



West Kirby News

Summer 2019

Welcome to our Summer newsletter!



Pupils celebrate neurodiversity with Umbrella Project, visited by Tony Lloyd, ADHD Foundation, p.7



Engage Awards won across the school, p.3



Enterprise Week market, p.4

Message from Acting Principal, Mr Smith

Dear Reader,

It has been a privilege to lead the school as Acting Principal for the summer term. The shared approach amongst all pupils and staff has been amazing and the achievements testament to communication, collaboration and compassion.

As we approach the close of the 2018-19 academic year we certainly have cause to celebrate an incredible term here at WKS. Some of the highlights have been; the Talent Show, Enterprise Market, Engage Awards, Creative Awards, Dot Art competition, Harry Potter trip, Neurodiversity week and ADHD Foundation umbrella project and much more which will feature throughout this magnificent newsletter.

Neurodiversity Week provided a brilliant opportunity to celebrate the specific needs we all have and the strengths we can bring to society. The week involved visiting speakers and some of our own staff sharing their stories, experiences and how they have succeeded beyond expectations. The conclusion to the week culminated in taking part in the ADHD Foundation umbrella project. Our pupils decorated a series of colourful umbrellas with messages. These have pride of place outside the school displayed for all to see.

Tony Lloyd, CEO of the ADHD Foundation joined us in our celebration assembly. He made a lovely speech in front of pupils and staff. He also commented "At least 1 in 10 people are neurodiverse – and we are only really beginning to understand how diverse human intelligence is and especially the creative intelligence of those with dyslexia, Autism, ADHD, dyspraxia, dysgraphia and dyscalculia.

For this reason I was delighted to see West Kirby school join in celebrating neurodiversity along with hundreds of schools who have had their own 'Umbrella Project' installation in their school. Every child is intelligent and gifted and this school is outstanding in its work to enable children who struggle in mainstream education to achieve their potential."

Another highlight included the Talent Show in which many pupils and staff faced their fears and performed in front of a large audience for both afternoon and evening sets. It gave a true indication of the confidence and real talents within the community at WKS and how when we come together as a team we can all achieve our potential.

The enterprise week which followed on from the successes of the previous year served as a fantastic example of how the values of WKS can come together to show all involved the relevance of what we are achieving here. The communication, collaboration, compassion and teamwork allowed all aspects of the curriculum to come together into a real life experience; truly skills for life.

So, as we see some young people move onto further education or apprenticeships, we welcome many new young people starting their journey with us in September, however, all who pass through WKS are seen as family and have an open invite to visit us in the future.

Can I wish you on behalf of all of the staff here at WKS, a very happy summer break, and we look forward to seeing you all in September.

Warm wishes

Mr Pete Smith

By the way, Mrs Kelleher produces/creates this extremely professional termly publication. So, a brief shout out to her skills and commitment to all that happens here at WKS.

Proud pupils win National Engage awards!



We're so proud of our pupils scooping four "Engage in their future" awards! A massive congratulations to you all on your achievements!

Our Post-16 team won Bronze "Team of the Year", for community work - helping local litter picking and assisting

Louis, who is within our Zone area of the school, got an admirable Silver for "Outstanding Personal Resilience."

Our talented duo Archie and Leon won Silver in "Innovation and Creativity" for writing their own book.

Mrs Abernethy commented *"Leon and his co-author are both severely dyslexic. Since September they have been writing a short fiction story, which is currently in the process of being published. Leon's creative writing is an example to both adults and peers of how his dyslexia does not hinder his creativity."*

Kaiden, Year 8, won Gold in "Innovation and Creativity", who produced his own book and hoping to now go on to make a movie. Well done Kaiden, keep up your enthusiasm and creativity!



Our team and Post 16 pupils at the awards!



Archie and Leon, Silver in 'Innovation and Creativity'



Kaiden, Gold 'Innovation and Creativity'

Engage Creative Awards winners!

We're also very proud of our 3 pupils who won places in the Engage National Creative Awards. Toby 1st place Post 16 category, 'Aspirations', Codey 2nd place Post 16 category, 'Hangin' in there' and Thomas 2nd place KS4 category 'Perseverance'. Congratulations to you all!



Toby, 'Aspirations'



Codey, 'Hangin' in there'



Thomas, 'Perseverance'

Enterprise week success!

For the second year we held our Enterprise Week and market!

