

WEST ACTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Friday 19th December 2025



First day of school for 2026 –

Monday 5th January

House	House Points
Chiswick House	21,000
Osterley House	21,282
Pitzhanger House	21,158
Syon House	21,885

It was very exciting to count up the house points for the end of the autumn term. It was extremely close, and everyone has worked really hard. Syon House finished in first place, and members of Syon House received a treat of playing dodgeball on Tuesday.

Well done to everybody for keeping up their hard work and efforts, as well as earning the many wristbands and certificates that have been awarded this term.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly welcome to all of the new families to our community. It is always lovely to see new children starting their educational journey with us and we hope you will stay with us.

This has been an exciting term with us being awarded both the IQM and the accolade of a Microsoft Showcase School. These are both highly prestigious awards and reflect the hard work and dedication of Ms. Kondo and her team. The awards will also directly benefit your children on their learning journeys at our school so many thanks to the team.

I would like to thank you for all your support of the school and especially for ensuring that your children arrive at school on time and ready to learn. Attendance is one of the most important factors in your child's education and if they are not at school they cannot learn.

I am sure that you will join me in thanking Ms. Kondo and her team for their hard work, enthusiasm and support of your children.

All that remains is for me to wish you all a happy holidays and a restful break for you and your families. May 2026 bring you happiness.

William Rollason

Chair of Governors

Thank you for reading the last newsletter of 2025!

As we come to the end of a long, wet, but incredibly exciting autumn term, there is so much to celebrate. This term has seen some truly significant achievements for our school, including gaining our **Centre of Excellence status** and becoming part of a **worldwide community of Microsoft Showcase Schools**. These milestones reflect our commitment to being inclusive, forward-thinking and ambitious, while preparing our children for life and for the future.

Even in this final week, there has been much to be proud of. We held a wonderful **Oracy Assembly**, where pupils prepared and delivered talks to their peers on topics that interested them. They spoke with confidence and enthusiasm, clearly demonstrating our school values of **courage, consideration and collaboration**. Another highlight was seeing our choir head out into the local community to sing carols, bringing festive cheer to those around us and representing the school so positively.

It has been a term packed full of experiences: performances and shows, sporting events and competitions, assemblies, visitors to school, trips both in and out, spelling tests, reading books, library books, writing assessments, times tables checks and of course plenty of school dinners! There has rarely been a quiet moment and that is something to be proud of.

Alongside all of this, we have shared celebrations, reflected on happy and sad moments together and supported one another as a community. We have also welcomed families into school through our parenting course, coffee mornings and events, strengthening the important partnership between home and school.

Above all, this term has shown what it means to work together as a **West Acton community**. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our staff for their hard work and dedication in giving the children the very best every day. Thank you as well to parents and families for your continued support and of course to the children themselves for their effort, resilience and enthusiasm throughout the term.

For those who are celebrating, I wish you a very Happy Christmas. I hope everyone is able to enjoy some valuable family time, stay warm and healthy, and return refreshed and ready for another exciting year ahead in 2026. Thank you for all the gifts, cards and good wishes given to me and the staff – it is very much appreciated.

Miss Kondo

Holiday Science Challenge

Dancing Raisins!

Equipment:

- Clear cup or glass
- Water
- A handful of raisins
- Baking soda
- Vinegar

Instructions:

1. Fill the glass halfway with **water**.
2. Add **1-2 teaspoons of baking soda** and stir until dissolved. Drop in a few **raisins**.
3. Slowly pour in a splash of **vinegar**.
4. Observe what happens to the raisins.



The challenge!

Take photos of your experiment in progress.

Can you explain what is happening?

Email your submissions to: admin@west-acton.ealing.sch.uk

DUE: Friday 30th January 2026

Extensions:

- Test **different objects**: pasta, lentils, small beads.
- Compare how **temperature of water** changes the reaction speed.
- Time how long each raisin takes to rise and graph the results.

Congratulations!

