



# Newsletter

## Autumn One 2023

Welcome to our new Westroyd newsletter, which will be coming your way, every half-term throughout the year. It is an important read as you will find lots of useful information about the school and a celebration of recent learning achievements.

With this being the first newsletter of the year, it will be full of useful information and reminders about the year ahead. As well as emailing this out to you, you can also find a copy on our website. As always if you have any comments, views or ideas about the school, do get in touch by emailing the school office on [office@westroyd.leeds.sch.uk](mailto:office@westroyd.leeds.sch.uk)

### **Message from the Headteacher, Miss Jenny Pashley**

As I have said already, I feel really lucky to be the Headteacher of this school and get to spend everyday interacting with such polite, friendly children. As the days go by I am learning more names and getting to know more personalities and they are getting to know me! Quite a few pupils have realised that they can easily distract me from Headteacher tasks, with a chat and that I am never going to turn down an opportunity to beat them at Uno! As a newcomer I am already feeling like I belong to the warm, friendly Westroyd family and I thank you for all for making me feel so welcome. There is a strong sense of community at this school and my intention is to develop this further.

However, it is not just me that is new to the Westroyd team. Following the departure of teaching staff in the Summer term. We also welcome Miss Badura to our Reception teaching team, Mrs Pearson our new Year One teacher and Miss Francis-Knight will be part of the Year Five teaching team. In the office Mrs Hart has joined us in a temporary capacity to be our School Business Manager. The school has been without a business manager for a long period of time, so we are really pleased to have Mrs Hart on our team. Moving forwards, you may be aware that in July the whole senior leadership team left Westroyd. This has created the opportunity for governors to recruit new leaders, who will strategically lead the direction of the school. Currently, Mrs Hollingshead is doing an excellent job of fulfilling one of those roles as temporary Assistant Headteacher. The recruitment process has started with interviews before half-term, with the intention that we will have two permanent Assistant Headteachers on the Westroyd team by January 2024. Although change can be unsettling at first, change also creates exciting opportunities. The children of Westroyd are my number one priority and I want you to be assured that all decisions that are made are done so, to improve the children's experience in school and their outcomes!

**Wraparound Provision at Westroyd** Just a reminder that Wraparound provision is available to children in Nursery to Y6, from 07:30 to 08:50 in the morning and from 15:15 to 18:00 in the afternoon. Charges are £6.00 for a morning session, and £16.50 after school. There is a reduction for siblings and an early collection fee. Bookings are made in advance and payment is through School Comms app. You can also pay with tax free vouchers if eligible. Bookings are made by contacting our wraparound manager Miss Watson by emailing [wraparound@westroyd.leeds.sch.uk](mailto:wraparound@westroyd.leeds.sch.uk).

**Volunteering in school** We really value the extra capacity and skills that volunteers bring to school, and we are recruiting! If you would like to help in school, for example by hearing children read, supporting Teaching and Learning we would love to hear from you. You would undergo an induction process and your support would be very valuable! Ask in the school office if you'd like to find out more. We can also support volunteer placements as part of a learning support qualification you are pursuing.

**School Communications** We continue to use electronic means as our main method of communication. It is therefore essential that parents check emails regularly and ensure we have up to date email address for you. Shortly we will launch The SIMS Parent Lite app which will enable you can easily update contact and medical details and also it is a really good method to keep your personal data safe. We are working to improve communications following your feedback. You will find all our dates on the school website and there is a weekly what is on newsletter and a half termly newsletter, which again will have all upcoming dates. The Headteacher is working with governors and our IT providers to re launch our school social media account, so that we can show case all the wonderful things that happen at Westroyd. If you have any suggestions about how we can improve our communication systems, do get in touch, through the school office.

**Finance** We are a cashless school and you will need to have our School Comms app downloaded to enable you to make online payments. The office staff are more than happy to help you, if you are struggling to make it work or you need an update. Just call in to see them, or give them a call. Currently, we are working with the Local Authority and the Department for Education to audit our financial systems and processes to ensure we are operating safely and within the statutory guidelines. Using electronic systems for payments creates a safe detectable pathway.

