

**GOODBYE!** Sadly at this time of the year we say goodbye to our Year 6 children and various staff. Our Year 6 have worked their socks off this year and we are more than happy to send them to high school well prepared to take all the opportunities that may come their way. Good luck to one and all! We have a number of adults leaving us this July beginning with Dawn Altham who has been with the school for 22.5 years as a Teaching Assistant. It’s hard to put into words the dedication, commitment and energy Dawn has given to our school over the years. Needless to say the place won’t seem quite the same in September. Kate O’Neill our current Year 4 teacher has been with us for 9 years and is moving on to Moorside Primary in September to a promoted post. Kate is a super teacher who has given her all to Westgate. The children and staff will miss her energy, enthusiasm and love of drama! Susie Price one of our current Reception teachers is also moving to a promoted post at Lancaster Road Primary. Susie is also a super teacher who has helped us move our practice forward over the years and I’m sure she will be a star at Lancaster Road too. Vicky Cottam has been a cover teacher with us for two terms and has really got involved with the full life of our school. Vicky has secured a post at Bowerham Primary in September. Outside of the classroom we say goodbye to Ann Henshaw who has been one our cleaning staff for 23.5 years! Ann has been a great team member for such a long time but has sadly retired on ill health. Finally Janet Blacker one of our wonderful office ladies is leaving us to move to Mossgate Primary School to a promoted post there. Janet has been with us for 13 years and is just an amazing office lady!

We wish all our leavers all the very best for the future. Those moving on to other posts take with them our best wishes for success and happiness. Those retiring we hope have a long, active and yet peaceful time with their nearest and dearest.

**WELCOME!** To all our new families who have children joining us for the first time in September. The parents and children have visited us four times for stay and play sessions in preparation for their big day in September. We hope your partnership with Westgate Primary is a great success, one which helps us as a team to ensure your child’s potential is realised.

**FACEBOOK!** Keep up to date with events in school by visiting our Facebook page at [www.westgatesch.com](http://www.westgatesch.com)

**Busiest time of the year!** Every term in school seems busy but this summer term has been packed with action for the children and staff of the school. Our children have been out and about all over the county and beyond in search of great learning experiences.Blackpool, Brockhole, Leyland, Southport, Lancaster, Manchester and many more have all been on our schedule. There have been sports events galore, notably with our gymnasts and netballers playing in Blackpool in regional final events. Children have attended Pupil Parliament events, high school taster days and our first ever Children’s University Graduation Ceremony at Lancaster University. On top of all this the children continued with their work in class and the end of year assessments (SATs details over the page). All in all the children have enjoyed an excellent term and I’d like to thank, on their behalf, all the teachers and support staff in school and all the parents who helped us by volunteering, coming on trips and in some cases sharing their skills and knowledge with the children. It’s been a fabulous term, many thanks. Thanks also to all our brilliant children who always rise to the occasion and who are amazing ambassadors for the school whenever they are out on visits or competing in events etc.

WESTGATE NEWSLETTER

Summer 2015

**Have a great summer!**

**Security** during the holidays is always a worry – we were broken into three weeks ago but little was taken – please keep an eye on the school over the hols and phone the police if you see anything that looks suspicious. Many thanks.

**September 2015** is fast approaching! The children have met their new teachers and been to their new classrooms. School reopens to the children on **Tuesday 8th September.** The school office will be open on Monday 7th so parents can pick up uniform etc.

This year’s Infant SAT results were our best for some time. The average child should achieve a L2B. The chart here shows the percentage achieving this in school this year compared with the national figures for last year. Well done all you children and staff – great result!

**Our Building** will hopefully be growing a little bit more in the coming months. To accommodate the rise in families joining us we have applied for planning permission to extend the current Reception area of the school office outwards onto the school drive. Our existing entrance is small and dark… so fingers crossed! During the summer holidays we are expecting there to be a lot of work being done on the new building to rectify snags and all the chairs are being replaced due to faulty gluing! It’s been one thing after the other with the new build but we are getting there slowly!

**Level 2B+**

Reading : School 78% National 80%

Writing : School 71% National 69%

Maths : School 87% National 80%

**Assessments summer 2015**

This year’s Year 6 SAT results show very solid achievement in reading and maths, with a slight reduction in L4+ in writing. (Figures in brackets are national average 2014). However 90% of the children achieved two levels progress in writing, which is the expected level of progress. In the chart below you can see that the children here progressed in their final 4 years at Westgate as well as other children across the country. Progress in maths was better than the national average. If a child has achieved 3 Levels progress they have in theory jumped two years ahead of what is expected – that’s quite something.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Year 6 | L4+ | L5 |
| Reading | **91%**  (88%) | **30%**  (49%) |
| Writing | **75%**  (85%) | **17%**  (33%) |
| Maths | **93%**  (85%) | **22%**  (42%) |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| PROGRESS | 2 + Levels School | National (2014) | 3+ Levels School | National (2014) |
| Reading | 91% | 91% | 32% | 35% |
| Writing | 90% | 93% | 25% | 33% |
| Maths | 94% | 89% | 19% | 35% |