

Summer term CARE values.

Every term we focused on 4 of our CARE values across school. I mention these in assemblies and the children and staff try to use these values throughout the term.

Our new CARE values are; **Cooperation, Achievement, Resilience and Empowerment**

KEY DATES

MAY

Week of the 11th - Year 6 SATs

15th – Class 6 – Netball festival

Week of the 18th – Walk to school week

20th – Nursery Main Man Stay+Play

20th – Year 4 meet a scientist

21st – Girls cricket @ Dawdon

22nd – Mixed cricket @ Blackhall

22nd - Break up for half term holiday return 1st June

JUNE

3rd – Year 2 Outdoor and Adventurous

3rd – Nursery new starter meeting

9th – Reception new starter meeting

10th – EYFS sports day

10th – Year 5/6 athletics

11th – Class 2 parent sing a long

12th – SCHOOL CLOSED – INSET

Week of 15th – Sports week

Brilliant behaviour!

Stars in the Jars for...

Year 3 at the Tennis festival

Year 4 at the Tennis tournament

Year 5 at the Blaze pods experience.

All adults reported back that your behaviour was first rate!

A Week Full of Learning, Creativity and Opportunity!

WOW! It's hard to believe another week has flown by at Westlea Primary, and what a busy one it has been! Alongside our exciting curriculum offer, we broadened our understanding of water safety in Key stage assemblies using the RNLI resources. Delivering an important session on staying safe around water, helping pupils learn how to navigate the world and our local community, safely and responsibly.

Cricket Fever:

Cricket coaching is in full swing, with pupils across Years 5 and 6 beginning to prepare for UKS2 tournaments. As a sport, at Westlea, we have many talented pupils who now play cricket regularly for local teams and are on talent pathways through the Durham County Cricket Board. #BUILDING A LEGACY

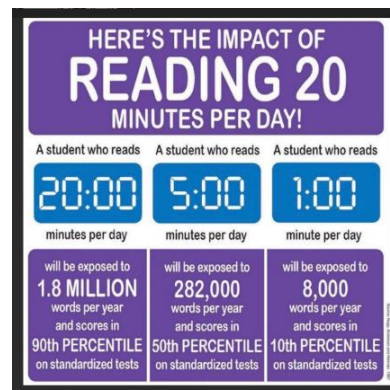
Fostering a love of learning:

At Westlea we endeavour to foster a passion for learning through exciting enrichment activities, high quality text and review of best learning practices. Teachers, as part of staff meetings, are currently reflecting and reviewing the curriculum for next year, with this in mind. We know that learning styles and children's ways of learning have changed and therefore as educators we need to respond and support ALL learners in ALL classes. A high-quality education for ALL- "We learn together to achieve success for ALL."

Another fantastic week at Westlea Primary, and we are incredibly proud of all our pupils and what they continue to achieve.

Mrs Scothern

Water Safety Code



**New month and new Artist, Musician and Scientist for May...
I wonder who they can be?**

THIS WEEK'S ATTENDANCE



	WE 08/05/26
Class 1	99.1%
Class 2	96.4%
Class 3	97%
Class 4	98.1%
Class 5	96%
Class 6	91.5%
Class 7	95.9%
Class 8/9	94.7%

Attendance Update

We will continue to use our Attendopoly board with the classes to encourage great class attendance. Your child's class rolls the dice if they collectively have an attendance over 96% (which is our school target).

The pupils really enjoy participating with the game and finding out what space they will land on and what extra treat that might be for the class!

This week 5 classes reached 96% or above.

Keep up the great work!

Our whole school attendance for WE 24/04/26 is 95.7%

Our attendance for the year to date is 95.7%

Our target for this half term is **96%** we are currently at 95.5%



SAFE GUARDING AND ATTENDANCE TEAM:

Mrs Scothern is our Designated Safe Guarding Lead with Mrs Davey and Mrs Simmons as Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads. Please get in touch with any queries or concerns.

ATTENDOPOLY OUTCOMES THIS WEEK

Classes who rolled the dice this week won;

Class 1 – Extra free cookie club

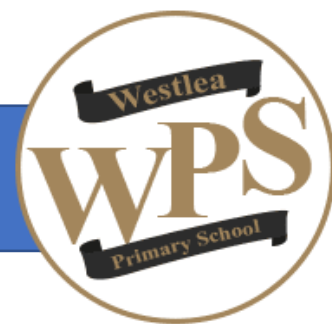
Class 2 – Fruit platter

Class 3 – Fruit platter

Class 4 – Art session

Class 5 – Lego/construction

THIS WEEK'S AWARDS



Head Teacher's Award

Lincoln (Nursery) for showing a brilliant learning attitude and also being very polite and caring towards his friends and teachers. This is the first time a pupil has been recognised in the Nursery.