For one week classes worked off timetable with the aim of developing business skills including entrepreneurship, creativity, costing, production and marketing, which supports developing functional life skills.

Each class had £30 to invest in a business idea to develop, produce and sell during the week and at the Enterprise Market.

Classes worked brilliantly together as teams to plan and produce their idea, splitting tasks such as posters, signage, production and even websites!

The market was bustling with a great atmosphere, joined by parents, carers and members of the public .

We saw so much effort and many creative ideas from our pupils! Not to mention competitiveness! Mr Saunders, Enterprise Lead said "It's evident we have a number of entrepreneurs who have definitely got what it takes to run a small business!"

See our website for more photographs!



Post 16 famous sausage rolls!



Class RS Candles and homemade Lemonade





Pupils created posters & websites in ICT



Class CS Shoe shine service



Class RS sign making



Class LH bath fizzes sign, made by Myla



Brilliant teamwork in RS candle making



Class SB 'made to order' creative keyrings



Class LM recycled bottle lights



Local community enjoy the market!



Caption competition!

Enterprise class activities

Henry's Enterprise week write up - Class LH

“Enterprise week was a very busy and fun week. During Enterprise I made gift tags out of clay in Art with Miss Thompson. I used different plants to add design to my gift tags. I also put different coloured ribbon on each gift tag to sell them in the school car park.

On Thursday, I walked around with my gift tags in a basket selling them to lots of different people. I charged everyone 30p for one gift tag or four for £1. My gift tags were a hit with the customers. I really enjoyed Enterprise week.”

By Henry S.



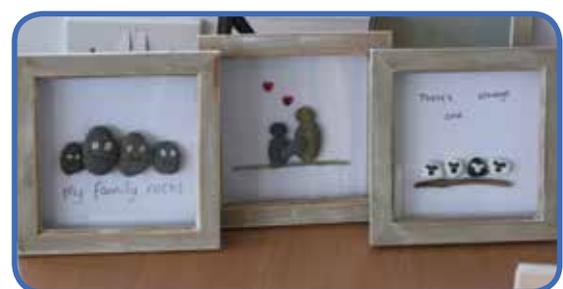
Class EC review - #rockinnewdesigns

“After the success of our last class enterprise Class EC decided to try again with the pebble frames idea.

We requested feedback from our previous customers. From this feedback we were able to establish what designs were popular and take on board feedback to better our product. After initially making approximately 10 different designs we were inundated with orders following the enterprise market, we have since worked hard to produce all the frames and deliver them to our customers.

The class aim to continue making frames we have a catalogue of designs which can be ordered and personalised. We are looking into the possibility of selling online in the near future”

#rockinnewdesigns Class EC enterprise



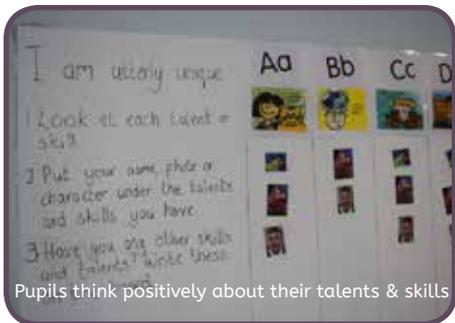
WKS pupils celebrate Neurodiversity!

Pupils celebrated National 'Neurodiversity Week' with discussions about what neurodiversity is, staff share sessions, visitor talks and a cake sale.

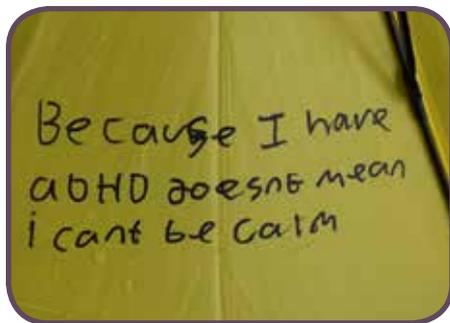
We've also created our very own ADHD Umbrella Project. Our pupils decorated their own umbrellas, celebrating their talents, skills and what makes them unique. Tony Lloyd, CEO, ADHD Foundation supported us and visited us for the launch of our installation, now proudly on show to the front of school!



