't reconfirm, the school will be told that you no longer meet the requirements for a free childcare place.

Attendance

Each half term we enter the names of children, who have had 95% or above attendance, into our prize draw. Our winners for the Spring 2 half term attendance draw were Noah Moulster and James Silvester, both in Y1.



Photos of events

We take lots of photos of events in school and put these on our website; usually on our News Update page first. The photos and slide shows are then moved to various areas of the website e.g. 'Pupils/photos from different events' or 'Curriculum/ Arts'. Please regularly visit our website to view photos, see copies of documents and get the latest news.

www.waterthorpeinfantschool.co.uk

Uniform purchase through School Trends (Carley Drive, Westfield)

A voucher will be sent home that offers a £5 discount when you spend over £50 in the School Trend Uniform shop. Between 1st July and 9th September the shop is open on Saturdays 10a.m. to 2p.m.. Between 27th July and 7th September the shop will be open until 7p.m. on Thursdays.

If your child has special needs, and finds it difficult to cope with trying on uniform when the shop is busy, School Trends are offering a special service where you can book an appointment with a sales support officer in a quiet area. If you would like to take up this opportunity please ring Helen Lowe on 07760 771694.

Family Picnic and Rainbow Raffle 4:30p.m. 3rd July

After the success of our previous family picnics we have planned another for Monday 3rd July. The picnic will be held on the field adjacent to Emmanuel School. The event will start at 4:00p.m. until 6p.m. but families are welcome to bring their picnics and go straight onto the field after school if they wish. Sporting activities will be run by Westfield Sport's leaders. We will also have a cake stall and we are looking for sponsors to provide other refreshments.



We are collecting for a 'Rainbow Raffle' and prize tickets will be drawn at the picnic. Each class will be given a colour and children are asked to donate new items of that colour to put in their class raffle box. A letter will be sent home with your child. Tickets will be on sale from the office after half term and at the picnic.



Westfield Family of Schools News



The Westfield Family of Schools (FoS) is made up of Westfield Secondary School, Waterthorpe, Beighton and Halfway Nursery Infant Schools, Brook House and Halfway

Junior Schools, Shortbrook, Mosborough and Reignhead Primary Schools, and Emmanuel Junior Academy.

Westfield Family of Schools Celebration Evening 2nd May 6p.m.:

Eight of the schools from the Westfield Family joined together at Westfield on 2nd May to celebrate the achievements of children in our schools. Each school held their own celebration assemblies and a winner for each of 6 categories was chosen. Our school winners were: Dylan (Y2W): School Choice, Caleb (Y2W): Friendship, Logan (Y2H): Talent, Sophie N (Y2H): Positive contribution, Lillie (Y1A): Attitude to Learning and Thomas (Y1A): Most Improved.

We would like to congratulate all our winners. We were delighted when Thomas Schofield was selected as the Family of Schools overall winner in the 'Most Improved' category.

Travel Plan Update

We are delighted to announce that we have been awarded the Modeshift-stars Silver award for our travel plan work. This is a national award. We are now working towards our Gold award.



Thank you for your support during the 'Big Pedal' event in March. We enjoyed a family breakfast and a 'Bling Your Bike Day' during the event. We saw many children riding to school on bikes and scooters. We came in 345th place of 'large' primary schools nationally. This was a great achievement and we had over 30% of children riding their bikes and scooters during the event. We have sent certificates to all children taking part in the event. If your child did not receive their certificate, please speak to their classteacher.



The children all enjoyed the visit to school by the GIST lorry and drivers. During the visit the children and staff learnt how difficult it is, for drivers of large vehicles, to see pedestrians. The session helped them to understand how to keep safe around large vehicles.

Our Y2 children continue to have Kerbcraft lessons on Friday mornings throughout the summer term. This is where the children go out onto local roads to learn road safety skills with a team of trained volunteers. If you would like to volunteer to support kerbcraft please contact the school office or Mrs Marriott in Green Base.



Our School Council have been working with governors and children from Emmanuel Academy to plan how to improve travel to and from school. They have selected various things that they would like to do. These include a competition for a sign outside school and sessions where children will monitor parking outside school.

On Fridays children can practise scooter skills in the playground. It is helpful if they park their scooters in the pod near Nursery.

We have planned further Travel events, including scooting training and 'Car-Free' days. We hope that your children will enjoy taking part in these.

- Please can we remind families to ask children **not to ride scooters or bikes in the playground at busy times before and after school** as there are a lot of younger children who could very easily get knocked over. Thank you.

Sports Update

After-school clubs will continue after the Spring Bank half term holiday. There is no need to reapply for places.

Mrs Haywood's class in Yellow Base recently attended the Institute of Sport's School's Festival competition and achieved third place against schools across Sheffield.



EASIMATHS

Easimaths is an online programme that the school subscribes to. The children can complete different activities, on either a pc or tablet, and their progress is recorded. It is important that they complete the activities without help as the programme works out whether they need further work or can move onto the next thing.

We run Easimaths sessions, before school each day, and we invite different children to come to these each half term. If however, your child would like to work on Easimaths at home then they can access the site through our website: <http://www.waterthorpeinfantschool.co.uk/rm-easimaths-2/> If you wish to request a username and password from school, please contact the school office.

Standing News Items

This part of the newsletter will be available as a separate document on the school website. If there is anything you find you need to know please check this for reference. Please let us know if you fell any other information should be added to this.

Sent home and/or available for collection from school office:

- Uniform discount voucher
- Sun-safety passport for KS1 children

Diary Dates 2016 ~ 2017

May11th Scooter skills training day
 18th Sponsored Bounce/Obstacle Day
 25th Class photos
 26th Break up for Half term at end of today

June	5 th	INSET DAY School closed to children
	6 th	Return to school
	16 th	SEAL Family Workshop 9:15a.m. to 10:15a.m. Changes theme (No Merit Assembly)
	22 nd	Blue Base Class Assembly
	26 th	Design & Technology Family Workshop 2p.m. to 3p.m.
July	29 th	Red Base Class Assembly
	3 rd	Family Picnic on field 4p.m. to 6p.m.
	4 th	Sports Morning 9:30a.m. to 11a.m.
	5 th	Parent's Evening
	10 th	Nursery Consultation Day ~ Nursery closed to children
	14 th	Class Swap Day
	19 th	Leaver's Assembly & Y2 Monitor Awards 9:15a.m. to 10a.m.
	20 th	Attendance and Awards Assembly & Birthdays Y2 Leavers Party Day (Fancy Dress)
21 st	Toy Day (No Merit and Birthday Assembly) Break up for Summer at end of today	

Please let us have any comments below, on items in this newsletter or anything else that you would like to share with us. Thank you.

Comments:

Name (if you would like a response):