Some of our pupils in Key Stage One and Key Stage Two were presented with prizes today for completing our Autumn Humanities Challenge. Year 1's topic was My Local Area, Year 2's entries related to the seasons, Year 3 have studied the Bronze Age to Iron Age and Year 6 participants visited the Science Museum to investigate how we can protect our environment.

Well done for taking part and look out for more Humanities challenges later in the year!



Our school recently took part in a local Japanese restaurant's (Kanada-Ya) One Piece-themed art competition, where students were challenged to design a poster for the event. We're proud to share that eight of our students won and their artwork was displayed in the restaurant!

To celebrate, we took the winners to see their pieces on display. We enjoyed a fun afternoon trading One Piece cards, getting our faces painted and even trying edamame. It was a fantastic mix of art, culture and adventure—just like One Piece itself!



Competition Winners

Zainab Yr 2
Ezaz Yr 2
Aboody Yr 3
Luna Yr 3
Kaisei Yr 3
Ladan Yr 4
Mark Yr 4
Taitchi Yr 4



Christmas Jumper day!



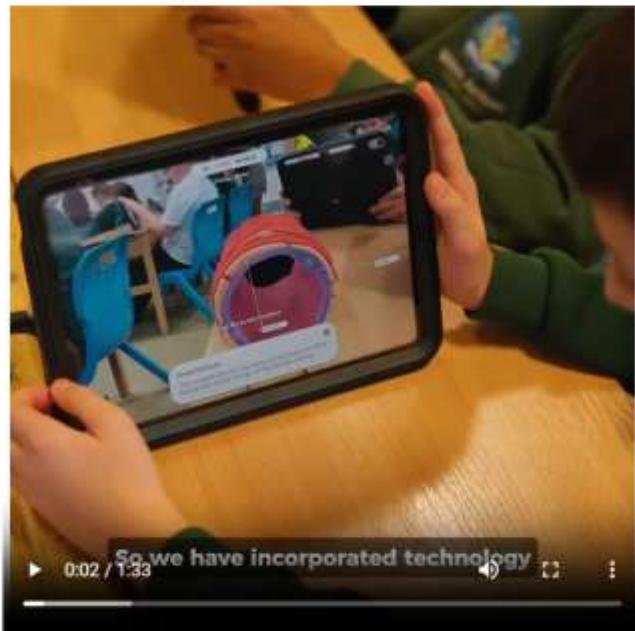
Santa stroll and Christmas jumper day.



NEXT GENERATION SCHOOLS

NEXT GENERATION SCHOOLS

The digital classroom



Around EdTech winter 2020

continued

It is not just about working in books or on whiteboards at West Acton Primary School, which has recently been recognised as a 'Microsoft Showcase School'.

Pupils in Key Stage 2 (ages 7 to 11) are each given their own iPads to work on in the classroom. And, the younger children share devices.

They use tools such as Immersive Reader, which reads text aloud and helps with reading skills, and Translator, which converts text into different languages, making learning easier for everyone.

Pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) or English as an Additional Language (EAL) use personalised tools that build independence and confidence.

'Prepared for the future'

For headteacher Karen Karo, the use of devices is about more than technology.

She said: "I want our pupils to look back and feel their time here prepared them for the future."

"They are learning to collaborate, organise their learning, and use technology in ways they will need beyond school."

Computer giant, Microsoft, gave the

Did you know?

98% of the borough's schools are judged to be good or outstanding by Ofsted.

And a number of awards have been scooped up by them this year. Not least this summer, when 3 schools from across the borough were recognised nationally for their outstanding work and the borough's staff were making a difference to learning.



showcase status to the school this year for being one of around 1,000 worldwide that are leading the way in using technology to improve teaching and learning.

How the journey began

Karen explained that during the Covid pandemic the school switched to mostly online learning.

But once the pandemic was over, it went back to using paper and pens. The staff noticed how much extra time it involved, and how much paper was being wasted.

She said: "Our ICT suite was becoming obsolete, and I began to question whether pupils even used desktop computers at home."

"So, I explored alternatives, visited schools, and saw how technology could be used in a purposeful, strategic way."

"It opened my eyes to what was possible."

