



Westhead Lathom St James'

www.wlsj.lancs.sch.uk

Number 03

22nd September
2023

Dear Families,

This week our Busy Bees have been very busy indeed. On Tuesday afternoon they finished off their latest pieces in their Art lesson with Mrs Wood. This half term the children have been looking at the work of Vincent van Gogh and have been practising their colour mixing skills. We have been amazed with the sheer hard work, determination and concentration that the children have shown during these sessions. I am sure you agree their final outcomes, inspired by The Starry Night painting, are fabulous!









On Monday, we all enjoyed our Yoga sessions with the Yogi Group who attended school for our Mental Health Day. The sessions were fantastic and helped teach us all some great techniques for relation, mindfulness and meditation.

On Thursday, we had our annual visit from our Health and Safety officer from Lancashire County Council. Richard comes to advise school on all aspects of premises compliance. I know with stories in the media recently it is good to know that school has appropriate systems in place and that Richard was very impressed with our policies, procedures and schedule of maintenance and compliance checks.

Eager Beavers have been enjoying their History topic on our local history and we have had an exciting delivery from the Lancashire Archives ahead of our 170th Anniversary. The children and staff have loved looking through old log books and photos from school in the past. We look forward to displaying some of these artefacts and images on Friday 20th October when we have our celebrations. If you or a member of your family are an ex-pupil and would like to share your own memories or photos then please get in touch!

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Miss Clark

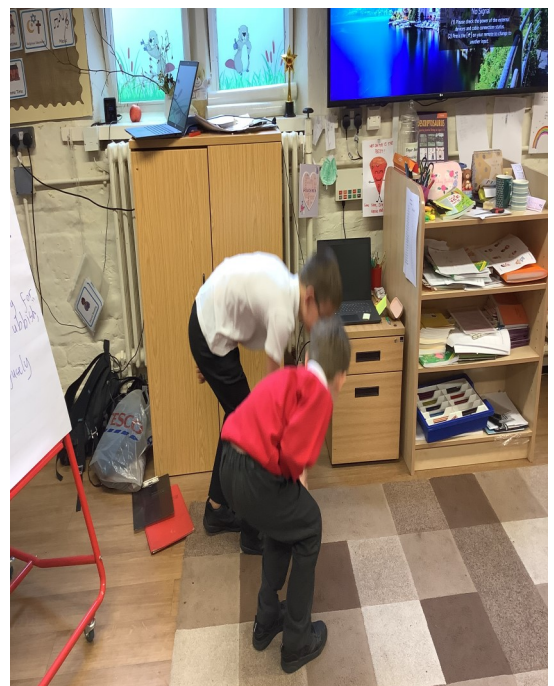
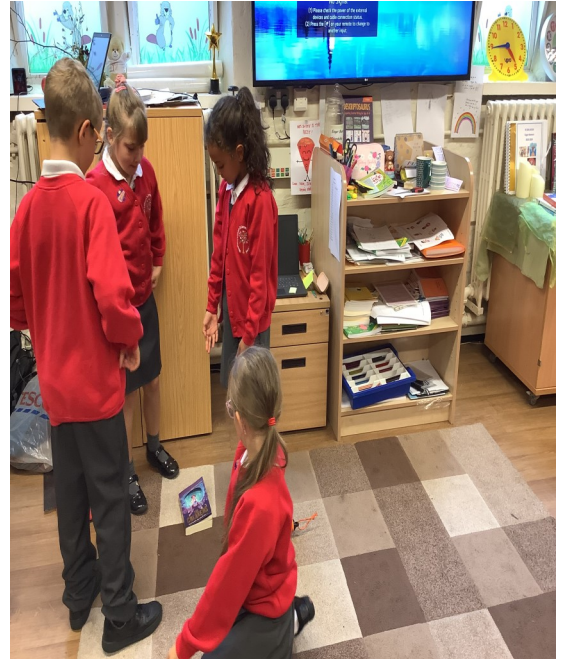
	Ladybirds & Butterflies		Busy Bees		Eager Beavers		Wise Owls	
	Dougie Berry		Harriet Hichlock		Saryah Babiker		Max McGrath	
Reception	Busy Bees		Eager Beavers			Wise Owls		
Seren Gregory 	Alice Dolan 	Oliver Forster 	Ethan Nolan 	Caitlin Williams 	Zoe Delaney-Cain 	Rosie McManus 		



Children from Mrs Woods' Art class looking at and recreating some spectacular Van Gogh's Starry Night Art work...



The children were role-playing a scene from our book 'The Tin Forest' and using this to write a dialogue.