Ella E, Ava, Ivery (Y5) Showing fantastic teamwork, business skills, organisation and communication skills. Sir Alan Sugar watch out!

INDIVIDUAL CLASS STAR OF THE WEEK AWARDS

	WE 08/05/26
Class 1	Ollie C
Class 2	Nevaeh
Class 3	Alma-Rose
Class 4	Cayde
Class 5	Esmae
Class 6	Erica
Class 7	Ella E
Class 8 and 9	Darcie and Isla D

RIGHTS RESPECTING AWARDS

	WE 08/05/26
Class 1	Poppy
Class 2	Flynn
Class 3	Oscar
Class 4	Eliza
Class 5	Tyler M
Class 6	Ijaz
Class 7	Eshaal
Class 8 and 9	Harper and Kenzi

Next Week's Right of the week-

Article 36 – You should be protected from doing things that can harm you.

Character values: CARE

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Community	Compassion	Cooperation
Ambition	Actions	Achievement
Respect	Responsibility	Resilience
Enjoyment	Endeavour	Empowerment



Pupil discussions:

Empowerment? How does school help you feel empowered?
 Discussion with Y4 and Y5 pupils
 See responses further into the newsletter.



Head teachers awards: Our CARE values this term are... Cooperation, Achievement, Resilience and Empowerment

These are given to pupils in school who have shone outside of the classroom. It maybe they have shown excellent manners and held a door for a visitor or a friend or have shown our WESTLEA CARE values in some way. Perhaps they have cooperated with each other to play a game or complete a group activity or shown resilience to keep going when a task or a learning activity has been a challenge. Visitors and other members of staff can nominate these students so it is very special if you are recognised for your efforts or for just being you!

In other news... Reader, Writer and Mathematician of the week



Reader of the week:

Class 1 – Alfie
Class2 - Elliot
Class3 - Lucas
Class4 – Holly E
Class5 - Archie
Class6 - Winter
Class7 - Myles
Year6 – Lewis and Oscar P

Writer of the week:

Class 1 - Joshua
Class2 – Kayden
Class3 - Layton
Class4 - Charlie
Class5 - Grace
Class6 – Oscar F
Class7 – Tilly
Year6 – Lilly R and Lilly C

Mathematician of the week:

Class 1 - Eleanor
Class2 - Niyah
Class3 - Charlotte
Class4 - Noah
Class5 - Maleko
Class6 - Erica
Class7 - Grace
Year6 – Penelope and Layton

Well done to these students.
They will all be entered into the
end of term draw.

Keep up your great learning
attitude.

In other news... Attendopoly prizes



Congratulations to Class 7 and Year 6. They collectively achieved our target attendance figure of 96% or above for a week's attendance. They then rolled the dice and landed on some exciting enrichment activities.



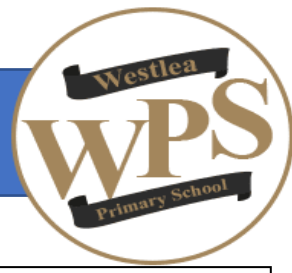
Class 7 – Board games



Year 6 – Fruit platter



Summer Term CARE values



Character values: CARE		
Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Community	Compassion	Cooperation
Ambition	Actions	Achievement
Respect	Responsibility	Resilience
Enjoyment	Endeavour	Empowerment

Every term we focus on four of our school **CARE values**. These values have been carefully selected to reflect, nurture, inspire and equip our pupils towards having a **strong personal character**. They are linked to **personal characteristics** and **British values** and will provide them with solid foundations to move onto the next steps of their learning and life's challenges.

These are the Summer term CARE values.

Cooperation

What it means: Working together and helping each other. It's about combining effort, sharing responsibilities and helping one another out.

At Westlea it looks like;

- Teamwork: Joining in with others to get something done.
- Mutual support: It means listening, sharing ideas, taking turns, and being kind even when you don't agree.
- Cooperating; Everyone feels included and the job gets done faster and better.

Achievement

What it means: Doing your best and being proud of what you accomplish.

At Westlea it looks like;

Achievement isn't just about getting everything right.

- Trying hard.
- Learning new things.
- Noticing how much you've improved.
- Every time you learn a new skill, finish a task, or reach a goal, that's an achievement.

