



WESTWAYS WEEKLY

We enjoy therefore we achieve

Friday 28th March 2025



www.westwaysprimary.co.uk

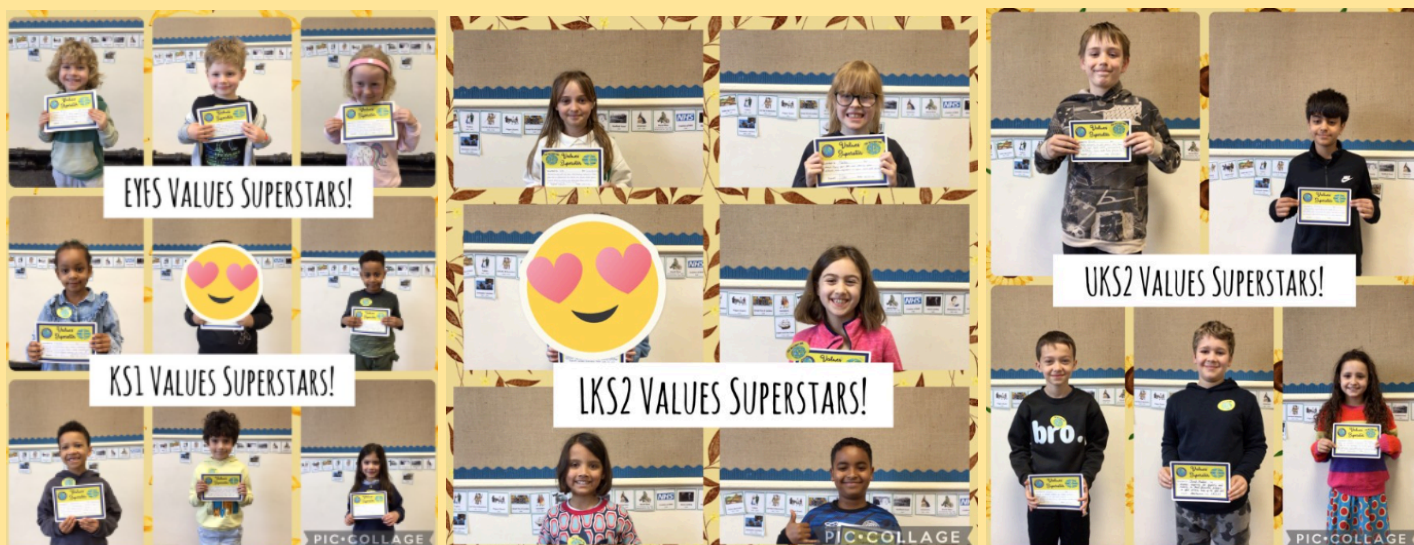
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What a term!

Dear Parent/Carer,

Although it has been a relatively short term for us all here at Westways, that does not mean it has been a less busy one! Over the course of the spring term, we have focused on our values of independence and resilience in school with the children, particularly in assemblies where we often share books that help us to discuss and understand what these mean to us as citizens of Westways and the wider world. Children across the school particularly enjoyed 'Don't Think of Tigers' by Alex Latimer when talking about resilience after the half term break! We finished the term with our final celebration assembly today which involved all children from Reception to Year 6 - it was amazing to hear about all our superstars who have been exhibiting our Core Values by doing things 'The Westways Way'.



When looking back, it has been great to take stock of the variety of enrichment opportunities there have been for children across our school. This has included (just to mention a few) the Year 4 visit to Danum Museum, the Year 5 Halle Orchestra visit and Beasties Animal Encounters, who visited our Year 1 children in school. At the beginning of March, we also enjoyed celebrating World Book Day with the children and sharing our favourite books with one another (as well as some amazing costumes!)

We have also thoroughly enjoyed welcoming you into school this term, which started way back in January with our morning drop-in sessions, where you got an insight into how we teach handwriting at Westways. That was then followed by several events including our Year 3 class assemblies before the half term break and then shortly after, our performing arts showcase, which was once again thoroughly enjoyed by all! More recently, it was fantastic to see the orchestra showcasing their talents to parents and of course, who could forget our Reception children's very first Westways performances which were simply wonderful to behold!

