



High
Performance
Learning

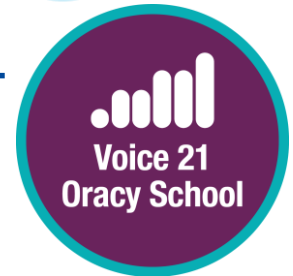
World Class School



WESTBOURNE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

19th December 2025

We're on Instagram @westbourne.primary



More Christmas Performances!

Another memorable week of performances at Westbourne!

We started with the fabulous Y5/6 Drama and Dance Production of *Sherlock & Cinders*... what a superb show: acting, singing and dancing – a scintillating and accomplished performance by our amazingly talented children, led by our brilliant directors - Mrs Bolton, Miss Craig and Miss Steer. Thank you to Mrs Wilson for organising the programmes and the tickets, and to Mrs Mumford and Mrs Porkolab for the glittering lettering.

The Christmas spirit continued with an adorable performance by our Nursery children; they certainly put a big smile on their parents' faces with their singing and dancing – well done!

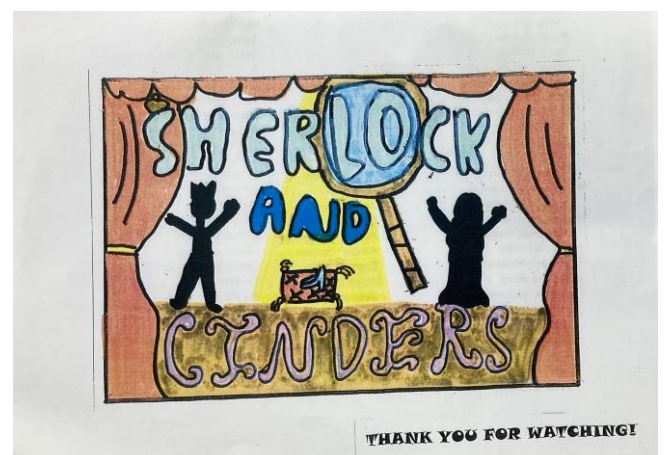
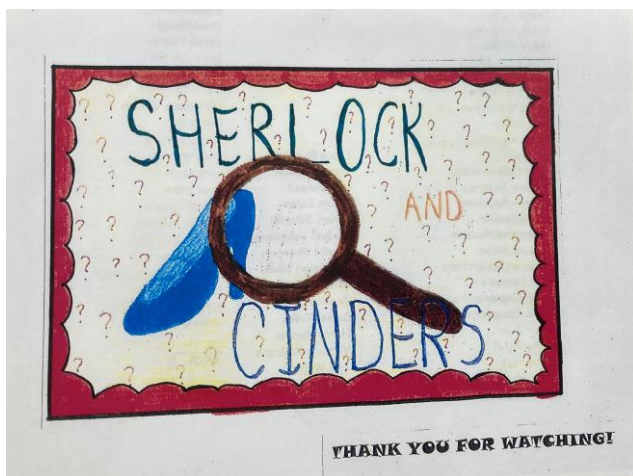
Another big thank you to all who came to support their children in the last two weeks – they were all so excited to see their families and perform in front of a live audience!

Thank you again to all our exceptional staff for making it happen so professionally!

Thank you to the wonderful WFA for organising a raffle during the performances.

Finally, thank you for your generous contributions to our Christmas Appeal for the Children's Trust!

Well done to Victoria and Amika in Year 6 for designing the front covers of the programme of *Sherlock & Cinders*!



Christmas Cracker Smile

On Tuesday morning, 12 children from Year 3-6 spread Christmas spirit and Concern for Society by delivering gifts to vulnerable people at Orchard House Nursing Home. The residents were truly thrilled to see us, and particularly enjoyed hearing the children sing a selection of songs from their concerts. We are so grateful to the families who donated presents, and the Year 6 children who made beautiful cards. It was a lovely, heart-warming experience and a great opportunity for the children to reflect and give back to the local community. Thank you to the wonderful children involved, you have made all of us at Westbourne very proud!





