

Newsletter

Diary Dates

Individual School Photos

The school photographer will be coming in to take individual photos on the following dates. **If your child is in PE kit on photo day you are welcome to send a polo shirt and school jumper to change into.**

Westmere School	8 th November
Gedney Drove End School	9 th November
Holbeach St Marks School	9 th November

8th November Westmere Photo Day
9th November Westmere Flu Vaccination
9th November GDE & HSM Photo Day
12th November HSM Flu Vaccination
16th November GDE Flu Vaccination
17th December End of Term 2
4th January Start of Term 3

Attendance

Our attendance target for each school is 96%. We realise that, at the moment, many children have to self-isolate and this has greatly impacted school attendance. With so much school having been missed due to COVID lockdown, it is more important than ever that children are in school so we can support them to catch-up lost learning and close the gaps.

Attendance last term at each school was:

Gedney Drove End – 96%

Holbeach St Marks – 95%

Westmere – 93%

LET'S BE AWESOME TOGETHER AND SMASH OUR TARGET – 96%!

It is vital that children attend school every day. If your child is absent from school please phone school or send an email before 9am to:

Westmere – enquiries@westmere.lincs.sch.uk 01406 350205

Holbeach St Marks – enquiries@st-marks.lincs.sch.uk 01406 701266

Gedney Drove End – enquiries@gedneydroveend.lincs.sch.uk 01406 550242

If we do not hear from you, we will call you. If we are unable to make contact, we will come to your house to do a 'safe & well' check every day.

Keeping Children and Young People safe Online – FREE Session Lincolnshire Stay Safe Partnership

Online safety can be a bit of a minefield and many of us have lots of questions on how we can not only keep our children safe but also let them enjoy the benefits the online world brings. After our live streamed event earlier this year, many parents and carers asked for the opportunity to ask us some questions. Join our resident Online Safety Officer, Dan Hawbrook, on the 25th November 2021 for a special Question and Answer session for parents and carers which will cover whatever YOU want to know – whether it's game ratings, parental controls, bullying or strangers – we will let you ask us those burning questions.

Sign up will be required to access this FREE session:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/a-date-with-dan-tickets-168597709287>

Harvest

Next week, all classes will send a link to parents with a short Harvest performance which they have prepared. Please do not download the videos or share on social media: this is really important due to safeguarding the children. If you are able to donate any dry goods (tins and packets), please send these in to school by Friday 12th November where these will be shared with local food banks.

Jewellery and Hair Colour

We have noticed that some children are coming to school wearing jewellery and have their hair coloured. Our school uniform policy states that children can wear stud earrings and a watch (not a smart watch). They also should not have coloured hair. For health and safety reasons, we ask that all jewellery, including stud earrings, must be removed for sporting activities and PE lessons, and long hair should be tied back. If your child is unable to remove their earrings by themselves, please remove them at home on PE and swimming days.

Poppy Appeal

From Monday we will have poppies in school; if your child would like a poppy, please send a donation in a named envelope.



Weather Change

Now that the weather is changing and we are getting more cold and wet days, please ensure your child comes to school with a coat.

Swimming – Westmere

Spain Class children will continue going swimming in term 2. The first session took place on Wednesday 3rd November 2021 and they will continue swimming each Wednesday until Wednesday 8th December 2021. Please make sure that your child has their swimming kit with them every Wednesday. Girls will need to wear a one piece swimming suit and boys must wear close fitting swimming trunks no longer than mid-thigh in length. We will need to ask for a voluntary contribution of £2 per session. Please send this with your child on the days they go for their swimming lesson.

Westmere Lunchtime Football Clubs

As the field is now getting wet and muddy, children who wish to take part in the lunchtime football clubs need to bring a change of clothes and footwear if the club is not on their PE day.

Trip to Church Farm, Stow Bardolph – Westmere/GDE/HSM

China, Cuba and Finland will be going to visit Santa at Church Farm on Friday 3rd December. Children should wear their PE hoodies and bring a packed lunch and a water bottle. The coach will pick up at HSM for 9am, then onto GDE for 9.15am and will then come onto Westmere for 9.30am. We will leave Church farm at 2pm, so should be back at all three schools for the end of the school day. The total cost of this trip is £17.45 per child, but this is subsidised by school and so we ask for a voluntary contribution of £15 per child. Please sign and return the permission slip by Friday 26th November, or alternatively, you can email your permission to the office and send payment with your child or pay by card or bank transfer. Children who are entitled to a free school meal can have a packed lunch provided by school; please indicate on the permission slip or email. Updates on the day will be posted on our Facebook page.

Covid Symptoms

If your child has any of the symptoms below, you **must not** send them to school. Instead you will need to arrange a PCR test by booking online or calling 119. A lateral flow test is not to be used when children are showing symptoms, as it is designed to detect the virus when children are asymptomatic (no symptoms).

- A new cough
- A temperature of 37.8 or above
- Loss of taste or smell

Flu Vaccinations

If you haven't already registered your child for their flu vaccination and would like them to be immunised, then please use the following link and the appropriate school code from the table below:

<https://www.lincolnshireimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu>

	School Code	Vaccination Date	Percentage of children Registered
Gedney Drove End	EE120410	16 th November	53%
Holbeach St Marks	EE120549	12 th November	52%
Westmere	EE120502	9 th November	45%

Sutton Bridge Community Library

We would like to make parents aware of the community Library in Sutton Bridge. It is at the Curlew Centre and the opening times are:

Monday – 10am to 12 noon

Wednesday – 2pm to 5pm

Saturday – 10am to 1pm

Kids' Corner

Following our Marvellous Me week, you are invited to design an

E-Safety poster for display in school.

Please make sure you use plain paper which you keep flat, and which has no marks on it. You may ask your teacher for paper to do your poster on.



Westmere Swimming Term 1

I give / do not give permission for my child(ren) to attend swimming lessons in term 2.

I do / do not enclose a contribution of £12 ·

Or I will pay £2 per week ·

Signed Parent/Carer Date

Church Farm Visit – Friday 3rd December 2021 China, Cuba and Finland

I give / do not give permission for my child(ren)to attend Church Farm on Friday 3rd December.

I do / do not enclose a voluntary contribution of £15 per child.

My child is entitled to free school meals and would like a packed lunch provided

Signed Parent/Carer Date.....

