

WEST GRANTHAM UPDATE



Friday 23 May, 2025

WEST GRANTHAM
Church of England Secondary Academy

Rockets, Rounders and Revision

It's been another jam-packed fortnight here at WGSA, full of energy, effort and excellence across the school.

Top Tips sessions have continued to be well-attended, with students showing real commitment as they brush up on subjects including English literature, theology, maths, biology, geography and history. It's great to see so many pupils making the most of these extra opportunities for success.

Out on the field, our Year 10 BTEC Sport students wrapped up a recent module with a good old-fashioned game of rounders after school – a brilliant way to put theory into practice and soak up some sunshine while they were at it. Dodgeball club continues to grow, too, with sessions proving a real hit – quite literally. Students are loving the fast pace and fierce competition, and it's fair to say the enthusiasm is bouncing off the walls.

Last week's PSHE Day saw students step away from their regular timetables to engage in important conversations around mental health, bullying, screen time, British citizenship, and internet safety. There were also team-building challenges,

WEEK A - JUNE 02

including a competition to build the tallest paper tower using just sheets of A4 – a real test of patience, precision and teamwork. One tower was caught mid-collapse, providing a valuable lesson in structural integrity... and impeccable timing for a photo!

Meanwhile, Science Club – and Science Enrichment – have been launching into learning, literally. Students have been designing and firing paper rockets using high-pressure air pumps and pipe launchers. It's been a blast in every sense, with young scientists testing out their designs to see whose could go the furthest, the fastest, or just survive landing in one piece. There's nothing quite like hands-on learning that takes off.

We were also incredibly proud of our athletes, who represented WGSA at the District Athletics competition at the Meres. Every student gave their all, and we couldn't be prouder of their efforts and attitude.

From tower toppers to air-powered flyers, this fortnight has seen students reaching new heights – and we can't wait to see where they go next.

A word from...

Maisie, Y10

Hi, I'm Maisie. One of my favourite lessons is Hospitality and Catering. I like this lesson because I love to cook and enjoy learning about different kinds of foods from around the world. I also have learnt some important skills like food safety and how to prepare meals properly. I think this would be a great GCSE to choose because it's fun, practical, and it teaches you useful life skills. If you enjoy cooking or want to work in a restaurant or hotel one day, it's a great option! We even get the chance to plan and make full meals, which is really rewarding. It's a lesson where you get to be creative and see what you've made at the end. I also enjoy Science because we get to do fun experiments and find out how things work. I especially like learning about space and the human body – it's interesting to see how everything is connected. Science helps me understand the world around me, and I love asking questions and discovering new things. It's a great subject if you're curious and like solving problems! We use lots of equipment in the lab and work in groups, which makes it fun and hands-on. Science is a subject that helps prepare you for all sorts of careers, from medicine to engineering.

Mon

Football Clubs, Fitness Gym, Gardening Club, Library Club

Tue

Library Club
Table Tennis

Wed

Fitness Gym
Library Club

Thu

Homework, Fitness Gym, Debate, DT, STEM Clubs
Positive Futures

Fri

Christian Union Club (Lunchtime)
Art Club
Library Club

WEEK B - JUNE 09

Mon

Football Clubs, Fitness Gym, Gardening Club, Library Club

Tue

Library Club
Table Tennis

Wed

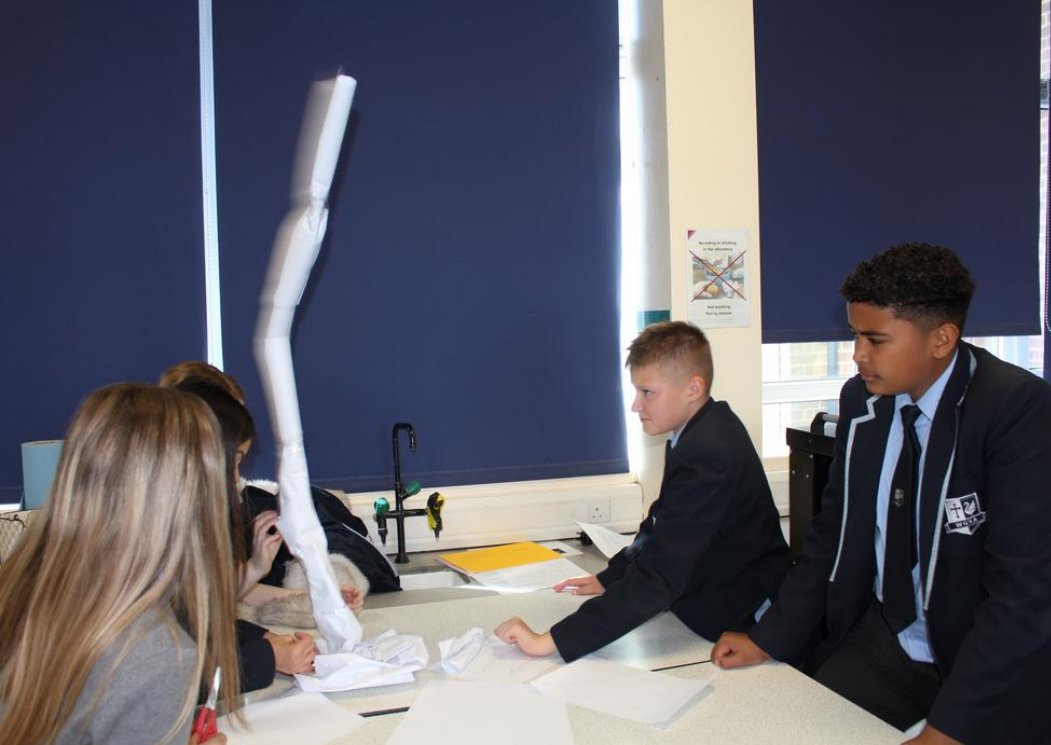
Fitness Gym
Library Club
World Day for Cultural Diversity Themed Menu PSHE Day

