

Western Primary School Newsletter – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September



## Welcome Back

Welcome back and I hope everyone has had a super summer. It is great to be back at school and I am sure everyone is looking forward to the new year. A very warm welcome to all parents new to Western. We hope that you and your children will soon feel part of the Western Community. It is nice to see all the children looking smart at the beginning of term and we thank everyone for ensuring that their children come to school in the correct school uniform.



Western  
Foundation Stage



Western  
Key Stage One



Western  
Years 3 and 4



Western  
Years 5 and 6



Western  
Community

[www.western.n-yorks.sch.uk](http://www.western.n-yorks.sch.uk)

## **New Curriculum**

The weblink below explains the changes to the new curriculum that has been introduced this year. It highlights the main changes within each subject.

<http://www.theschoolrun.com/primary-national-curriculum-2014>

## **School Dinners**

The cost of school dinners for all Key Stage 2 school children is £2.10 per day, payable every half term. **Please note that all school dinners must be paid for in advance.** The cost of school dinners for this half term (until 24<sup>th</sup> October) is **£81.90**. Could you please pay online at [www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com).



## **Free school meals and Assistance with Residential Visits**

Free school meals and assistance with residential visits (such as Bewerley Park and East Barnby) are available to children whose parents receive certain benefits.

These include one or more of the following:

- income support;
- income-based Jobseekers' allowance;
- income-related employment and support allowance;
- child tax credit with an income of less than £16,190 and not in receipt of working tax credit;
- support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999;
- guarantee element of state pension credit.

Where parents are entitled to working tax credit during a four-week "run-on" period immediately after their employment has ceased, or after they have started to work fewer than 16 hours a week, their children are entitled to free school meals.

If you meet the above criteria, apply by using the  [application form \[56kb\]](#). Or collect a copy from the school office. Applications are usually processed the same day. If your child is entitled to free school meals you will receive a letter confirming the date when the meals will start. We will also be notified. You should continue to pay until confirmation comes through. We may be able to arrange reimbursement of payment made while your entitlement is being confirmed. If you are not entitled to free school meals, you will be notified in writing.

Free school meals claims cannot be backdated. They are awarded from the date we receive the application, once eligibility is confirmed.

If you have moved to North Yorkshire from another authority area, your entitlement to free school meals does not automatically transfer. You will need to re-apply using the above application form.

## **Free school meals - frequently asked questions (click for the answers)**

- [If my child is at nursery or sixth form, are they still entitled to free school meals?](#)
- [What will my child receive as a recipient of free school meals?](#)
- [What do I need to do if my circumstances change?](#)



### **School Uniform**

Sweatshirts or school cardigans can be purchased from Emblazon on Tower Street, and Rawcliffes. School shoes need to be worn. Girl's shoes must not have platforms or high heels, as these can be extremely dangerous around school. For reasons of safety, earrings and other jewellery may not be worn during P.E. lessons and we therefore recommend that parents do not send their children to school wearing anything that may be a health or security hazard.

### **School Bags and Badges**

School book bags and pump bags can be purchased from the school office at a cost of £5.00 for book bags and £2.50 for pump bags. If you wish to purchase a bag, we would be grateful if you would bring the correct amount of money to the school office as we are unable to give out change.

We have Western School logo badges for sale which can be sewn or ironed on to plain red sweatshirts or cardigans for school. We hope this will offer an affordable alternative to purchasing school sweatshirts. Badges can be purchased from the school office at a cost of £2 each.

### **Holiday Dates/Diary Dates 2014-2015**

Please find attached the dates for the next academic school year. In the spirit of trying to give parents as much notice as possible, we have included dates up to a year in advance. However, due to unforeseen circumstances, they may be subject to change but we will give you as much notice as possible.

### **Local Authority Letter regarding absence during term time**

Please find attached a further copy of the letter from North Yorkshire County Council giving changes to legislation regarding leave of absence from school during term time. Applications for pupil leave of absence in exceptional circumstances during term time can be collected from the school office.

### **Bicycles and Scooters**

It is wonderful that a number of children are taking the healthy option of traveling to school on their bicycles and scooters. However, for Health and Safety reasons, please could you ensure that your child dismounts at the school gate as the playground is so congested.

All bicycles and scooters must be 'parked' behind the storage container in the school car park. Could children please make sure that they do not just abandon them but use the bike rack provided.

We also suggest that bicycles and scooters are padlocked for security.





## We are Finalists!

We are pleased to announce we are Finalists in the 2014 Mumbler Awards for the categories of Favourite Pre-School for the nursery and Favourite Children's Class or Activity for the Parents and Toddlers group. We would appreciate if all parents old and new to the school could vote for us as [www.mumblerawards.com](http://www.mumblerawards.com) Thank you!

