

WEST TOWN LANE ACADEMY

WHERE THE LEARNING JOURNEY IS AN ADVENTURE



Christmas Key Dates

Incredibly, Christmas is just around the corner and we have lots of fantastic events and activities planned in order to celebrate. We have a packed schedule and the staff and children will soon be preparing for their performances.

Please see dates and times below:

Tue 9 th Dec	9:15 -10:15	Reception production
Wed 10 th Dec	9:15 -10:15	Reception production
Thur 11 th Dec	9:15 -10:15	KS1 (Yrs 1 & 2) production
Fri 12 th Dec	9:15 -10:15	KS1 (Yrs 1 & 2) production Christmas Carols - KS2 (Meet outside the main hall)
Tue 16 th Dec	9:15 -10:00	Nursery production
Wed 17 th Dec	-	Christmas dinner (Free for all children) & Xmas Jumper day
Thu 18 th Dec	9:15 -10:00	Nursery production
Fri 19 th Dec	-	Christmas parties (Year 1 & 2)

We also have the Yr 3 – 6 Christmas Disco to look forward to on **Monday 15th December 3:30 – 5:00!**

We are very much looking forward to the festivities!

Key Dates: November

10th – Odd Socks Day Anti Bullying Week

11th – Yr 2 trip to Avon Valley Railway

12th – Yr3 Meet a Medic Day

19th – Children's Flu Vaccinations

25th – 4LW Class Assembly

26th - 4JW Class Assembly & Individual Photographs of Children

27th – 4PHW Class Assembly & Coffee Morning



Healthy Heroes – Walk to school campaign

Our Healthy Hero group are implementing a campaign encouraging pupils to choose an active mode of transport (e.g. walk, cycle, scooter) when travelling to school. The map opposite shows our school's walking zone! It displays 5-minute walking journeys in the red circle and 10 minutes in the blue. If you find yourself living in one of these zones, then it would be amazing if you could try your best to choose an active mode of travel to school. By doing so it will reduce congestion around the school, help reduce pollution, and encourage a healthy and active lifestyle.

The healthy heroes are also running a fruit juice and smoothie shop on Friday 7th November during morning break time. Juice and smoothies, kindly donated to the healthy heroes by Friends of School, will be available to buy for 50p a cup. This event will be running for KS1 and KS2 children only. We would like to thank the Tesco Community Champion for their kind donations.



Mon - Wed



Thur - Fri



Our Healthy Heroes

Ladybirds class

We're delighted that our Nursery children are settling in so well. They really are a super bunch!

Staff & Volunteer Profiles

We thought it would be a great idea to let you get to know our staff and volunteers a little better. We employ over 100 people at WTL so there are a lot of individuals that you may know very well, but a significant number you may have never seen before! Many thanks to those staff and volunteers who have agreed to take part!



Name: Pauline Van Der Meer

Place of birth: Bristol

What is your role as a volunteer: Library assistant, listening to children read, pre-loved uniform sales and Friends of school events.

Time volunteering at WTL: 3 years

The best thing about volunteering at WTL: I enjoy interacting and chatting with the children and helping to support the school in its learning goals.

My biggest achievement/proudest moment at WTL: My husband, daughter and now my grandchildren have all attended WTL, and have fond memories of their time learning and taking part in school activities.

Favourite subjects at school: Sports, history and cooking.

Hobbies outside of school: Baking, cooking, gardening and spending time with my family and friends.

An interesting fact about me: In my late teens and twenties, I played national volleyball for a ladies and mixed team and also for a ladies football team. It's great that women's sport has a much higher profile.

PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Economic Education) theme

Our PSHE theme this term is '**Celebrating Difference**'. This focuses on diversity, acceptance, and anti-bullying. The core learning revolves around children understanding and appreciating that everyone is unique and special, exploring both similarities and differences in people, families, and cultures. Crucially, the children are taught to recognise and challenge stereotypes, understand what bullying is (and isn't), empathise with others, and develop skills for standing up for themselves and others in a positive way, ultimately fostering an inclusive environment where difference is valued as a source of celebration.



Friends of School



Firstly, we want to say a huge thank you to everyone who attended AGM. It was a great opportunity to reflect on the last year and look to the future. Our committee has now been elected:

- Sarah Burchill
- Leanne Hall
- Sophie Pring
- Kate Robinson
- Louise Stutt



The committee will become our charity trustees and take responsibility for the big decisions like expenditure and what events to plan.

Christmas

We are sorry to announce there will be no Christmas fair this year. The circus in September took away from our usual Christmas planning time (yes we start in September!). The admin involved in setting up a new committee, registering as a charity and reviewing all our policies and processes is also taking away from planning time. Also, sadly the last two Christmas fairs have been incredibly hard to run due to a lack of volunteers for the planning stages and manning the stalls. All these factors combined meant it was just not possible this year.

However, we have not gone totally grinch! We still have some exciting things planned including our Christmas prize draw and a competition for the kids.

Keep your eyes peeled for our Christmas newsletter coming to your inbox very soon and updates on our socials.

Christmas prize draw

We need your help sourcing prizes for our Christmas prize draw please.

Previous years donations from parents' businesses include vouchers for services like massages or personal training, restaurant or pub vouchers and rugby or football tickets. Could your business or employer help by donating a prize like this?