Resilience

What it means: Keeping going, even when something is hard. Resilience is your inner strength.

At Westlea it looks like;

- It's what helps you bounce back when things don't go your way.
- Being resilient means you don't give up straight away—you try again.
- Ask for help, and believe you can get better with practice.

Empowerment

What it means: Feeling confident, capable, and ready to make good choices.

At Westlea it looks like;

- You believe in yourself.
- Know that your voice matters.
- Having the courage to share your ideas, make decisions, and take responsibility for your actions.
- When you feel empowered, you know you can make a positive difference.

Why These Values Matter at Westlea Primary School

Together, these CARE values help build a **positive school culture** where children learn not just academically but also socially and morally. Westlea Primary use such values to:

- Support **behaviour expectations** and shape how pupils treat one another.
- Promote **character development**, preparing students for life beyond school.
- Create a sense of **community and shared purpose** among pupils.

In other news...

Quality of Education



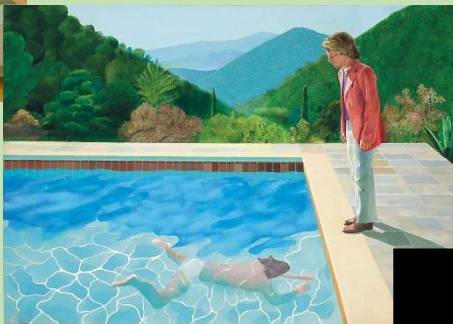
Every month we will be sharing information about recognised artists, musicians, and scientists through our newsletter and also during lessons and assemblies. This is one of many strategies used to enrich the curriculum and broaden student horizons, building cultural capital and representation.



Pop Art

David Hockney is one of the most important painters of the 20th century. Born in Bradford in 1937, Hockney was one of the big artists involved in the pop art movement in the 1960s. Pop art was a style of art that was bright, full of colour. It was made by lots of young artists who felt that the art they saw in galleries was a little bit boring.

David Hockney
(1937- to present)

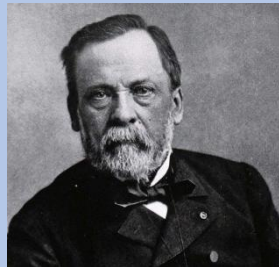


May

[Who is David Hockney? | Tate Kids](#)

Artist of the Month

LOUIS PASTEUR



Scientist of the Month

Louis Pasteur was a French scientist. He made important discoveries about the role of microbes (**germs**) in **disease** and in food spoiling. These discoveries have saved many lives. They have also made food safer to eat and protected the health of farm animals. Pasteur was a courageous scientist who constantly asked questions, searched for answers, and challenged incorrect ideas.



Famous for his work on GERMS

May

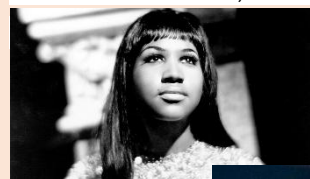
May

Musician of the Month

Aretha Franklin

American gospel, soul, and R&B singer,

Aretha Louise Franklin was an **American gospel, soul, and R&B singer, songwriter, pianist, and civil rights activist** celebrated as the "Queen of Soul." Rising from gospel roots in her father's Detroit church, she achieved stardom with Atlantic hits like *Respect*, *(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman*, and *Think*, earning 18 Grammys, the first female Rock and Roll Hall of Fame induction, and a Pulitzer citation for her cultural



Born: 25th March, Memphis, Tennessee, USA
Died: 16th August 2018



In other news...

Class 5 Tennis festival and Y4/5 competition



Westlea A team – 2nd place
Westlea B team – 4th place



Y3 attended a tennis festival completing 6 challenge activities to practise their batting, serving and passing skills. It was wonderful to see the children working together and improving their tennis skills.

Both tennis teams represented Westlea amazingly, coming away with a great result. A big well done to them all!

I really like tennis, it was brilliant. – Grace



We tried to hit the ball over the net to our partner. – Ollie

I had lots of fun. I was getting good at tennis. - Dakota



I'm really good at batting. It was so much fun! - Eshaal



I liked it. The ball went over the net when I hit it. - Charlie



In other news... Head Teacher's chat

Pupil voice is very important across lots of areas of school. Pupils feel valued and their feedback helps with school improvement. A selection of Year 4 and Year 5 pupils spoke with Mrs Scothern about our School CARE Values. The focus of the discussion was the word empowerment.

What is empowerment? How does school and your experiences help you feel empowered? What is the impact of this on your learning now and in the future?

