



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

IMPORTANT NOTICE: We will be cashless from September

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.

Last week	Whole school	Year R	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
%	94	94	90	96	94	91	96	94
No of lates	14	0	0	6	1	3	1	3

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!



Dolphins – Hattie

Penguins – Rio

Seals – Ella

Sea Otter – Ray

Sharks – Jacob

Turtles – Jude



Photo by Poppy C

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!



These children will be celebrated in assembly each Monday.

Dolphins – Theo, Hattie, Patsy, Tilly, Tyler, Sara

Penguins – Rio, Chessy, Sophia

Seals – Ralph, Olive, Sofia, Alicia, Harper W,

Sea Otters – Ray, Faith, Maddison, Bella, Jasmine, Savana

Sharks – Zuzanna, Carys, Demi-Mae, Mia, Syra, George, Jacob, Freddie, Coast, William, Noah,
Niamh, Kevin, Frank

Turtles – Owen, Remy, Abbie, Ralph, Harrison, Harry, Jude, Mariam



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.

Mary Rose	Spinnaker	Warrior	Victory
380	486	388	419

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2024/25

Date	Event	Information
Monday 16 th December	Year 4 Exit Point 2.30pm	Parents welcome
Tuesday 17 th December	Years 2 & 3 Carols 2:30pm	Details in Newsletter
Wednesday 18 th December	Years R & 1 Nativity Performance 2pm	Details sent
Wednesday 18 th December	Year 6 Exit Point 2.30pm	Parents welcome
Thursday 19 th December	Years R & 1 Nativity Performance 9am	Details sent
Thursday 19 th December	Year 5 Exit Point 2.30pm	Parents welcome
Friday 20 th December	Christmas Dinner	Orders for dinners now closed
Friday 20 th December	Wear Christmas clothes day	
Monday 23 rd December – Friday 3 rd January	Christmas Holiday	School closed
Monday 6 th January	Inset Day	School closed to children
Thursday 16 th January	Census Day Change of school dinner menu	See poster below
Monday 17 th – Friday 21 st February	Half Term Holiday	School closed
Monday 24 th February	Inset Day	School closed to children

Monday 7 th – Monday 21 st April	Easter Holiday	School closed
Monday 5 th May	Bank Holiday	School closed
Friday 23 rd May	Inset Day	School closed to children
Monday 26 th – Friday 30 th May	Half Term Holiday	School closed
Friday 13 th June	Inset Day	School closed to children
Tuesday 22 nd July	Last Day of Term	Finish normal time 3.10pm

LEARNING UPDATE

Pre-School	<p>Starfish class have had so much fun this week, we have looked at a new sound which has been 'n', they have been ever so good at recognising the items beginning with that sound including children in class with that letter at the start. Numbers up to 5 have been a focus this week, we have played games in which we've had to show fingers for the number given, find a missing number from the number line and sing songs with numbers in. We have begun looking at how Christmas is celebrated around the world and have had activities out based around these countries. Starfish have also had their stay and play this week which we all thoroughly enjoyed. We decorated the gingerbread we made that morning, showed the grown-ups all the activities we love to do at school and sang some songs with them to end it on. One more week of fun Starfish and then it's Christmas!</p> <p>Just a reminder that the children still go outside for discover and do and as the weather is getting colder, we are encouraging them to wrap up warm with hats, scarves and gloves.</p>
Year R	<p>The excitement coming from our room is fantastic. The children are so excited for Christmas to arrive, they are happily sharing their stories of the Elfs adventures along with all other Christmas news. It's wonderful to see the magic in their eyes as they are sharing their moments.</p> <p>This week we found Naughty Bus in the air; we think he is trying to fly. We will try and solve that puzzle next week. This week has been our final week learning about the artist Kandinsky. We were able to talk about how his artwork made us feel, what we could see in his work and choose our favourite piece. This week was also the last week that we will be using the wall bars in pe in for a while, fear not, next term will bring some more fun skills to learn.</p> <p>As we start learning about the Christmas story, we have started to think about our families and why they are so special to us. The children shared some lovely thoughts such as 'My dad makes me feel loved like the pink colour monster'. 'Or My mummy gives me the best cuddles at bedtime'. 'My sister takes me to her shop and makes my hair look beautiful.' Pufferfish are really lucky to have such wonderful families.</p> <p>Today we performed the nativity show to the whole school. They were amazing. I can't wait for you all to see it next week.</p>