Tony Lloyd, CEO, ADHD Foundation visits



Pupils think positively about their talents & skills



Zone pupils did their own umbrella project



Year 10 pupil Alex said "It's so good the school was able to participate to allow us to express even if we have difficulties we can achieve many things and to do that in a relaxed way."



Sophie Williams, University of Liverpool student visits did an inspiring talk with classes around being neurodiverse, transitioning and managing day to day life

More of our pupils umbrella messages on our website
www.wkrs.co.uk



Pupils do a Neurodiversity cupcake sale

Talent show 2019



The Talent Show was better than ever this year, giving so many pupils the opportunity to shine.

There was such a variety of involvement from compere, singing, miming, pre-recorded performances, dance and of course our talented staff, who do whatever it takes to support the pupils in getting on the stage, as well as a few of their own acts! Backstage support of lights, sound and make-up are also essential to the talent show.



The Talent Show was led by Miss Millington, Drama teacher, who also runs the Arts Awards. Mr Scullion also provided support, working behind the scenes on technical edits, lighting and sound.

A huge well done to everybody involved, we're very proud of everyone's achievements.





Arts Award achievements

Miss Millington also runs the Arts Award qualification for pupils following Drama. For our Arts Award pupils the Talent Show was important aspect of their course.

Paul is doing his Gold Arts Award module and his dance performance contributed to this. He now gains UCAS points with his achievement. Niamh and Erin are working towards their Bronze and doing the make-up counts towards their 'Taking Part' module. Brandon's performances also counted towards his Bronze. *Well done to you all!*



2019 WKS Leavers!

A fond farewell to all our Leavers! We wish you the best of luck for your future beyond West Kirby School!

The transition year is a challenging year for WKS pupils, as they face additional hurdles to most and this year's leavers have been amazing! The resilience and persistence in navigating their future options, deciding what they wish to do and where best they can achieve this, had been outstanding.

Where did this last academic year go! This year, we are saying 'see you soon' to 11 pupils, who have achieved their transition goals by working hard, visiting colleges, going on assessment days, attending college and employer interviews, sat their

exams and prepared to leave WKS.

The WKS 11, have done this with support from their families, friends and the WKS staff team have guided them to their next destination but the pupils again, WKS have not done this alone and we would like to thank the staff from all the colleges who opened their doors to WKS and support our pupils and their parents/carers/guardians through the rocky road of transitioning.

This year, we partnered with a host colleges with pupils, parents and WKS staff:



Considering your transition or future options?

Please contact Helen Shallcross, WKS Transition Officer on 0151 632 3201 or email hshallcross@wkrs.co.uk

GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK TO YOU ALL!!

“You’ll be sorely missed, good luck in the future.” Mr Musgrave

“College is all about building – building friendships, building experiences, building connections, building relationships and more importantly, building your future. Good luck.”

Mr Hulme

“Good luck to Hannah with her journey through college completing Animal Care - we are certain you will do well with your transition.” Mr Cox

“This year Mathew and Noah will be leaving us to take one step closer to their dreams. Noah is moving to Calday to study A levels and Mathew is moving to TTE gaining an apprenticeship to train in specialist electronics industry. We wish them all the best in their future and are very proud of their achievements.” Mr Saunders

“Jade you have achieved so much during your time here at West Kirby and we wish you all the best for your future! We know you will do amazing and everyone will want to spend time with you.” Miss Rowlands



LEAVERS OF 2019
ANDREW-HANNAH-JADE-
MATHEW-MORGAN
NOAH-PAUL-RYAN
TOBY-TOM-ZAHOOR



“As you walk out of the WKS doors, your new journey starts. Never forget how far you came in WKS and how hard you worked to overcome life’s barriers. Remember how much strength and resilience you have learned and developed with us. Have faith in your dreams and yourself, as only you can reach your destination. Good luck!” Helen Shallcross

Pupil news and achievements!

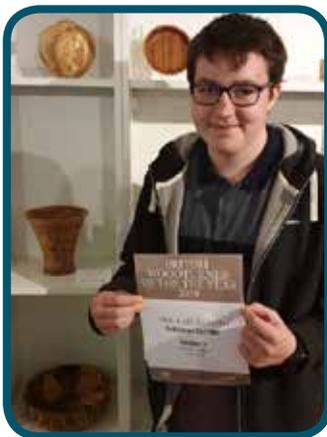
Caitlin horse riding write up, Class LH

We go horse riding once a week to Wirral Riding Centre, near Ness Gardens. Each week we ride different horses but my favourite is Ozzie! I like to canter on him. Sometimes we go for a hack, which is a walk out of the centre along the lane. After our ride we now help take our horses back to their stables and untack them. Then we help out by either filling hay nets, mucking out stables or grooming a horse.