Ella Grace: I am involved in the **Eco warriors' group** and have been on the **School Council**. I really enjoyed helping the school develop the well-being garden -from grey to green. When I was on the school council it helped with my leadership and confidence. I feel much more confident talking in class. I am also a **Class 2 helper** on a lunchtime. We complete small jobs and play with the children in this class. It has taught me how to help the little ones and talk to lots of different people.

Empowerment

What it means: Feeling confident, capable, and ready to make good choices.

At Westlea it looks like;

- You believe in yourself.
- Know that your voice matters.
- Having the courage to share your ideas, make decisions, and take responsibility for your actions.
- When you feel empowered, you know you can make a positive difference.

Luka: I play **football for a local team**. This helps me feel empowered because I am learning about sports and making new friends. It helps me in school as I transfer some of my learning to lessons and getting along with people in class. I can make a positive difference to myself and my friends.

Paisley: I go to **dancing** outside of school and I really enjoy doing it. I have also been in the **school choir club** and sang at Tesco's I was nervous to do this but then I saw my mam and had my friends with me and my confidence grew.

Poppy: I go to lots of clubs like **Gymnastics, Cubs and multi-skills**. Some of these clubs were recommended by my friends and I love them. They encouraged me to give them a go. Clubs keep me fit and healthy. By going to the clubs, they make you smarter. You don't realise at the time but the learning is fun and you join in and grow in confidence. I have been on the **school council**. I enjoyed completing a litter pick and the school council also improved my leadership/teamwork/communication and friendship. It is fun to go to clubs where there are different adults. You get to know them and talk to them in school time as well.

Grace: I attended **gardening club**. I enjoyed helping weeding and looking after the school grounds. I go to **gymnastics**- it's good for socialisation. I now feel like I can socialise more in school too.

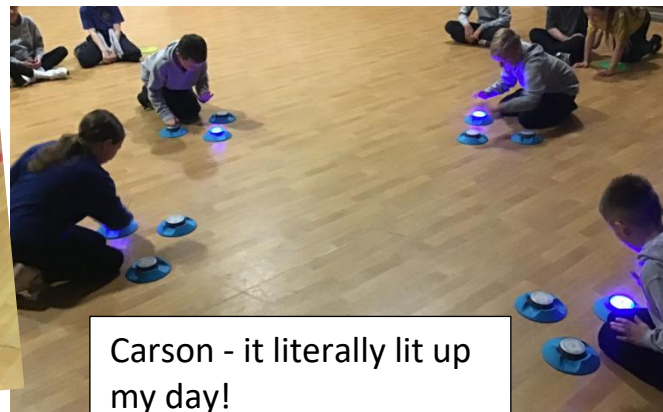
Ijaz: I attend **multi-skills club**. I feel energised and happy when I am at multi-skills club. You learn a new sport every week. Multi-skills club is with pupils from Year3 to Year6. It is good because you get to know other people from different classes and make friends. I feel that I can talk to adults about ideas and they would listen to me.

In other news... Y5 Blazepods



Luka - I loved using the pods to get points for my team.

On Thursday class 7 were invited into a Blazepods session with the school sports partnership. The children thoroughly enjoyed using the blaze pods (light up buttoned machine) to play a variety of different games. They were the first class to try this new technology. It got them active physically and mentally.



Carson - it literally lit up my day!



Aria - I really liked the competition nature of the game.



Ella L - it was very fun!

Grace - I loved the concentration games and working as a team.

In other news...

Tea party in Nursery

Mrs Gunn brought rhubarb in from her allotment at home. The children cleaned, chopped and cooked rhubarb jam. The children then used over ripe bananas mashing, stirring and mixing to make banana bread.



Children showed manners and lots of vocabulary development.



They laid a table with cups and saucers for a special tea party and invited Mrs Scothern.





Artwork by: Jac Seery Howard

All Welcome
Free Entry

EDAN Gallery

74 Church St, Seaham, SR7 7HF

April 28th-
June 6th

Open 11am-3pm

Tuesday to Saturday

Arts Centre Washington

Biddick Lane, Washington, NE38 8AB

June 18th-
July 25th

Open 9am-4pm

Wednesday to Saturday
(Tuesday 1pm to 9pm)

BEAMISH

The Living Museum of the North
Stanley, DH9 0RG

Dates to be confirmed

Open 10am-5pm

Monday to Sunday

STRONGER SEAMS: BEYOND COAL



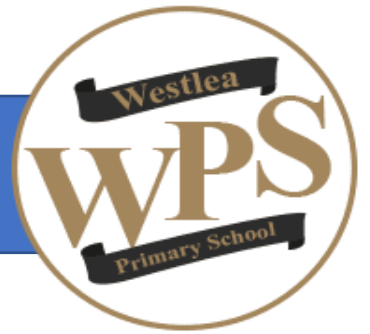
SUNDERLAND
CULTURE



Durham
University
Durham Energy Institute



In other news...
Tips for reading at home
with your child



Follow our helpful tips to make reading at home a really important part of your child's routine.