As can be the case with a big team like ours at Westways, there can often be a few changes here and there, and the coming months are no different. We are excited to share the happy news that Sophie Spragg and Ella Whittaker are both expecting a baby in the summer term. We were pleased to appoint Jade Stevenson, who is already part of the Westways team, to teach our Cuckoo class in Miss Spragg's absence. We also look forward to welcoming Nicola Findler back in May who will be teaching Y4 Dunlin when Mrs Whittaker goes on maternity leave. We will also be saying a temporary goodbye to Naoimh Tyrrell during May who will also be going on maternity leave - we will share our plans to cover Naoimh's role with you nearer the time.

And finally, we wanted to let you know that we have made the decision to move away from social media as a school, specifically X (formally Twitter). However, we are keen to continue sharing the many great things that go on in school with you. Therefore, instead the type of posts we may have previously shared on social media will now instead be included at the bottom of each week's newsletter in our '[Westways Window](#)' section, the first of which can be found in this very edition!

Thank you for all of your support this term and we hope that you have an enjoyable break with your family.

Kind regards,

Charles Hollamby

School Meals

When school reopens after Easter we will be serving Week 1 from the new school meal menu - [click here](#) to view the menu.

Term Dates 2025/2026

The term dates and inset days for the next school year have now been confirmed. You can view them by clicking [here](#) or by visiting the school website.

Thank you from Friends of Westways

Thank you for your support with a brilliant term of fundraising - together we've raised an incredible £3546 this term!

Last night's disco raised a massive £1819! Congratulations to all the Easter raffle winners who have now been contacted to receive their prize. We've also raised funds with personalised tea towels, a Krispy Kreme sale, at the Cross Country championships, through Asda Cashpot for Schools and our ongoing campaign with Easyfundraising.

We've continued to support school trips and outings and we've agreed a fundraising plan for the rest of this year, with a focus on reading for pleasure and to make improvements to the lunchtime experience in school by making our dining area a better space for everyone. We've also supported new computer equipment through the generosity of the legacy made by former pupil, Peter Gill.

Tesco Stronger Starts programme

From 1st April you can support us when you do your shopping at Tesco! We'll be one of the charities supported through the Tesco Stronger Starts programme in Sheffield between 1st April - 1st June. Simply pop your blue coin into the collection slot for Friends of Westways and you'll be directly supporting us to improve the dining area in school with noise reduction and promoting healthier choices. The project with the most support in the region will receive £1500. Please share with friends and family!

How else can you support us?

There are always ways to be involved with Friends of Westways - you can join our WhatsApp Community by following the QR code and start helping us plan for the summer fair. You can also support us as you do your online shopping through [easyfundraising](#) or by making a donation at our online shop.



Lost Property

If the weather permits, the lost property rail will be out in the Mona Playground for parents to look through at school drop off and pick up. *Please note: lost property from the spring term will be donated to charity.*



Safe and Considerate Driving & Parking Around School

This week we have been made aware of instances of unsafe parking around the Warwick school gate. Please can we continue to remind anyone travelling via car to Westways to be safe and considerate when driving and parking on the roads near or around school.

As you know, we support Sheffield City Council's School Street initiative here at Westways. The aim of this is to try and create a safer, more pleasant environment for families travelling to and from school, by placing a temporary restriction on traffic at school drop-off and pick-up times. If you are interested in supporting us with the school street closure on Mona Avenue, please contact school at enquiries@westways.sheffield.sch.uk

We also kindly ask that you do not block drives or park on the roads around the school, and instead, park further away and walk in. This includes not parking or stopping on the zig zag lines.

The school is not responsible for incidents that occur off our premises and advise that you call 101 to report incidents that require police intervention.

At Westways, we continue to work closely with parking services and the police to ensure the safety of our children on the roads around school but we also rely on parents and carers to drive and park calmly and safely. Thank you for your support!

Illness

Could we please remind all parents that if your child has suffered with vomiting and/or diarrhoea, we follow the Health Protection Agency guidance which advises that children should not be attending school for 48 hours from the last episode of illness.