Year 1

In Dolphins this week, we have continued to work hard preparing for our Nativity and had a fantastic dress rehearsal in front of the whole school! The children have done an amazing job learning their line and lots even know them off by heart! In writing, we have spent lots of time checking our sentences make sense and using adjectives to describe different characters in 'The Tear Thief'. In Maths, we have spent time consolidating this term's learning and have spent time building our confidence with doubling and halving numbers within 20. Next week in writing, we will begin to use 'and' to extend our sentences and in Maths we will continue to consolidate this term's learning.



Year 2

This week, Penguin class have been super busy! Some of us performed at the Guildhall on Monday night, representing Westover brilliantly! Back at school, we have been

	<p>writing a newspaper report about The Great Fire of London. We've worked really hard to include all the facts to inform our reader and share our knowledge of the fire. In Maths, we've been learning our 2, 5 and 10 timestables using doubling and halving to support as well as using the inverse operations. We've been discussing kindness within our classroom and how we can be kind on the playground using words and actions. We also looked at ways to solve problems by using different strategies, so we don't lash out. We are really looking forward to our Christmas carols next Tuesday!</p>
Year 3	<p>Thank you, parents, for joining in with our DT evaluation lesson on Thursday. The children loved sharing their creations with you all and can't wait to share them with Year 1! In Maths we have come to the end of our column addition and subtraction unit and are about to start looking more closely at measure. The children will be applying the column method throughout each unit now they have learnt how to use it efficiently.</p> <p>In Geography this week we have become weather forecasters, creating our own forecasts for locations across a variety of different climates. Tropical Brazil sounds very tempting at this time of year!</p> <p>Next week in English we will be exploring inspirational speeches. The class will have a go at writing and delivering their own powerful speeches based upon the book <i>The king who banned the dark</i>.</p> <p>Well done to our very own rock stars who performed in their bands on Tuesday. We are so proud of them - they were awesome!</p>
Year 4	<p>Year 4 are forever making Miss Hathway and Westover super proud! It was amazing to see so many Year 4 pupils involved in both the carol concert at Guildhall as well as Rocksteady concerts this week! We enjoyed seeing their confidence and enthusiasm at the forefront of it all. Even those who didn't perform got involved with rehearsals and enjoyed being part of the audience!</p> <p>In English this week, we have had our creative hats on creating our own versions of 'There's a Rang-Tan in My Bedroom'. The children have really thought through their rhyme scheme, use of repetition and structure whilst considering how to get the message of deforestation across. In maths, we have been looking at interpreting data and constructing a range of graphs whilst consolidating our learning of different topics in foundation subjects in the afternoons.</p>
Year 5	<p>As we come to the end of term, we have now finished our fractions unit which, on the whole, we have nailed! We completed a fractions assessment today which will then determine our next steps for interventions next week. In DT, we are beginning to finish our pop-up books, and they are looking amazing! We are excited to read these with the younger children next week. Our History learning about Ancient Greece is also coming to an end. We have learnt about primary and secondary sources, some Greek myths and legends as well as the rise and fall of Athens and Sparta. In Science, we are excited to get our double-page spreads showcasing all of our Space learning from this week. Watch this space (excuse the pun!)</p>
Year 6	<p>Year 6 have had a brilliant week this week. We have got stuck into our percentages unit in maths, which the children are now becoming much more confident in and have some real experts in the class as well! We have finished our class text, Coraline, and the children are now writing a report based on one of the strange happenings from the book, in which they edited and adapted today as a final draft - it has been lovely</p>

