

## Message from Mr Broad

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to you all after a very successful first week of a new academic year. It has been so good to welcome all our children back and also to meet those pupils and parents/carers who are new to Western this term.

We are slowly adjusting to the very different but very welcome guidance, under which schools are operating this term. This will enable us to operate very close to what we would call normal and we look forward to being able to invite parents into school for events such as consultation evenings, welcome evenings and exhibitions of pupils' work.

*Please note the points below, around which your co-operation would be greatly appreciated.*

## Start and end of the school day

Our new arrangements have gone really well this week and the end of the day in particular is much calmer. The hand over of children in KS1 will get quicker as staff new to that department become more familiar with parents' faces and can identify who they are collecting! It is very important that all pupils are able to start the day promptly so they do not miss any learning. Please make sure you are familiar with the start time for your child/ren and ensure they arrive at school in time.

## Packed lunches

From Monday of next week, we will be using the packed lunch cupboard (situated at the end of the playground, adjacent to the canteen) to store children's packed lunches. Each class will have a large, labelled crate in the cupboard and they need to put their lunchbox in the appropriate crate when they arrive at school before going into the building. After lunch, children will put their lunchboxes in their lockers so they will not need to visit the packed lunch cupboard at the end of the day.

On this same subject, I would like to make another effort to reduce plastic waste in school wherever we can, and packed lunches are one of many areas where we could all make a difference. We are looking at how we can recycle more of our plastic waste but much of it at the moment goes into the general waste bin. If parents could consider how they might reduce the plastic content of packed lunches, we would be grateful for that contribution.



## Emails and Classlist

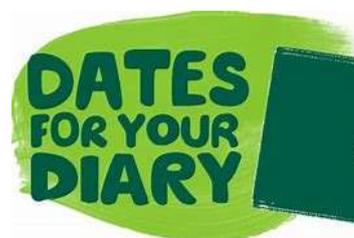
In this age of instant communication, the line between a person's working life and home life has become increasingly blurred. In an effort to improve this situation and in recognition of the importance of staff wellbeing, we have had an agreement amongst staff for nearly two years now that work-related emails will not be sent before 7.30 a.m., after 5.30 p.m. or at any time during the weekend unless it is an emergency.

Feedback from staff has been incredibly positive and it is clear that this initiative has been very well received. However, several staff have reported that they often receive emails or Classlist messages from parents/carers at unsociable hours so I am appealing to all parents and carers to do their best to match the agreement described above and to be respectful of the times when staff are at home with their families.

I hope you all enjoy a restful weekend.

## Dates for your Diary

Please click [here](#) or on the picture for dates for your diary for the current academic year. They are also on the website.



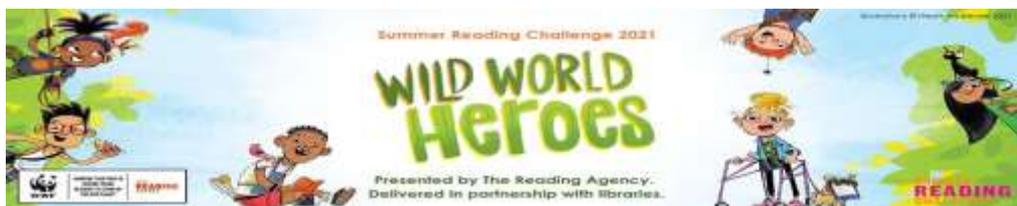
## School Dinners

The cost of school dinners for all Key Stage 2 (Year 3 to Year 6) school children is £2.30 per day, payable every half term. Please note that all school dinners must be paid for in advance. The cost of school dinners for next half term is £78.20.



Could you please pay online using Arbor

## Summer Reading Challenge



Just a reminder that the Summer Reading Challenge finishes this Saturday 11th September. If you haven't already, finish reading your six books and head to your local library to collect your medal and rewards.

## Start and Finish Times

We would be grateful if you could ensure your child arrives punctually for the start of the school day. Any late arrivals will be expected to sign in at the school office. If you have children in Early Years/KS1 and KS2 you will need to drop off your younger children at their allocated time first. Staff will then open the doors/gates for KS2 children at 8.55 a.m. and we would ask you to wait with your KS2 children until there is a member of KS2 staff present. Children walking to school independently in KS2 must arrive at 8.55 at the earliest. We thank you for your support with this.

