

West Acton Primary School Newsletter



Friday 17th September 2021



I have enjoyed meeting many new families again today and speaking to many of you as you bring and collect your child from school. These are great opportunities to catch up with and answer questions that you may have or arrange meetings. **I would like to extend this further by inviting you to parent/carer forum on Tuesday 21st September at 9.00am** (in the Victoria Hall, please wait outside until Reception have gone through) with myself and other senior leaders. Before COVID-19, this used to be a regular event and I am looking forward to starting this again. Next week, I will be sharing with you our upcoming events for Autumn term.

I saw some news reports earlier this week about Collective Worship – it is very enjoyable and reflective here at West Acton – so I have included some information for you. Please do ask your child about this.

This week our new Reception and Nursery children joined us. Thank you and well done to everyone for following the lining up system so well. At the other end of the spectrum, we have been talking to Year 6 and parents/carers about high school applications!

Please have a safe and happy week end.

Miss Kondo.

SPANISH has started at West Acton!

We are delighted to have Ms Marquez teaching Spanish to KS2.



Please ask your child what these words mean:

Hola Adios Buenos Dias

Let's get West Acton Reading!

Each week staff will be reviewing new children's books – these will then be available in the school library.

Amulet

by Kazu Kibuishi

Mr. Prothero's Book Review

This is the first comic story book of a set of nine, but the ninth book has not been finished yet. It should come out later this year, so I am still super excited about wanting to know how it ends! I love that feeling!

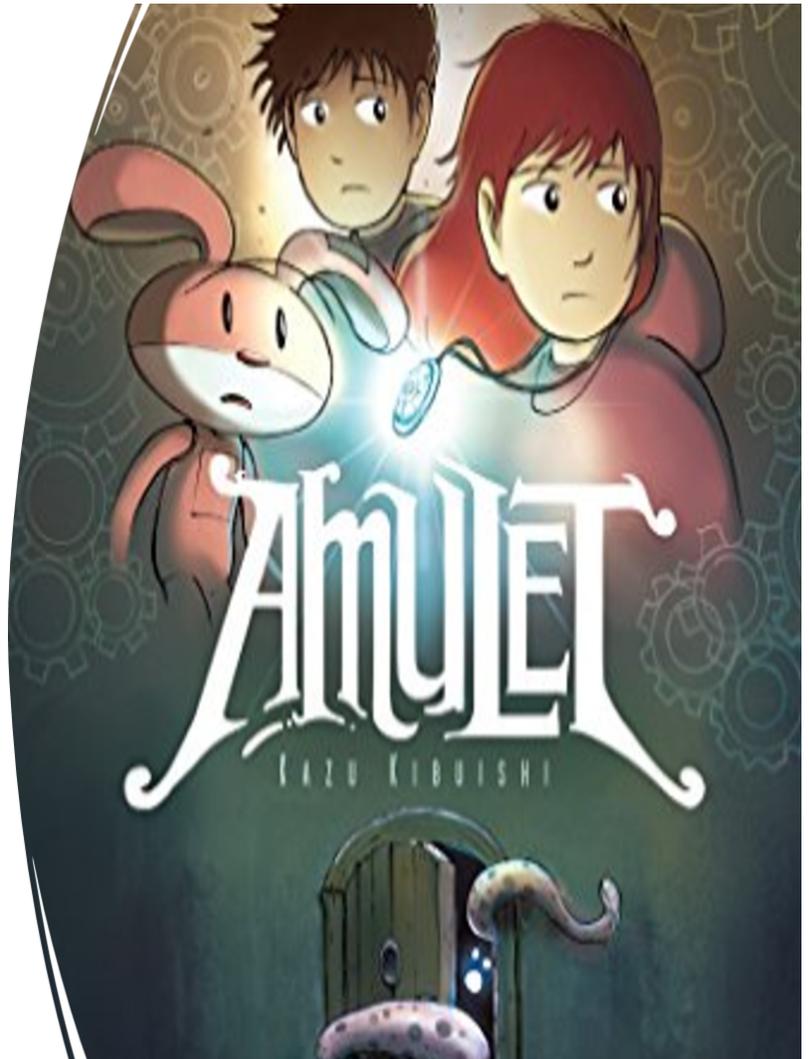
I like the story most of all because it is dark and imaginative. The start of the story is shocking, as the hero – a girl called Emily – tragically loses her father in a terrible accident. It is a powerful start to a story that is suitable for Year 5 or 6 children.

