

Parent queries can be emailed in to parents@westoverprimary.co.uk

Be Safe, Be Ready, Be Respectful



Commander Kindness



Lady Resilience



Captain Creativity



Doctor Resourcefulness

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Our target is **96%** or more for attendance. We aim for every child to arrive on time to help them settle and make the best progress. This is also less disruptive for the other children already in class.

w/e 23.2.24	Whole school	Year R	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
%	95	97	95	96	91	94	96	96
No of lates	14	0	7	3	2	0	2	0

AWARDS

GOLD AWARD

One child is chosen each week from every class for upholding our school values of resilience, kindness, creativity and resourcefulness. Well done to last week's Gold Award Winners!



Pufferfish – Mariana

Dolphins – Aayah

Penguins – Jax

Seals – Ronni

Sea Otters – Carys, George and Kevin

Seahorses – Poppy

Turtles – Alana

Sharks – James



Photograph by Oscar and Evie

SILVER AWARD

We've seen lots of children this week who've popped in to share lovely work or good news! It's fantastic to see the work being shared from across all curriculum areas. Well done to everyone!



Pufferfish – The Whole Class! For great effort with their letter formation.

Dolphins – Mysha Arthur Dewey Lilia

Penguin – Tom Phoenix Woody Dexter

Seals – Arabella Primrose Savana

Sea Otters – Maisie Mia Noah Pearl

Seahorses – Taylan Abbie Daisy

Turtles – Lily L Sienna Elliott Isobelle Flossie Blossom Noah Cruz

Sharks – Kyle Olly Jessie Lillie Lily Evie Eliza Dottie Aronas Toby Donovan



BRONZE AWARD

Children upholding our school rules and values and or putting effort into their learning receive house points. The table below shows how well house teams are doing. w/e 23.2.24

Mary Rose	Spinnaker	Warrior	Victory
231	211	230	241

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event	Information
2023-24		
Monday 4 th March	Under 10 football league at Goals	
Tuesday 5 th March	SATs information - Yr6 parents 3.30	
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day	Children can dress up as favourite character or non uniform
Thursday 7 th March	Change of dinner menu	See below for details
Friday 8 th March	PTA Mothers day shop	See poster below for details
Monday 11 th March	Under 10 football league at Goals	
Monday 11 th – Friday 15 th March	Mock SATs week for Year 6	
Tuesday 19 th March	Y6 and Y3 parents eve until 6.30	
Wednesday 20 th March	YR-Y6 Managing Worries Assembly General Anxiety Workshop for parents 2:30pm	Parents welcome
Thursday 21 st March	Y6 and Y3 parents eve until 5.30	
Friday 22 nd March	Non uniform day donate an egg for year 6 tombola at Easter parade	
Tuesday 26 th March	School Nurse Parent Clinic	Contact the school office to book an appointment
Wednesday 27 th March	Year 6 are organising Easter parade for year R-2 with Easter songs for Y3-6 and an egg tombola	Parents welcome at 2.30 to watch the parade and hear singing – weather permitting
Friday 29 th March	Good Friday School closed to children	School closed to children
Monday 15 th April	School open to all children 8.30 start	
Thursday 9 th May	Class photos	

Monday 13 th May – Thursday 16 th May	Year 6 Sats week Children can book a breakfast from 8.00 each day	Details will be sent nearer the time
Tuesday 21 st May	PGL meeting – Yr6 parents	Details will be sent nearer the time
Friday 24 th May	INSET – additional Inset granted by Trust for all Trust schools	School closed to children
Friday 7 th June	INSET	School closed to children
Friday 14 th June	PTA Fathers Day shop	
Monday 17-Friday 21 June	Year 6 Residential	Details sent
Wednesday 10 th July	Year R 1 2 Sports Morning – weather permitting	Parents welcome to attend
Thursday 11 th July	Year 3 4 5 6 Sports Morning – weather permitting	Parents welcome to attend
Wednesday 17 th July	Year 6 end of school production 1.30 @ Admiral School	Details will be sent nearer the time
Thursday 18 th July	Year 6 end of school production 5.00 @Admiral School	Details will be sent nearer the time
Tuesday 23 rd July	Year 6 West fest	
Wednesday 24 th July	Last day of term school finished at 3.10 as normal	

