



Westhead Lathom St James'

www.wlsj.lancs.sch.uk

Number 04

29th September
2023

Dear Families,

We started the week off with a bang when Wigan Ukulele Club spent the afternoon entertaining us. The band came along and performed a range of songs and talked to us about their instruments. We found out that despite being famous in Hawaii, the Ukulele actually originated in Portugal! The children loved dancing and singing along to some

familiar tunes. The band hold regular performances around the North West and all donations received for their time goes to charity. To date they have raised over £90 000! Look out for the band playing when you're out and about, they are well worth the watch.

On Monday, Wednesday and Thursday this week, our Year 2 children took part in their Level 3 Right Start training. The children went out in groups to carry out some activities watching and listening to the passing vehicles and learning about safe spaces to cross. All of the children were beautifully behaved and we were all wowed with how much they remembered from their sessions last year. Well done Year 2!

On Tuesday, Tim Daiton visited school to give our Wise Owls an immersive living history day. The children spent the day living like Saxons! They started the day learning about Saxon way of life and farming then went over onto the field to start to build their own settlement. The day then progressed to farming, hunting for fun and making fires. All topped off with eating a delicious pottage stew made the Saxon way.

You may have noticed that we have had some sheds replaced which has opened up a corner of the playground. I have already had a group of children come to me with some fabulous ideas for redeveloping this area. This group are now working as part of our School Council to come up with ideas for fundraising to develop this area. If your child has any ideas to contribute then they can use our pupil suggestion box in school to share their thoughts. As you know, pupil voice is something which we really value here at WLSJ and we love getting new ideas that we can work with. Watch this space for more news of what the children have planned.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Miss Clark

Saxon day at school was really enjoyed by all.



Busy Bees carrying out their road safety level 3.



What an afternoon of fun and musical cheer the Ukulele band brought to school. The children absolutely loved joining in and singing some well known songs.



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.

	Ladybirds & Butterflies	Busy Bees	Eager Beavers	Wise Owls
	Jack Wishart	Leo Baxter	Esme Ashcroft	Orrin Ainscow

Reception	Busy Bees		Eager Beavers		Wise Owls	
Lillia Hudson 	Caleb Lyon 	Markus Bennett 	Lucy Sharma 	Harley Wooldridge 	Maddison Darley 	Megan Hampson 

CHURCH NEWS



St James' Church, Westhead

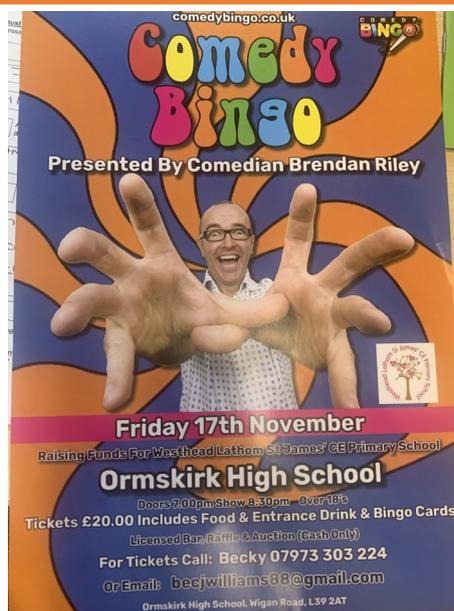
Sunday Service 10.30am

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—



Friday 17th November Children in need day. Can wear spotty clothes or official Pudsey clothing, not essential. £1 donation



Don't forget your tickets for the comedy Bingo night. Also on Friday 17th November at Ormskirk School

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