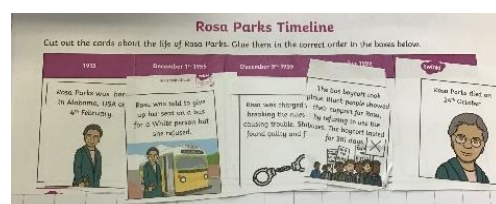


BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Friday 8th October saw the children of West Park put aside their daily lessons as we came together to celebrate **Black History Month**. Each class has discovered more about the lives of some fascinating people in our history, trying to discover what they had done in their life to make them significant within History. We created a timeline of their lives and presented our work both with our own classes and then with the rest of the school during assemblies.

Reception have put on their dancing shoes and danced along to the music of Duke Ellington. They have learnt about jazz and some famous jazz musicians from the book 'This Jazz Man' by Karen Ehrhardt.



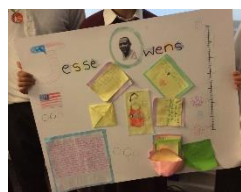
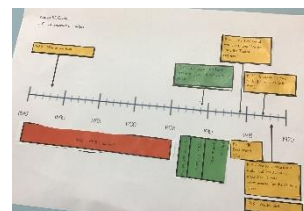
Year 1 have learnt about Rosa Parks and her bravery at standing up for equality.



Year 2 have quite literally stepped into Sir Mo Farah's shoes and explored what it would have been like to run great distances. Good news – year 2 all won gold! They then started to explore what Sir Mo's life was like before he became the

great athlete we all know about today.

Year 3 have learnt about the short but significant life of Walter Tull who was the first black outfield football player, he played for Clapton FC, Tottenham Hotspur and Northampton. He also went on to serve in the first world war, becoming the first ever black officer.



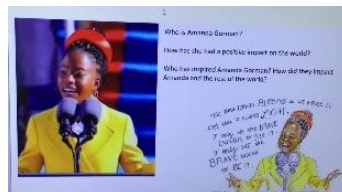
Year 4 have also learnt about a sporting hero – Jesse Owens. Jesse Owens significantly competed in the 1936 Olympics, frustrating Hitler by achieving 4 Olympic gold medals.

Year 5 have

reached for the stars, learning about Katherine Johnson, a great mathematician, and her role at NASA. Did you know that she was influential in the moon landing?



Last but by no means least, **Year 6** have learnt about Amanda Gorman, who recently wrote and read her poem 'Climb the Hill' at President Biden's inauguration. Year 6 thought about other inspirational people.



ENGLISH NEWS FROM WEST PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Books we have read this half term in school:



Ask

Ask your child about the books they have read this half term

WE LOVE READING!
WE LOVE READING!
(optional use)

Does your child have a book to read for enjoyment?

Complete a book review for your class. Hand it into your teacher to add to your new book area.

Book Recommendation

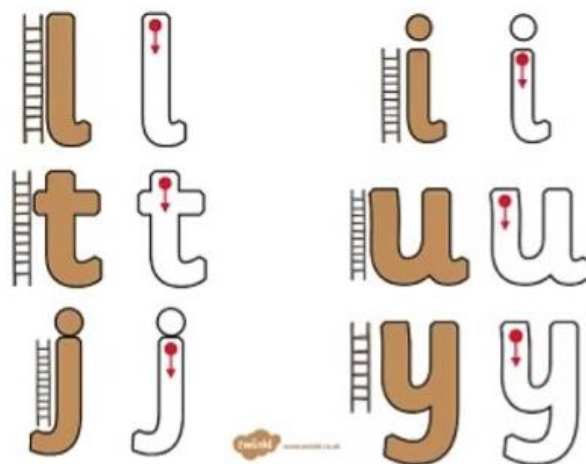
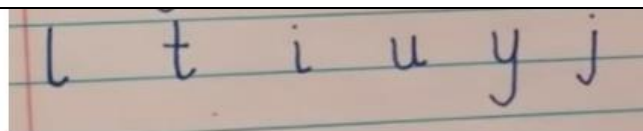
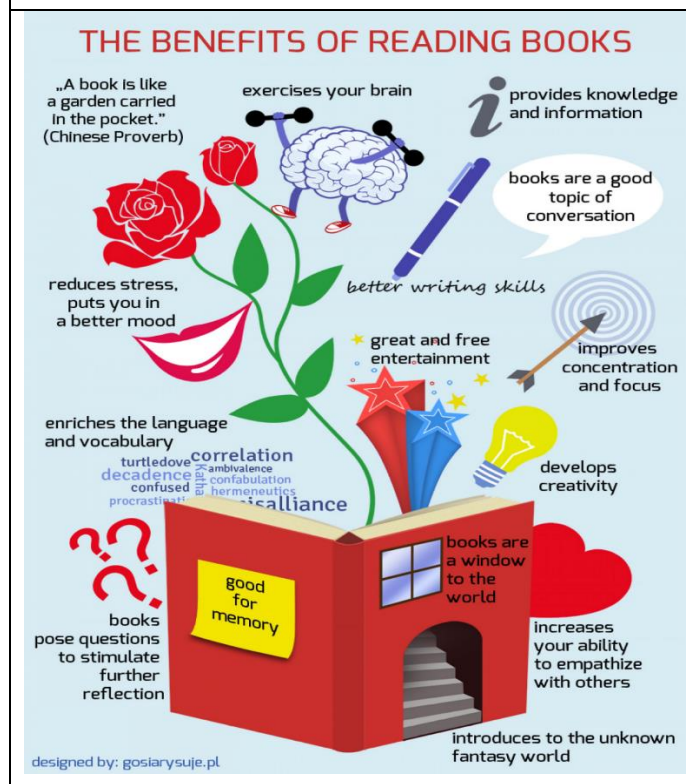
I recommend _____