**Dinners** You may be aware that we have had to make the decision to increase dinner money. Over the summer there was a double price rise, made by the local authority catering agency and this has fuelled the increase at Westroyd.

**Clubs** So that our clubs are supervised safely moving forwards, we have had to introduce a blanket fee to cover the additional staffing costs this creates. This is not a decision we have taken lightly, but it is one that is necessary to ensure that our pupils are safe whilst having fun in our afterschool clubs.

At Westroyd, we understand that the rising cost of living is having an impact upon family finances and the decisions we make. If you find that you are struggling, then do come and talk to us in confidence and we can set up payment plans to stagger payments so that it works for you. Our aim is to work with you, and not exclude children from participation because of cost. We also have a duty of care to you, to ensure that large debts are not run up. Email the office, phone us, or call in and talk to us or Miss Rayit our pastoral lead.

**Parent's Forum.** We would like to hear your voice!

On the 11.10.23 at 2pm we will be holding a parent's forum, which will be an opportunity for us to share views, ideas and opinions about the school. This would be a regular event and an opportunity for your voice to support the Headteacher to drive school improvement in our school. If you are unable to make this event, and you want to share your views, then do email the Headteacher through the school office.  
office@westroyd.leeds.sch.uk

**Baby news** You will be starting to notice, Miss Harps is expecting a baby! The new arrival is due in early March and we are all very excited for her. If you remember Miss Martin is currently on maternity leave and will be returning to Westroyd in early December. She will join the Y2 teaching team with Miss Maybank.

**Leave of Absence requests.** A reminder that for families thinking ahead already to family holidays, that holidays in term time are not usually authorised and parents taking children on holiday in term time risk a fine, inline with government and local policy. Please note that school does not issue the fines, nor do we benefit financially from any fines. Any leave of absence, even if it is just to leave early at the end of a day, must be requested by completing a leave of absence form available from the school office. School holiday dates and important testing windows are on the school

**School Uniform** PRE-LOVED SCHOOL UNIFORM Save money, save the planet! We have a lot of uniform in school that is pre-loved but in good condition. We will be putting this out in the playground and it is free for you to recycle! You can also buy our uniform at Whitakers on the high street. However, we still have some stock from when we use to sell uniform at school which is taking up valuable cupboard space. We are selling this off with a 10% discount. Ask at the school office.

**Westroyd is moving to the Cloud!** Miss Pashley is migrating the Westroyd team from old clunky, dusty desktops to online processes. The school staff are full of enthusiasm for this new way of working and the efficiency that it brings! We have also had a review of our website to check that it is compliant with the expectations from the Department for Education and we are on the right lines. Our teachers are updating the class pages weekly, so do log on and find out what they have been up to.

**Harvest Festival** This year we will be visiting the Parish Church as a school (R to Y6) and parents will be welcome to join us at 9.30am on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October at church. We will be collecting food for the festival, which will be donated to the local food bank. Non-perishable items such as tins, jars, packet and dried goods are all welcome and should be brought to school at the beginning of the school day on Thursday 05/10/2023. The food bank has continued to experience lower donation rates so everything you can give will be very gratefully received. Thank you 😊

**School PTA.** Westroyd is a Community Primary School and we want to promote our community spirit even more! We would like to get parents involved as much as possible in school life. At the moment we do not have a PTA and we would really like to get one going. Do you have some time to contribute to help to set up exciting events for the school community, that will also help raise important funds for the school? Mrs Wright in the office would love to hear from you if you do. Contact her on 01132551601. Or email [office@westroyd.leeds.sch.uk](mailto:office@westroyd.leeds.sch.uk).

**Calendar link** So that you never miss an event, did you know you can subscribe to our calendar on the website? Simply go into the calendar section and select subscribe and follow the choices provided!