December Attendance – Infant and Junior Classes of the Month

INFANTS – Congratulations to **Y2 Beverley Class** for winning the Infants Attendance 'Class of the Month' trophy with 96.9% – a good result. In second place came YR Ember Class with 96.8%; in third place was Y2 Mole Class with 95.7%.

JUNIORS - Congratulations to **Y5 Medway Class** for winning the Juniors Attendance 'Class of the Month' trophy with 97.7% - a very good result. In second place came Y5 Tyne Class with 95.8% ; in third place was Y6 Wandle Class with 95.7% - well done!



Autumn Term Attendance – Infant and Junior Classes of the Term

INFANTS – Congratulations to **Y2 Beverley Class** for winning the Infants Attendance 'Class of the Term' trophy with 97.8% – a very good result. In second place came YR Ember Class with 97.3%; in third place was Y2 Mole Class with 96.3%.

JUNIORS - Congratulations to **Y5 Medway Class** for winning the Juniors Attendance 'Class of the Term' trophy with 97.7%: a very good result! In second place came Y6 Wandle Class with 97.3%; in third place came Y4 Dart Class with 96.8% - well done!

Christmas Charity Appeal

The School Council, led by Mrs Bolton, would like to thank everyone who so generously contributed to our Christmas Charity appeal: **we raised £521.77** – just fantastic!

We are planning to invite a representative from the Children's Trust to collect the money in the new year!



WFA Raffle – Thank you

Thank you very much to everyone who bought raffle tickets during the Christmas performances last week and this week. Thanks to your generosity, we have raised an amazing **£1,019.89** for the school! A massive *thank you* to Avy for organising it!



Illness and Attendance

Is my child too ill for school?

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school when they're unwell.

There are government guidelines for schools and nurseries about managing specific infectious diseases at GOV.UK. These say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't. Please click [here](#) to view the government guidelines.

We aim for all children's **attendance to be 96% and above**. When it falls below 90% we have a legal duty to inform the Local Authority which then triggers an investigation by the Education Welfare Service. When a child's attendance falls below 90%, there is a serious risk of underachievement.

Support Your Child to Succeed in School

Help your child understand that school is their very first job! Make great school attendance a priority for your child. Talk to your child about the importance of daily attendance in every class and how it contributes to his/her learning.

The Power of a Strong Finish to the Term

– *Don't Skip Fridays*

As we approach the culmination of the calendar year at Westbourne, it's crucial to highlight the impact of a strong finish on our pupils' educational journey. Fridays represent a significant fifth of the learning week, and missing half a Friday every fortnight adds up to a tenth of the entire school year. It's not just about consolidating lessons but also fostering social connections and a culture of belonging.

Let's make the most of these moments – reviewing lessons, engaging with peers, and participating in school activities. By collectively emphasizing a strong finish, we contribute to a more enriching educational experience for all at Westbourne

Developing Good Habits

Support your child in practicing good daily habits, such as:

- Finishing homework and placing it in his/ her backpack;
- Laying out clothes and the school reading book in the evening;
- Maintaining a regular bedtime for a good night's sleep;
- Leaving early enough in the morning to get to school on time;
- Turning off electronic devices one hour before bedtime.

Contact the school in the morning to communicate your child's absence.



Attendance Policy - Reminder

Attendance is mandatory (and a parental duty) – we expect all children to be at school, unless they are unwell. Attendance is vital for the children's education, socialising and overall well-being, including their economic prosperity and long-term health – children benefit hugely from being at school!

In line with National and Local policy and guidance, we reviewed our Attendance Policy in September, which can be found on our website:

<https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/westbourne-primary-school/UploadedDocument/514a8ce7-c133-4850-bfbb-64e542b95cba/attendance-policy-sept-2024.pdf>

Please note the following:

Penalty Notice Fines will be considered by schools, in collaboration with the Local Authority through the Attendance Support Team, when the threshold of 10 sessions (half days) of unauthorised absence (together or separate occasions) is met within 10-school-week period – this means it can span weeks, school terms and academic years. Detailed information for parents is available in the Policy Appendix.