Thanks Caitlin!

Comment from Mrs. Hitchen: *"It has been amazing to watch the students grow in confidence and become independent riders! In the last few lessons it has been a pleasure to watch the students, well done to you all!"*



Nathanael wins Woodturning Award!

Nathanael, aged 15, has won the prize for British Woodturner of the Year, under 18's category.

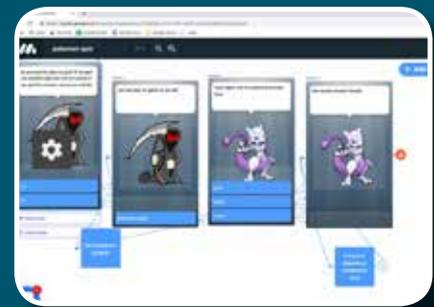
Nathanael developed his talent and interest in woodturning through school, inspired by staff but a collaboration of support with family. He's started selling his work through local fairs including Festival of Firsts and most recently on his table at our Enterprise Fair. Interest in his Instagram page has increased since the award!

Mr Saunders, DT teacher, says 'It's amazing, 2 years ago he didn't know how to use any tools, I showed him how to use a lathe and this is where he's ended up, I'm so proud!'

Riley's review of hi-impact ICT sessions

Since joining WKS I have attended hi-impact sessions which has been one of my favourite lessons in school. Hi-Impact is an ICT based lesson which involves creating games, making puzzles and learning how to be creative on computers.

An example of a game I created is similar to Pokémon Go- I thoroughly enjoyed making this with the help of Mr Mac. The game allows you to use your phone camera to look around the surrounding area and find characters chosen by myself. This game is a work in progress and I look forward to finishing it!



h hi-impact
consultancy

News from our Residential care

Hello to everyone and welcome to the Care department news.

“Today we say goodbye to one of our long time residents Toby.

When this young man first came to us he was very nervous and anxious and found things very difficult to understand and process, but as we as a whole school team have grown and supported Toby he has developed into a very talented and much more confident person who now goes onward to new challenges at College.

It’s been a real pleasure to see how much he has matured and having seen some of his music performances, the future is really bright. It is also a real pleasure to have a very supportive family who have been a big part of his residential



development and have allowed us to make plans and encourage Toby to take on new challenges. So from us all Toby, Good Luck and happy times ahead!”

Gary

On behalf of the school & residential team

“I’ll be watching for you Tobes at Monsters of Rock. I’m sure it won’t be long before you are headlining. Make sure we all get VIP tickets!” Mrs Smith

“Wishing you the best of luck Toby. Keep us up to date with your career and your hair colour choices. You will be missed by all you came into contact with.” Mrs Foxley

Goodbye messages for Zahoor

“It’s been a pleasure working with you for the past three and half years. You are such a caring young adult. You have the biggest heart, great taste in cartoons (Scooby Doo). You will be missed very much, most importantly I will miss our shopping sprees, slimming world and our cinema nights. Good luck in the future Zahoor”. Miss Maguire

“Good luck for the future, please do keep in touch.” Mr Mackenzie

“Zahoor is great!” from Henry



“Wishing you all the best Zahoor for your future. You have been a pleasure to support over the years.” Mrs Foxley

Harry Potter World English Trip



Our English Department in conjunction with our Librarian, Miss Dennis and our Reading Support, Mrs Abernethy, ran a Book Review writing competition, with the best 7 entries winning a trip to Harry Potter World!



Miss Dennis says "Everybody enjoyed the day. There were different highs for everybody - Breandon loved the short virtual reality Dragon and the butterbeer. Kaiden made a vlog documenting the day. The wands were a big hit! Each pupil (and staff!!) got the chance to have a photo taken on a broom which was green-screened to make it look as though we were playing quidditch! We also spent time searching for golden snitches! It was a great day and the pupils dealt really well with the changes and waits for the trains and bus."



Myla's review - Class LH

"On Wednesday 10th July I went to Harry Potter world with a group of staff and students.