In the 18 months that followed, the school combined in-house training with external support and trained 5 staff members to become Microsoft Innovative Educators – teachers who have completed specialist training to use Microsoft tools creatively and effectively in the classroom.

Karen also completed an apprenticeship in digital leadership.

The school is holding a Microsoft Showcase School Day on Wednesday 28 January from 10am to 2pm. The event is for educators to see technology in action, hear the school's journey, and network.

You can book a place by emailing admin@west.acton.oxon.sch.uk

Around EdTech winter 2020

Thursday Oracy Challenge

Reception target: 10 seconds

Year 1 & 2 target: 10-20 seconds

Year 3 & 4 target: 20-30 seconds

Year 5 & 6 target: 30-60 seconds



Talk about...



last weekend



something you like



something you've



a book you recently



enjoyed learning about



finished

Two pupils present to their class each week.



Bug Club



An ENORMOUS well done to our top Bug Club readers for week 6 of this term. Each week, pupils are asked to read and answer comprehensions quizzes online on 'Bug Club.' This is part of our pupils' weekly reading homework from Years 1 to 6: to read for 20 minutes once a week from 'My Stuff' in their Bug Club account and answer 'bug' quizzes to support their fluency and comprehension in reading. If you need help logging on at home, please use our quick 'how to' video on our school website. Here is the link under 'Curriculum,' 'Subjects,' then 'Reading':

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s1GRgexRskg&list=PLg4TaW5GieZR3II4D89kDbY5NVj0jqJye&index=3>

A super WELL DONE to our pupils listed below, who have read the most books so far in their classes in Autumn Term 2, Week 6 or/and achieved the highest score in getting their quizzes correct! We are aiming for around 75% or more correct quizzes to show understanding of what has been read. Pupils have all received certificates and have been celebrated in class!

Year Group	Class	Pupils
1	Ash	Adnan, Mitsuka, Toma
1	Guava	Ryan, Lorene, Kohane, Mei, Yuto, Kaito
1	Katsura	Saki, Keika, Alma, Kenki
2	Damson	Petrus, Itsuki, Haruka, Kloï, Jacob
2	Chestnut	Rares, Laya, Ramzi, Kadeem
2	Juniper	Naveed, Rehan, Yuzuki, Evelyn, Ellie, Noah, Cheya, Zakaria
3	Ivy	Aoi, Muhammad I, Sophia, Yasuto, Wakana, Stanley, Amy, Adam, Florence, Shun, Lujain, Mao, Haytham
3	Holly	Paighm, Emily, Mohammad C, Paighm, Ahmed, Shoka
3	Rowan	Salma, Aboody, Miori, Yazn
4	Sycamore	Emma N, Jane, Khayria, Neyson, Ania, Aaliyah, Haruki
4	Pine	Moe, Taichi, Yuna, Sara G, Ayaha, Ladan, Hijraan
4	Mulberry	Layla, Makoto, Esra, Ai
5	Elder	Itsuki, Soshiro
5	Quince	Nanako, Boris, Hashim
5	Willow	Rei, Mira, Sana, Cassandra, Ayleen, Mehreen
6	Zaytouna	Philip, Tomoki, Mizuka, Irfan, Misha, Alesha, Lena
6	Tamarind	Celine, Sosuke, Anaya E, Anais, Saya, Yuka
6	Lime	Maya H, Kanna, Meshari, Rui, Abigail, Sham
Woodlands	Elm	Elyana, Aimen, Elay
Woodlands	Birch	Adam, Saleef
Woodlands	Oak	Hawa, Samyr, Dorian

KS1 Multi-Skills Competition (Year 1 – Autumn)



Year 1 took part in the first KS1 sports competition of the year, showing their development in multi-skills. They displayed great skill in: under-arm and over-arm throwing, bouncing and rolling. Group A and Group B drew with 122 points each and even scored a couple of strikes!