Attendance Service
Cantium House, Railway Approach,
SM6 0DZ



National Framework for Penalty Notices – What you need to know.

The following changes will apply from 19th August 2024:

Penalty Notice Fines will be considered by schools when the threshold of 10 sessions (half days) of unauthorised absence (together or separate occasions) is met within 10 school week period – this means it can span weeks, school terms and academic years.

NB – If in an individual case the local authority (or other authorised officer) believes a penalty notice would be appropriate if a non-attendance trend is identified, they retain the discretion to issue one before the threshold is met.

First Offences:

The first penalty notice issued to a parent in respect of a particular pupil will be charged at **£160 if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days.**

Second Offences (within 3 years):

A second penalty notice issued to the same parent in respect of the same pupil is charged at a **flat rate of £160 if paid within 28 days.**

Any Further Offence (within 3 years):

A Third Penalty Notice cannot be issued to the same parent in respect of the same child within 3 years of the date of issue of the first. If the threshold is met for a third or subsequent times within 3 years, alternative legal intervention will be taken, this may include cases being presented straight to a Magistrates' Court.

For London Borough of Sutton's Penalty Notice Code of Conduct (updated version regarding new framework to come) or further support with any attendance issues, please visit our website:
<https://www.cognus.org.uk/services/attendance-support-team/for-families/>





School Council's Best Behaviours!

- ✓ **Respect others at all times**
- ✓ **Look after friends and school property** - *Concern for Society*
- ✓ **Be grateful for your friends, teachers and opportunities**
- ✓ **Follow instructions given by all adults**
- ✓ **Be responsible for your choices and actions** - *Self Regulation*
- ✓ **Use your manners wherever you are**
- ✓ **Include everyone** - *Collaboration*
- ✓ **Think before you speak**
- ✓ **Play kindly and safely**
- ✓ **Try your best in everything you do**

❖ School Councillors have special stickers to reward children who follow these Best Behaviours

❖ There will be a weekly award for children who impress their School Councillor



HPL at Westbourne

As a re-accredited HPL World Class School (<https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/westbourne-primary-school/UploadedDocument/013b69d7-a2ed-4e8b-a945-632118753e46/newsletter-11th-july-2025.pdf>), we will continue to optimise and systematise HPL at Westbourne (for children, staff and parents, too) as members of the prestigious HPL Fellowship and Global Community.

If you are new to the school and/or wish to find out more about HPL, please find below a couple of posters summarising the HPL skills; you can also find more information by clicking on our website's HPL navigation tab: <https://www.westbourne.sutton.sch.uk/topic/hpl>

There is also a wealth of assemblies on HPL competencies on the school website: <https://westbourne-primary-school.primarysite.media/playlist/school-assemblies-spring-term-2021>

In the next few weeks, **Infants** will continue to focus on the VAAs (Values, Attitudes and Attributes – How we Behave) – see poster below.

Juniors will now focus on: **Self-Regulation** and **Intellectual Confidence** (part of the Meta-Thinking cluster) – see posters on the next page.



How do High Performing Learners behave?

- Collaborative
- Concerned for society
- Confident

Empathetic



- Enquiring
- Creative and enterprising
- Open-minded
- Risk-taking

Agile



- Practice
- Perseverance
- Resilience

Hardworking



Self-Regulation

The ability to monitor, evaluate and self-correct

- **Setting yourself a goal in each lesson.**
 - Are you on the right track?
 - At the end of the lesson, did you achieve it?
- **Evaluate and check your own learning**
 - Double check answers
 - Editing writing
 - Self-assessment P ✓
 - Success Criteria
- **Mind Maps!**
 - Beginning = what you already know
 - End = what you have learnt



World Class School



Intellectual Confidence

Can you convince somebody?

- How can you prove it?
- Can you use evidence to support your opinion?

Can you explain why and how you have arrived at your answer?

- What was your thinking to arrive at your answer?



High
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Learning

World Class School





We're a Voice 21 Oracy School!