Parents Questionnaire Results- Week 3 Feedback

25 out of 26 respondents agreed or strongly agreed that the school offers a good range of subjects. 1 respondent answered saying sometimes.

25 out of 26 respondents agreed or strongly agreed that the school supports their child's wider development. 1 respondent disagreed.

24 out of 26 respondents would recommend this school to another parent.

What you said your children liked about school:

Close to our house, friendships they are making generally people who live in our area.

They are happy at school.

Staff are caring and know each child individually.

Family feel.

Positive ethos.

English, maths, art, phonics.

Geography club-noodles!

Toast at after school club.

Teachers are lovely and go above and beyond.

Enjoys the subjects.

Lots of clubs to join.

Playground Leaders' job.

Teaching staff.

Classroom atmosphere and decoration.

Close community aspect of the school as opposed to larger primary schools.

Teachers and friends.

Everything!

Loves her lessons.

Playtime.

Loves her teacher.

Being with friends.

DT and rounders.

He loves to take part in all the celebrations and extra activities provided e.g. World Book Day, Coronation party etc.

Everything- doesn't dislike anything.

She loves the teachers and how kind and nurturing they are.

Smaller classes than other schools so get more attention.

Friendly, supportive, loves teachers and friends.

Reading strategy adopted by the school.

Forest School, Art, PE, Assembly and Open Sessions for mum or dad to come in.

All the teachers.

Breakfast and homework club.

Playing and learning.

He likes how he knows what is expected of him and what the teacher has planned in advance.

We are pleased to read that so many of you recognised our wider curriculum offer and how we are committed to the wider development of pupils across school. We try very hard as a small school to offer as many clubs and extra-curricular opportunities as possible. As you can imagine, with a small staff team this is a challenge. Our clubs and extra-curricular planning tries to aim for coverage from EYFS up to Year 6 and offer a range of activities from indoor sessions on Lego and sewing to outdoor activities such as rounders and cricket.

We track attendance at clubs, extra-curricular opportunities and inter-school sports' competitions closely. In 22/23 every child in school took part in at least one extra club or event. Again this participation is higher than ever before. We have found from our close tracking that this is due to our lunchtime clubs offer. Lunchtime clubs regularly have between 20-30 children in attendance compared with only 6-10 for after school sessions. We will continue to offer both lunchtime and after school sessions in 23/24 so that as many pupils as possible get the opportunity to take part in wider opportunities.

Pupil voice is very important to us at WLSJ so in addition to our parental questionnaire we have taken feedback from the children regarding clubs and extra-curricular activities. The children told us their favourite clubs and have even come up with some ideas for new clubs in 23/24 which we have timetabled. As you will see from the clubs timetable, we have tried to plan a balance between indoor and outdoor activities and across the age range of school so that there is always something that the children can participate in.



Community family hub has lots of activities for families to get involved and get to know each other.

If you would like to get involved then please go along on the dates and see what it

CHURCH NEWS

St James' Church, Westhead

Sunday Service 10.30am

Children's Prayers have been forwarded to Rev John to read out in service this week

For pastoral support and zoom log-ins please contact—

Rev John Sephton on john-sephton1@yahoo.com or 07929512847



Dates for Your Diary

Friday 15th September	Swimming starts
Monday 18th September	Mental Health Day
Tuesday 26th September	Wise Owls' Saxon Day
Wednesday 27th September	Parents' Mathematics Workshop 6pm—all welcome
Monday 2nd October	Individual School Photos
Sunday 8th October	10.30am Harvest Festival at St James' Church, Westhead
Tuesday 10th October	Busy Bees' Blackpool Zoo Trip
Monday 16th October	Wise Owls' "We Will Rock You" at Ormskirk High
Tuesday 17th October	Governor Committee Meetings
Thursday 19th October	2.45pm Open Session (1 adult per child)
Friday 20th October	2pm onwards 170th Birthday Celebrations
Monday 23rd-Friday 27th October	HALF TERM
Tuesday 31st October	Intrahealth Flu Vaccinations
Tuesday 7th November	Full Governing Body Meeting
Monday 13th November	Parents' Evening
Thursday 16th November	Open Morning for prospective parents
Monday 20th November	Parents' Evening
Thursday 7th December	Wise Owls' Carol Concert at Christ Church, Aughton
Sunday 10th December	10.30am Nativity at St James' Church, Westhead
Monday 18th December	Eager Beavers and Wise Owls' Christmas Parties
Tuesday 19th December	Ladybirds, Butterflies and Busy Bees' Christmas Parties
Thursday 21st December	2.30pm Helpers' Thank You
Friday 22nd December	Break for Christmas at 2pm