

# Newsletter

## Attendance

Weekly attendance for each school based on Friday - Thursday:  
Holbeach St Marks – 97%  
Gedney Drove End – 95%  
Westmere – 93%

### 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.

## 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: **Koinonia**

## After School Clubs

Clubs will start on Monday 22nd April. Colouring club with Mrs Ransom will be on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April instead of Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April and will then be every Monday after school starting from 29<sup>th</sup> April.

## Mexico Parents' Evening

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

## Westmere Non-uniform day

Next Friday, 26th April, will be a non-uniform day for Westmere. We are not asking for donations or for a contribution for this.

## 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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 |
|----------|---------|

## Preschool Places – Holbeach St Marks

We have a small number of places available in our preschool at Holbeach St Marks from September. Free places are available to children taking all their entitlement with us the term after they turn three: the following charges apply if your child starts the half term before they are three or if you wish to split childcare with another provider. If you are interested in looking around or reserving a place please contact Mrs Baxell between 8.30 and 11.30am at Holbeach St Marks – 01406 701266

### **For children eligible for 15 or 30 hours of funding.**

If using the full 15 hours of funding the child may access fulltime provision free. (This is part of our special offer of buy one get one free on hours for fully funded spaces.)

### **For children not eligible for funding but accessing the provision as a rising three – (the half term before they are three.)**

Children may access the setting for £2 per hour.

### **For children splitting funding between settings**

Any additional hours over the funded hours claimed for - will be charged at £5 per hour.

## HSM Church Flower Festival – 18th May

If you are able to offer help or donate any flowers/plants can you please let the church know. Thank you.

## Afterschool Clubs – Westmere

## Diary Dates

6<sup>th</sup> May – Bank Holiday  
7<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> May – Mexico Parents' Evening  
11<sup>th</sup> May – Car boot sale Friends of Westmere  
18<sup>th</sup> May – HSM Church Flower Festival  
13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> May Year 6 SATs week  
17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> June – Summer sponsored mile event  
21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> June – Hilltop Residential  
17<sup>th</sup> July – End of year Disco - Friends of Westmere.





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### School Transport

If your child is transferring to secondary school in September 2024 they may be eligible for school transport. If you think your child is eligible, please apply for transport as soon as you have your offer of a school place. Early transport applications are encouraged to ensure that transport is in place in time for the start of the September term. Applications can be made online at the website below or a telephone application can be made by contacting the Customer Service Centre on 01522 782020.

For more information about the home to school transport policy and online applications please go to [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/school-college-transport](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/school-college-transport). Queries can be emailed to [schooltransportapplications@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:schooltransportapplications@lincolnshire.gov.uk).

### Holbeach St Marks PE Days (commencing week of 22<sup>nd</sup> April)

|          | <b>Day 1</b> | <b>Day 2</b>       |
|----------|--------------|--------------------|
| Cuba     | Wednesday    | Friday             |
| Barbados | Thursday     | Friday             |
| St Lucia |              | Friday (double PE) |

### Swimming – Gedney Drove End and Holbeach St Marks Term 5

Swimming lessons will start again on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April. Mr Timmins will be taking both classes to Whaplode School on a Friday afternoon where we will have sole use of their pool and swimming teachers. Children should come to school in their PE kit and bring their swimming kit in a bag. Earrings must not be worn to school on swimming or PE days. Girls will need to wear a one-piece swimsuit and boys must wear close fitting swimming trunks no longer than mid-thigh in length; long hair must be tied back and all children must have a swimming cap. The coach will collect Gedney Drove End at 12.10pm and then travel to Holbeach St Marks for 12.30pm. They will leave Whaplode at 2.30pm and be back at school by the end of the day. To cover the cost of the pool rental and swimming teachers, we need to ask for a contribution of £2 per week: the total for this term will be £12 which can be paid in one payment or weekly, by cash or bank transfer.

**Please sign the permission slip, or email your permission, and return to school by Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April**

Kind regards  
**Sally Massey**  
Assistant Executive Headteacher

### Gedney Drove End and Holbeach St Marks Swimming Term 5 - 26<sup>th</sup> April – 24<sup>th</sup> May

I give / do not give permission for my child(ren) ..... to attend swimming lessons in term 5.

I do / do not enclose a contribution of £12

Or I will pay £2 per week

Signed ..... Date .....