Mrs Magill and the FS Team

### Equipment wanted!

Foundation Stage would like donations of dressing up clothes, dolls and dolls clothes. If you can help, please pass on any toys to the early years team in reception or nursery. Thanks!

## Swimming

### Year 2 Swimming Dates:

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September – Miss Jones' class  
Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September – NO SWIMMING  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October – Miss Taylor's class  
Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October – Miss Jones' class  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October – Miss Taylor's class  
Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October – Miss Jones' class  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November – Miss Taylor's class  
Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November – Miss Jones' class  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November – Miss Taylor's class  
Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November – Miss Jones' class  
Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December – Miss Taylor's class  
Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December – Miss Jones' class  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Miss Taylor's class

### Year 3/4 Swimming:

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September – Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December – Mrs Coatesworth's class  
Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December – Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April – Mr Fraser Smith's class  
Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April – Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July – Mrs Collett's and Ms Smith's classes





### **Autumn Fair!**

In order to welcome new starters to the school, and to give our returning pupils something to look forward to after the summer break, we will be holding an Autumn Fair on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September, 5pm – 7:30pm.

We are planning many stalls and attractions, including a BBQ, bar, live music, sweet treats, bouncy castle, face painting and tombola, to name a few.

This event could not take place without the support of the parents in the school.

- Could you donate a tombola prize, however big or small?
- Are you available to help set up for the event in the playground straight after school?
- Do you enjoy baking and could provide buns for a cake sale at the Fair?
- Does your employer offer matched funding\*, which could enhance the funds raised for the school?

Please contact Kate Barton and Christine Ashworth on [westernprimarypta@gmail.com](mailto:westernprimarypta@gmail.com) if you are able to help in any way. Thank you.

### **Information on Matched Funding**

Many employers offer to make a monetary donation when their employee is involved in fundraising for a charity. This may be matching the amount of money raised by their employee at an event, or by pledging a specified amount. If you are able to help at one of our PTA events, please ask your employer if they offer matched funding as it could significantly increase the amount of money that we are able to raise for the school.

### **Western Family & Friends Meeting**

There will be a PTA meeting at 9am on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September in the canteen in order to discuss upcoming events for this term. Everyone is welcome, from established members to those having recently joined the school, in order to have an input into both social and fundraising events within the school. We look forward to seeing you there.



**Western needs class reps like you!**

If you've thought of getting more involved in supporting the fundraising and social activities at Western without a major commitment, then please consider taking on the role of class rep for your child's class. Class reps make a valuable contribution to school life and the fundraising efforts of the school, without the role taking up too much of your time.

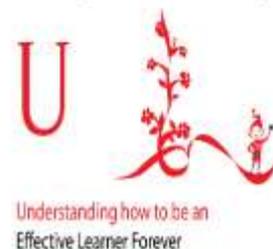
The three main duties for class reps are organising the biannual cake bake for your class; organising parent get togethers and coordinating an end of year thank you for the class teachers. In 2013/14 approximately £2,000 was raised from the cake bakes including £300 for national fundraisers such as Sports Relief and Children in Need and great fun was had at the many parents class get togethers!

If you are interested or would like to find out more information about becoming a class rep then please email Linnéa Stokes on [linnea.stokes@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:linnea.stokes@yahoo.co.uk). 2013/14 reps have also been emailed to check their on-going interest.



## Dates for your Diary:

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September - Y1 Welcome Meeting for parents 5pm  
Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September – Y5/6 trip to Ripon Museum  
Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September – Y2 Welcome Meeting for parents 5pm  
Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September – Y5/6 trip to Ripon Museum  
Monday 15<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September – Individual Photographs  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September – FS2 Welcome Meeting for parents 5pm  
Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September – Y3/4 Welcome Meeting for parents 5pm  
Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September – Y5/6 Welcome Meeting for parents 5pm  
Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October – Parent/teacher consultations FS2, KS1 & KS2  
Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October – FS Harvest Assembly 9.15  
Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October – KS1 Celebration Event 1.30 and 2.30pm



## School Holidays

### Autumn Half-Term Holiday:

School Closes: Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October at 3.15pm  
Return to School: Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 8.55am

### Christmas Holiday:

School Closes: Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December at **2.30pm**  
Return to School: Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January at 8.55am

### Winter Half-Term Holiday:

School Closes: Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February at 3.15pm  
Return to School: Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 8.55am

### Easter Holiday:

School Closes: Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March at **2.30pm**  
Return to School: Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April at 8.55am

### Spring Half-Term Holiday:

School Closes: Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 3.15pm  
Return to School: Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June at 8.55am

### Summer Holiday:

School Closes: Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July at **2.30pm**