Boys Football League – RD 1



Our boys football team got their FSSP league campaign off to a good start today. The boys have trained well during Autumn Term which showed their teamwork excellently. They were unlucky in a few of their games with narrow losses but fought back well to secure victories in some of their other games. The boys will resume training after the Christmas holidays in preparation for Round Two of the league - well done boys ☺



Financial Maths with Yorkshire Building Society



On Friday, Year 4 were lucky enough to have a financial maths session with volunteers from the Yorkshire Building Society.

They learnt about wants and needs, prioritising spending, and savings.



PAYMENTS

Communication – notices/letters and emails



Just a reminder of how we keep you updated



<https://www.westactonprimaryschool.org/news-dates/newsletters>

FACEBOOK - <https://www.facebook.com/westactonpri>
X - <https://x.com/westactonpri>

West Acton Primary School - Home Reading Book Band Levels

National Curriculum 2014 - Expectations per year group	Book band colour of home reading book	Notes
Pre-reading/ Nursery Up to 4 years old	Lilac	Pre-reading standard
	Pink	
Reception 4-5 years old	Lilac	The curriculum expectation is that pupils at a secure standard by the end of Reception should be on: Yellow .
	Pink	
	Red	
	Yellow	
Year 1 5-6 year olds	Light blue	The curriculum expectation is that pupils at a secure standard by the end of Year 1 should be on: Orange/Turquoise .
	Green	
	Orange	
	Turquoise	
Year 2 6-7 year olds	Turquoise	The curriculum expectation is that pupils at a secure standard by the end of Year 2 should be on: White/Lime .
	Purple	
	Gold	
	White	NOTE: Children reading at Gold level should be capable of achieving National Standard in the end of Key Stage 1 SATs tests in England.
Year 3 7-8 year old	Lime	
	Brown	The curriculum expectation is that pupils at a secure standard by the end of Year 3 should be on: Brown/Grey . Greater Depth readers can move onto Dark Blue .
Year 4 8-9 year olds	Grey	
	Dark blue	The curriculum expectation is that pupils at a secure standard by the end of Year 4 should be on: Dark Blue . Greater depth readers can move onto Dark Red .
Year 5 9-10 year olds	Dark blue	
	Dark red	The curriculum expectation is that pupils at a secure standard by the end of Year 5 should be on: Dark Red, Oxford Level 17 . Greater depth readers should move onto Dark Red Level, Oxford Level 18 .
Year 6 10-11 year olds		The curriculum expectation is that pupils at a secure standard by the end of Year 6 should be on: Dark Red, Oxford level 19 . Greater depth readers should move onto Dark Red level, Oxford level 20 , which is also known as: Black Level . NOTE: Children reading at Oxford Level 17 should be capable of achieving National Standard in the end of Key Stage 2 SATs tests in England.
11+ year olds	Black	

Our School Vision



West Acton Primary School, a welcoming community, growing and learning together

At West Acton Primary School, we are a dynamic and inclusive community of lifelong learners. We nurture every child to reach their full potential through an engaging, forward-thinking curriculum and a culture that builds courage, consideration and collaboration. As an aspirational community, our staff, pupils and families grow together—developing digital and emotional intelligence, a strong sense of wellbeing and environmental awareness—ready to make a positive impact on their communities and the wider world.

Please can I remind you to wait until your child is off of the school site before you start giving them food and snacks. As you know we are a healthy school with a sugar smart status.

Please do NOT give your child snacks on site at 3.15pm - especially bags of crisps, cakes, ice lollies and ice cream.

Thank you for your continued help making our school neat and clean.



We are a SUGAR SMART SCHOOL

Only give water for your child's drink
KS2 - bring a healthy snack- fruit or raisins for break time

Do not give your child food to eat when collecting at home time - please wait till you have left the school

Healthy lunchboxes - sweet treat once a week

Healthy school dinners - 'puddings' once a week

SUGAR SMART



School starts at 8.45am

Drop off your child to line up between 8.30am and 8.45am.

Children must be ready to enter the classroom at 8.45am to start learning.



A tale of three white shirts...
Please ensure your child is wearing the correct white shirt.