	<p>to see the use of formal language come in and children be really creative with the phrases they are using to make theirs stand out. In our reading lessons, we have focused specifically on impressions and evidence, working on 3-mark SATs style questions that some children had asked to focus on - lovely to see them taking so much ownership over their own learning.</p> <p>We looked at healthy friendships in PSHE and being a good friend, where the children produced some great posters on the qualities of a good friend. We also have had the pleasure of watching our friends perform their RockSteady Concert (well done to all involved!) the children loved it.</p>
Senior Team Update	<p>It has been very busy with lots of parents coming into school this week to enjoy pre-school Christmas stay and play – they sang Jingle bells brilliantly lots of times! And enjoyed showing their parents around the setting.</p> <p>A selection from year 3 and 4 enjoyed singing at the guildhall thanks to Miss Hathway, Mrs Hattersley, Miss Harman and Mrs Hayward. I have heard many great things about your children.</p> <p>Rock steady bands this week also performed to family and friends – the children really got into rock star mode and got all of us joining in and enjoying their music. We are also having exit points currently – we are so grateful that many of you can make time for this we know it is hard when people are working.</p> <p>Lots more next week with nativity for year R and 1 and carols for year 2 and 3. We look forward to seeing more of you then.</p>

PE Day reminder

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Pufferfish (YR) Sharks (5) Turtles (6)	Starfish (Pre-Schl) Dolphin (1) Penguins (2) Seals (3) Sea Otters (4)	Turtles (6)	Pufferfish (YR) Penguins (2) Seals (3)	Dolphins (1) Sea Otters (4) Sharks (5)

Library Day reminder

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

Year 2 and 3 Carols

We are delighted to let you know the final arrangements for our Year 2 and 3 Carols. This year we want all children in Penguins and Seals to take part so we will be inviting parents to join us at 2:30pm in the school hall for this festive celebration. This means we will be able to sing whatever the weather! Please enter the hall through reception at 2:30pm 🎄

Parking outside school – Drop off and Pick up

In order to keep every child safe at busy times, please be mindful of where you stop to drop off or pick up your children, especially in bad weather when visibility may be poor. Kindly refrain from parking on the zig-zags between 8am and 4pm.

Below is the PCC site for raising any concerns about parking/dropping off on restricted road use areas, such as our zig zag lines.

[Contact us - Portsmouth City Council - Contact reason - My Portsmouth](#)

A Note on Dangerous Gifts - Child Accident Prevention Trust

The Child Accident Prevention Trust has published a list of eight gifts most likely to cause an accident this year. If interested please follow the link below. It's always important to remember that prevention is always better than repairing.

<https://capt.org.uk/8-dangerous-gifts-to-avoid-this-christmas/>

Missed Flu Immunisation

If your child missed the Flu immunisation session in school, they are still eligible to have the flu vaccination, and appointments are available in community clinics. If you would like your child to receive the flu vaccination, please follow the link below:

<https://links.inhealthcare.co.uk/solent-portsmouth-flu>

School URN: 142602

Packed lunches

No nuts or nut products to be sent into school. We have several children and adults with life threatening allergies. A reminder that this includes **hazelnut chocolate spreads such as Nutella.**

Thank you for your support.

Wrap around care

Our breakfast and after school club are for Years R-6 providing care 7.30-6.00. Please book via MCAS App. These are becoming very popular so it is important you book and pay for your child's session as soon as you know you will need a space. We cannot guarantee a space will be available for last minute bookings. We will be looking to employ additional staff so we can increase numbers.

The Breakfast and After School Club policies are on our website. We require at least 24 hours notice to cancel a place or you will be charged the full cost of the space.

Please note we are now a cashless school.



A Christmas Wish...

Saturday 23 November – Sunday 5 January

Discover the magic of Christmas and join Santa's elves on a festive adventure at Fort Nelson. Follow the trail and have a go at sorting presents, preparing reindeer food, plus lots of other magical activities.

FREE ADMISSION
Book your tickets now
www.royalarmouries.org

ROYAL ARMOURIES
FORT NELSON | PORTSMOUTH | PO17 6AN



Census Day Carnival Menu
16th January

Crispy Chicken fillet served
with chips

Veggie dippers served with
chips



Baked beans
Sweetcorn



Mini doughnuts and fruit

Jacket potatoes with also be
available