Or could your business or employer sponsor a prize? A donation could sponsor tickets for a family day out or a shopping voucher. We can't wait to celebrate these businesses via our newsletter and our socials!

Fab bricks

Do you have a lego lover in your house? Is your child a keychain collector? Check out our partnership with Fab Bricks. Full details in the Fab Bricks email or on our facebook and instagram pages. One pound from every keychain or gift tag comes to FOS.

Closing date FRIDAY 14TH NOVEMBER

<https://forms.gle/Migw7C5iUgHJHRNHA>

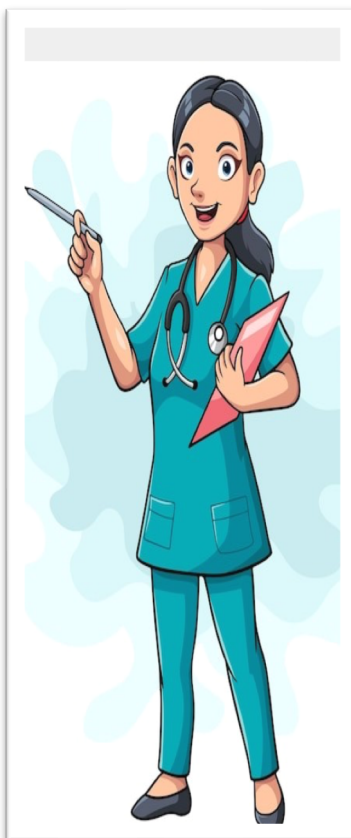
NHS School Nurse

Our school nurse, Marie Bowden, will be available for drop-in sessions on the first **Friday of each term from 9-11am**. Slots are 15 mins.

She can offer support in topics such as:

- Eating
- Sleep
- Toileting
- Emotional Wellbeing

Parents can arrive at 9am at the office and wait for a slot.



Top 10 attendance

4PHW were our Top Attending Class in September. A big well done to them! Each month, the class with the highest attendance will receive the Attendance Trophy and are rewarded with a 'Free Time Pass' which entitles them to an additional playtime.

Ranking	Class
1 st	4PHW
2 nd	3H
3 rd	Ladybirds
4 th	5TC
5 th	3B
6 th	5C
7 th	6B
8 th	6J
9 th	2D
10 th	6W



4PHW

Term Dates 26/27

Term 1: Thursday 3rd Sep 2026 to Friday 23th Oct 2026

Term 2: Monday 2nd Nov 2026 to Friday 18th Dec 2026

Term 3: Monday 4th Jan 2027 to Friday 12th Feb 2027

Term 4: Monday 22nd Feb 2027 to Thursday 25th March 2027

Term 5: Monday 12th April 2027 to Friday 28th May 2027

Term 6: Monday 7th June 2027 Friday 23rd July 2027

Staff training Days 26/27 - Inset (Provisional dates)

Thursday 3rd September 2026

Friday 4th September 2026

Friday 23rd October 2026

Monday 4th Jan 2027

Friday 28th May 2027

**Anti Bullying Week**

On Monday 10th November, children are encouraged to wear odd socks to school to recognise the start of Anti-Bullying Week.



**DO YOU
WANT TO HELP
OUR SCHOOL
EARN MONEY FOR
FREE??**

Here's how you can help...

**BBC Children in Need**

We invite children to wear spots to school on **Friday 14th November** in exchange for a donation to Children in Need. An online payment link will be shared with parents/carers or your child can bring cash on the day.



Arts & DT

The children at WTL are taught a broad & balanced range of subjects. This month we thought we would share some of their beautiful Art & DT work, produced in term 1!



Yr 4 Tie Dye



Yr 3 Cave Paintings



Yr 3 Cave Painting



Yr 2 – Great Fire of London



Yr 1 – Healthy Wraps



Yr 6 – Henry Moore, Reclining figures sculpture



Yr 5 – Anglo Saxon chess pieces in clay



Reception



Nursery – Making Bear snacks

Safeguarding

Our Safeguarding and Inclusion theme for term 2 is Anti-Bullying.

Our Safeguarding Team is:

Mrs Franklin (Designated Safeguarding Lead)
Mr Robbins (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead)
Mrs Whiddington (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead)
Mrs Hendy (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead)
Colin Clements (Safeguarding Governor)

If you have any concerns relating to the safety of a child at West Town Lane Academy, you can contact us at office@wtacademy.bristol.sch.uk or on 0117 377 2295.

You can also report safeguarding concerns directly to First Response by following this link:

[First Response link](#)

If you believe a child to be in immediate danger, call 999.



Yr 3 visit to Cheddar Caves

Children on our RADAR

The following children have displayed an **outstanding** combination of **Respect, Adventure, Determination, Achievement** and **Resilience**, what a great start to the year. Congratulations to:

Ladybirds - Skyla A
Dragonflies – Tadei Z
Bumblebees – Florence H
Caterpillars - Jayden W
1KP – Blake D
1R – Dixie W
1P – River H
2R – Aria A
2DL – Aida S
2D – Mila M
3H – Arthur H

3B – Daisy C
3DS – Cali J
4PHW – Winnie R
4JW – Mollie R
4LW – Lilah S
5TC – Isla H
5C – Elouise R
5H – Sonny G
6B – Ava W
6J – Max B
6W – Milo M