We took the train to Liverpool and then down to London then a train back out of London followed by a bus! Harry Potter world was absolutely awesome! The dragon at the beginning was amazing. I took so many photos (28!). I would also like to thank the staff who took us. We only got home just before midnight!"



Duke of Edinburgh update

Our Bronze team have completed their expeditions in Cheshire and North Wales.

This has tested their fitness, endurance and resilience through the challenges of walking, camping and working in a team.

Well done to the Elephant Squad! Aka Alfie, Kyle, Niamh, Jack and John!

These pupils have planned their own routes and navigated these themselves around Delamere and the Clwydian Range. They've carried all of their own equipment, walked in tough weather conditions, pitched tents, cooked their own meals and showed good



team work skills in supporting each other. Pupils are also continuing to complete the sections of their award e.g. volunteering, physical and skill sections which need to be completed alongside their expeditions.



We hope more pupils will join DofE next year! If you're aged 14 or older and are interested in joining the adventure next year, speak to Mrs Draycott to find out more!



Thanks to everyone who continues to support our pupils. Please follow us on twitter to keep up with our adventures!
[@WestKirbySchool](https://twitter.com/WestKirbySchool) [#wksdofe](https://twitter.com/wksdofe)

Arts update

It's been a busy and successful term for the Art department, led by Mrs Davies.

As well as the the Dot Art Schools competition and Festival of Firsts involvement, pupils have won Engage Creative Awards!

Dot Art Schools competition

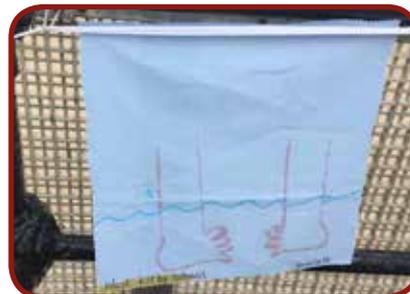
Jimmy won 1st place for West Kirby School with his artwork 'Jerry'. His artwork was on show as part of an exhibition at Liverpool John Moores Art College. Congratulations Jimmy!



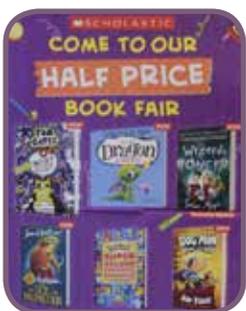
Jimmy 'Jerry': WKS Dot Art winner

Festival of Firsts flags

Pupils at the school produced flags for the local Festival of Firsts Wishing Flag project theme for 2019 'The Great Outdoors'



Book Fair update



Thanks to Miss Dennis for organising our Book Fair again and to pupils, parents and carers for their support!

It was brilliant to see so many pupils interested in so many different types of books to read! We're pleased to announce we surpassed our target with book sales of £357.90, so the school will be rewarded with books that can be used in the library.

Clive Roberts, past resident at West Kirby Convalescent Home pays a special visit!

It was a pleasure to meet Clive (and his wife) who lived here for 2 years 70 years ago when the school was formerly a childrens convalescent home and he was admitted with Bronchiectesis. He told us stories how beds were out in the fresh air, apparently did lake side deep breathing exercises, aswell as a cheeky escape story!



Refugee week

Mrs Clemenson led Refugee week in school, building on pupils' moral, social and cultural awareness.

We were kindly visited by Ian Downing from Asylum Link Merseyside, who took a whole school assembly and individual class workshops discussing 'What is an asylum seeker, a migrant and a refugee?' and true stories of refugees, along with introducing us to the valuable work Asylum Link Merseyside provides. The sessions were very well received by pupils who were keen to learn more and ask questions.

Mrs Clemenson also spoke as a member on behalf of Amnesty International about human rights.

Miss Hercules produced 'Refugee Week' logo cakes with the pupils for a cake sale around school, with the money donated to ALM.

It was brilliant to see our English room overwhelmed with a collection of clothes, food and toiletry items for donation which were delivered to ALM.



Class LM update!

Class LM have been working on their ASDAN Personal and Social Development qualification this term. The aim of these qualifications is to develop skills for learning, work and life.

Pupils have achieved their Level One Food Health & Hygiene for the World of Work module, involving an online course and a reading quiz.

St John's Ambulance also worked with the class for their Sport module, achieving the minor cuts and bruises certificate.

Well done to you all!



Feedback from our pupils!