LEARNING UPDATE

Year R	<p>This week Pufferfish have been looking at the artist Pier Mondrian. In his early days of painting, Pier used music to inspire his work. We thought we would also give this a try. We discovered listening to different music changed how we were feeling. We also noticed that we used different colours depending on how we were feeling.</p> <p>We have also been patiently waiting for signs of growth with our sunflower seeds. We will continue to water the seeds in hope they will grow soon.</p>
Year 1	<p>Dolphins class have had another busy week and have all worked very hard. In their English we have been writing lots of descriptive sentences about an item they have selected based on the book 'Stanley's Stick'. In Maths the children have worked hard to expand their knowledge of number, using words 'greatest' and 'smallest' when ordering and comparing numbers. On Wednesday, it was delightful to see that all the children showcased their lovely singing voices and actions to their performance at Langstone Infant School. At the start of the week the children were able to meet Harold in their PSHE workshop with Scarf –</p>
Year 2	<p>Penguins have had yet another amazing week. We have continued looking at our text 'The Owl and the Pussy-cat' and getting in role to ask</p>

	<p>questions about things that happened on their journey. In Maths we were able to calculate how much change we would get from a £1 coin; they were very good at doing this. We also had our infant voices festival where we got to sing with another school all the songs we've been practicing. They were amazing and should be so proud of themselves.</p>
Year 3	<p>This week Seals have been learning how to write a narrative using dialogue and action, using a picture captioned "Under the rug". In Maths, we have been learning about unit and non-unit fractions and looking at the whole. We all enjoyed the PHSE workshop on "Help or harm" and got to meet Harold and Kiki again. We had a fantastic music lesson looking at pentatonic scales within traditional Chinese music using glockenspiels and other tuned percussion. We enjoyed meeting the author Sam Copeland and remembered lots of facts and opinions from his visit to link with our PSHE.</p>
Year 4	<p>Sea Otters have had a really enjoyable week whilst also working really hard! We began our week with a really informative and interactive workshop based around our health and wellbeing, which the children responded really well to. They contributed fantastically to discussions! We also enjoyed our visit from author Sam Copeland!</p> <p>All the children have continued to show resilience in their maths work as well as creativity and resourcefulness in their writing!</p>
Year 5	<p>What a busy week the Seahorses have had! We have enjoyed going swimming, meeting the author, Sam Copeland and teaming up with the Year 6 pupils to conduct our science experiments. We have also found the time to complete all of our English and Maths learning too! In English we have focussed on pronouns and parenthesis and in Maths we have become really proficient at converting between fractions, decimals and percentages.</p>
Year 6	<p>Year 6 have continued their learning about the London Eye and are now in the process of writing their persuasive texts for visiting the London Eye. Some children have decided to write a letter to school staff/families too which is lovely! In Maths, we have introduced the concept of ratio and having nailed this, the children have applied their new learning to a range of problem solving tasks.</p> <p>In Science, we have delved into chemical reactions and irreversible changes - the children absolutely loved observing what happened when mixing baking soda and vinegar!</p>
Senior Team Update	<p>As a team we have been looking at the children's fantastic work within English and Maths, it has been great to see the impact of our School Development Plan that the whole staff have been working hard to implement.</p> <p>Mrs Dorricott has been continuing the exciting work on our Pre-School, visiting other HAMWIC nurseries and beginning to plan how Westover's Pre-School will look!</p>

	This weekend, we will be exploring and risk assessing PGL Little Canada in preparation for taking our Year 6's next term!
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Pre-School

Next week we will be emailing out expression of interest and admission policy for the pre-school. Sessions can be booked for children once they are turned 3 and funded places from the term after their 3rd birthday. To begin with we will have 15 spaces per session from September 24 adding in another 5 January and another 5 April to ensure we are not disadvantaging any children whose birthday is later in the year. Our maximum number is 30. Please note the expression of interest form will be dealt with on a first come first served basis. Once these have been processed we will confirm in writing your allocated sessions and then ask you to complete a registration form.

