

Newsletter

Attendance

Weekly attendance for each school based on Friday - Thursday:

Holbeach St Marks – 98%

Gedney Drove End – 93%

Westmere – 92%

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 next week is: **Koinonia**

Westmere, HSM and GDE Valentine's Disco – Thursday 22nd February

FOW are holding a Valentine's Disco at Westmere on Thursday 22nd February. The start time will be 3.30pm and it will finish at 5pm. Entry to the Disco is by ticket only. **You will not be able to pay on the door.** Tickets for the Disco will be available from the school office from Monday 5th to Thursday 22nd February. The cost of a ticket is £2. Refreshments and glitter tattoo's will be available. Children should bring no more than £5 spending money. Please make sure this is in a named purse and is in change. Children are responsible for their own money. No mobile phones are allowed at the disco due to safeguarding. The Anchor inn will be supplying the disco and Balloons donated from Lollypopparties.

Snack and packed Lunches

We have noticed many unhealthy options being sent into school for snack and packed lunches. These things have crept in over time, as they have historically not been allowed in our schools. Starting after half term, we will be monitoring the foods children bring. There must be no sweets brought for snack or lunch, although we recognise that sometimes sweets are brought as a gift for birthdays from children for the rest of the class. In this case, we will as usual, send the sweets home so you can decide as parents when you'd like your child to eat them.

Snack – children may bring a piece of fruit or a cereal bar. If your child brings something other than these things, they will be offered a piece of fruit or a plain biscuit instead, as will children who don't bring a snack.

Lunchboxes - Please see the link for advice on healthy lunchboxes. Again, there should be no sweets in this. <https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/>

Drinks – children may bring water or 'no added sugar' squash. We do not allow fizzy drinks or fruit juice. Many children have started to bring very large bottles that they often struggle to carry, drink from, and which do not fit into the tubs in the classroom. You should send bottles which are no greater capacity than 500ml, but children may also keep a spare bottle in their bag.

Topic Day – Cuba (including preschool) and Finland Classes

Children in Cuba and Finland will be having a 'Castles' topic day on Thursday 8th February, Children may come to school dressed as a King, Queen, princess, prince or a knight if they wish.

Diary Dates

9th February – End of Term 3

19th February – Start of Term 4

22nd February – Valentines Disco 3:30-5pm

Friends of Westmere

7th March - World Book Day

20th March Easter bingo Friends of Westmere

28th March – Non-Uniform Westmere

28th March – End of Term 4

11th May – Car boot sale Friends of Westmere

17th -21st June – Summer sponsored mile event

17th July – End of school Disco Friends of Westmere.





Times Tables Rockstars Tournament

Nene	271	Welland	236	Witham	159	Ouse	149
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Congratulations to the winning team NENE with a fantastic score of 271 points! Their team colours will decorate the TTRS trophy this term. Well done and thank you to everyone who took part over the tournament - we are looking forward to the next one, which will be held in the Summer term.

AI Chat Parent Factsheet

We have received information with quite a few concerning reports regarding inappropriate, over-sexualised and abusive material on AI Chat Apps. Please see the attached factsheet to be shared with parents. Whilst AI can be a really creative tool and has many benefits that will change how we use the internet, it is important parents are aware that safety features have not caught up with all available apps and they therefore need to be checked by an adult and monitored in order to avoid harmful content being seen by children and young people.

NSPCC FREE workshop for Parents and Carers about keeping children safe when gaming 7th February 7-8pm

This year, the NSPCC launches its first Game Safe Festival. As part of the upcoming NSPCC Game Safe Festival, there will be a free online webinar for carers, parents and those working with families about online gaming and how they can help keep their children safe. The webinar will be open to parents and carers from across the UK. We're bringing together key players to make sure children have positive gaming experiences. And we're helping the adults in their lives have the knowledge, confidence and tools they need to help keep children safe when they game. The free workshop will take place on Zoom on Wednesday 7th February 2024, 7-8pm. Please see the poster attached with details on how to register.

Westmere Drawing Club

There will be no more drawing club with Miss Spriggs. If your child attended this club, there may be spaces in alternative clubs if you'd like to check with the office.

HSM only – Year 5 and 6 – Singsation

Pupils from HSM, Year 5 and 6 have been invited by University Academy Holbeach to attend Singsation, which is taking place on Thursday 8th February at UAH. The event features a live band and Hayley Sanderson, a singer from Strictly Come Dancing. It is a highly interactive event, with performances from the band and then massed performances including all of the primary schools.

The event starts at 1pm and it will end at 2:15pm. A mini bus will be taking the children from HSM to UAH and back. Please sign and return the permission slip or email karen.baxell@griffinfederation.co.uk

Kind regards
Sally Massey
Assistant Executive Headteacher

HSM Only Year 5 and 6 (St Lucia class) – Thursday 8th February

I give / do not give permission for my child(ren)to attend the Singsation on Thursday 8th February.

Signed Parent/Carer Date.....