**Promoting community Links.** As the original mill school in the village, with a rich historical background we are an important feature of the local community. At Westroyd our pupils have a strong sense of belonging to the school. We are a small community primary school, with a lot of long-standing staff and we know our pupils and families really well. We pride ourselves on our nurturing approach that encourages the children to be who they want to be, to be individuals and celebrate their uniqueness. Moving forwards, we want to build links with the local community in Farsley and strengthen our position within the community. If you are a local business owner/manager, or work in services in Farsley, we would like to talk to you and discuss how we could work together in the future. If you are interested in supporting your local community primary school, which could also have reciprocal benefits, do get in touch by emailing the school office on [office@westroyd.leeds.sch.uk](mailto:office@westroyd.leeds.sch.uk). Thank you

**Pastoral Lead** For those who do not know me I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and tell you a little about my role in school. My name is Priya Rayit and I am the Pastoral Lead at Westroyd Primary and Nursery School. Hopefully you will have seen me in the playground as you drop your children off. My job is to work alongside the other adults in school and parents to identify anything that may be stopping children from having the very best school experience. These things may include friendship issues, changes in family circumstances, family bereavement, self-confidence and self-esteem issues and difficulties with emotional regulation. I am also a member of the safeguarding team and promote attendance at school! If you want to get in touch, you can do so by email

Or by phone 0113 2551601 through the school office. [office@westroyd.leeds.sch.uk](mailto:office@westroyd.leeds.sch.uk)

**School Governors at Westroyd Primary School and Nursery.** We currently have four governor vacancies. We urgently need members of the local community to join us and support the development of the school. You do not need to have a child at this school to fulfil this role. As we are building our community links, it would be ideal to have representatives from the locality. If you know of anyone, or can spread the word that we are recruiting, we would really appreciate this. Contact the school office on 01132551601 or email [office@westroyd.leeds.sch.uk](mailto:office@westroyd.leeds.sch.uk)

Diary Dates. We will add to these dates as the year progresses

Autumn term

Autumn	Spring	Summer
<p>3.10.23 School photos Y1- Y6                      6.10.23 9.30am R – Y6 Harvest Festival at Church                      11.10.23 2 pm Parent Forum                      20.10.23 9 am Y6 Sharing Assembly                      18 &amp; 19.10.23 School Tours for Reception 24                      24.10.23 3.15pm Walk the Walls                      25.10.23 1pm Welly Walk                      27.10.23 – School Closes                      6.11.23 School Opens                      6.11.23- 8.11.23 Y6 Residential to Robin Wood                      8&amp;9.11.23 School Tours for Reception 24.                      13.11.23 Anti-bullying week.                      14.11.23&amp;15.11.23 Parent Consultations                      17.11.23 School closed for training Y5/Y6 Trip to York                      24.11.23 Y3 9am Sharing Assembly                      29.11.23 6pm Farsley Light Switch on                      22.11.23 EY photo day                      30.11.23 EY Open session                      4.12.23 9.30am Advent service at church R – Y6                      6.12.23 EY walk to the Post Office                      7.12.23 3.30pm Enterprise Fair                      13.12.23 10am EY Nativity                      13.12.23 2pm KS1 Christmas Show                      21.12.23 2.30pm Carols in the yard                      22.12.23 Sparkle Day                      22.12.23 School Closes for the Holidays.</p>	<p>6.1.24 School opens                      2.2.24 Y2 Sharing Assembly                      7.2.24 EY open session                      9.2.24 School closes                      12.2.24 School opens                      28.2.24 EY Local Walk                      12&amp;13.3. 24 Parent Consultations                      22.3.24 Y5 Sharing Assembly                      25- 27.3.24 Y4 Herd Farm Residential                      26.3.24 EY Open sessions                      29.3.24 School closes for Easter</p>	<p>15.4.24 School opens for Summer                      13.5.23 Y6 SATS week 13.5.24                      3.6.24 Y4 Multiplication Check &amp; Y1 Phonic Screening Test.                      13.5.24 EY Open session                      17.5.24 Y4 Sharing Assembly                      8.6.24 Reception trip to Hesketh Farm                      14.6.24 Y1 Sharing Assembly                      27.6.24 Summer Fair                      1.7.24 3.30pm Health Week                      3.7.24 Sports day                      9.15am Nursery, 10.15am Reception                      11.15am KS1 2pm KS2                      5.7.24 School Closed for training                      12.7.24 EY sharing Assembly                      17.7.24 Y6 Party                      19.7.24 2pm Y6 Leavers Assembly                      20.7.24 School closes for Summer</p>