



# WEST HADDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter No. 6

11<sup>th</sup> October 2024

## Weekly Spelling Practice

We really appreciate your support in helping your child learn their weekly spellings. Teachers base these on rules taught within the National Curriculum and statutory words set by the DFE. Our long term aim is that children start to use these words more frequently, building a larger vocabulary as well as using them within their writing across the range of subjects taught. There are many different ways spelling can be learnt:

- Look and say and write and cover and check
- A few a day
- Breaking words down into syllables
- Make connections to spelling rules
- Put the words within sentences to add meaning
- Make connections to pictures or mnemonics.
- Have fun with words
- And many more

We would recommend that you try to set a regular time for learning these words throughout the week so that children can repeatedly practise spellings and that this can be transferred into their long term memory.

## OUR VALUE FOR THE MONTH IS RESPECT

### School Council

Our School Council have chosen to support the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association and are busy organising an event. On Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October we are holding a non-uniform day (in exchange for £1) to raise funds for Guide Dogs. There will also be a cake sale after school too. Please bring any cup cake donations to the school office. Many thanks.



## HEADTEACHER AWARDS/VALUE STARS



## Attendance and Holiday Absence

There have been some major changes to our school attendance policy this year and over the past couple of weeks we have flagged our new policy in our weekly newsletter. Some of the main changes are linked to what school can authorise and term time holidays.

Key changes include:

- A new term time absence form instead of emailing the office.
- A tougher Government stance on term time absences
- Increased fixed penalty notices
- Tougher action for families who take regular term time holidays.

## Walking and Cycling to School

Walking, cycling and scooting are great ways to travel to school, particularly when adults walk with their child. As the children grow older some parents request that children walk to school on their own – we would recommend that children are too young to do this until the summer term of Year 4.

Similarly, some families scoot and cycle with their parents. We politely request that children do not cycle to school until they have passed their Bikeability training which usually takes place in the summer term of Year 5. Whilst we believe that it is important that children are given increasing responsibility as they grow older, cycling to school on the roads can be very dangerous if children have not received the appropriate training.

## Dates for the Diary

### October

Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Non uniform Day for Guide Dogs
Tues 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Parents Evening 3.30pm to 5pm
Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Parents Evening 3.30pm to 5pm
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening 5pm to 7pm
Fri 25 <sup>th</sup>	Harvest Service in Church Enrichment afternoon Term Ends

### November

Monday 4 <sup>th</sup>	School Opens
Wc 11 <sup>th</sup>	Anti Bullying Week
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Odd Socks Day

Please remember to visit our school website regularly for useful information <http://www.westhaddonprimary.net>

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