Build
Build reading together into your daily routine.



Find
Find a quiet comfortable place to read together away from distractions



Recap
Recap the story and discuss with your child what has happened already.



Explore
Explore any unfamiliar words or phrases and discuss their meaning.



Discuss
Discuss your child's book by looking at the cover, title, pictures and blurb.



Allow
If your child struggles or mispronounces a word, do not interrupt. **Allow** them time to self correct.



Predict
Ask your child to **predict** what they think may happen next.



Check
Check your child's understanding of a book. Ask questions using - How...?, Why...? Who...?, When...? Where...?, What...?



Connect
Try to **connect** your child's own experiences to the story by comparing key events.



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE TO BUILD EMOTIONAL RESILIENCE

With increasing societal pressures, many children struggle with managing emotions, facing challenges and processing failure in a healthy way. This is why building emotional resilience in young people is vital for their mental health and personal success. This guide provides practical strategies for parents and educators to help children develop resilience and foster confidence, adaptability and a positive mindset.

1 ENCOURAGE OPEN COMMUNICATION

Regularly engaging children in open dialogue fosters trust and emotional expression. Encourage them to share their thoughts and feelings freely without judgment. Set aside time daily, perhaps during dinner, to ask open-ended questions such as, "What's made you happy today?". This encourages children to express themselves openly.

2 MODEL POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

Children often learn how to manage emotions by observing adults. By modelling calm and positive responses to challenges, you can teach them valuable emotional management skills. If you've had a difficult day, verbalise how you're feeling and explain how you plan to handle it, such as "I'm a bit worked-up, so I'm going for a walk to clear my mind."

3 TEACH PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS

Helping children break down challenges into manageable steps encourages a proactive mindset. Explain that every problem has a solution, even if it's not immediately obvious. For example, if a child is stuck on homework, support them in breaking the task into smaller steps, saying things like "Let's focus on just this first question for now."

4 FOSTER A GROWTH MINDSET

Encourage young people to view mistakes as learning opportunities. A growth mindset helps them see setbacks as part of the process, rather than something to be upset about. After a child loses a game or performs poorly on a test, for example, ask them what they've learned from the experience. This reinforces the idea that effort – and even failure – leads to improvement.

5 PROMOTE SELF-CARE PRACTICES

Teaching children about self-care helps them understand the importance of balancing work with relaxation to maintain emotional wellbeing. Parents and carers could start a screen-free hour before bedtime where the family engages in relaxing activities like reading, setting an example to the child for how to unwind.

6 BUILD HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

Strong relationships with peers and adults provide a support system that enhances resilience. Encourage positive, respectful interactions to develop social skills. Playdates or group activities can be instrumental in teaching children how to resolve conflicts with friends by modelling and practicing calm communication.

7 SUPPORT EMOTIONAL AWARENESS

Helping children to identify and name their emotions allows them to manage those feelings more effectively. When a child's upset, encourage them to talk to you about what they're feeling in an empathetic and supportive manner, and ask them why they might be experiencing these emotions.

8 ENCOURAGE INDEPENDENCE

Giving children opportunities to make their own decisions boosts confidence and problem-solving skills. A good example of this would be letting children choose and pack their own lunches for school, guiding them with options but allowing them to assume responsibility for the task to help them take ownership.

9 DEVELOP COPING STRATEGIES

Teaching children techniques like mindfulness, deep breathing or journaling can help them to manage stress. Show them how to perform breathing exercises when they're feeling anxious, and practise this regularly. Reinforcing this behaviour in young people will make it easier for them to use these techniques of their own accord during stressful moments.

10 CELEBRATE SMALL WINS

Recognising effort, no matter how small, reinforces perseverance and encourages children to keep trying. After a child completes a difficult task, makes progress on a project or reaches another type of personal goal, praise their efforts. Emphasise the hard work they've put in and be sure to let them know how proud you are!

Meet Our Expert

Adam Gillett is Associate Vice Principal for Personal Development at Penistone Grammar School and works on a secondment one day a week for Minds Ahead, which works with schools on improving their mental health provisions.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College