After the accident, Emily, her brother Navin and their mother become involved in a mysterious secret other-world that her Grandfather was mixed up in.

Emily becomes a stone-keeper: a keeper of a stone with strange powers. She must learn to control the stone, or it will control her!

It is a weird and wonderful story full of fantastic characters and cool machines, like a walking house, all in beautiful illustrations.

It is best for children Year 5 or 6 in Key Stage 2. Enjoy!



This week's house points
Week ending 10.09.21

Chiswick	552
Osterley	602
Pitzhanger	544
Syon	470

Be Wilder @ West Acton Primary School has started!

Every Monday afternoon half a class at a time will be learning outdoor life skills, on the field with Emma Woods.

Forest School! By Joaquim

Forest school is amazing – first off all you get to make these little tents pegs out of wood by carving the correct cuts into the thin bits of wood. You also use those tent pegs to hang up tents for shelter. Second of all you can light little fires with flint and steel, there is also a little competition to see who can make the most mini fires using cotton balls. Lastly you make little hammocks using bungee cords and ropes.



Garden Harvest

This week we were able to pick some ripe, red strawberries from our school garden. We gave them to our school kitchen staff to use in our fruit salad to have at lunch time. Delicious!



OCTOBER HALF - TERM – local event

Secondly, we are planning a family cook-along in October half-term. This is with Majeda Khouri, Syrian chef and teacher, who will be helping families create a healthy vegetarian meal using local ingredients. The event is free for families with children eligible for FSM, although it is open to all local families. Booking is available through [eventbrite](#) / emailing info@Artification.org.uk.

World Car Free Day

Wednesday 22nd September 2021

Join us next Wednesday to celebrate World Car Free Day by not using your car at drop off and pick up time.



Can you walk, cycle, scoot or use public transport instead?



Send in pictures of you on your journey to school on World Car Free Day to admin@west-acton.ealing.sch.uk

for us to see and share.

Let's make a difference!



This week's top tip from Mrs Ahmad- West Acton School Therapist

I am here at West Acton on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays this year and I look forward to meeting some more of you in person."

Supporting your Child or Young person with Change

"Everything we know and love now, was something scary and new to us, once before."

A new school year can be a tricky time for many children. It can bring feelings of worry as they experience lots of change: change of classroom, change of teacher and for some children, change of classmates. Some children may feel excited and for some, a sense of loss, of all things that were familiar.

Perhaps your child feels teary as you reach Monday morning, or might mention their tummy hurts just before you close the front door to leave for school. Worries and anxiety do affect our bodies, so hold in mind, that the tummy ache he/she feels, might be telling you, your child needs a bit of help returning to school.

How can parents help?

Help your child to bond with their class teacher and class: find a way to communicate with their teacher to tell them that he/she is finding it hard to settle and as a partnership you can find ways of making it a bit easier for them. Having little tasks on the way in such as a classroom job for the teacher, will help your child to use the 'thinking' part of their brain, helping them to transition into their day at school.

It is understandable that your child may be finding it hard, to say goodbye to you, after such a long time at home. He/she may need a special goodbye hug, a morning ritual that you have created together or a signal that gives you a goodbye routine. Take time to listen to your child's thoughts and feelings, remind them that they are strong and can manage their worries and can always speak to the adults at school if they need too. Sometimes being playful with your child can help to release these emotions instead of tears – so try and have some fun with them in the morning on the journey to school. Physical affection can really help them to feel calmer so offer lots of cuddles before and after school! Finally, if you are concerned that your child may be worrying more than the usual beginning of term nerves, please speak with the school and or get in touch with me, so that we can help explore what might be worrying them.

Our pupil's art moving out about in Acton.

Thank you to Sakai Removal company for giving our pupils this exciting opportunity.