### Start and finish times from September 2021

	Start	Finish	Details	
			Start of day	End of day
Nursery	8.45 a.m.	2.45 p.m. or 3.15 p.m. (if last 30 mins has been booked)	Gates open from 8.40 and doors at 8.45 a.m. Doors close at 8.55. Queue system. Parents/Carers with older pupils wait with them in the playground after younger siblings have gone in until KS2 staff appear. No ball games	Parents/Carers collect at either 2.45 p.m. or 3.15 p.m. if they have paid for the additional half hour session. Gates open at 2.40 p.m. Queue system.
Reception & KS1	8.50 a.m.	3.10 p.m.	Gates open from 8.40 and doors from 8.45. Doors close at 8.55. Queue system for EYFS. Y1 to use side door; Y2 to use office entrance. Parents/Carers with older pupils wait with them in playground after younger siblings have gone in until KS2 staff appear. No ball games.	Parents/Carers collect as normal in a queuing system. Gates open at 3.00; doors open at 3.10. Teaching staff available on playground. Parents/Carers please stand on astroturf in the side playground if waiting for older siblings.
KS2	9.00 a.m.	3.20 p.m.	Doors open from 8.55 and close at 9.05. All KS2 pupils to enter through main playground gates (the car park entrance will no longer be used). Y5/6 pupils to walk round the back playground and enter school through the usual door.	Doors open at 3.10 Class teachers to see children out at end of day. Y5/6 to use their own staircase and walk round the playground and exit school through the main playground gates.



### Arbor - Payments

From September, all payments to school will be made on Arbor. This includes all trips, clubs, school dinners, snacks and school fund. **We will no longer be using ParentPay for anything.**

If you need your Arbor password resetting or are having any problems logging on or making payments, please contact the office via email on [office@wes.rklt.co.uk](mailto:office@wes.rklt.co.uk) and we will do our best to respond as soon as possible.



## Early Years

We have had a lovely week settling in some of our new nursery and reception children. The children have enjoyed exploring their new classrooms and getting to know the staff.



What a great first week it has been! We are so thrilled with how well the Y1 children have settled into the new school year. They have shown a huge amount of resilience and have worked really hard on their listening skills. We have also been really impressed with their independence on a morning, showing they can locate their lockers to put their things away and sit on the carpet ready for learning.

The Y1 children have also been creative by painting self-portraits. They have certainly had lots of fun! We can't wait for another fun week of exploring and learning and we hope you have a restful weekend.

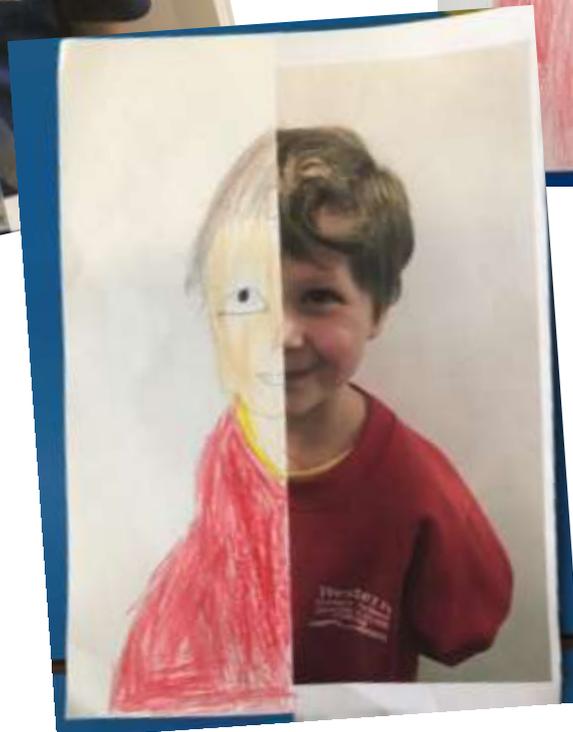


What a great start Y2 have made to the new school year. The children have loved being back in school and there was a real buzz in the building on Tuesday. It was great to hear them sharing their stories with their friends and teachers.

