



West End Academy

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Headteacher: Chris Johnson

Friday 16th February 2018

INSPIRE Morning

Thank you to all the parents who joined us at our INSPIRE morning on Tuesday. We have had some fantastic feedback from the event. A parent of a child in Lower Foundation said, "It was lovely to see all the children in such a driven learning environment. It gave us tips to take away and I can continue the fun learning at home." Another parent of a child in Upper Foundation said, "I found it useful to know how to help my child add coins by using cubes. I can now help her to do this at home." I hope you were able to see how the teachers in both classes are improving the problem-solving skills of our children during maths lessons. There will be another INSPIRE morning in the summer term for parents of children in the Foundation Stage. More details will be available nearer the time.

Waterton Trust

This week, we have continued to have visitors from Waterton Trust as part of the due diligence exercise. The visitors have been impressed with what they have seen and they have praised our hard-working children. After the half-term break, I should be able to give an update on the next part of the conversion process.

Spelling

This year, as outlined in the School Development Plan, all the teachers are continuing to work hard to improve our children's spelling skills. From Year 1 to Year 6, the children have been practising their spellings using the "Look, Say, Cover, Write and Check" strategy. This is helping the children to really look closely at the word and spot any regular or irregular sound patterns. Brandon and Ethan, both in Year 2, recently said, "We like using our coloured pencils to help us spot the different sound patterns in a word. Looking at these patterns helps to break the word up so it is easier to spell." Through our monitoring, we have already seen an increase in the average spelling score at the end of Key Stage 2. The impact of this work has also been checked by a governor during a visit before Christmas. We will continue to work hard on developing our children's spelling skills so that more words are spelt correctly in their work books.

Attendance

Well done to Year 1 for once again having the highest attendance last week. After the holidays, we will announce which class will win the £40 reward for having the best attendance for the half-term.

Disco

Thank you to the Friends of West End group for organising the Valentine's disco this week. All the children who attended had a great time!

Have a lovely half-term and see you all on Monday 26th February. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mr C Johnson
Headteacher