Our pupils wanted to share their experiences:

“I enjoy class based lessons because it is less stressful than thinking where I should be. I like that is a small school and small classes, I know all the teachers and they know me. There is always someone to talk to if you have a problem.

I enjoy horse-riding, British Sign Language club and piano lessons. I enjoy crabbing and big options/half term options.” Hannah, Year 10

“When I first came to this school it was confusing. The school was big and it felt like a maze! Eventually I got used to finding my way around, even finding short cuts! Then after a couple of weeks I got used to the school routine.

It is much bigger than my old school. There, the football cage was small and hardly anyone could play in it. In this school's football cage it is way bigger!

Today, I entered the 100th Book Festival West Kirby! The first time I went horse-riding it was great. I got a majestic white horse and it felt amazing. I look forward to a third time where maybe we will go for a gallop!” Riley, Class LH, Year 6

“Before I came to this school I was struggling massively in mainstream. Here even though I travel so far, everyone is great and understanding. I'm so happy to be able to learn”

Here's some welcome messages from our pupils sent to our new pupils starting in September

A message from one of our pupils...
I have only been here
a few weeks but
I all ready love it
here, its great!
Katie Pearce

A message from one of our pupils...
Tyler (10years) states
“This school is
great, it actually is”

Useful information for parents

Contact Details

Monday to Friday

5pm-10pm

Saturday & Sunday

12pm to 8pm

For any queries or concerns, you can contact the Children & Young People's Out of Hours Advice Line on

Tel: 01244 397644

Outside of Hours

- Contact the out of hours GP service.
- See one of the Helplines listed in our Resource Packs on the My Mind website:

<http://cwpcamhscentre.mymind.org.uk/>

Immediate Concerns

If you are concerned about the immediate safety of your child, please take them to your local A&E Department.

To find out more about our CAMHS Service why not visit our website www.mymind.org.uk or follow us on twitter @MyMindFeed



CYP Out of Hours Advice Line

This leaflet is available in other languages or formats



Feedback

We welcome any suggestions you have, please send your comments, concerns and compliments to: PALS, Patient and Carer Experience Team, Trust Headquarters, Redesmere, Countess of Chester Health Park, Liverpool Road, Chester CH2 1BQ.

For more information see www.cwp.nhs.uk.
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The information in this leaflet was valid at the date of production Feb 2018 and is due for review in Feb 2020.

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Would you like to talk about child or young person's mental health?

Care • Well-being • Partnership



www.northwalesautismconference.org

Oxia-ASD.co.uk

North Wales 4th Annual Health and Wellbeing



Autism Conference 2019

Friday 11th October 2019 8.30am - 5pm

Venue Cymru, Llandudno LL30 1BB

@NWAutismConf
#NWAutismConf19



Sarah Hendrickx
Keynote Speaker



Jamie and Lion
Accessibility Advisor BBC



Dr Luke Beardon
Senior Lecturer in Autism

Live music by the amazing band Sound Express from Emerge Community Arts

Tickets on sale 1st June via Eventbrite. Enquires 01244 567856 or email info@AAautism.org Tickets £150 including refreshments, lunch and choice of two workshop options. Limited number of £50 concessionary tickets available.

Trade stands £250 with 20% discount if booked before 31st July 2019. Limited number of FREE stands for very small groups.

FREE ENTRY TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO TRADE STAND, EXHIBITION & INFORMATION AREA

North Wales Autism Conference is open to families for free to access the information and advice available on the trade stands.



National Parents and Carers Conference: Special Educational Needs and Mental Health

**Saturday 5th October 2019,
ACC Exhibition Centre, Liverpool**



For more information on the conference contact the Witherslack Group events team on 0844 880 6520 or email events@witherslackgroup.co.uk



2019 useful dates

GCSE results Thursday 22 August 2019 - results available to collect from 9.30am
Back to school Wednesday 4th September 2019

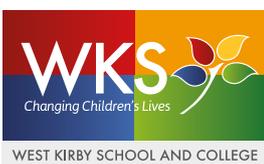
Look out for the events below in Autumn term - dates TBC
Transitions Information Evening, Parents Evening and Celebration Evening



WKS Twitter updates - @westkirbyschool

We're always updating Twitter with lots of photos, news from class activities, Friday options, extra curricular activities and SEN resource links.

Wishing you all a good Summer break and we look forward to seeing you in September!



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