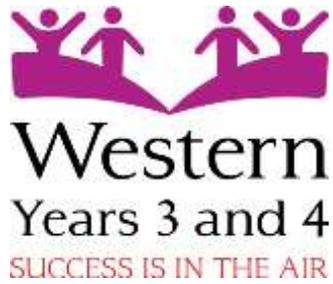
The children were excited to meet their new teachers and they have settled in very well. Both Mrs Smith and Mr Hebblewhite have commented on their lovely polite manners and excellent behaviour.

On Wednesday afternoon, we had a lesson on online safety and we shared some top tips with the children. We asked them to explore their creative sides by producing posters about dangers online and how to use their iPads safely and responsibly.

On Thursday, we were very creative and drew self portraits. They weren't your ordinary drawings though! We had half of our face in a photograph and had to draw the other half. We were very careful with our pencils and lined up all our features so we were symmetrical. It was really fun. Look at these amazing examples.







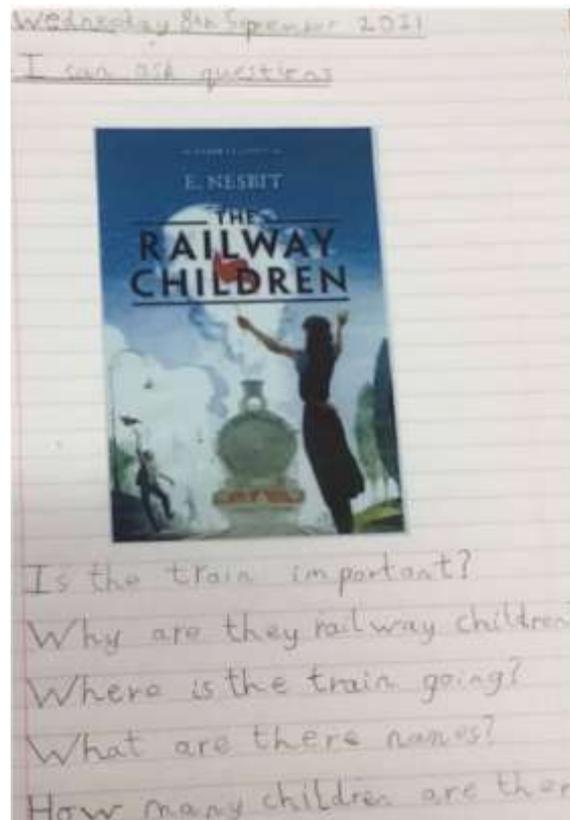
Western  
Years 3 and 4  
SUCCESS IS IN THE AIR

We have been very proud, this week, to see how our lovely children have settled into their classes. Y4 children have been enjoying supporting our new Y3 children and helping them to feel welcome.