Voice 21 is the national charity that advocates for and supports schools in delivering a high-quality oracy education. In continuing our relationship with Voice 21 for another year, we are part of a network of over 1,100 Voice 21 Oracy Schools across the UK that are transforming teaching and learning through talk.

Why oracy matters?

Oracy is articulating ideas, developing understanding and engaging with others through speaking, listening and communication.

We actively invest teaching time into creating "talk-rich" classrooms, valuing every student voice, boosting confidence, and preparing our students for their futures.

- Speaking and listening skills are critical foundations for reading and writing.
- Students with better oral language skills are more likely to achieve the highest grades in GCSE Maths and English.
- Young people with good communication skills are less likely to have mental health difficulties.

By teaching students to become effective speakers and listeners, we empower them to understand themselves, each other, and the world around them better.



Why are we a Voice 21 Oracy School?

As a Voice 21 Oracy School, we are placing oracy at the heart of our teaching and learning across all subject areas enabling students to develop and deepen their knowledge and understanding through talk in the classroom.

In Voice 21 Oracy Schools:

- 89% of students agree/strongly agree that speaking and listening has helped them make progress with their school work.
- 77% of teachers said that oracy had boosted attainment.
- 96% of teachers said that oracy is an essential part of teaching and learning.

Find out more about oracy and Voice 21 [here](#)



Online Safety: VPNs

Important information about VPNs from The National Online Safety: <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/>

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about VPNs

VPN use among UK teens is on the rise – with a noticeable uptick following the introduction of the Online Safety Act's age-verification rules. A VPN – or virtual private network – can boost online privacy by hiding internet activity and masking the user's location. But while this technology has legitimate uses, it can also allow children to bypass safety filters and access inappropriate content. This guide covers what parents and educators need to know about VPNs and how to keep young people safe.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

BYPASSING RESTRICTIONS

VPNs are commonly used by young people to get around blocks on school networks or parental controls. This could include accessing social media, gaming sites or adult content that would otherwise be filtered out.

ACCESSING INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

When a VPN is active, content filters can no longer see which sites a child is visiting. This means they could access inappropriate content without detection. This also makes it harder to intervene when a child is engaging in risky behaviour, as it may be difficult to detect it's happening.

REDUCED TRANSPARENCY

VPNs may make parental monitoring software ineffective, stopping parents from monitoring their child's activities, including their ability to identify potentially harmful or inappropriate content or online contact. This in turn may prevent parents from protecting their children from attempted sextortion or other online threats.

FALSE SENSE OF ANONYMITY

Children believing that VPNs make them 'invisible' online may seek to explore unsuitable internet content, including content which might otherwise be blocked. This may result in them seeking and accessing increasingly inappropriate – or even harmful – content.

INCREASED EXPOSURE TO MALWARE

Many free VPN apps are poorly regulated and may carry hidden malware. Young people installing unwitting software could unknowingly open up their device (and home network) to spying, data theft, computer viruses, or even remote access by criminals.

RISK OF MALICIOUS VPN PROVIDERS

Although VPNs may increase privacy from network or service provider filtering and monitoring, this results in providing user and usage data to VPN providers. Some VPN providers may track user activity and sell that data to advertisers – or worse, malicious third parties. Not all VPNs are trustworthy.

Advice for Parents & Educators

EXPLAIN THE POSSIBLE BENEFITS OF VPNs

Explain how VPNs can help protect user data and therefore may be appropriate when using public or other unsecured Wi-Fi, or while dealing with sensitive corporate or personal data.

EXPLAIN THE RISKS OF VPNs

Discuss online risks, including harmful, disturbing, and criminal content. Inform children about criminal contact, such as sextortion, and how VPNs may restrict adults from monitoring children's internet use and helping them avoid these risks.

FREE ISN'T FREE

Discuss the risk of 'free' VPNs and how they may sell or use people's data, which adds privacy risks. Additionally, discuss the potential for added malware in VPN downloads, and how these compromise devices and apps, leading to potential fraud or theft.

