



Newsletter

Attendance

Weekly attendance for each school based on Friday - Thursday:

Holbeach St Marks – 95%

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.

Medicines in School

If your child is unwell but could come to school with medication, you are able to bring in the medication and complete a medicine form at the office. We will then administer this as directed by yourself and complete the form to show what has been given and when. If your child remains unwell, we will ring you to collect them as we would never want a child to feel very poorly in school. However, we often find that children who are unwell before school, perk up once they have arrived.

Value of the Week

Each week we have a value of the week where we focus on one of our federation values. We discuss what this value is and how we can live this out in our everyday lives. At the end of the week, certificates are awarded to children who have shown evidence of that value during the week.

Our value this week is: **Respect**

Bad Weather Closures

Just a reminder that should the schools need to close due to bad weather we will let parents know via the Facebook page.

Winter Clothes

Please ensure your child brings a warm coat to school, if they feel the cold, they can wear additional layers in the classroom as well but please make sure these are named.

Inspire Young Minds with Maths!

We are always seeking opportunities to enrich our pupils' education and help them see the practical applications of what they learn in the classroom. We believe that parents and carers can play a vital role in this and show our pupils how mathematics is an important part of everyday life and various professions.

We are looking for parents and carers who are willing to come to school and speak to the children about how they use mathematics in their jobs. Whether you are an engineer, accountant, retail worker, architect, scientist, doctor, chef, or have any occupation that involves maths, your involvement will not only make maths more relatable but will also inspire our pupils to appreciate its real-world significance.

Please speak to or email your child's teacher if you are interested, and for more details. We'll be happy to provide any additional information or guidance to help you prepare.

Let's work together to make maths come alive for our children and inspire the mathematicians and problem solvers of tomorrow!

Westmere Non-uniform Day – Friday 8th December

On Friday 8th December, there will be a Pyjama themed non-uniform day. We would like to ask you for donations of chocolate and sweets to go towards prizes for the children's Christmas stalls.

Children's Christmas Fair - Westmere

On Tuesday 19th December, we are having a Christmas Fair in school time for the children. There will be a range of games and activities where children can win small prizes. Please send your child with a maximum of £3 for them to take part.

Greece Class Pantomime visit

Greece class had an amazing time at their pantomime yesterday. The children did themselves and the school proud, showing absolutely perfect behaviour. Huge thanks to Gedney Hill School for inviting us.

Diary Dates

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



Club Cancellations GDE

Unfortunately, the following club is cancelled:

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=oddttdcreator>

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.

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.

Christingle – KS2 Westmere

On Monday 11th December, KS2 children will be going to church for a Christingle service. Unfortunately, due to lack of space, we are not able to invite parents. We will be back at school for normal time.

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. Use the following link to make your application <https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/school-admissions/apply-school/2>

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 Play Holbeach St Marks

Holbeach St Marks will be performing 'Christmas with the Aliens' at the church on 11th 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. Pupils and GDE and HSM should arrive in school for 8.30am, and Westmere pupils should arrive by 8.45am. We will return to school 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.

Kind regards
Sally Massey
Assistant Executive Headteacher

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.....