Parents' Evenings

Parents' evenings are on Tuesday 19th and Thursday 21st March for Years 3 and 6. Please book your appointment via the My Child At School App (MCAS) or contact the school office if you have any difficulties with this.

After School Club update

During February in the after school club we have been making lots of creative crafts. We have made red roses out of tissue paper and lolly sticks also the children particularly loved making love heart mini pillows (or love heart squishies as the children renamed them). We made these by using a heart shaped stencil on different pieces of material, the children then sewed these together and stuffed them. The children did a really great job at sewing and enjoyed the finished product. We have also received lots of kind donations including games, puzzles, crafts and colouring books. Thank you to those who donated we have had lots of fun with these new items. One of the items donated was a 'grow your own bee garden' we have started this little project and have been learning some bee facts along the way . when our bee sanctuary is finished we plan to put it by the front entrance of the school so we can watch our flowers grow through the window and hopefully encourage some of our pollinators. we have also enjoyed getting outside and using the sports equipment and chalks in the playground.

MHST – Mental health Support Team

Mrs Leslie has organised for the following assemblies through this mental health team:

YR-Y6 Managing Worries Assembly led by MHST Wednesday 20th March led by Mental Health Support Team.

General Anxiety Workshop for parents Wednesday 20th March 2.30pm led by Mental Health Support Team



Sam Copeland Author Visit

KS2 had so much fun welcoming author, Sam Copeland to Westover. It certainly was an interactive session and the children loved hearing his stories and (quite disgusting) facts. If you purchased your own copy of one of Sam's books we hope you enjoy it but if you didn't get the chance, we have plenty of copies in the library for you to borrow.

Healthy food at breaktimes – KS2

Please remember that should you want to provide your child with a snack at breaktime, it needs to be a healthy choice of either fruit, veg or a low sugar alternative. Biscuits, crisps, sandwiches or sausage rolls etc should be kept in lunch boxes as part of a balanced lunch. We have seen an increasing trend of children attempting to eat more unhealthier snacks at breaktime and are having to remind children what they are allowed to eat. Thank you for your support with this.

SCARF

On Monday and Tuesday, we welcomed our friends from Coram Life Education to host two days of PSHE learning in their SCARF Tent. The children loved the interactive sessions and covered topics around being both physical and mental health and rights and respect. The lessons help to form part of our engaging PSHE curriculum at Westover.



Household Support Fund Family Vouchers

Lower-income families with children aged 0 - 19 who didn't qualify for a supermarket voucher from a school this winter can apply for a supermarket voucher code, worth £80 for each eligible child. Their total household earned income (excluding benefits and tax credits), in the month before applying, needs to be £1,500 or less.

This includes families who received vouchers for school age children but who have other children aged 0-4 or 16+, and families with a low income who don't quite qualify for free school meals.

This scheme is open until **12pm on Friday 15 March 2024**. This is a limited pot of funding, so the scheme may close sooner if the funds have been used up.

People can find out more about who is eligible for each scheme and how to apply, and other help available from HSF, on the [Portsmouth City Council Website](#).

World Book Day 7th March

A reminder that this year, we will have a traditional World Book Day character dress up. Children are invited to come to school dressed up as their favourite book character. Please do not feel you need to spend money on a costume, as the day is designed to celebrate the love of books – not to put pressure on families. If children would prefer to come in in non-school uniform, please feel free to do this.

During the day, children will be taking part in a variety of activities, organised by our school librarians, including: creating book reviews for our library, using our art skills to reproduce some of our favourite book covers and creating our own pop-up books. On the day, all children will receive their £1 book token which can be either exchanged for one of this year's World Book Day titles or put towards the cost of another book of their choice.

