

Newsletter 4 – Autumn Term



Wistaston Academy
Primary and Nursery School
Together We Learn • Together We Achieve

This Week's Events

Date	School Events	International Events
Monday 4 th October	Y6 dodgeball club	World Space Week begins
Tuesday 5 th October	Y6 swimming Y3 forest school Y4 dodgeball club & Y2 dance	World Teachers' Day
Wednesday 6 th October		
Thursday 7 th October	Y4 dodgeball club	
Friday 8 th October	Y1 dance club & Y3 dodgeball club	
Advanced Notice:	World Mental Health Day/World Homeless Day - 10 th October Chip Party with Chip Kendall for Years 5 and 7 - Saturday 16 th October. Harvest Festival - all this half term.	
Polite Notice:	Please note the school office opens at 8.30am each morning and is manned until 4.30pm. Before and after these times, there will be no access to the Main Reception area.	

We are Brilliant Winners

KS1: Aanya Walter Cassius, Kelvin, Amara

KS2: Lawrence, Riley C, Jenson P, Ava, Ecaterina, Richard

The Hub

The Hub children have been exploring 2D shapes this week. They have used cutters, and some salt dough that Mrs Walsh kindly made for them, to make their own shapes and to cut out some hearts that they'll be painting vey soon.



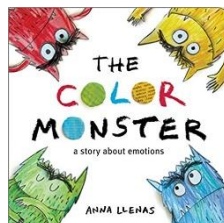
Nursery

This term we have been very lucky to have Mrs Walsh supporting us in Exploring the Arts. The children have used rolling pins, cookie cutters and salt dough to create different shapes. They have then decorated these with many colours of paint.



Reception

This week, we have introduced our new topic 'It's good to be me and this is where I belong'. We have spoke about Who is in our family? And discussed how every family is unique. The children have enjoyed sharing their family photographs on tapestry and talking about what they enjoy doing with their families. We have drawn some fantastic family pictures and painted self-portraits within the environment. We have also read 'The Colour Monster' this week and talked about different emotions. We have created a display in our classroom so that the children have somewhere to go to where they can express their feelings.



Year 1

This week, we have continued to find out more about maps and discovered that maps have a map key. We designed our own maps and thought about the symbols we wanted to use. We then made a key to match our maps.



Year 2

Last week, Year 2 had lots of fun learning to code. In topic they have been learning about habitats, so they used an online program to create an underwater habitat. They added different types of fish and crabs and had to make them move. It was lots of fun!



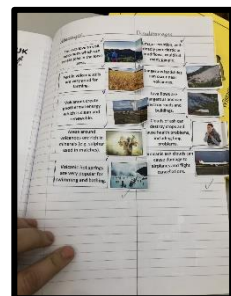
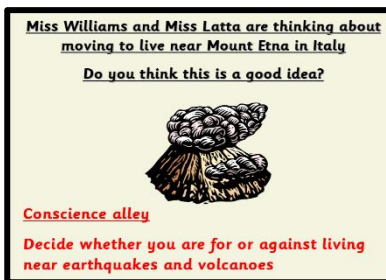
Year 3

In Year 3, we are learning about Hinduism. This week, we listened to and performed the story of Lakshmi and the Washerwoman. Afterwards, we discussed the story and the meaning behind it.



Year 4

In Geography this week, we continued our learning on Earthquakes and volcanoes. We looked at the advantages and disadvantages of living near a volcano. Then we completed a conscience alley of whether Miss Williams and Miss Latta should move and live near to Mount Etna.



Advanced notice for Year 4

We will be creating our own junk model instrument the week beginning 11th October. Bring in any recyclable items that could be used to make their instrument.

