



## WEST KIRBY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Welcoming - Kind - Polite - Successful

Anglesey Road, West Kirby, Wirral, CH48 5EQ

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[www.westkirbyprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.westkirbyprimaryschool.co.uk)

3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023

Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome back to the second half of our autumn term. This half term takes us right up to Christmas as school closes for Christmas on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December.

### PTA

Thank you to our PTA team for organising the Halloween Discos and the EYFS Halloween Party. The events were all really well attended and the children appeared to really enjoy themselves. It was great to side the variety and creativity of their spooky costumes. Our PTA are currently supporting us to have enough funds to purchase new interactive whiteboards in four of our classrooms which really need updated technology. Therefore, all your support and contributions really do matter and will enable us to make these changes to further improve the Teaching and Learning for the children.

### PTA Dates for your diary...



The poster features a light blue background. At the top, there are three icons: a red toaster with two slices of toast, the West Kirby Primary School PTA logo, and a blue teacup on a saucer with steam rising from it. The main text is in a large, pink, cursive font. Below this, the date and time are in a bold, pink, sans-serif font. The bottom section contains more text in a smaller, pink, sans-serif font, accompanied by icons of a coffee cup and a glass of juice.

**PTA  
Family Tea & Toast**

**Friday 17th November  
8.15am onwards**

**Coffee, Tea, Toast & Juice for  
all the family!**

If you can not come along before school. Join us  
in the school hall after drop off for our usual  
coffee morning!

Mats, toys and games will be out for little ones.  
Come and enjoy a cuppa and a chat!

Our PTA Christmas Fair is after school on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December. If you are able to set up, run a stall or help clear up at the end, your help would be greatly received. Please drop the PTA an email if you can offer your support [wkps\\_pta@westkirbyprimaryschool.co.uk](mailto:wkps_pta@westkirbyprimaryschool.co.uk)



### Staffing

As many of you know, our Caretaker, Mr Houghton, will be leaving West Kirby Primary School in the coming weeks. Mr Houghton has worked at our school for 11 years and is always on hand to complete many jobs around our school. He helps to keep the building safe, well maintained and clean. We are very lucky that Mr Houghton is also very skilled and can make many items, one of his most recent creations was the EYFS Music Wall. Mr Houghton is a regular face that you see at the gate each morning and he will be missed at our school. His last working day at WKPS will be Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November. I am sure you will join me in wishing Mr Houghton our best wishes as he approaches his last few weeks at WKPS.

We have successfully recruited a new Caretaker, who will start our school on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November. His name is Mr Baines and I am sure he will soon become a familiar face to you all.

I would also like to share information with you about another very familiar face at our school – Library Jane. For just over 12 months, Jane has been battling with Hairy Cell Leukaemia. Despite this diagnosis she has continued to put reading and our school library at the heart of everything she does. There have been days when Library Jane has been unable to come into school, but she has continued at home to contact authors/poets, seek out new books and write her fortnightly Reading Sways. Jane has commenced treatment for Hairy Cell Leukaemia this week and will therefore be absent from school for an extended period of time. We are keeping in touch with Jane and we are sending her our very best wishes, which I am sure you will also share with me. We are working hard behind the scenes to ensure the smooth running of the library, continuation of reading newsletters and other reading events. Please bear with us if this takes us some time, or we miss something.

### EYFS Outdoor Area

Unfortunately, we did have a sad start to the new half term when we were informed that a small number of children/teenagers had entered our playground and outdoor EYFS area on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October, and had caused damage and destruction. Our local neighbours reported this to the police, who have been in touch with school. Mr Houghton and the EYFS team worked hard on Monday to check the area, tidy the area and fix items that had been broken. We are very lucky that the damage was not extensive. No damage was made to our school building and the intruders did not gain any access into school. We became aware that our older children were aware of these events so we have spoken to Year 5 and Year 6 about this event, and hope that we have reassured them.

