

Newsletter

Attendance

Weekly attendance for each school based on Friday - Thursday:

Holbeach St Marks – 94%

Gedney Drove End –95%

Westmere –93%

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.

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 for the next school week is: **Perseverance**

Year 6 SATs – Week Commencing 13th May

The SATs tests for all Y6 pupils will start on Monday 13th May. The timetable of the week's tests is as follows:

Monday 13 th May 2024	Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar - Paper 1 (Punctuation & Grammar) & Paper 2 (Spelling)
Tuesday 14 th May 2024	English Reading
Wednesday 15 th May 2024	Maths Paper 1 (Arithmetic) Maths Paper 2 (Reasoning)
Thursday 16 th May 2024	Maths Paper 3 (Reasoning)

Please encourage your child to get a good night's sleep, have breakfast and be at school for the start of the day.

Year 2 SATs

SATs tests for all pupils in year 2 will start on Monday 20th May.

Uniform & PE kit

We have noticed that increasingly more and more children are not wearing the correct school uniform or PE kit and are coming to school in jewellery. This tends to get worse in years 5 & 6, however we have to ensure our pupils are as ready for secondary school as possible in all areas and this includes wearing the correct uniform. Please see the uniform guidelines below.

Gedney Drove End	Holbeach St Marks	Westmere
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Green checked dress (summer) Black or grey skirt or pinafore dress Black or grey trousers White blouse/shirt/polo shirt Green sweatshirt (school logo) Green cardigan Green fleece jacket Griffin or plain blue PE hoodie Dark coloured school shoes (no high heels or mules) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maroon or red checked dress (summer) Black or grey skirt or pinafore dress Black or grey trousers White blouse/shirt/ polo shirt Maroon sweatshirt (school logo) Maroon cardigan Maroon fleece jacket Griffin or plain blue PE hoodie Dark coloured school shoes (no high heels or mules) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maroon or red checked dress (summer) Black or grey skirt or pinafore dress Black or grey trousers White blouse/shirt/ polo shirt Maroon sweatshirt (school logo) Maroon cardigan Maroon fleece jacket Griffin or plain blue PE hoodie Dark coloured school shoes (no high heels or mules)

Diary Dates

6th May – Bank Holiday

7th & 13th May – Mexico Parents' Evening

11th May – Car boot sale Friends of Westmere

18th May – HSM Church Flower Festival

13th – 16th May Year 6 SATs week

22nd May – FOW Film Evening

17th -21st June – Summer sponsored mile event

21st – 23rd June – Hilltop Residential

17th July – End of year Disco - Friends of Westmere.





PE Kit - All Schools

Blue PE Hoodie with logo or plain blue hoodie
House coloured plain PE T-Shirt
Dark coloured leggings / jogging bottoms / shorts (to mid-thigh)
Trainers / plimsolls

NO JEWELLERY

No clothing with branded commercial logos is allowed (e.g. Nike, Adidas, football shirts)

Jewellery

For health and safety reasons, all jewellery, including earrings, must be removed for sporting activities and long hair should be tied back. If your child is unable to remove their earrings by themselves, it should be arranged that they do not wear them on their PE days. When planning to get your child's ears pierced, please aim to do this at the beginning of the summer holidays.

Watches (smart watches are not allowed) and studs or sleepers worn in pierced ears may be worn (these must be removed for any sporting activities), however, no other jewellery should be worn. Please note that staff are not allowed to remove or look after jewellery for children. The safest place is at home.

PE Lessons

PE lessons are a legal requirement as part of the National Curriculum. All pupils must take part unless there is a medical reason which we have been notified of by parents / carers, in writing.

Homework

We encourage all of our pupils to complete weekly homework activities which supports the learning they are doing in class and helps them become more independent in their learning. We understand that at times children do not complete these tasks through no fault of their own. As with the uniform, it is our duty to ensure our pupils are secondary-ready, and so children in Y5 and Y6 who do not complete their homework will complete this during break time.

Mexico Parents' Evening

Mexico class parents' evenings will be held on Tuesday 7th May 3.30pm-6.30pm and Monday 13th May 3.30pm-5.30pm. Ten-minute appointments will be available for each child. Please email joanna.thomas@griffin federation.co.uk with the day and half hour window (e.g. Tues 7th, 4pm-4.30pm) that you would prefer then we will confirm your actual time with you.

National Child Measurement Programme

In the coming weeks, school nurses will be coming into school to weigh and measure children in reception and year 6 as part of the National Child Measurement Programme. Parents with children in those year groups were sent an email with information on 7th November. If you didn't receive the letter and want more information, please contact the office. Dates for each school are as follows:

Westmere	8th May
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Stay Safe Partnership's Upcoming Online Safety Q+A events for Parents

The Lincolnshire Stay Safe Partnership's 2023 Keeping Safe Survey showed that effective parental/guardian supervision of a child's online activity reduced the risk of children being bullied online by up to 39%. Being able to keep up to date with the latest apps and trends in order to keep your children safe can feel like an overwhelming task. The Stay Safe Partnership deliver Online Safety workshops in Primary and Secondary schools across Lincolnshire everyday. In this event we will give you the most up to date information and tools, so you feel confident that you can keep your children safe from online harm whilst still allowing them to explore the online world. Whether you want to know more around age appropriate apps, online trends, parental controls, social media or any other burning questions this is the event for you! Sign up is required.

Stay Safe Partnerships Online Safety Q+A for Parents of Primary Aged Children 5th June 2023 6-7:30pm FREE TEAMS event sign up required:

<https://buytickets.at/staysafepartnership/1238483>

HSM Church Flower Festival – 18th May

Any donations of cakes for the flower festival or if anyone who would like to help decorate a window this would be very welcome. Please drop off at the church on the Friday. Thank you.





The Griffin Federation
Learning Together for Excellence

Friends of Westmere Car Boot Sale

Friends of Westmere will be holding a car boot sale on Saturday 11th May (weather permitting) at school. Cars are £5 per car, arrival time is 8am and we will open to buyers between 8.30am and 12pm. There is an entrance fee of 20p per person. FOW will also have refreshments, tombola and glitter tattoos you can purchase on the day. All money raised will go to FOW.

Times Tables Rock Stars Tournament

It's that time again! We will be holding another federation-wide tournament where houses (Nene, Ouse, Welland and Witham) will compete to score the most points and claim a trophy. Between 7am and 7pm, children can log on to **play.ttrockstars.com** and play in any game mode with every correct answer to a multiplication or division question earning themselves and their house a point. The winning house will have the honour of decorating the TTRS Trophy with their house colours and displaying it in school at the end of the tournament. There will also be certificates for the top players within each house and a prize for the class with the most engagement. The tournament runs from Monday 22nd April 2024 to Thursday 9th May 2024 with an award ceremony on Friday 10th May 2024. In the spirit of the tournament, please don't play on your child's behalf but, please do encourage and support them to the extent that it doesn't cause high stress levels or impact on family plans.

Kind regards

Sally Massey

Assistant Executive Headteacher

