



**In this  
Issue**

**WestminStore**

**Post 16  
Summer Ball**

**Leavers 2023**

**School  
Calendar  
23-24**

## **A Message from the Head Teacher**

What an incredible year it has been for all of us at The Westminster School.

A successful Ofsted inspection in March saw us retain our Outstanding grade and inspectors were impressed with what they saw in school and especially enjoyed meeting our pupils.

The School also retained its Platinum Investors in People Award, demonstrating our commitment to developing our staff to support all of our young people to achieve their aspirations.

WestminStore opened on Blackheath High Street and continues to serve the community through selling a wide range of crafts and goods, many of which have been designed and created by our students. Students really enjoy working in the shop and are gaining a wide range of skills and experiences.

We continued to provide lots of opportunities to take our learning outside the classroom and also welcomed parents and carers to join pupils in special workshops and at our Christmas Fair.

We've had some incredible feedback about WESTFEST – our summer festival for students, parents and carers. Thank you to everyone who attended. We really enjoy creating special experiences and memories for all of our young people.

Our recent governors' meeting was a great opportunity for TLR teachers to showcase the huge range of activities and developments that are happening inside and outside of school. Governors really appreciate the continued innovation and energy of staff focussed upon further enhancing the education provided for each student.

I wish you all a happy and restful summer break and look forward to seeing everyone back in School on Monday 4 September.

**Mr O M Flowers**  
Head Teacher





# WestminStore Update

The formal grand opening of WestminStore took place on 19 May and the Mayor of Sandwell and Blind Dave (Dave Heeley) performed the opening ceremony. Sandwell's Director of Children's Service and Education, Michael Jarrett, was also in attendance. We are very grateful to DPD who have financially supported the development of the shop. Students have been continuing to gain valuable skills and learning experiences whilst working at our WestminStore on Blackheath High Street. The shop sells crafts and gifts, with a range of personalised products designed and made by our young people. There are plans to expand our personalised gift range with an Etsy outlet in the future.





## Post 16 Summer Ball 2023

Our 2023 Post 16 Summer Ball was held at The Village Hotel in Dudley this year. There was food, music and dancing!









# Leavers 2023

Parents and carers joined us for our Leavers Celebration on Friday 30 June. It's always a bittersweet time as we are sad to see students leave us, but we are so proud of them and their achievements and know they will go on to great things.



Post 16 designed their own leaving dinner party food and cooked their favourite dish to share. They worked from an internet recipe and tasted each other's food at the end! Some of the food they chose were Chocolate cake, potato and bread pakoras, chocolate chip cookies, Oreo cheesecake pots, semolina halwa with almonds and potato fritters! What a great last supper for the leavers.





# Summer Term Activities



Visit to The Black Country Living Museum



Making Goods to Sell in WestminStore



Baggeridge Country Park



Waseley's Coronation Celebration Tea



Willow Parent & Carer Workshop





Working at WestminStore



Learning Construction Skills at Starright



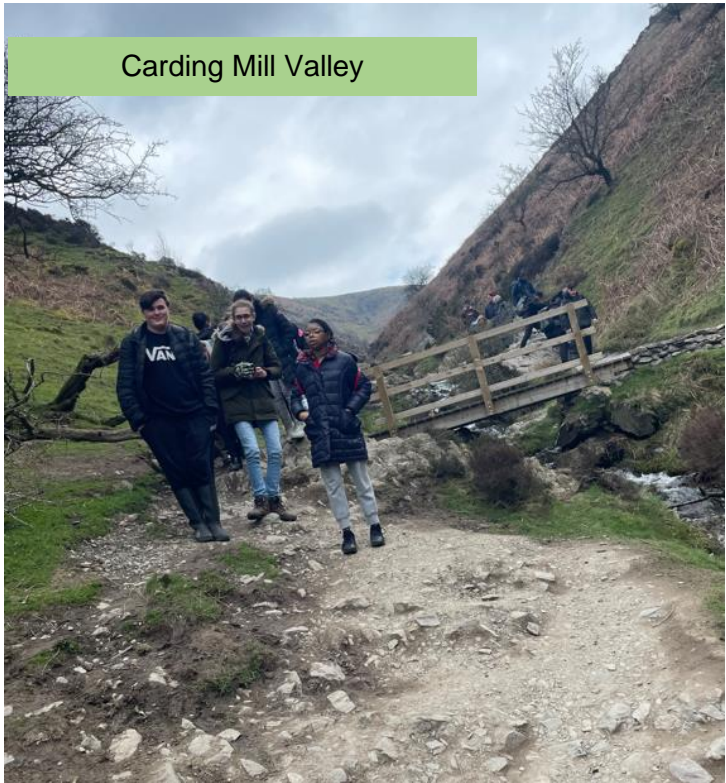
Hippodrome Backstage Tour of Titanic The Musical



