

WIZZY WELLBEING



WELCOME!



Welcome to the very first edition of the Wizzy Well-being newsletter!

My name is Mrs Cutts and I am one of the Assistant Principals at Wistaston Academy. I am also the SENDCo (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator) for the school. This newsletter will be published each half term and will be full of information and recommendations for all pupils, whether your child has Special Educational Needs or not. We will be introducing you to the adults who play a huge part in your child's education, sharing tips and celebrating achievements. If you have a question, a comment or something you would like to see in the next edition, please email me!

NEW STAFF

We are very excited to introduce Mrs Dean as a new member of staff at school. Mrs Dean is our Mental Health Practitioner and has already started working with some pupils and their families. Having previously worked for the NHS mental health team, Mrs Dean will be offering support to pupils around anxiety, emotions and other wellbeing needs.

We know that Mrs Dean will provide vital support to remove barriers and have a positive impact on pupils' wellbeing and education.

FAMILY SUPPORT

As in previous academic years, Mrs Brittain continues to complete work around attendance and safeguarding. She is available in school to offer help to our families. If you would like to speak to her, please contact the main office.



USEFUL CONTACTS...

If you have any questions or concerns about your child, please contact the class teacher in the first instance but the contacts below may also be useful:

- For more information about SEND or anything else in this newsletter, please contact: - kcutts@wistastonacademytrust.co.uk
- For attendance and safeguarding queries- Mrs Brittain: familysupport@wistastonacademytrust.co.uk

WEBSITES...

Don't forget that the school website contains dates, policies and information about what your child will be learning this half term:

<http://www.wistastonacademytrust.co.uk/>

The Cheshire East local offer for SEND can be found here:

<https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/livewell/local-offer-for-children-with-sen-and-disabilities/local-offer-for-children-with-sen-and-disabilities.aspx>

Useful information for families of children with autism:

<https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/livewell/local-offer-for-children-with-sen-and-disabilities/education/supporting-send-in-education/pupils-with-asc/information-for-parents-and-family-of-asc-children.aspx>



Each half term, you will find a handy guide to a different condition or disability here. As this is the first edition, this half term we will be sharing the school's graduated approach to SEND.

My child needs some extra support...what will happen?

If a pupil is identified by staff and/ or parents as needing additional support compared to that of their peers, the initial conversation will be recorded by the class teacher on a **Discussion Form**. The SENDCo, Mrs Cutts, will be informed and implement any agreed actions. After a set time, the Discussion Form will be reviewed and a decision will be made about whether the form is removed or the next stage is needed.



First Concerns

If further support is needed, a First Concerns profile is completed with home and school. The profile outlines the current situation and what needs to happen. It is reviewed regularly (at least every term).



SEN Support

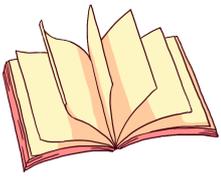
If progress is still not seen in the areas identified on the First Concerns profile, provision will be reviewed and a SEN Support Plan will be created by school and shared with home. This means that the child will be added to the SEND Register. Targets will be set and reviewed regularly and outside agencies will contribute to targets as appropriate. Other professionals such as an Educational Psychologist may become involved.



Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP)

If a child is requiring significant resources over and above what is usually provided in school, an EHCP can be applied for to provide additional funding to allow the school to support the child further. EHCPs are for children with significant or complex needs. *Look out for our second Wizzy Wellbeing newsletter for more information about what EHCPs are and how we support our pupils with the highest levels of need.*

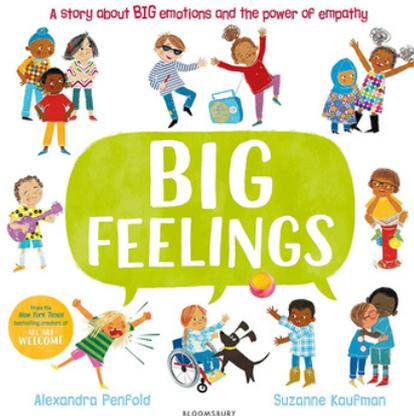
In the first instance, always speak to your child's class teacher who will be happy to help. They will inform relevant staff from the well-being team if needed and agree next steps.



Book recommendations



Each half term, we will be sharing some books that either support wellbeing or have main characters with additional needs. These are great for all pupils, especially to raise awareness, tolerance and understanding of others if they don't have SEND themselves.