CHECK DEVICES FOR VPNs

VPNs can be installed as both apps and browser extensions, so regularly check these on the devices used by the young people in your care. If they have been using VPNs, discuss it, listen to their reasoning, and inform them of the associated risks. In some cases, it may be appropriate to block VPN use via parental controls and other settings.

DISCUSS ONLINE BOUNDARIES

Reinforce the importance of keeping safe online and how filtering and monitoring helps keep young people safe – explain this to them rather than just 'being strict'. Encourage an open conversation around what they're accessing and why.

Meet Our Expert

This guide has been created in collaboration with Gary Henderson, director of IT at a large independent school in the UK, an ambassador for the Association of Network Managers in Education and the Vice Chair of the Independent Schools Council Digital Advisory Group.

#WakeUpWednesday
The National College

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 /www.thenationalcollege
 @wake.up.wednesday
 @wake.up.weds

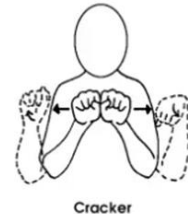
Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 20.08.2025



Makaton at Westbourne

Makaton Sign of the week

At Westbourne, we have introduced this sign to the children and each week there is a new sign to learn. Please ask your child to show you the sign we have been learning this week.



You can watch the clip here.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H08kXISbXkl>

COPING AT CHRISTMAS

The Added Pressures of Christmas can be Tough, but it's Important to know there's always Someone you can Talk to...



Call 111 & select option 2 to speak to the NHS Mental Health Crisis Response Service 24/7
[Nhs.uk/mental-health](https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health)



Under 35s can Call 0800 068 4141, Text: 88247 or Email: pat@papyrus-uk.org 24/7
[Papyrus-uk.org](https://www.papyrus-uk.org)



Call 116 123 to talk to Samaritans, or email: jo@samaritans.org for a reply within 24 hours
[Samaritans.org](https://www.samaritans.org)



Call MIND's Mental Health Helpline 9am to 6pm, Monday to Friday on 0300 102 1234
[Mind.org.uk](https://www.mind.org.uk)



Text "SHOUT" to 85258 to contact the Shout Crisis Text Line, or text "YM" if you're under 19
[Giveusashout.org](https://www.giveusashout.org)



Mental Health Forum & Chat for Men from 5pm - midnight every day Call or Whatsapp 0800 585858
[Thecalmzone.net](https://www.thecalmzone.net)

[ChristmasCountdown.uk](https://www.ChristmasCountdown.uk)



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FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO BOOK EMAIL JAKE AT:
JAKECARRUTHERS1@GMAIL.COM
OR VISIT **SUTTONCHURCHESTENNIS.CO.UK**



Everyone deserves a life without domestic abuse

For support, visit Sutton DASS women-only 'One Stop Shop':

Every Wednesday 9.30am – 11.30am

We have a new location:

Thomas Wall Community Lounge

64 Robin Hood Lane

Sutton SM1 2RG

(next to the Robin Hood Pub)

Sutton DASS is a LGBTQI+ and Global Majority inclusive service

020 8092 7569

cranstoun.org



CRANSTOUN
Empowering People, Empowering Change





Sutton Neurodevelopmental Needs One Stop Shop

Support and advice for families with neurodevelopmental (ND) related needs like social skills, concentration levels or coping with change.

A new drop-in service for Sutton families of children and young people aged between 5-18, with challenges which may be related to a neurodevelopmental presentation (Autism or ADHD). This could include emotional difficulties, behavioural challenges, problems with sleep, friendship issues, sensory difficulties, attention and concentration difficulties, and hyperactivity and impulsivity. Our health and care professionals can provide information, advice and signposting, and help you access services.