Reception, Years 1 to 6 PE KIT
Plain white t shirt REQUIRED / NON BRANDED
Generic



Nursery and Reception REQUIRED / NON BRANDED
Generic
White polo shirt



Years 1- 6 REQUIRED / NON BRANDED Generic
White buttoned shirt (long or short sleeve)



White PE T Shirt
A plain white T Shirt or a house colour T shirt
Pupils from Reception to Year 6

White Polo Shirt (soft and three buttons)
All days for Nursery and Reception

White Shirt with buttons
All days for Years 1 to 6

We have a good supply of second hand uniform. Please speak to us if you have any issues with providing uniform.

PE DAYS - come to school in your house colour T shirt

Tuesday	Year 5
Wednesday	Year 1 and Year 3
Thursday	Reception and Year 4
Friday	Year 2 and Year 6

We were very lucky to have T- shirts donated for all our children in July. If your child has out grown their T-shirts please wash and return them so that we can recycle it and give it to another child. If we have another T-shirt we can offer your child one – if not please provide your child with a plain white T-shirt (or purchase another house colour T-shirt yourself).

We hope to replenish T-shirts every two years.

TIP FROM SCHOOL THERAPIST MRS PEARCE

Newsletter tip: Creating meaningful traditions for your family...

Rituals and traditions can help to bring even more joy and connection to your family. It helps to give your child(ren) a feeling of belonging and a sense of security.

How can parents/carers help?

The key is to keep things simple, so that you can focus on what really matters. Here are a few ideas to hopefully inspire you over the holidays to create your own, based on your values:

- Have a special date with each child scheduled regularly in the family diary. Keep a journal with ticket stubs, photos/drawings made together, etc
- Pick a day every year to take a photo of your child and/or family in the same spot and save them in a photobook
- Write a letter to your child on every birthday, sharing memories and special events from the previous year and hopes for the next
- Fill a gratitude jar with notes of things you are thankful for at the end of every day and read them all together on Sunday.

Work together to think of some family traditions that you might like to try for the coming New Year,

Happy holidays to you all ☺

Wishing you a happy, healthy New year.

Take good care,

Maria Pearce



West Acton Primary school are proud to be a parkrun primary school.

A junior parkrun is **free, fun and friendly** weekly 2km event (run/walk) for children aged 4-14years old.

A banner for Junior parkrun at West Acton Primary School. The banner features the "junior parkrun" logo at the top. Below it, the text "West Acton Primary School" is in a white, sans-serif font. The main title "is proud to be a" is in a large, bold, red font. Below that, "2025-2026" is in a slightly smaller red font. The word "parkrun primary!" is in a large, bold, red font. At the bottom, the text "Promoting a healthier and happier planet for everyone." is in a blue, sans-serif font. Below that, "Join in the fun every Sunday at" and "Acton Park" are in a red, sans-serif font. The background of the banner is white, with decorative abstract shapes in green, yellow, and blue on the left and right sides.

What is Acton junior parkrun?

A free, fun, and friendly weekly 2k event for juniors (4 to 14 year olds). Nearby Saturday parkrun events can be found [here](#).

<https://www.parkrun.org.uk/acton-juniors/>

When is it?

It is held every Sunday at 9:00am.

Where is it?

The event takes place at Acton Park, Uxbridge Road, London, W3 7LB. See [Course page](#) for more details.

What does it cost to join in?

Nothing - it's free! but please [register](#) before you first come along. Only ever register with parkrun once and don't forget to bring a **scannable** copy of your barcode ([request a reminder](#)). If you forget it, [you won't get a time](#).



How fast do I have to be?

The aim is to have fun. Please come along and join in whatever your pace!



Send us your pictures of you joining the Junior Parkrun to receive your certificate!