Book Character Spoons KS1 and EYFS

To tie in with our World Book Day Celebrations on Thursday 7th March, we are inviting pupils in Pufferfish, Dolphins and Penguins Classes to create their own wooden spoon characters based upon a book they have enjoyed reading (see some ideas below).

A winning spoon design from each class will be picked by our school librarians and all entries will be displayed in our school library and photographed for our newsletter. Winners from each class will receive an exciting World Book Day prize.

Please use an old wooden spoon if you have one – different shapes and sizes will look even better! As a school we will have a small collection of spoons available from the school office next week, if you are unable to source one yourself.

We look forward to seeing your wonderful creations!

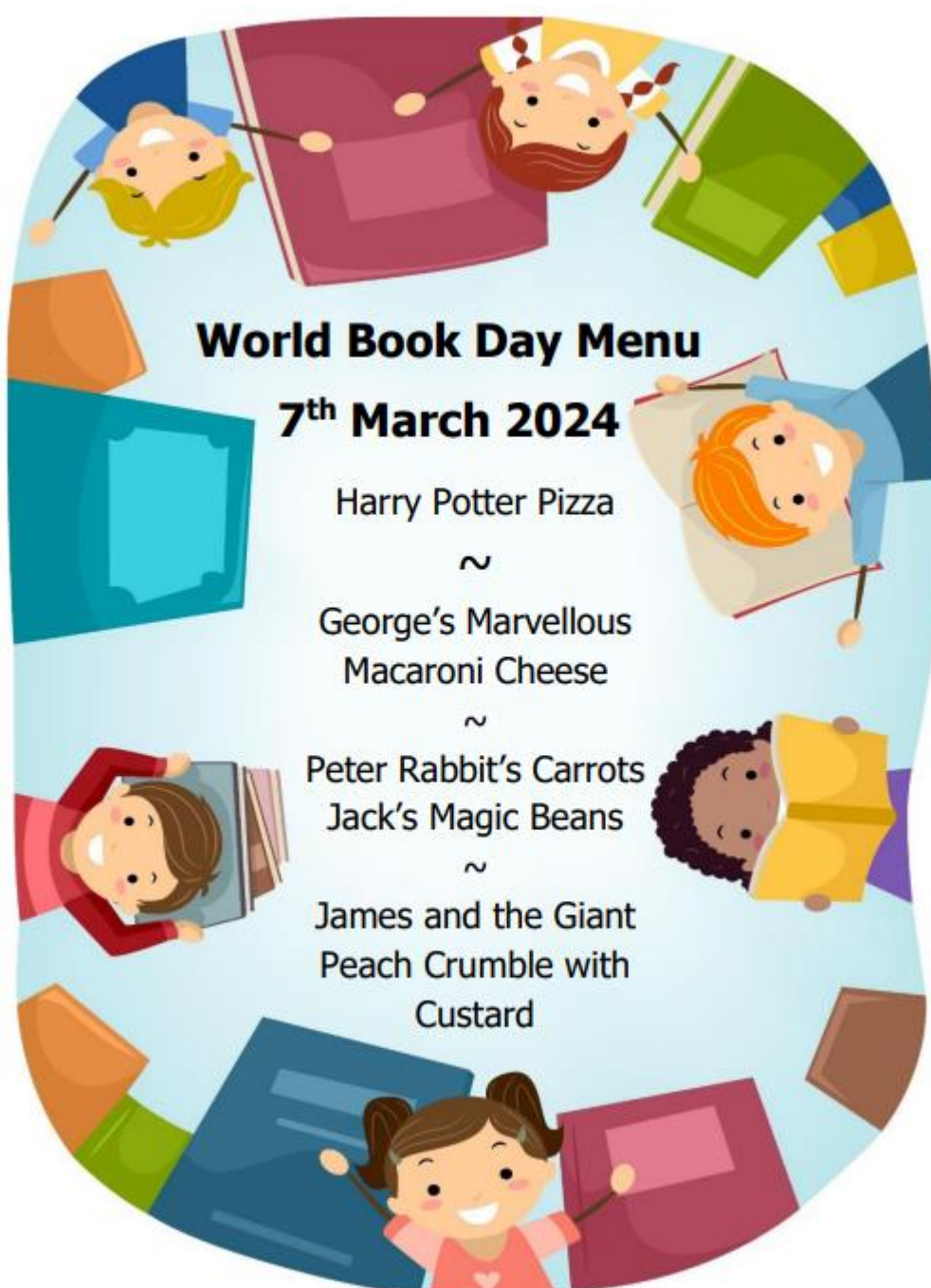


PE Day reminder – Please ensure your child has a kit on these days otherwise they may not be able to join in for health and safety reasons.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Dolphins (1) Sharks (6) Turtles (6)	Seals (3) Penguins (2) Sea Otters (4) Seahorses (5)	Sea Otters (4) Seahorses (5) Pufferfish (YR)	Dolphins (1) Penguins (2) Turtles (6) Pufferfish (YR)	Pufferfish (YR) Sharks (6) Seals (3)

Library Days

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Sea otter (4)	Dolphin (1) Seahorses (5)	Penguin (2)	Pufferfish (R) Turtles (6)	Sharks (6) Seals (3)



Advice on winter bugs and keeping well

With temperatures dropping this month Clare Joy – an NHS school nurse working locally – explains in this short video some top tips on keeping winter bugs at bay and using the Healthier Together app for advice.

You can watch on the [Hampshire and Isle of Wight NHS YouTube channel](#).

Download Healthier Together for advice with common childhood illnesses

It can sometimes be hard for parents to know the best way to help children recover from winter bugs. Healthier Together has been developed by local clinicians and gives simple advice on how to help them get better at home.

The app will also help you to spot the signs if it is something more serious and guide you to the right help. Visit what0-18.nhs.uk, download from the App Store or get it on Google Play.

The UK Health Security Agency have also published helpful advice on [spotting the signs of when to keep children home](#).