Travelling to and from school

It is great to see so many of the children engaging in active travel both to and from school each day - the bike and scooter sheds have been looking particularly busy recently! Whilst we obviously want to encourage families to walk, scoot and/or cycle to and from Westways, we do also need to remind everyone to be respectful whilst passing parked cars and pedestrians. Thank you for your support!

Community

Friends of the Bolehills Ranger Morning

Please come along to our 1st ranger/community day of 2025 on Sunday 30th March 2025 10am-12pm.

Our local park ranger, Ryan, will be there with everything we need to spruce up the park.

Meet at the pavilion, by the bowling green, any time during the morning - there will be someone there all morning so pop along when you can. The pavilion will be open throughout the event, and refreshments will be available. All those who participate in the activities will be given free drinks and biscuits.

If you would like to just pop along and have a cuppa please note that payment is CASH ONLY.

We are really looking forward to seeing lots of you there and meeting some new faces from our lovely area.

If you have any other questions please do not hesitate to email: thefriendsofthebolehills@gmail.com

Sheffield Music Academy Open Day

OPEN DAY
Saturday 10th May 2025

Sheffield Music Academy
Inspiring Young Musicians

We're excited to welcome prospective students aged 8-19 to join us for a day of music making



Scan this QR code for further details and to register your interest!



We're excited to invite all young musicians with a passion for their instrument to join us for our Open Day on Saturday, 10th May 2025.

Sheffield Music Academy offers expert music tuition for dedicated young people aged 8-19. We provide 1:1 lessons, along with a wide range of classes and ensembles tailored to each student's individual goals and interests.

The Open Day offers an exciting chance to experience the engaging learning that takes place each Saturday. Students will attend a day of classes suited to their age and stage and will come together to enjoy our Lunchtime concert! With grants and bursaries available, we encourage all those interested to get involved.

The deadline to complete the [Registration Form](#) is 4pm on Tuesday 22nd April 2025.

If you have any further questions about the open day or about financial support, please contact us at info@sheffieldmusicacademy.co.uk. More information about the day can be found at [Open Day 2025](#).

Westways' Window

Reception



Reception children put their cutting and joining skills to the test making junk models.



As part of their geography work this half term, Reception went on a walk of the school site and made their own maps.

Year 2



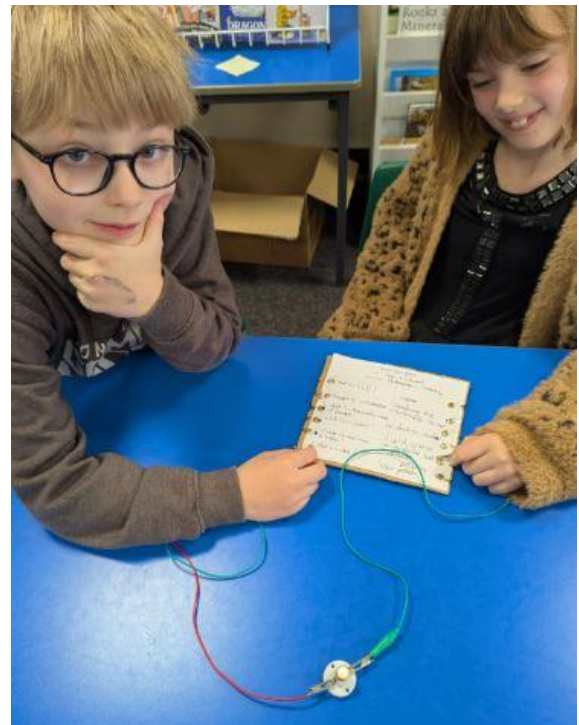
Year 2 children demonstrated that they could use equipment safely when they made their moving vehicles.

Year 3



Year 3 practised different types of stitches before choosing the most effective and making some sustainable wallets.

Year 4



In Year 4 science, the children made simple circuits and investigated electrical conductors and insulators.

Year 4



Year 4 children unleashed their inner engineer by designing and making a toy, which used an automaton and two cams.

Year 5



Year 5 had a wonderful time conducting their geography fieldwork in Castleton.

Year 6



In Year 6, children designed, made and decorated their own Anderson Shelters.

Please find out how we process your information by [clicking here](#).