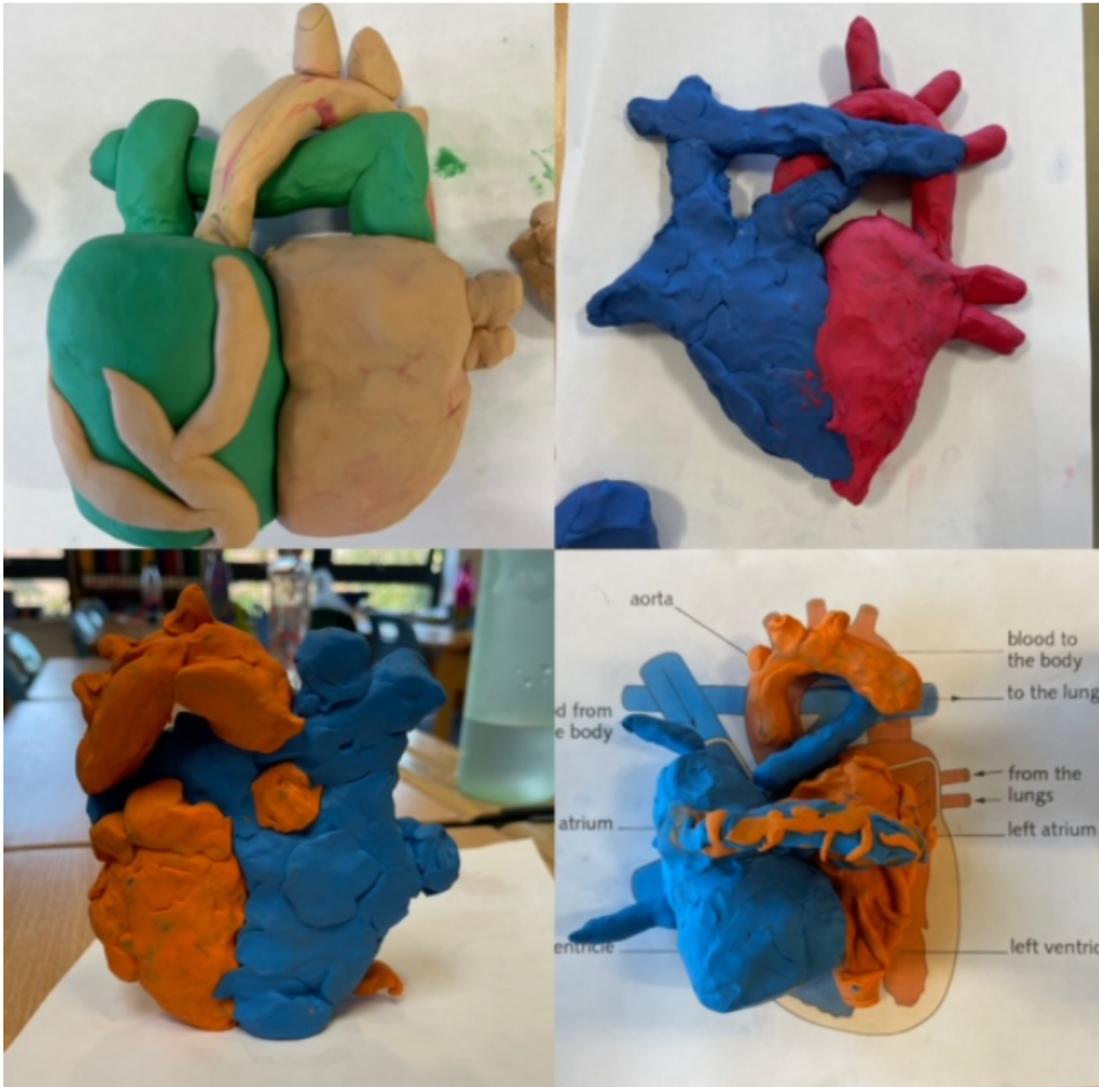


***Medical forms are being sent out to
parent/carers of pupils with medical needs.***

It is important that details are checked to ensure they are up to date. Please return forms to Mrs Ives.

If you have not received a medical plan for your child by the 21st September and you feel they should have one, please let us know on admin@west-acton.ealing.sch.uk.

In Science, Year 6 made models of the heart out of plasticine – labelling the 2 sides, 4 chambers and where the blood is pumped to through the vessels



The new West Acton Reading Records have arrived!