Thu

Homework Club, Fitness Gym, Debate Club, Design Tech and Art Club, STEM Club
Positive Futures

Fri

Christian Union Club (Lunchtime)
Library Club





10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SAFETY ON THE ROAD

Traffic-related incidents are a significant risk for young pedestrians and cyclists, so understanding road safety is crucial for children's wellbeing. While all road users share responsibility for keeping one another safe, this guide offers strategies for empowering young people to navigate the roads confidently and responsibly.

1 TAKE PRACTICE JOURNEYS

Making 'practice' journeys with children is a great way to help them stay safe, thereby modelling responsible behaviours and having road safety conversations as they prepare to travel independently. Add hazard perception activities like spotting electric vehicles – which may have a green number plate – and point out how quiet they are. Children learn by watching others; remind them that their peers might not always be the best role models.

2 BE BRIGHT, BE SEEN

Visibility is lower during darker winter days, and drivers need to take extra care to look out for pedestrians. Wearing bright and reflective clothing can help make children more visible to drivers near roads. In poor daylight conditions, encourage children to wear light, bright or fluorescent clothing. When it's dark, wear reflective clothing or materials such as a reflective armband or jacket.

3 EYES UP

Encourage children to look up and keep their eyes on the road. Teach them to constantly watch for traffic and practise double-checking the road before crossing – looking right, left and then right again.

4 LIMIT DISTRACTIONS

Where possible, devices like phones should be kept away from children while out and about near roads. If they're carrying devices, these should be put away until they've reached their destination. Children must also avoid playing with toys or being distracted by friends. If a friend wants to show them something funny on their phone, there'll be time for that once they've safely arrived.

5 SLOW DOWN

Discuss the importance of waiting instead of crossing immediately. It can be tricky to judge the speed of traffic and spot obstacles that could cause a trip or a fall. For safety, children must stop and think before they get to the kerb and should always walk – not run – when crossing the road. They should avoid crossing until they're certain they have plenty of time. Even if traffic seems a long way off, it could still be approaching very quickly.

6 STOP BEFORE THE KERB

Teach children to stop before reaching the kerb – not right at the edge of it. Halting before they get to the kerb allows them to see if anything's coming, whereas getting too close to traffic is dangerous. If there's no pavement, children should stand back from the road's edge but ensure they can still see approaching traffic.

7 CROSS SAFELY

Children should always find a safe spot to cross the road, prioritising zebra crossings or pelican crossings, footbridges and subways. Find a place where they can see traffic coming from both directions. Avoid crossing near junctions, bends in the road, or obstacles that block their view, instead moving to somewhere they can see and be seen. Remind them to use their eyes and ears together when checking the road, as sometimes they can hear traffic before they can see it. Looking and listening while crossing helps them quickly spot traffic, including cyclists and motorcyclists driving between other vehicles.

8 PARKED VEHICLES

Crossing between parked vehicles is very dangerous. Teach children to use extra caution if crossing in this way, and, ideally, avoid it altogether. They should use the outside edge of a vehicle as if it were the kerb, waiting and checking for traffic before moving. They should ensure vehicles aren't about to move, by looking for drivers in the vehicles and listening for engines running – but remember that electric vehicles may move off silently. They should always make sure there is a gap between any parked vehicles on the other side, so they can reach the pavement.

9 REVERSING VEHICLES

Children must never cross behind a reversing vehicle – it's extremely dangerous. Remind them to look for white reversing lights and listen out for warning sounds. Can they hear the engine sound or a radio playing inside the vehicle?

10 WAIT FOR THE BUS TO LEAVE

When getting off a bus, children must wait for it to leave before crossing so they can have a clear view of the road in both directions. This also allows them to see and be seen by other road users. Crossing near large vehicles is particularly dangerous and should be avoided.

Meet Our Expert

THINK! is a year-round national campaign that aims to encourage safe road behaviours – whether we're driving, cycling, horse riding or walking – with the aim of reducing the number of people killed and injured on the UK's roads each year. Find out more at: <https://www.think.gov.uk/education-resources/>



The National College