You can visit the [Hampshire and Isle of Wight NHS winter wellness web page](#) for more advice on keeping warm and well this winter.

INFORMATION





Making a difference in Portsmouth

WHO ARE WE?

We are the Portsmouth Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS).

We provide free, confidential, impartial information, advice and support relating to special educational needs and disability (SEND), independently from education, health and care providers.

Our information, advice and support is delivered by independently trained Information, Advice and Support Service (IASS) staff.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

www.portsmouthsendiass.info

 0300 303 2000



WHO CAN WE HELP?

Our service is for people who live in Portsmouth (PO1 – PO6). If you don't live in Portsmouth we can put you in touch with your local SENDIASS.

We can provide information, advice and support to parents or carers of a child or young person (aged 0-25) with special educational needs and/or a disability and young people aged 16-25 who have a special educational needs and/or a disability. If your child has questions we can help them too.

HOW CAN WE HELP?

We will listen to your views and concerns and explain your options, rights and responsibilities. We can help you prepare for meetings, feel more confident to express your views and support you to resolve disagreements. If needed, we can support you to attend meetings too.

We can answer your questions about Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP) and support you through a needs assessment or review.

We can provide information on your individual queries in relation to education, health, care and leisure services and direct you to other services that may be able to support your family.

0300 303 2000

Phone line open:
Monday – Friday
9am – 5pm

/PortsmouthSENDIASS

@Rose_Road

portsmouthsendiass.info

portsmouthiass@roseroad.org.uk

Address:
Bradbury Centre
300 Aldermoor Road
Southampton
SO16 5NA

Portsmouth SENDIASS is managed by
The Rose Road Association

HOW TO CONTACT US



Registered Charity Number: 276172
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Rose Road Association
Bradbury Centre,
300 Aldermoor Road,
Southampton,
Hampshire SO16 5NA



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