

Newsletter

Attendance

Weekly attendance for each school based on Friday - Thursday:

Holbeach St Marks – 97%

Gedney Drove End – 93%

Westmere – 91%

Our target is 96%

Each week, one child from each class will get the attendance award, and one class from each school will get the class certificate for the week.

Photo Proofs

You should have received the proof of your child's school photo. Orders must be placed directly with Wrates using the code on the proof. Please note that they must receive orders by 22nd November otherwise you will be charged for postage. Please do not send any orders or money into school.

Club Cancellations GDE

Unfortunately, the following clubs are cancelled;

20th November – Mrs Bills Homework

24th November – Miss Hardstaff Choir

7th December – Mrs Bills Colouring & Mr Timmins Football (due to the Christmas Fair)

Ask Dan Anything - Online Safety Q&A for Primary Parents

6th December 6pm-7:30pm

In the Keeping Safe Online Survey of 2023 Lincolnshire Children who reported having less parental supervision online were more likely to report being bullied online. Effective parental/guardian supervision of a child's online activity reduced the risk of children being bullied online by up to 39%. The online space can feel overwhelming with new apps and trends, it can be hard to keep up! We want to give you the information and tools to help you feel confident enough to protect your children and young people from online harm. Dan Hawbrook our resident Online Guru will chat you through different apps, online trends, parental controls and any other burning questions you may have! Sign up is required.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ask-dan-anything-for-parents-of-primary-school-aged-children-tickets-717791562887?aff=oddtcreator>

GDE / HSM non-uniform Day – Friday 1st December Christmas Fair Donations

Gedney Drove End and Holbeach St Marks will be having a non-uniform day on Friday 1st December. We would like to ask for donations of chocolate for the chocolate tombola in return for coming to school in non-uniform. If you have any donations of raffle prizes, or clean cuddly toys, we would appreciate those. If you have PE on Friday, please ensure your clothes are suitable for PE.

Christingle and Christmas Fair – Gedney Drove End and Holbeach St Marks

On Thursday 7th December, we will be holding our Christingle Service in the church at Holbeach St Marks at 2pm. This will be followed by the Christmas Fair which will take place in the school at Holbeach St Marks. Everyone is welcome to join us and you may collect your children from the church. Children from Gedney Drove End will be transported over by coach. Any children not collected from the church will be taken back to their respective schools to be picked up at the end of the day.

Applications for a Reception Place – September 2023

If your child was born between 01/09/2019 and 31/08/2020, you can apply for a reception place from now until 15th January 2024. A letter giving details of how to apply is attached to the email.

County Lines Webinar – 7th December

Lincolnshire County Council are running a webinar where you can find out about county lines in your area, how to keep your child safe and what to do if you have concerns. You will also hear about child exploitation from a lived experience perspective. Please see attached flyer for information of how to join.

Diary Dates

1st December – GDE/HSM non-uniform for chocolate tombola

7th December – China, France, Italy & Greece Christmas Play Westmere

7th December – Christingle and Christmas Fair HSM / GDE

11th December – Christmas Play HSM

11th December – KS2 Christingle Westmere

12th December – Pantomime Trip

18th December – Christmas Play GDE

19th December – Christmas Lunch

20th December – End of Term 2

3rd January – Start of Term 3



Spalding Christmas Celebration

Please find attached a flyer for the Spalding Christmas Celebration day on 25th November.

Flu Immunisation Mop Up – Reception to Year 6

If your child was registered for the flu immunisation but not in school on the day then the nurses will be coming back on the following dates:

School	Date of next visit	School Code
Gedney Drove End	15 th December	EE120410
Holbeach St Marks	6 th December	EE120549
Westmere	15 th December	EE120502

If you didn't register your child but would like them to be immunised, please use the following link to register:

<https://www.lincolnshireimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu> . Please make sure you use the correct school code from the table above and sign up as soon as possible.

Christmas Play Westmere – China, France, Italy and Greece

China, France, Italy And Greece classes will be performing 'Born in a Barn' on the 7th December. There will be two performances, one at 9:30am and the other at 2pm. Tickets are limited to 3 per family for one of the performances - unfortunately you are not able to have tickets for both due to space. Please email Mrs Thomas joanna.thomas@griffin federation.co.uk or Mrs Wiles nicola.wiles@griffin federation.co.uk stating which performance you would like to attend and how many tickets you require. Tickets will not be given out at reception.

Christmas Play Gedney Drove End

Gedney Drove End will be performing 'Ralph the Reindeer' at the village hall on 18th December at 6pm. Children should arrive at 5.45pm to allow time to change into their costumes. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Christmas Lunch

We will be having Christmas Lunch in school on Tuesday 19th December. You can order the usual way and the cost will be £3 per child. If your child is entitled to free meals, you can order the Christmas lunch at no additional cost. There will not be any packed lunches this day so if you do not wish your child to have a Christmas dinner, they must bring a packed lunch.

Dick Whittington Pantomime – Tuesday 12th December

On Tuesday 12th December, the whole federation will be going to the Pantomime at King's Lynn Corn Exchange. We would like all the children to wear their blue PE hoodie on this day. We will advise nearer the date what time your child will need to be at school but coaches will return at approximately 1.00pm. The children will have their lunch on their return to school. There will be no hot meals on this day and all children will need a packed lunch, these are available to order on the Country Kitchen website. The cost of transport has increased dramatically recently and unfortunately, we need to ask for a contribution of £5 per child towards the coach travel. Please return the permission slip below or email your permission to the office. At GDE and HSM contributions can be made by cash or bank transfer to the usual account. Contributions for Westmere can be made by cash, card or bank transfer; we have a new account as follows: 30-99-50 12661063 the account name is Westmere County Primary School Fund.

Diocesan of Lincoln – Boston Stump Carol Concert 14th December – HSM

Children in key stage 2 will be attending a Church Schools' Carol Service on Thursday 14th December at Boston Stump. A coach will be collecting staff and children at 9am from HSM and taking them to the service in Boston. They will return to HSM around 3pm. Please ensure your child brings a packed lunch with them.

Holiday Activities and Food

The Holiday Activities and Food programme (HAF) is a Government funded programme that provides free holiday clubs for reception to year 11 pupils in receipt of benefits-related free school meals in Lincolnshire over the summer, Christmas and Easter holidays. Children and young people attending a HAF club will also have the opportunity to have fun, meet new friends, socialise, learn new skills, encounter new experiences and gain confidence whilst enjoying happy, healthy holidays.

The next HAF delivery will take place during the Christmas holidays from Thursday 21st December to Tuesday 2nd January (excluding weekends and bank holidays).

Your child is eligible if they are in reception to Year 11 and in receipt of benefits-related free school meals. Parents / carers of eligible children should have received an email on Wednesday 15th November with details of how to apply for a place.





The Griffin Federation

Learning Together for Excellence

Friends of Westmere- AGM

Our annual AGM will take place on Wednesday 29th November between 9 and 10am. If you are interested in joining the committee or just want to know more about what is involved, please come along. We're a friendly bunch!

Kind regards
Sally Massey
Assistant Executive Headteacher

Holbeach St Marks Only – Boston Stump Carol Concert 14th December

I give / do not give permission for my child(ren)to attend the carol concert on Thursday 14th December.

Signed Parent/Carer Date.....

Dick Whittington Pantomime – Tuesday 12th December

I give / do not give permission for my child(ren)to attend the pantomime on Tuesday 12th December.

I do / do not enclose a contribution of £5 per child towards the transport.

Signed Parent/Carer Date.....