Take a selfie/picture of you and your family joining the run and send it to
admin@west-acton.ealing.sch.uk

We look forward to seeing them all ☺

WEEK 1 MENU

w/c 3rd November
w/c 24th November
w/c 15th December
w/c 5th January
w/c 26th January
w/c 9th March

WEDNESDAY

- Creamy Cheese Puff with Mash & Gravy
- Shepherd's Pie with Gravy
- Roast Parsnip & Carrots
- Toffee Apple Crumble & Custard

MONDAY

- Mighty Veggie Penne Bolognese with Homemade Garlic & Herb Bread
- Quorn Meatballs in Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta
- Sweetcorn & Soy Wilted Greens
- Fresh Fruit & Yoghurt

TUESDAY

- Rainbow Chilli with Mexican Rice
- Lamb Chilli Con Carne with Mexican Rice
- Peas & Roasted Root Veg
- Fresh Fruit & Yoghurt

WEEK 2 MENU

w/c 10th November
w/c 1st December
w/c 12th January
w/c 2nd February
w/c 23rd February
w/c 16th March

WEDNESDAY

- Piri Piri Veggie Strips with Crispy Potatoes & Gravy
- Roast Chicken with Crispy Potatoes & Gravy
- Green Beans & Swede and Carrot Mash
- Forest Fruit Baked Rice Pudding

MONDAY

- Vegetable & Lentil Bolognese Sauce with Penne Pasta
- Mac & Cheese with Roasted Squash & Garlic Bread
- Peas & Sweetcorn
- Fresh Fruit & Yoghurt

TUESDAY

- Thai Red Vegetable Curry & Wholegrain Rice
- Chicken & Sweetcorn Meatballs in Tomato Sauce with Wholegrain Rice
- Broccoli & Roasted Mediterranean Veggies
- Fresh Fruit & Yoghurt

WEEK 3 MENU

w/c 17th November
w/c 8th December
w/c 19th January
w/c 9th February
w/c 2nd March
w/c 23rd March

WEDNESDAY

- Cheese, Leek & Onion Pasty with Crispy Potatoes & Gravy
- Chicken & Vegetable Puff Pastry Pie with Crispy Potatoes & Gravy
- Carrots & Herby Green Beans
- Carrot Cake

MONDAY

- Paprika Roast Vegetables in a Tomato & Herb Sauce with Pasta
- Chinese Rainbow Fried Rice
- Sweetcorn & Red Cabbage Slaw
- Fresh Fruit & Yoghurt

TUESDAY

- Plant Power Thai Curry with Pilau Rice
- Chicken Curry with Pilau Rice
- Broccoli & Peas
- Fresh Fruit & Yoghurt

FRIDAY

- Mighty Veggie Penne Bolognese with Garlic & Herb Bread
- Lamb Penne Bolognese with Garlic & Herb Bread
- Mediterranean Vegetables & Sweetcorn
- Fresh Fruit & Yoghurt

- Homemade Margherita Pizza with Herby Wedges
- Quorn Sausage Hot Dog with Herby Wedges and Tomato Ketchup
- Peas & Baked Beans
- Fresh Fruit & Yoghurt



West Acton Primary School Weekly Values Rewards

w/c 8 th December 2025	Courage	Consideration	Collaboration
Acorn	Madoka	Asham	Ayut
Banyan	Djalal	Aseel	Ashhar
Olive	Soichiro	Oscar	Taleen
Fir	Chanugi	Emily	Hayaki
Ash	Sumaya	Aus	Rome
Guava	Rioya	Sam	Wasseem
Katsura	Charlie	Alma	Riko
Chestnut	Aleesa	Tala	Turranyaa
Damson	Anika	Jayden	Petrus
Juniper	Yaseen	Alma	Ezaz
Holly	Luna	Azaiah	Ahmed
Ivy			
Rowan	Yazn	Soma	Kevin
Mulberry	Esra	Ayman	Kiana
Pine	Ayan	Othman	Ren
Sycamore	Eamon	Imran	Kosei
Elder	Haruto	Chiaki	Tomohiro
Quince	Sara	Hashim	Kosei
Willow	Saeed	Mira	Dima
Lime	Magda	Alex	Maya A
Tamarind	Mohamed	Takuto	Elza
Zaytouna	Sarah J	Sakurako	Tomoki
Birch	Akeem	Kassim	Alaya
Oak	James	Andrej	Abdul
Elm	Gabi	Ziad	Zayan



Sing Education Newsletter

Music this term at West Acton

A message from your music teacher

Reception has come along very well with their recall of songs and we have been singing songs and rhymes about bears 🐻 which is coming along very nicely. Special mention to our Key stage 2 Sing Club who gave a spectacular performance at St Barnabas Church on the evening of Thursday 4th December. Well done girls - you were stellar! I hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas break and I look forward to teaching you all in the new year!