by _____

because _____

Priorities in English this year

Reading for Pleasure	Handwriting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This term, all classrooms have new book areas. - Each classroom has brand new books for children to enjoy. - We also borrow books from Wolverhampton library services that children can borrow to read at home. - Our own fantastic library is open at lunchtimes for children to borrow books too. 	<p>Because of Covid lockdowns, children's handwriting quality has dipped. To help this term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Children have daily handwriting lessons. - Virtual handwriting lessons are available on class pages so you can practice at home. - This half term we have focused on the <u>long ladder family</u>. <p style="text-align: center;">l t l u j y</p>



COVID 19 - PLEASE CONTINUE TO KEEP EVERYONE SAFE

A vital thing that EVERYONE can do is get a **vaccine** when they are offered. This will support safety for the whole community. For more useful facts and to dispel myths about vaccinations look here: [Covid-19 Vaccine | City Of Wolverhampton Council](#)

Government Covid roadmap

<https://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-and-information/covid-alert>

Your best way to keep yourself and family healthy is to get a vaccine/booster. Details of walk in clinics are here:

[Walk-in vaccinations | City Of Wolverhampton Council](#)

Please have a safe school break everyone

Safeguarding concerns?

Remember that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility – for adults as well as children. If you are concerned about any families or neighbours over the Easter holiday, then call the police on 101 or social care on 01902 555392. There is a lot of useful information on the following links:

www.wolverhamptionsafeguarding.org.uk

<https://www.westparkprimaryschool.co.uk/safeguarding>



**WOLVERHAMPTON
SAFEGUARDING
TOGETHER**



We all have a responsibility to make sure that all children, and adults, in our community are safe.

If you are ever worried about someone's safety, you can speak to Mrs Dovydaitis or Ms Jones in school or report your concerns directly to Wolverhampton social care. For concerns about children you can ring 01902 555392 and for adults ring 01902 551199

If you think that someone is in immediate danger then always call the police on 999.

Governing Body parent vacancies

There are currently vacancies on the Governing Body for parents or carers of children currently at West Park Primary. If you have an interest in education, or particular skills e.g. finance, then please email

westparkprimaryschool@wolverhampton.gov.uk

CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND WELL BEING

In a survey at the end of the summer term, we asked children a range of questions.

Good news

More than **90%** love being physically active in school and have lots of opportunities for this – we have bought lots of resources to help this, and employ sports coaches too!

Most older children also say they brush their teeth twice a day.

Bad news

A **quarter** of children in the school say they have never been to a dentist. Please arrange this for your child. I have asked the school nurse to provide a list of NHS dentists and will share this ASAP. **Less than half** of children in reception, years 1 and 2 said they brushed their teeth twice a day.

Only 37% said they ate 5 portions of fruit a day. Can you help your child eat more? We will look at these areas next half term.



Speak out. Stay safe. parents/carers letter

22nd October 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

RE: NSPCC's *Speak out. Stay safe.* online programme

I am pleased to tell you that this term we will be participating in the **NSPCC's *Speak out. Stay safe. online*** programme. This consists of an online assembly and supporting classroom based activities. *Speak out. Stay safe.* is a safeguarding programme available to all primary schools in the UK and Channel Islands. It aims to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse in a child friendly way. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a trusted adult or Childline.

In the online assembly, the *Speak out. Stay safe.* messages are delivered in a fun and interactive way with the help of their mascot Buddy as well as special guest appearances from Ant and Dec.