Reception- Year 2
Big Feelings

A great book to help young children label and understand emotions.

Years 1-5

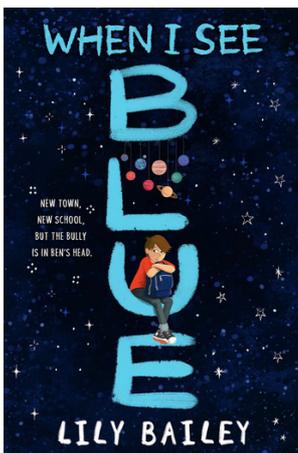
Helping Your Dragon Deal with Anxiety
Just one book from a series that deals with some tricky issues in an accessible way for children. There are a range of other titles in the series covering topics such as separation anxiety, friendship and anger.



Year 5/6

When I See Blue

A fantastic read introducing the challenges a pupil with OCD faces. Please note, this book deals with some mature themes- staff will happily give you specific details about these before your child reads this book if you feel you need advice.



We appreciate that books are expensive but we want all our children to have access to texts that help them to understand their needs or those of others. For this reason, all recommended titles are available for children to borrow. Please ask the class teacher if you wish for your child to take a book home and this can be loaned to you.



We are very pleased to be able to share with you a fantastic resource that staff have been using for the last few months. Creative Education is a training site that has hundreds of webinars, courses and podcasts about a wide range of SEND and wellbeing topics. The school has purchased a community subscription meaning that you can access the site completely free of charge. Staff will be able to advise you about appropriate materials if you approach them for support but you are also encouraged to explore the site for yourself.

You can find the website here:

<https://www.creativeeducation.co.uk/>

There is also a flyer on the final page of the newsletter with a QR code for you to use and details of how to login.

If you have used the site, I would love to hear from you- please feel free to email me to let me know what you think. You can also speak to your child's class teacher if there are any topics that you would like to access information about and we can request this on the site.



Scan this QR code using the camera on your phone to access the site.



Speech and Language Therapy (SaLT) Top Tips

Next half term's newsletter will introduce you to some of the professionals who support speech and language at Wistaston Academy. There will also be tips for supporting children with language development.

If you have concerns about any aspect of your child's speech and language, please raise this with the class teacher. They will be able to work with Mrs Cutts to refer your child to appropriate services or to access assessments.

Staff training

At Wistaston Academy, training or Continuing Professional Development (CPD) is vital to ensure staff are up to date and able to support all learners. On a training day this month, all staff will be taking part in Autism training from the Cheshire East Autism Team (CEAT).

Already this year, a variety of staff have taken part in:

- First Aid training
- Epilepsy refresher training
- Safeguarding training
- Autism Lead Practitioner training pilot
- Kagan Cooperative Learning
- Nurture training
- Online safety

In addition to this, all staff are able to access courses from Creative Education at any time

Coming Up

Next half term...

In the next edition, we will be introducing you to some of our staff and children as well as some of the other professionals who support them. We will also be sharing more top tips and recommendations for all pupils and highlighting a specific area of need for some of our pupils.

Vacancies

We are always looking for new staff to join our amazing team of Teaching Assistants. If you would like us to get in touch with you about a role in school, please scan the QR code to the right. Alternatively, you can contact the school to discuss the role further.



Springfield training offer



Springfield Training Centre offers courses to parents and professionals. They offer practical advice, tips and methods from staff who are working directly with pupils with additional needs. Their most recent courses were around communication (including Makaton) and sensory processing.

For news on future training, please go to:

<http://www.springfield.cheshire.sch.uk/website/courses/556716>

After school interventions

If your child has been invited to a before or after school booster intervention, please support them by ensuring that they attend each session. Staff have designed the sessions to support your child's specific need and to help their progress. Thank you for your support.



I hope you have found some useful information in this half term's newsletter. The next edition will be published in Autumn 2. In the meantime, if you have any comments about the newsletter, a question you think would be useful for me to answer or suggestions for information you would like to see included, please email me (kcutts@wistastonacademytrust.co.uk). I look forward to hearing from you!

Have you signed up for the Creative Education Website?

You'll have
access to over
100+ courses
for Parents &
Carers!



On-Demand
Courses

Watch short training modules



Webinar
Replays

Explore our library of past modules



Scan this QR Code
or sign up through
the link below

<https://bit.ly/3C424PA>