



# Westhead Lathom St James'

[www.wlsj.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.wlsj.lancs.sch.uk)

NUMBER 01  
8th September  
2023

Dear Families,









A huge welcome to all our new families and welcome back to everyone else. It has been great to see all of the children back this week and hear all about their summer holidays. Everyone has come back raring to go and have been working very hard already even in this heat!

We also welcome this week Miss Tracy Comerford, our new Office Manager. Tracy is busy getting to grips with all our office systems and procedures and getting to know all of the children in school. If you have any queries please continue to use

[bursar@wlsj.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:bursar@wlsj.lancs.sch.uk) or pop to the hatch to speak to Tracy in person. I am sure you will all make her feel very welcome.

On Thursday morning we welcomed some of the students and employees from Midstream in for an assembly. Midstream run a coffee morning every Friday in Westhead Village Hall. Their visit to school was to present us with a cheque for £150 as a gift from the profits they have made. We are very grateful to be receiving this kind donation and will keep in touch with the Midstream group.

*(continued overleaf)*

	<b>Ladybirds &amp; Butterflies</b>	<b>Busy Bees</b>	<b>Eager Beavers</b>	<b>Wise Owls</b>		
	Owen Parry	Isla Berry	Annie Skelton	Amy Orford		
<b>Reception</b>	<b>Busy Bees</b>		<b>Eager Beavers</b>		<b>Wise Owls</b>	
Sophie Winrow 	Vincent Jones 	Zach Ezzatvar 	Loukas Halsall 	Rishik Methuku 	Isaac Kane 	Amelie Livesley 

A reminder that everyone needs to use their NEW QR codes for Seesaw as the classes have all moved up. Once everyone is signed up teachers can provide regular updates and open up the home to school messaging feature. Thank you.

You will find on the following pages some feedback from our Parental Questionnaire that was carried out back in June. Feedback will be shared over the next few weeks on the newsletter. You will also find a new page with dates for your diary so that you can plan ahead.

A reminder that the car park at the back of school must not be used for drop offs or pick ups. Parents can use the car park at the Prince Albert pub during these times and the crossing patrol will help with crossing the main road. Please can I also ask you to be considerate if parking on School Lane and ask you not to park across the dropped kerbs/ driveways, on or opposite the zigzag lines and to have engines turned off whilst you wait. Many thanks.

We are so pleased to be back and have lots of exciting things planned for the year ahead.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Miss Clark

### [Presentation from Midstream](#)



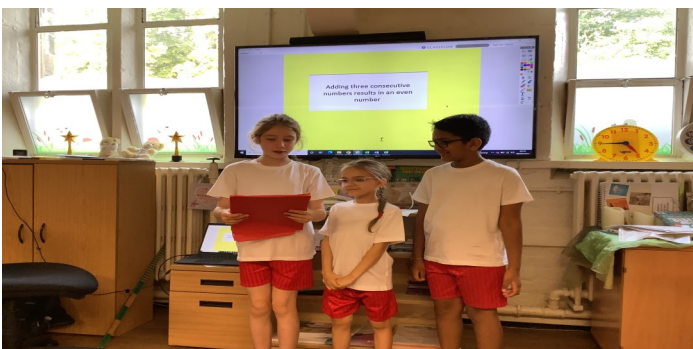
Here are a few pictures from Mrs. Wood's art lesson with the Busy Bees. They have been looking at Van Gogh's Starry night painting.



Next we have some of our Wise Owls concentrating on their maths challenges!



Eager Beavers showing brilliant problem solving in mathematics.



Last but not least our early years enjoying an exciting first few days in Ladybirds and butterflies class.

Last but not least we have a couple of photos of the ladybirds and butterflies class enjoying their first few days within the early years setting.



## Parent Questionnaire Results- Week 1 Feedback

*25 out of 26 respondents agreed or strongly agreed that their child is happy at this school. 1 respondent did not know.*

*25 out of 26 respondents agreed or strongly agreed that their child felt safe at this school. 1 respondent disagreed.*

*23 out of 26 respondents agreed or strongly agreed that the school makes sure its pupils are well behaved. 1 respondent disagreed and 2 said they did not know.*

*24 out of 26 respondents agreed or strongly agreed that their child has access to clubs and activities at this school. 2 respondents disagreed.*

### **Your suggestions for further development:**

- There are no after school sports run by teachers (only sports' partnership which has to be paid for). There's no drama, music, dance and only recently has been art and sewing taken on by TAs at lunchtime. I think 'Ethos' has its place but should be covered in RE and PSHE in class time. We should be inspiring children to find out what they're good at and n talent in a wide range of areas.*
- Geography club to be extended as my child really enjoyed it.*
- More extra-curricular team sports and sport in general to promote active lifestyles.*
- Enhanced music provision-appears to be little music provision in curriculum.*
- More school trips.*
- Forest School.*

Many of you recognised the wide variety of clubs that we offer as a school. In the 22/23 year, we have offered: Sports' Partnership, KS1 Multi-Skills, KS1 Geography, Library Café, Chess, Sewing, Lego, Ethos, Rotary Award, Rounders, Cricket, Football, School Council, Computing, Production, Art, Disco Dodgeball, Choir and Before and After School Club. As a small school with a small staff, who run clubs voluntarily in their lunch breaks or after school, we hope you agree this is a comprehensive offer. We try to rotate the offer of clubs throughout the year to appeal to as many pupils as possible.

Additionally, we track attendance at clubs and sporting competitions closely. We have found that clubs offered after school are poorly attended with between 6-10 children attending on average; whereas lunchtime clubs regularly have between 20-30 children

We will also continue to change the offer of what's on throughout the year to meet the needs of pupils. When asked in school pupils said their favourite clubs were: Cricket, Geography, Ethos, Library Café, Sports' Partnership, Rounders, Chess, Sewing, Football, Choir, Computing, Worry Warriors, School Council, Art and Before & After School Club-pretty much every club that has been offered! We also asked the children for ideas for clubs they would like to see this year. They have requested a lot of the same clubs plus a few extras which we are going to aim to timetable in.

I am pleased to say that Forest school will return for all classes this year when our new Forest School leader completes her training. The Forest School qualification is a comprehensive course involving a huge amount of study, training and assessments through essay writing so takes up to a year to complete. Mrs Parkinson has been working very hard the past few months on completing her training and is excited to get started properly.

We have had a return to taking classes out on trips in 22/23, although it has been difficult to arrange this for all classes. Every class has been on at least one trip and plans are ] already in place for 23/24. Additionally, we have had a whole host of visitors into school and again have some exciting days planned for 23/24.

We are working with the new Ormskirk Music Hub to provide more musical opportunities in school. Every class already has one hour of music per week and Year 6 engaged with the endangered brass project in 22/23. Additionally Years 3 and 4 took part in the Big Sing through the music hub and all classes have taken part in live performances throughout the year.

### **CHURCH NEWS**

St James' Church, Westhead

Sunday Service 10.30am



For pastoral support and zoom log-ins please contact—

Rev John Sephton on [john-sephton1@yahoo.com](mailto: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

