



## West End Academy

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Headteacher: Chris Johnson

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018

### **INSPIRE Morning**

Thank you to all the parents who joined us at our rearranged INSPIRE morning last Wednesday. We have had some fantastic feedback from the event. I hope you were able to see how the teachers are improving the reading skills of our children. One parent said, "I can now ask my child to look for clues in the text to enable him to find answers to difficult questions." There will be another INSPIRE morning in the summer term for parents of children in Key Stage 1. More details will be available nearer the time.

### **World Book Day**

Last week, the children had lots of fun celebrating World Book Day. The children took part in lots of activities linked to a story called "The Journey". There were no words inside the book and the children had to work out what was happening in the story by looking at the pictures. They also had the opportunity to do music, drama and art lessons linked to the book. In the afternoon, some of the children shared their work in a special whole-school assembly. The work was fantastic and we will shortly be putting this on display in our reception area. Afterwards, Leo said, "We had to try and add some words to the story as it was an illustration book. It was hard at first but when I thought about being the main character, it started to become easier." Coen added, "We enjoyed putting music to the story. Three children played the drum to make it sound like the guards were trying to capture the girl."

### **Year 3 Trip**

Last week, the children in Year 3 visited the Hepworth Art Gallery. In their lessons at school, the children have been looking at a variety of Barbara Hepworth's sculptures. At the gallery, the children made their own wet felt sculptures in a special workshop with a resident artist. Afterwards, Ethan told me, "I enjoyed making my design with wool as well as experimenting with the different materials."

### **Castleford Tigers**

This year, the school has continued to work with the Castleford Tigers to give children the opportunity to play rugby league. For many children in Year 5, they have played the sport for the first time in their PE lessons! We feel it is important that the children have the chance to try new sports and receive high-quality teaching from a professional coach. After one of the sessions, Bailey told me, "It is good to get the chance to play a new sport. We have been learning how to tackle by tagging people and I am getting much better at this since we started." Charlie added, "I have enjoyed working with a professional rugby coach."

### **Parent Questionnaires**

Thank you to all the parents who have already completed the parent questionnaires. The Senior Leadership Team will begin to evaluate these and I will share our findings with you shortly.

### **Attendance**

Last week, our whole-school attendance was more than 96%. A special well done to Years 1 and 4 for achieving an attendance of more than 99% and getting a red apple on the attendance tree in our hall!

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mr C Johnson  
Headteacher