Ms Nabavi

EYFS were Recalling Patterns, Actions and Rhythms



Reception practised remembering and tapping patterns set by the leader. We followed and repeated rhythms to build our memory and motor skills.

In KS1 we were focussing on Rhythm

We explored rhythm in **Year 1** by playing and copying short patterns. We improved our accuracy and began preparing for improvising and ensemble work.

In **Year 2**, we learnt to read and play rhythms using stick notation. We developed accuracy and confidence, ready for more advanced rhythm work in Key Stage 2.



Song of the Term:

For the Christmas show preparation 'Love shone down' has been a class favourite.

The KS2 focus area was Performing: Reading Notation - Pitch

Year 3 continued our notation work by learning pitch on the glockenspiel. We read simple melodies, explored high and low notes, and strengthened our understanding of rhythm and tempo.

In **Year 4**, we deepened our staff notation skills using the glockenspiel. We followed and performed more complex melodies, building fluency in reading music for future ensemble playing.

Year 5 developed our melodic sight-reading on the glockenspiel. We worked on reading and playing tunes more fluently to prepare for advanced ensemble tasks.

We refined our sight-reading skills in **Year 6** by focusing on note names and durations. We improved our accuracy and confidence when reading and performing melodies, ready for more advanced musical work.



Coming up...

What's happening in Extra-curricular?

KS1 choir has been working on 'walking in the air.' Next term I will be introducing some upbeat guitar led songs for them to start learning!

KS2 sing club have been working on traditional Christmas songs for their performance which took place on Thursday. Next term we will start preparing for the show in spring!

What's happening in Tuition?

The instrumental lessons have gone extremely well this past term, with students showing great enthusiasm, commitment, and progress across all instruments. It has been wonderful to see their confidence and musical skills develop week by week. We are very much looking forward to the new term and to seeing this progress continue as the children build on what they have already achieved.

To sign up for instrumental tuition go to
www.singeducation.co.uk/signup

Spring 1	
EYFS Focus Areas	Pitch-Matching
Nursery	Singing Skills 1: Find your voice.
Reception	Singing Skills 2: Match my voice
KS1 Focus Areas	Pitch
Year 1	Exploring Pitch 1: High and Low
Year 2	Exploring Pitch 2: Oct. Notation
KS2 Focus Areas	Performing: Instrumental Performance
Year 3	Ensemble Skills 1: Call & Response (Glockenspiel OR Recorder)
Year 4	Ensemble Skills 2: Melody and Accompaniment (Glockenspiel OR Recorder)
Year 5	Pop Music 1: Arrangements and Improvisation (Glockenspiel OR Ukulele)
Year 6	Pop Music 2: Chords and Bass Lines (Glockenspiel OR Ukulele)

Weekly attendance: WE 12 th December 2025		
Acorn 81.27%	Whole School 93%	Woodlands 90.11%
Olive 87.59%	Banyan 85%	Fir 92% 
Ash 91.50%	Guava 87%	Katsura 95.33%
Damson 94.29%	Chestnut 91.79%	Juniper 92.86%
Holly 96.55%	Rowan 96.79%	Ivy 97.86% 
Mulberry 95.71%	Pine 93.93%	Sycamore 92.07%
Willow 94.67%	Elder 92.07%	Quince 92.07%
Lime 95.52%	Tamarind 95.86%	Zaytouna 98.99% 

Dear Parent/Carers,

Re: 12 Days of Christmas Writing Challenge,

As some of you may be aware, I was recently treated to a festive delight in the form of a personalised version of *The Twelve Days of Christmas*. This inspired me to think what a lovely opportunity it would be for the children to take part in a **12 Days of Christmas Writing Challenge**, especially after the wonderful response we received to the Summer Writing Challenge.