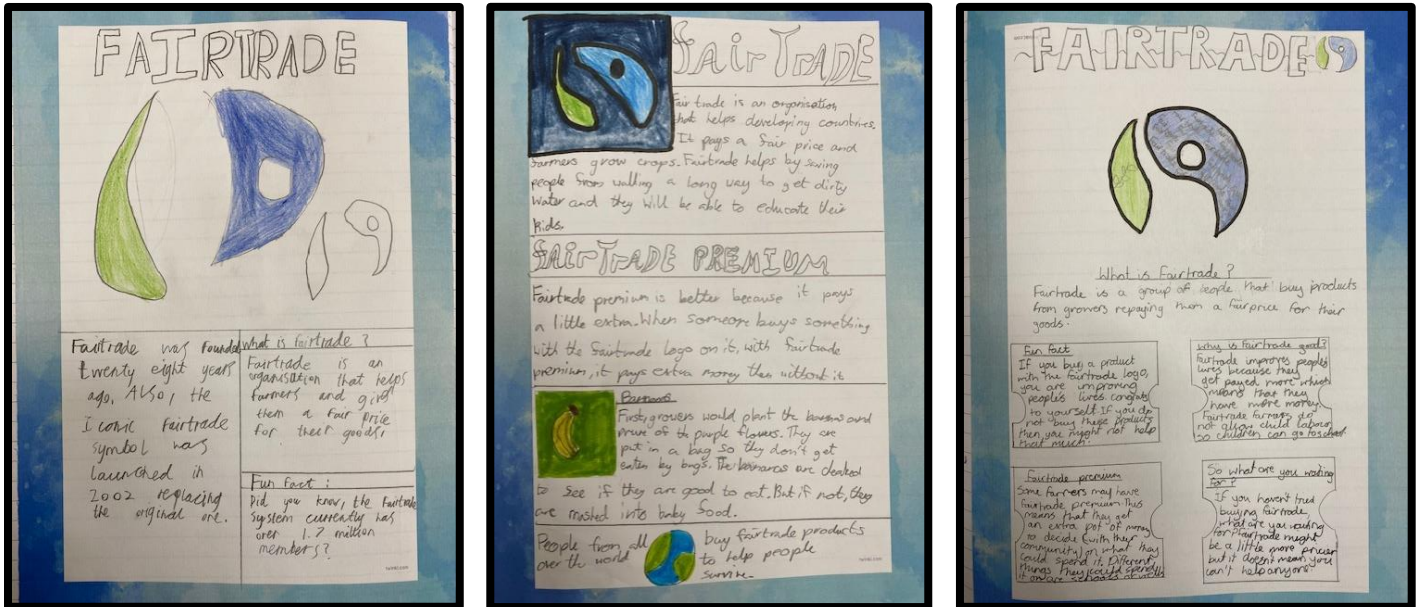
Year 5

This week, we continued our learning on Space and found out how Earth moves to create day and night. We had fun using globes and torches to help us to understand how this occurs. We discovered that it takes Earth 24 hours to complete a full rotation.

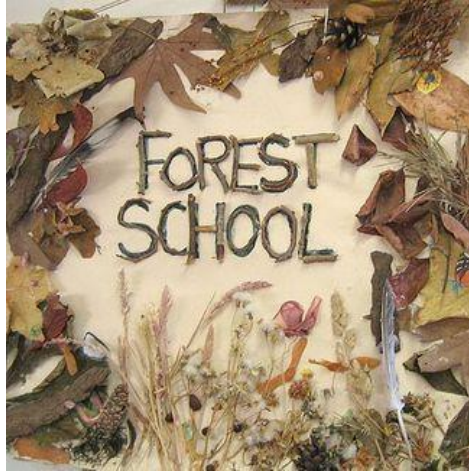


Year 6

In geography, Year 6 have been learning all about Fairtrade and why it's important. Over the past few weeks, we have read two different Fairtrade texts in guided reading and in literacy we will be writing an explanation text about Fairtrade. This week, in geography, we made posters.



Forest School



Our Forest School program is up and running for this academic year! This term Year 3 will be taking part in forest school activities. **Can Y3 parents and carers please send their children in with some old/warm clothes and footwear in a plastic bag for their forest school session which will take place on Tuesday afternoons.**

The benefits of being amongst trees and nature is documented and proven to bring out the best in all of us. Sessions are run by our qualified Forest school practitioner, Kerry Shone and are based around the freedom of the forest.