We have studied the content of the materials and are extremely confident that they are appropriate for primary-school-aged children. By the end of the programme, we're convinced children will feel empowered – knowing how they can speak out and stay safe.

If you would like to know more about the *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme you can find information on the NSPCC website www.nspcc.org.uk/speakout or I would be happy to discuss any questions that you may have.

Adapted assembly for home use

The NSPCC has also developed an adapted version of their assembly for parents/carers to use at home with their children. This can be found here: www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/safety. With the help of celebrities, the film focuses on how a child can get support if they have any worries or concerns.

To complement the assembly, there are some resources that can be used to enable further discussion whilst doing activities with your children. These are hosted on the NSPCC website www.nspcc.org.uk/activities.

Childline Under 12's Website

Childline also have a website with age appropriate advice for primary school children on topics such as bullying. It also has games and other interactive tools. Your child can visit it at www.childline.org.uk/kids.

If you'd like to know more about the NSPCC's work, or take a look at the wide range of information and advice which is available for parents and carers, please visit their website www.nspcc.org.uk/parents.

Talking PANTS with your children

Talk PANTS is a simple conversation to help keep your child safe from sexual abuse. From P through to S, each letter of PANTS provides a simple but valuable rule that can help keep your child safe. You can find out more and download the free resources at www.nspcc.org.uk/pants.

Penguin and Ladybird have partnered with the NSPCC to create a brand new Pantosaurus book aimed at children ages 4 - 8. **You can find copies of the new book on sale, either in Matalan's selected stores and online, selected SPAR stores or at <https://shop.nspcc.org.uk/>.** All profits from the sale of this book will support the NSPCC.

Support the NSPCC

The NSPCC's Walk for Children event in December is another exciting way to get involved and helps make sure we are always there for children <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/support-us/events-fundraising/runs-cycles-challenges-walks-treks/charity-challenges/walk-for-children/>.

You may also be interested in the NSPCC's new selection of BUDDY goodies available from the NSPCC shop at <https://shop.nspcc.org.uk/collections/buddy> which make perfect gifts for children - and all profits go to help keep children safe.

Yours sincerely,



Letters will be coming home after half term about flu nasal sprays in school for all children from Reception to Y6. Please consider letting your child take part and return the form as soon as you get it. If adults in your home would like a flu jab then contact your doctor. The more of us who get a flu jab/spray this Winter the safer we will all be. 😊



Be a Vacc-Tastic Voyager this winter and help protect our community from flu.

Dates

Half term – school is **closed** from Monday 25th to Friday 29th October

Monday 1st November – staff training on maths

Tuesday 2nd November – children back in school

During the first two weeks of November, all children in the school will have a one to one learning conference with their teacher

Friday 5th November – year 5 classes visit to The Black Country Living Museum, and year 6JP visit to the Wolverhampton Art Gallery

Monday 8th November – year 4 visit to the Wolverhampton Art Gallery

Monday 15th November – school photographs

Tuesday 23rd November – pantomime in school for years 3, 4, 5 and 6

Friday 17th December – school closes at 3pm for the Christmas holidays

Tuesday 4th January 2022 – school is closed for staff training

Wednesday 5th January 2022 – School reopens to children for the spring term

Please look at the school website for other dates.

[Calendar | West Park Primary \(westparkprimaryschool.co.uk\)](https://www.westparkprimaryschool.co.uk)

The City of Wolverhampton website also has the term dates for the next three years.

[School term dates | City Of Wolverhampton Council](https://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk)



Does your Child need a Coat for the Winter Season, or do you know a family in need of coats?

We are a **FREE** service

We are urgently seeking families with children or services working directly with families whom may benefit from our project.

Whether a family have fell on hard times, maybe a parent has been furloughed due to Covid or a family that may be struggling, or escaping domestic violence. Whatever the need, all are welcome to receive a free donated kid's coat/s. No referral or voucher needed. Just get in touch with your details. Anyone can email

coatsforkidswolves@outlook.com or direct message us on our Facebook group Coats for Kids Wolves.

We work to Covid regulations as suggested by Public Health, all coats received are quarantined for at least 72 hours before we can handle them, or give them out. All volunteers wear full PPE when collecting and donating coats.

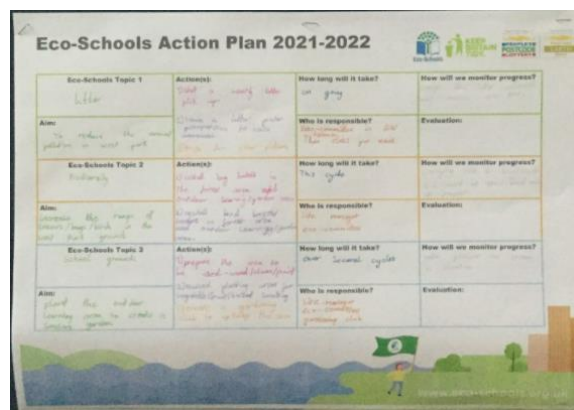
There is no reason a child should ever be cold.