Sharing Stories about Eid

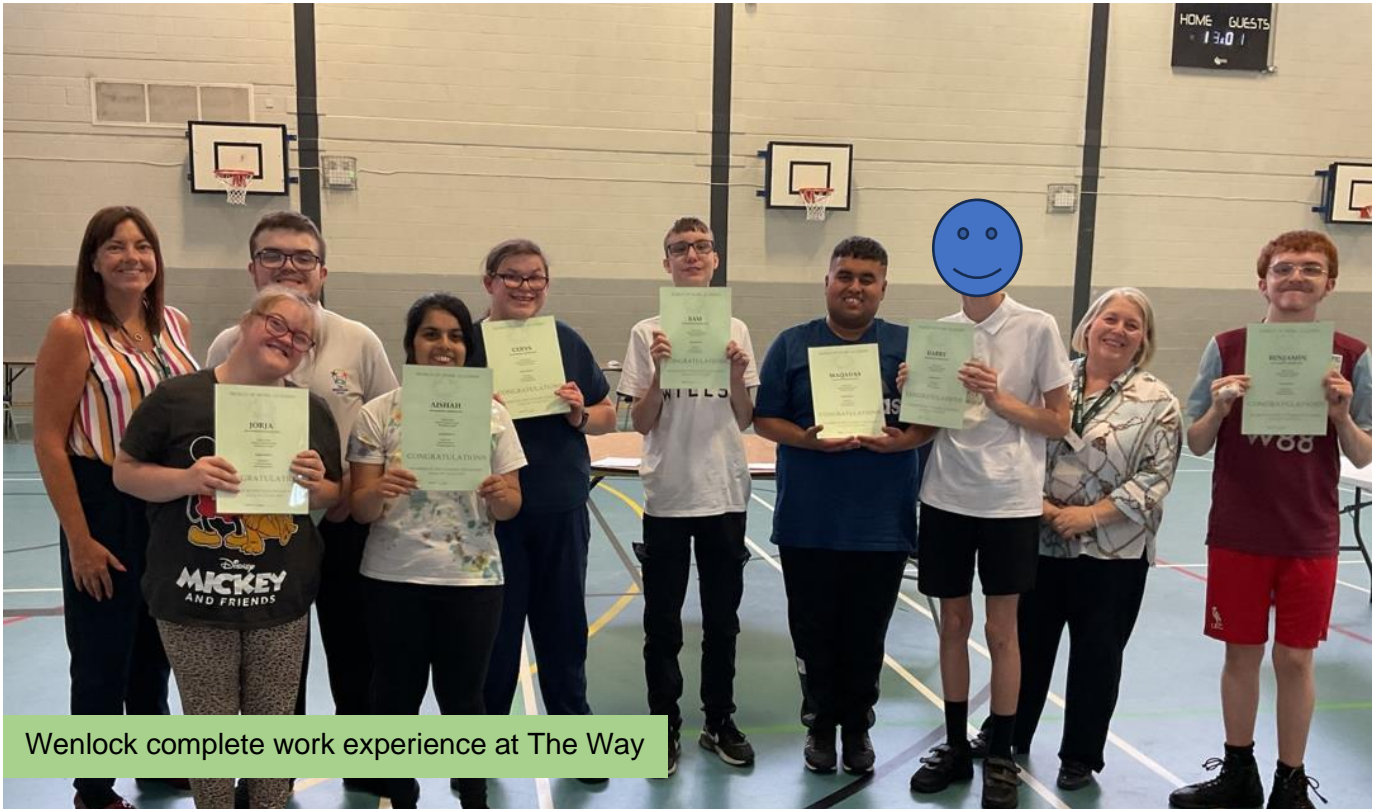


Work Experience at Wolverhampton University



Carding Mill Valley





Wenlock complete work experience at The Way



Exercising at Sandwell Valley



Working with Midland Metro Alliance on Bug Hotels



Relaxing in Forest School!



Wellbeing Day – Sound Experience



# WESTFEST23

Thank you to everyone who came to WestFest23! We had a fabulous time with circus skills, drumming, art workshops, face painting and festival food. We were really lucky to have The Warriors and Sweet Sensations provide the music too.







# What is a Family Hub?

**Children's Centres  
are growing to  
include more  
support and services  
and will become  
Sandwell Family  
Hubs.**

Our mission is to help all families in Sandwell thrive

Family Hubs will offer the right help, in the right place, at the right time by offering services and support for all families with children aged 0 – 19 (or 25 with SEND) and extra support is available for families during pregnancy and in your baby's first years.

To see how Family Hubs can support you and your family, head over to our Sandwell Family Hubs website where we offer support and guidance. You can also use our session finder to see what support is available.

[www.sandwellfamilyhubs.com](http://www.sandwellfamilyhubs.com)





# The Westminster School Calendar 2023/24

September 2023							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
35					1	2	3
36	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
37	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
38	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
39	25	26	27	28	29	30	
October 2023							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
39							1
40	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
41	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
42	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
43	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
44	30	31					
November 2023							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
44			1	2	3	4	5
45	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
46	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
47	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
48	27	28	29	30			
December 2023							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
48					1	2	3
49	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
50	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
51	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
52	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
January 2024							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
3	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
4	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
5	29	30	31				
February 2024							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
5				1	2	3	4
6	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
7	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9	26	27	28	29			
March 2024							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
9					1	2	3
10	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
12	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
13	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
April 2024							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
14	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
15	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
17	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
18	29	30					
May 2024							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
18			1	2	3	4	5
19	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
20	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
21	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
22	27	28	29	30	31		
June 2024							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
22						1	2
23	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
24	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
26	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
July 2024							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
27	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
28	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
29	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
30	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
31	29	30	31				

School Holidays

INSET Days

## Attendance Matters

The Westminster School continues to strive for excellence for all its pupils. In order to achieve this the school takes attendance very seriously. We firmly believe that good attendance leads to:

- Make friends and feel included.
- Learn new things and develop skills.
- Increase confidence and self-esteem.
- Improve social skills.
- Have better career prospects.
- Achieve their potential and fulfil their aspirations.



The school is working hard to raise awareness of the importance of regular attendance and our newly formed Attendance Monitoring Group, chaired by the Head Teacher, meet weekly to discuss attendance and develop strategies to support students and their families improve attendance.

We will be updating parents and carers regularly on their child's attendance.

Our Attendance Policy is available by scanning the QR code.

If you would like to discuss any issues regarding attendance please complete the google form link below and a member of the attendance team will be in contact with you.

<https://forms.gle/cEwUjKXZGQwmnNZf8>