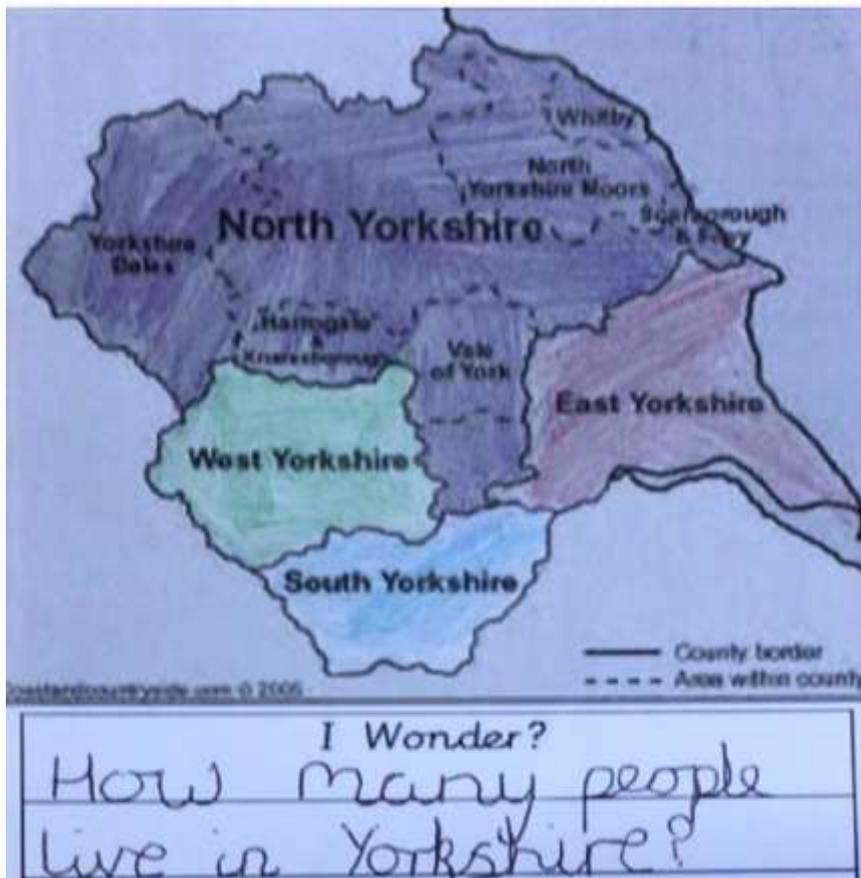
Here are some photos of our PE lesson which show how we worked collaboratively to practise our football skills:



As part of our topic about Yorkshire, we have started to read *The Railway Children* by E Nesbit. This week, we looked at the front cover and thought of some questions about the story:



Also, as part of our Yorkshire-themed topic, we all thought of a question that we would like to know the answer to, by the end of our topic:

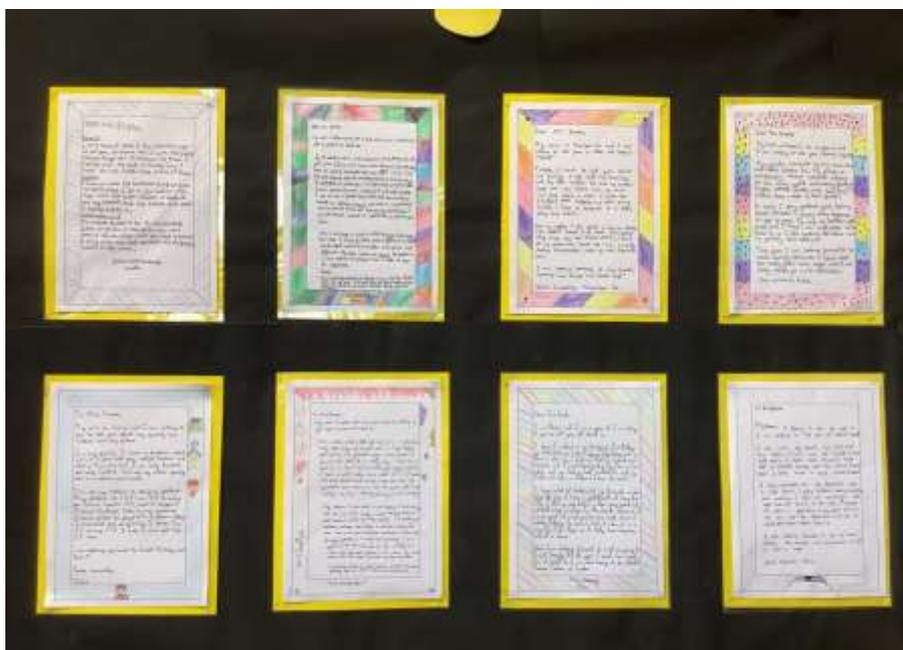


It has been lovely to welcome back our Y6 children and to meet our new Y5 children and our new starters this week. All children have settled well into their classes and have been working hard. This week, we have started our Ancient Civilisations topic by finding out when the Roman time period was and how that fits into the other historical periods we have learned about.



We also came up with some interesting questions that we are hoping we will answer during our topic. Joey asked "How did the Romans travel to invade Britain?". Jenna is hoping to find out, "Why did the Romans leave Britain?"

The children have worked really hard this week to write a letter to their teacher introducing themselves and telling their teacher some facts about themselves.