As a community school, if you do ever see anything happening on our property in the evenings, at the weekend or in the school holidays and you can report it to the police – please do. Hopefully, this will be a one-off situation. Thank you for the kindness that has been shown by our school community in asking if we need to replace anything. The main things are new fresh play sand for the EYFS sandpit, new traffic cones and we would like to purchase an outdoor/wooden lockable storage cupboard that we can keep some of the items in.

### Christmas Reading Event

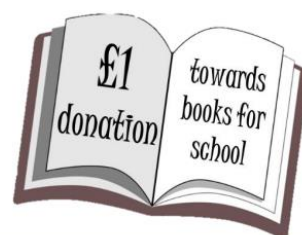
Following our successful Christmas Reading Event last year, we are holding another similar event and hoping to build on the success from last year. As always, our aim is to promote the love of reading and it may also give some Christmas list book ideas. This year there will be an EYFS & KS1 Christmas Reading Event and a KS2 Reading Event.

The event is £1 to attend and we welcome children and families to attend. At the event, there will be our special Christmas Reading grotto where you can sit and enjoy a book, books to purchase, Christmas/book crafts and refreshments. Please come along and support the event. The money that we raise from the event will be used to purchase new and exciting books for the children.

- Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November: EYFS & KS1 Christmas Reading Event (3:20-4:30pm)
- Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November: KS2 Reading Event Christmas Reading Event (3:20-4:30pm)  
***\*All children must be accompanied by an adult apart from Year 5 and Year 6 Children.***

If you have any books that are in good condition and you have finished with, we are looking for book donations that we can sell at the Reading Event. There is a book donations box in the main school entrance, please drop in any donations that you have.

# WKPS CHRISTMAS READING ADVENT



Begin the countdown to Christmas with a little read every day and support our school to raise money for brilliant books!



Come and join us for two festive evenings of reading, crafts, second hand book sale, refreshments and a chance to win a Christmas reading hamper!

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November

EYFS & KS1 pupils & families

3.20pm - 4.30pm

School hall

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November

KS2 pupils & families

3.20pm - 4.30pm

School hall

## Important Dates

These are some of the upcoming dates for the next few weeks

- Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November: Individual Pupil Photographs
- Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November: EYFS Open Morning (10:00am – 12 noon)
- Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November: Remembrance Sunday
- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November: World Kindness Day
- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November: Anti-Bullying Week
- Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November: EYFS Open Day
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November: Year 5 Assembly (9:00am) Parents & Carers Welcome
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November: Children In Need (Donations welcome via Parent Pay – no cash into school for this event)
- Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November: West Kirby Christmas Light Switch on (WKPS Choir singing)
- Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November: Year 5 and Year 6 Puberty Lessons – more details to follow
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November: Understanding and Supporting your child with worries (9:00am-10:00am)
- Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November: EYFS & KS1 Christmas Reading Event (3:20-4:30pm)
- Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November: EYFS Visit to West Kirby United Reformed Church (am)
- Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November: Altu Drama Performance for Key Stage Two
- Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November: KS2 Christmas Reading Event (3:20-4:30pm)
- Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December: Christmas Fair (after school)
- Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December: Year 5 Visit to West Kirby United Reformed Church (am)
- Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December: Year 6 Visit to West Kirby United Reformed Church (am)

*\*Please note this is not all the dates, please keep checking the online calendar on our school website for added dates/events. [West Kirby Primary School - Calendar](#) The Christmas Performance dates and times for EYFS and KS1 can be found on the school calendar.*

## Safety

Our school gates open at 8:30am, please can I request that the children do not arrive any earlier than this unless they are attending WAVES.

With the exception of Year 5 and Year 6, the children should not be left unsupervised on the playground between 8:30am and 8:40am. Please ensure that your child is accompanied by an adult until the whistle goes at 8:40am.

If you require a booking for WAVES, please contact the school office. WAVES operates from 7:45am -8:40am and then after school from 3:20pm – 5:45pm.