I would love for pupils to enjoy getting creative with their writing over the holidays, and alongside the writing challenge there is also a lovely science activity, on the newsletter, to explore at home.

I hope you enjoy taking part and sharing in the festive learning together.

Yours Faithfully,

Miss Kondo

Headteacher

 **The 12 Days of Christmas Writing Challenge** 

A festive writing challenge for pupils across the school, designed to encourage creativity, stamina and enjoyment of writing in the run-up to Christmas. Each day offers a flexible prompt that can be adapted for different ages and abilities.

Day 1 – A Winter Setting

Describe a winter scene.

- Where is it set: a street, forest, playground or imaginary place?
- What can you see, hear, smell and feel?
- Is it peaceful, magical, exciting or slightly mysterious?
- Try to include at least one simile.

Day 2 – A Mysterious Package

A mysterious package arrives at the door or in the classroom.

- Who is it for?
- What does it look like on the outside?
- What clues are there about what might be inside?
- How do people react when it is opened?

Day 3 – The Missing Present

On Christmas Eve, something very important goes missing.

- What is it and why is it so important?
- Who notices first?
- What problems does this cause?
- How is the problem solved in the end?

Day 4 – An Unexpected Visitor

Someone (or something!) unexpected turns up during the festive season.

- Who or what is the visitor?
- Where do they come from?
- How do others react to them?
- What do they want or need?

Day 5 – A Festive Journey

Write about a journey taken in winter.

- Where are you going and why?
- How do you travel?
- What obstacles or surprises happen along the way?

- How does the journey end?

Day 6 – The Talking Decoration

One Christmas decoration comes to life.

- What decoration is it?
- What does it sound like when it speaks?
- What has it seen over the years?
- Does it have a secret to share?

Day 7 – A Winter Memory

Write about a favourite winter or festive memory.

- When did it happen?
- Who was there?
- What made it special?
- How did it make you feel?

Day 8 – The Perfect Celebration

Describe your idea of the perfect festive celebration.

- Where is it held?
- Who is invited?
- What food, music or activities are there?
- Why is it perfect to you?

Day 9 – A Festive Problem

Something goes wrong during a celebration.

- What is the problem?
- How do people feel when it happens?
- Who helps to solve it?
- What lesson is learned?

Day 10 – A Message of Kindness

Write a letter, note or short piece about kindness at this time of year.

- Who is it for?
- Why are they important to you?
- What kind words would you like to share?
- How might your message make them feel?

Day 11 – Christmas from Another Point of View

Tell a Christmas story from a different point of view.

- Who is telling the story?
- What do they notice that others might not?
- How do they feel about Christmas?
- What happens to them?

Day 12 – A Festive Ending

Write a short piece that ends with hope, joy or togetherness.

- What happens just before the ending?
- How do the characters feel?
- What message do you want the reader to remember?



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Head Teacher: Miss K Kondo

18th December 2025

Dear Parent/Carers,

Re: Spelling Test when we return in January Years 1 2 3 4 5 6

This is a reminder that, after the holiday in January, your child will have a spelling test on the Year Group spelling list – you can find it here <https://www.westactonprimaryschool.org/curriculum/subjects/writing> and in his/her reading record.

We expect children to be able to spell these words correctly and use them in their writing.

These words are identified in the National Curriculum as more frequently used words - your child is tested on these words three times a year – when they return from the longer holidays in January, April and September.

Most of our children work very hard with their spellings and we can see the impact of this in their weekly tests which are about different spelling patterns and rules. *For Years 4 and 6 this will be their fifth attempt of the test and for Years 1, 2, 3 and 5 it will be their second - we look forward to seeing a big increase in the number of correct words!*

Thank you for working in partnership for your child's education.

Yours faithfully,

Karen Kondo
Headteacher



Thank you YO YO Kitchen for hosting our
Choir for festive singing on Tuesday!
It was so lovely to hear their singing again
and it was also very impressive!



We have so many donations for
Ealing Foodbank following Monday's
Non Uniform day! Thank you.