## Lunchtime News

By Mrs Vardy (Lunchtime Leader)

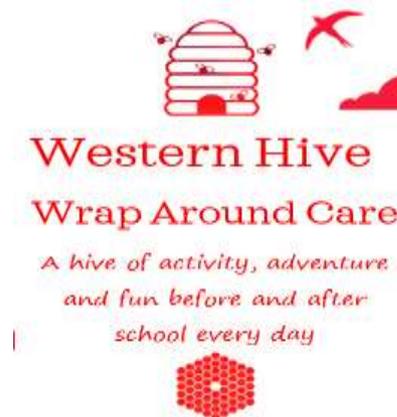
Welcome back everyone!

It's been a full-on week but I have to say it's been so lovely to see all of you running freely around the playground without the constraints of barriers!! You all sound like you've had a jolly good break from those that I have spoken to and welcome, again, to our new pupils and parents.

Please click on the picture which will take you to the Autumn Term school lunch menu.



Please, as always, shout if you have any questions or concerns about lunches, snack, milk or lunchtimes in general. Kids, your only job is to have fun! Have a lovely weekend.



### The Hive

We have had a great first week at the Western Hive Wrap Around Care. The children have enjoyed a range of activities such as table tennis, chess, Magnetix, football and basketball as part of our provision. We look forward to welcoming more children next week!

If you have any questions regarding our Wrap Around Care please contact [office@wes.rklt.co.uk](mailto:office@wes.rklt.co.uk)

# BACK TO SCHOOL

## Online Safety Tips for Children

Wow, it's September already! The month when autumn officially starts and ... oh yeah, the beginning of a new school year. Every cloud has a silver lining though! Another term means new friends to make, different stuff to learn, fresh online trends to jump on and exciting new games to play on your phone, computer or console. We've compiled a list of our top tips to ensure that - whether you're going online to chat, research things or just have fun - you can do it safely.

### Be cautious with your profile

Be careful not to give out too much info on your social media or gaming profiles. Details like your full name, address or school's name could all help strangers to actually find you offline. A trusted adult can help you make your profiles private - so only your family and actual friends can contact you.

### Lock your devices

Taking your phone or tablet to school? Turn password protection on. It keeps your private info safe and stops anyone accessing your device without permission. Passwords should be memorable to you - but difficult for anyone else to guess. Get a trusted adult to write it down in case you forget it!

### Be smart with screen time

Too much screen time, especially just before bed, can affect your quality of sleep. Losing sleep, or not sleeping well enough, messes with your concentration and energy levels. Try muting notifications so you don't get pinged late at night: you'll feel fresher and more focused the next day.

### Know how to deal with bullies

Sadly there are people online who enjoy picking on other users. If you ever feel like you're being bullied online - by anyone, not just someone from school - talk to a trusted adult about it. Together, you can discuss possible steps, such as blocking or reporting the person who's targeting you.

### Manage online relationships wisely

Most people in a relationship chat to their partner online. Just be mindful that once you send a pic or message (even if it's private), you no longer control who else might see it. Messaging someone you've never actually met - and who might not be who they say - is definitely best avoided.

### React well to inappropriate content

When you're researching something online, there's always a chance of finding content that makes you feel uncomfortable or upset. If this happens, you can report it as inappropriate and (hopefully) get it taken down. Tell a trusted adult what happened: they'll help you decide what to do next.

### Report offensive in-game chat

If you game online with your mates, you'll know things can get competitive and heated on the in-game chat. Playing against people you don't know (especially if they're older) raises the risk of offensive comments and even threats. Our advice? Find out how to block or mute those bad losers.

### Learn to spot fake news

If you're looking into a topic for homework or a project, be careful not to get taken in by fake news: content that's deliberately created to mislead people. Check the story with credible sources, like the BBC or Sky News. Trust your instincts, too - if it seems too unbelievable to be true, it's probably fake.

### Keep it 'real' with online friends

Everyone enjoys adding friends and followers on social media. It's important, though, that the people you interact with online really are your friends. If they're just random people you've connected with to increase your contacts, you don't know if they could be trolls or bullies (or worse).