## Online Safety

Each month we share our Online Safety Newsletter with Parents & Carers. Our November edition is now available on our website and is also attached to this email. November's edition shares information about Roblox, Playstations, WhatsApp, Tik Tok and EA Sports FC 24. Please take some time to familiarise yourself with the latest online safety information.

## Mental Health Support Team (MHST)

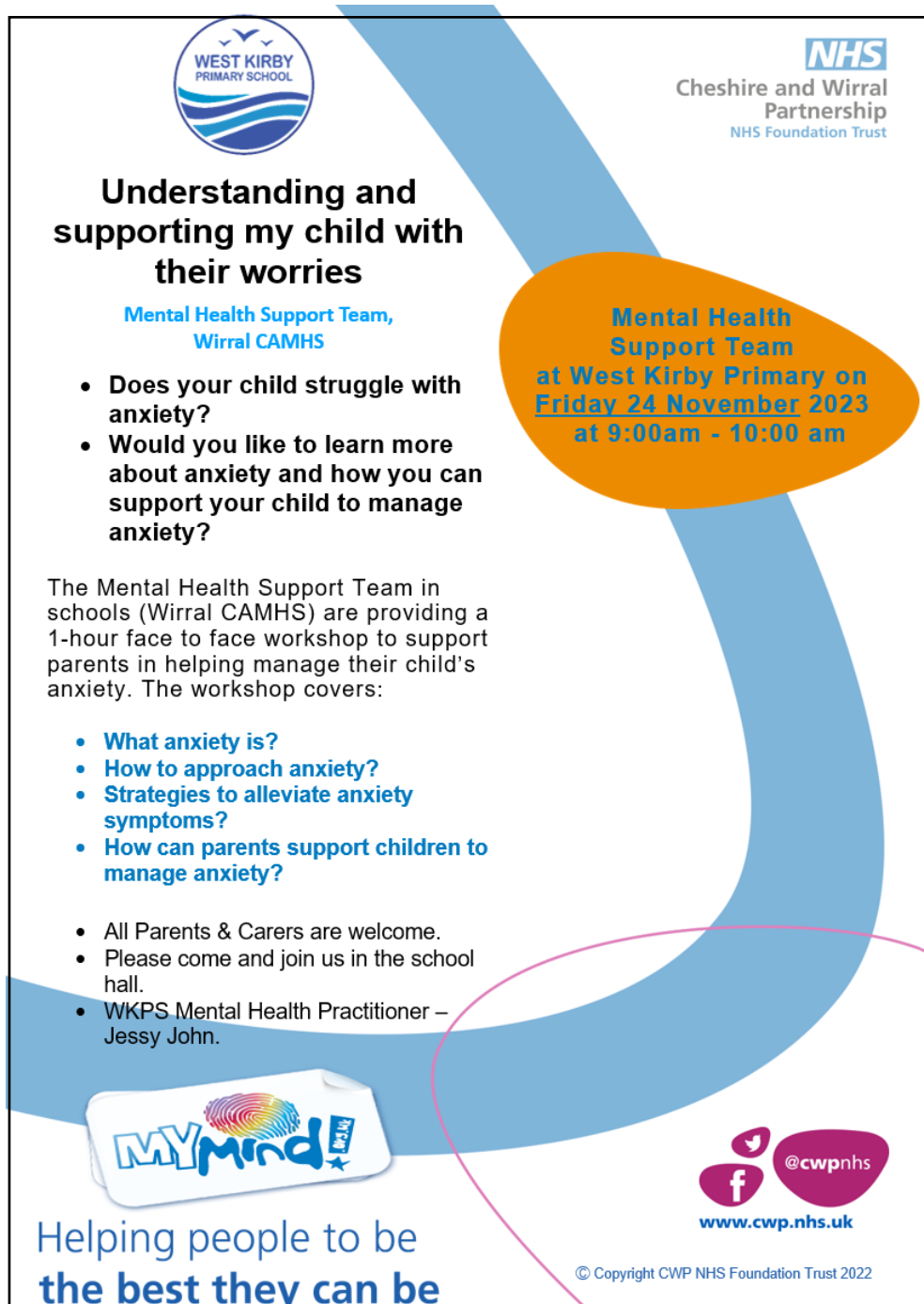
The MHST support have been working in our school for a few years, this is following national funding for all schools to be able to support children who may need it. Our Mental Health Practitioner is called Jessy and she has successfully worked with a number of our families.