- Drop-in service - no need to book
- Supportive and friendly environment.
- Attend as a family, on your own or with other people who care for the young person (young people must be accompanied)
- All families from Sutton are welcome, whether or not you are on a waiting list
- No diagnosis needed
- Attending will not change your position on any waiting list

The Sutton ND Needs One Stop Shop will be held at:

Sutton Carers Centre
Sutton Gate, 1st floor
1 Carshalton Road
Sutton, SM1 4LE

Opening hours:

- 12 January 2026, 13:00-16:00
- 26 January 2026, 13:00-16:00
- 09 February 2026, 13:00-16:00
- 23 February 2026, 13:00-16:00
- 09 March 2026, 13:00-16:00
- 23 March 2026, 13:00-16:00



For more information contact
needsbasedneuro@swlstg.nhs.uk



Education
Wellbeing
Service

wellbeinginschoolevents@swlstg.nhs.uk



South West London and
St George's Mental Health
NHS Trust

Parent/Carer Webinars

Early Years Spring/Summer Term Schedule

Scan the QR code to sign up to any of these
free local NHS webinars for nursery/reception parents & carers

We also provide free 1:1 early support
for parents of primary aged children
to support their child's common
worries and anxieties, or support
children's everyday challenging
behaviours.
Speak to your school to find out more.



Feeding and its difficulties in the Early years

14TH January 6.00-7.30pm

23RD February 8.15 - 9.30pm

27TH February 12.00 - 1.00pm

Starting early - how to help
your child learn practical
skills at a young age

Managing big feelings in small people; tantrums, aggression & how to respond

20TH April 8.00 - 9.00pm

24TH April 12.00 - 1.00pm



Respectful



Open



Collaborative



Compassionate



Consistent



Education
Wellbeing
Service

wellbeinginschoolsevents@swlstg.nhs.uk

NHS
South West London and
St George's Mental Health
NHS Trust

Parent/Carer Webinars

Primary Spring Term Schedule

Scan the QR code to sign up to any of these
free local NHS webinars for Primary parents & carers

We also provide free 1:1 early support
for parents of primary aged children
to support their child's common
worries and anxieties, or support
children's everyday challenging
behaviours.
Speak to your school to find out more.



Promoting Sibling Harmony

26TH January 7.00-8.00PM

27TH January 1.30-2.30PM

9TH February 7.00 - 8.30PM

10TH February 1.30 - 3.00PM

Supporting Siblings of Children with SEND

*(For parents & carers of children
aged 7 years and above)*

Supporting common child anxieties and worries including around exams

24TH March 1.00 - 2.00PM

26TH March 7.00 - 8.00PM

Respectful Open Collaborative Compassionate Consistent





Headteacher's Award

HPL focus: VAAs



Nursery:
Avon: Archie
Ember: Angus
Thames: Adam
Cherwell: Alesha
Ribble: Helena
Waveney: Sargun
Beverley: Jameel
Eden: Anis
Mole: Shreehan
Fleet: Arjun

Kennet: Lettie
Mersey: Krishiv
Dart: Finn
Lea: Sadie
Tay: Oliver
Medway: Amelia
Tweed: Phoneix
Tyne: Olly
Derwent: Benji
Trent: Amika
Wandle: Byron



Class of the week

Congratulations to the following classes:

Infants: Y1 Ribble Class

Juniors: Y5 Tyne Class

for their excellent behaviour! Ribble Class will have access to the 'Top Fun Bus' whilst Tyne Class can go on the 'Trim Trail' or – if wet - use the School Council's Drawing Box!

Lunchtime Awards

Y2 Eden Class (Infants) and Y6 Derwent Class (Juniors) for showing great manners in the dinner hall at lunchtime! Eden Class will have the privilege of dining at the very special '**top table**' in the hall, whereas Derwent Class have exclusive access to the **Reading Shed**.

School Awards so far this year

Bronze: Jessica, Bethany, Sam, Kirish, Harrison, Amelie, Victoria, Isabel, Nivethika, Ava L, Jack, Klaudia, Benji, Zion, Zariyah, Grahati, Maryam, Amelia, Darla, Edosa, Ella, Melissa, Harry, Isla, Daniel, Eghosa, Amika, Fawzaan, Olivia, Lily, Laura, Ethan Y., Zachary.

Silver: Jessica and Bethany.

Dates for your diary (please also check the Calendar on the website)

Spring Term 2026

First Day of the Spring Term

Monday 5th January 2026