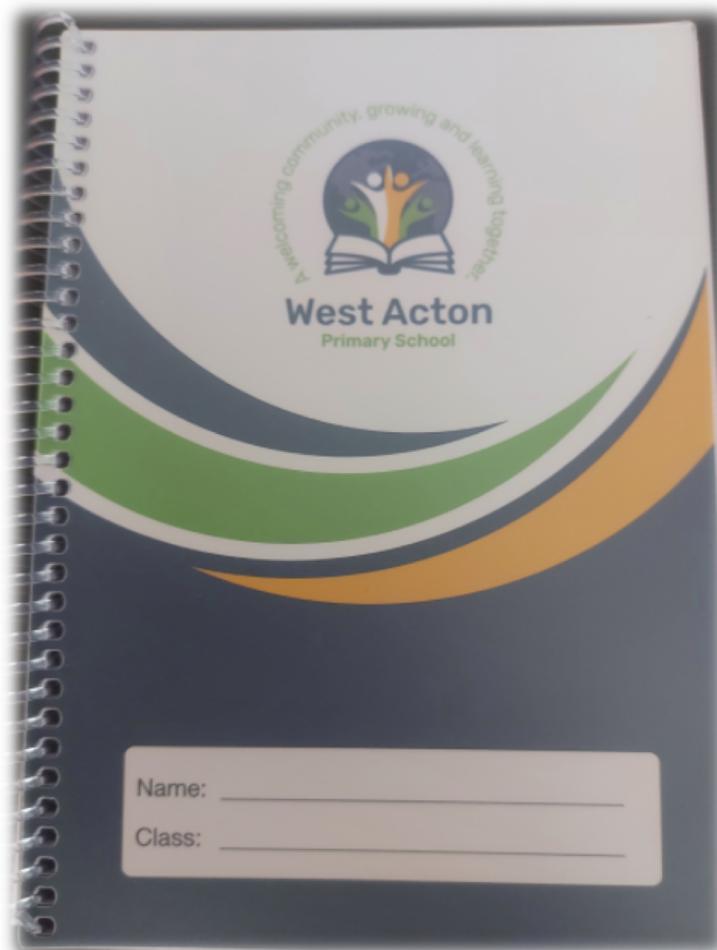
I have changed design this year and selected lots of information that will help you support your child with their learning.

I hope that you will find it useful.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Reading Record Planners and Reading Books should be in your child's book bag every day.

Replacement Reading Records planners will be charged at £1.00 – please do not lose this.



What is Collective Worship?

What are the legal requirements for collective worship?

The legal requirements for collective worship are laid down in the 1988 Education Reform Act and in the Collective Worship Circular 1/94 (1993 – 1994), which was essentially an attempt to explain and enhance the 1988 Act. It states that collective worship: 'Should aim to provide the opportunity for pupils to worship God, to consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs; to encourage participation and response, through listening to and joining in the worship offered; and to develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values, and reinforce positive attitudes'.

All pupils in attendance at a maintained school shall take part in an act of collective worship each day.

This can take place in groups at any time during the school day. Children under the age of five are not required to take part in an act of collective worship. Children in reception classes are required to take part in a daily act of collective worship. The law applies to all registered pupils, so this includes those over the age of 16 in schools. The law applies to special schools in so far as it is practicable.

Corporate worship, is very different and takes place within a faith community context e.g. in Churches, Gurdwaras, Mosques, Synagogues, Temples. Corporate worship implies a community with a shared set of beliefs and values. For most faith communities worship is concerned with reverence or veneration paid to a divine being or power. Few schools can expect that all their members will subscribe to a set of beliefs which enable the entire school community as such to constitute a worshipping community. This might be something that families do outside of school

School collective worship should recognise that the school community is a collection of people. Thus, acts of collective worship should be sensitive to the collective character of individual schools and to be inclusive the term must be interpreted in a way which is meaningful to the range of communities it serves. The school community will usually include people from a variety of cultural and faith, and non-faith backgrounds.

Therefore, the term "collective" when used in relation to worship in schools refers to the gathering together of a school group or groups for worship; it does not in any way suggest an act of worship which involves a group meeting to subscribe to any particular faith or denomination of a faith.

Collective worship does not pre-suppose shared beliefs, and should not seek uniform responses from pupils. **Collective worship caters for a diversity of beliefs and points of view, allowing individuals to respond as individuals.**

At West Acton, one time that we do this in my weekly assembly and most of the other times it takes place in class and draws on literature, music, drama, art, news and current affairs, festival and celebrations, big questions, values and other sources of inspiration. It can provide a focus for thought, inspiration and reflection for pupils (and staff) whose religious and cultural backgrounds are of any faith or none.

LOVE SINGING?

londonyouthchoirs.com/join-lyc/

8 choirs for school
year 3 up to age 23

Auditions are friendly,
supportive, and FREE!



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London Youth Choirs is a registered charity No. 1151714