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# HOOOP FOR

App Store  
Rating

13+

Hoop is a social networking app that syncs with Snapchat to help users build their community of friends. It works along similar principles to Tinder: swiping left or right will reject or accept potential contacts, making new connections in the process. When two users accept each other, they can then communicate via Snapchat. There is no chat function on Hoop itself: video and audio calls, messaging and image sharing all take place through Snapchat. When a user adds a new Hoop contact, they are essentially sharing their personal information from Snapchat.

### No Age Verification

18+

The app groups ages 17-13 together and age children's profiles - and Hoop warns users that +18 years separately, so adults do not see they must input their real date of birth. However, there is no age verification system, meaning that an individual with intentions of grooming could sign up pretending to be a child, so that they could be connected with younger users.

### In-app Purchases

Hoop offers in-app purchases that allow users to buy 'diamonds': the digital currency required to connect with others. Users can earn diamonds by watching videos, sharing links or contact lists, adding friends and completing surveys: alternatively, diamonds can be bought in packs, with costs ranging from 99p to 28.99p, which potentially could prove to be very expensive if a child has a payment method linked to their device.

### Visible Location

Hoop gives users the option to share their Snap Story on their Hoop profile. Snap Stories are visible for 24 hours and, by default, show the user's exact location on the Snap Map. This means that not only will a young person's friends be able to see this information but all Hoop users too - including, potentially, individuals who may have sinister motives for pinpointing a child's whereabouts.

### Grooming Risk

If a stranger uses Hoop to connect with your child on Snapchat, it means they would now have access to your child's personal information, location, photos, videos and stories shared with their friends on Snapchat (unless your child has changed their privacy settings). Messages in Snapchat are automatically deleted after they're read, making it impossible for parents to monitor conversations.

### Potential Compulsive Use

Users are rewarded with diamonds for hitting certain targets. To reach these milestones, young people may be inclined to add as many friends as possible - including strangers. Users are also assigned a level that is displayed on their Hoop profile: to achieve a higher level, users must add more connections - which provides an incentive for children to spend even more time on the app.

### Possible Data Collection

One of the reasons Hoop has remained free to use is that it hosts video adverts and user surveys, which reward users with diamonds for taking part. This practice strongly suggests that the app collects personal information from the user, based on the adverts they watch and their responses to surveys, and then shares their data with third-party organisations.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### Learn How to Report and Block

If your child sees or is sent something that makes them feel uncomfortable, Hoop has a reporting and blocking function. When reporting a user, you are asked to provide a reason why you are reporting them (for example, nudity or sexual content, hate speech, or using a fake age or gender). You then get a notification that the other user has been reported or blocked.

### Limit Spending Power

If your child's device is linked to a bank card, a PayPal account or another form of payment, ensure that you have either removed this connection or adjusted the security settings, so that you get notifications of any attempts to make in-app purchases. Make sure that you have set a password which has to be entered for a purchase to go ahead.

### Avoid Over-Sharing

Talk to your child about what they share online and who they share it with. Make them aware that once something is online, then anyone can see it. Talk to them about what might not be safe to post online (for example, things which could give away their home address or that of their school, explicit photos or their current location). Make sure that they don't share something they will regret later.

### Be Wary of Strangers

Talk to your child about the dangers of connecting with strangers online. Encourage them not to engage in private messaging with people they don't know - particularly on Snapchat, as automatically disappearing messages makes the app difficult for trusted adults to monitor. Ask them to think about why they are adding all these connections and whether they genuinely need hundreds of 'friends' on Snapchat.

### Adjust Privacy Settings

Check the privacy settings in place on your child's Snapchat account to make sure that only their friends or a custom group can see their stories, Snap Map and any images that they post. You may wish to seriously consider going into the settings and enabling 'ghost mode' to turn off the location services, so your child's whereabouts won't be publicly visible to other users.

### Encourage Safe Communication

With the amount of time that young people spend communicating with others online, it's vital to ensure that these connections are positive and healthy ones. Regularly check which apps your child is using: if there are any new ones, talk to your child about what these apps are and how they work. If you are unsure about a new app, you could download it to try yourself and see if it is suitable.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber-safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



**NOS** National Online Safety  
#WakeUpWednesday



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