Jessy works with children and/or families where the children may be experiencing worries, low self-esteem, anxiety and many other different aspects. There is a referral process to this, which is straight forward and nothing to worry about. If you feel this may be useful for your child, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher or myself. Supporting the mental health and wellbeing of all our children is really important to us at WKPS and we have seen the positive work which has emerged following children/families engaging with the MHST team.

Jessy is going to be working alongside WKPS this year to develop the role of wellbeing ambassadors. Key Stage Two have an assembly next Tuesday to learn more about wellbeing ambassadors and will also meet Jessy.

In addition, we are lucky that Jessy is able to offer a Parent/Carer workshop this month on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November. The focus of this workshop is 'Understanding and supporting my child with worries.' The workshop will take place in the school hall from 9:00-10:00am. Please come along – Parents and Carers are warmly invited. Parenting is not an easy task, and we all look for tips and ideas along the way.



**WEST KIRBY PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**NHS**  
Cheshire and Wirral Partnership  
NHS Foundation Trust

## Understanding and supporting my child with their worries

Mental Health Support Team,  
Wirral CAMHS

- Does your child struggle with anxiety?
- Would you like to learn more about anxiety and how you can support your child to manage anxiety?

The Mental Health Support Team in schools (Wirral CAMHS) are providing a 1-hour face to face workshop to support parents in helping manage their child's anxiety. The workshop covers:

- What anxiety is?
- How to approach anxiety?
- Strategies to alleviate anxiety symptoms?
- How can parents support children to manage anxiety?

- All Parents & Carers are welcome.
- Please come and join us in the school hall.
- WKPS Mental Health Practitioner – Jessy John.

**Mental Health Support Team at West Kirby Primary on Friday 24 November 2023 at 9:00am - 10:00 am**

**MY Mind!**

Helping people to be  
**the best they can be**

**@cwpnhs**  
**www.cwp.nhs.uk**

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### Nuts

A reminder that we are a nut free school. Our school kitchen has no nut products or products that may contain nuts. We have children in our school who have nut allergies. Therefore, we politely ask that there are no nut products in snacks or lunchboxes – this includes Nutella items and Munchy Bars.

### Parent Pay

Please ensure that you credit your child's Parent Pay account **prior** to requesting a lunch in school. Your account should not be in debt. We have noticed a few accounts that are not up to date.

### Contact us

If you have any further questions or queries, please contact our phase leaders using the key stage emails. We will do our best to get back to you as soon as we can.

Phase	Phase Leader	Phase Email address
EYFS	Mrs Catt	<a href="mailto:eyfs@westkirbyprimaryschool.co.uk">eyfs@westkirbyprimaryschool.co.uk</a>
KS1	Mrs Hughes	<a href="mailto:ks1@westkirbyprimaryschool.co.uk">ks1@westkirbyprimaryschool.co.uk</a>
LKS2	Mr Procter	<a href="mailto:lks2@westkirbyprimaryschool.co.uk">lks2@westkirbyprimaryschool.co.uk</a>
UKS2	Mrs McCann	<a href="mailto:uks2@westkirbyprimaryschool.co.uk">uks2@westkirbyprimaryschool.co.uk</a>
	School Office	<a href="mailto:schooloffice@westkirby-primary.wirral.sch.uk">schooloffice@westkirby-primary.wirral.sch.uk</a>



Bonfire Night falls this weekend, if you are attending events or organising your own events, please stay safe and have an enjoyable time. Have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing you at 8:40am on Monday.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs E Bailey  
Headteacher