Email Lizzie or Gillian in Wolverhampton

coatsforkidswolves@outlook.com



Facebook Group – Coats for Kids Wolves



Eco Council

This year West Park has set its **own ECO-COMMITTEE**, over the course of the school year we will be taking part in a variety of green projects organised by the children of our school.

The first phase of our plans will be looking at litter, bio-diversity and our own school grounds - particularly our outdoor learning environments.

School Council

The West Park School Council has been in session and has already decided on the first charity we will be supporting this academic year. On FRIDAY 19TH NOVEMBER we will be supporting Children In Need. That day will be an own-clothes/odd-socks day, with a recommended donation of £1 per family to support this great cause.



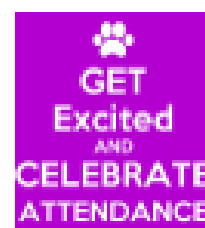
Attendance news

Target for school
is 97%

This half term
we are at:

96.93%

This is well above the
national average. 😊



Despite current circumstances school attendance has been good this half term – thank you to the families who have helped make this happen. 😊 Keep coming to school next term when you are well and not having to self-isolate or doing a PCR test. 😊

A reminder that it is even more important to be on time than usual now so that we can comply with our COVID risk assessment and keep everyone safe. Also, make sure your child brings everything with them in the morning to avoid us having things dropped at the office to distribute around school.

Please remember that if your child is unwell and not coming to school then you must ring (558238) before 9am to let us know why they will not be in. If you do not do this then you may have a phone call from school or a member of staff may do a home visit to check your child is safe and well. If we are still unable to establish your child is safe then we can ask our Education Welfare Officer or the police to do a safe and well check.

Maths News

Welcome to West Parks first instalment of maths updates this year; a place to share events and celebrate the maths that is happening in our school. At West Park we are developing children as mathematicians by developing skills that will help children for the rest of their lives. We follow a Mastery approach to mathematics, which means our children develop a deep and secure understanding of the maths skills they are learning relevant to their age and year group.

The Maths News will also share family puzzles, useful websites, and Times Tables Rock Star (TTRS) events as we move into next half term.

Please visit our school website – West Park Primary School – to post your answers and see the solution to the problems below. Solutions will be posted after half term and will appear on the Maths curriculum page.

EYFS and KS1

Use these cards to make calculations with their answers,



Like this one:

$$2 + 6 = 8$$

In each calculation you must only use a card once, but of course you can re-use them in your next calculation if you want to.

Can you find a way to use all the cards in one calculation?

Can you find all the possible ways to use the cards?

KS2

Presents

Gurmit paid £21 for five presents.



For A and B he paid a total of £6.

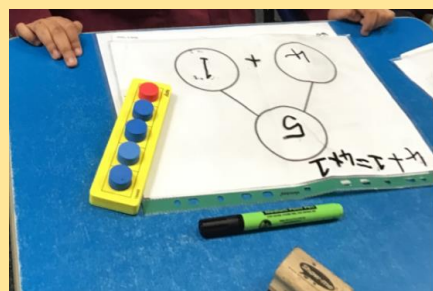
For B and C he paid a total of £10.

For C and D he paid a total of £7.

For D and E he paid a total of £9.

How much did Gurmit pay for each present?

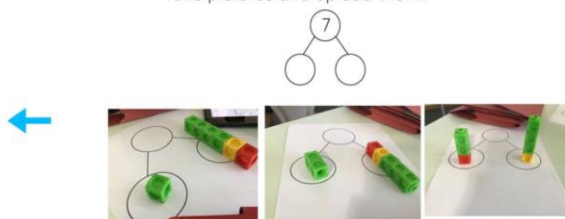
In year KS1 this half term children have been working hard on developing their understanding of number and place value. This is what learning looked like using our mastery approach to mathematics.



Fact Families

2	+	8	=	10
8	+	2	=	10
10	-	2	=	8
10	-	8	=	2

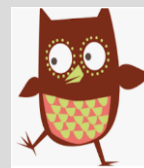
Find different ways to split 7 in different ways using practical resources. Take pictures and upload them.



A reminder that all KS1 and KS2 children should have their TTRS login details so should be practicing their times tables every day.

Early Years and KS1 children should have their Numbots login details so should be practicing number skills daily.

Maths Website to support parents



Oxford Owl includes a range of activities, top tips and eBooks to help your child with their maths at home. <https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/maths/>