Encouraging the children to work in teams or if they desire on their own, each session will involve a goal. It may be to build a weatherproof shelter using natural materials, to process firewood and build a fire, create art on the forest floor, imagine a story and go on a quest, find and identify, alternatively the children may want to create their own path through the session.

Dodgeball clubs

Reminder: dodgeball clubs take place on the all weather pitch. If raining it is safe for dodgeball to still go ahead as the pitch is designed for all weathers. If you would prefer for your child to not take part in the club on the days when it is raining then please collect them from school at the usual time.

Art News

Spotlight on Year 2

Year 2 have been practising their observational drawing skills and have created some beautiful drawings of fish and shells which we will use to create underwater textile pieces.



Artwork by:

Caleb, Lincoln, Gabriela, Alexia, Inga, Brooke, Franciszek, Theodora, James. Alfie, Aanya, Bobbi, Bobby, Imogen and Emelia.

Harvest

It's that beautiful autumnal time of year again!

At school this half term as part of RE, we will be thinking about the food that is traditionally harvested in Autumn and how fortunate we are for all the food that we have.

We will be inviting children to join with us to share what we have with those around us in the local area who are struggling at present to have enough. This will be given to St Paul's Pantry food bank, on West Street and distributed to families that need it.

So in order to help us help others, this is what we need:



Please note we cannot accept items that are out of date.

Thank you so much for your support.

St Paul's Centre, Hightown, Crewe, CW1 3BY
01270 586186

admin@stpaulscentre.org.uk

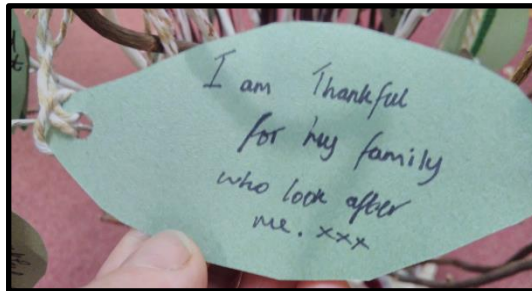
Registered Charitable Trust No.1001566

Harvest: Wateraid

We will also be collecting money for Wateraid, as our global focus for giving. We will be thinking about how vital it is to have a supply of fresh water, especially in this time of pandemic. We want to do our part to ensure that no-one in our modern world should live without clean water. Any money, no matter how small, will be useful to help provide water supplies in places that need it. Please bring in what you can.



As part of all this, we will be encouraging children to write a tag for our “Thankfulness Tree”. We want to be mindful of how many positive things we have in life and take time to recognise this, even when things are sometimes tough.



Scooter Theft

Unfortunately, we have now seen two incidences in recent months, where an unlocked scooter has been taken from the bike stand without the owner's consent. We would kindly ask all parents/carers to please bear this in mind.

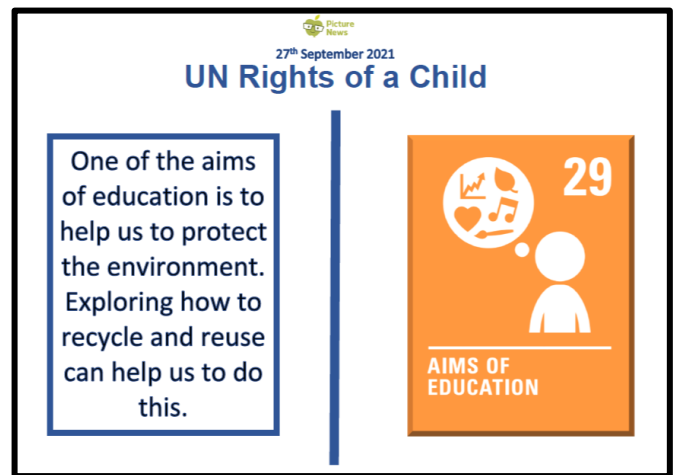
Most scooters can be locked through the wheel using a simple bike lock. This might be a safer option should you choose to bring a scooter to school. Thank you.



British Values



British Values
27th September – 3rd October 2021
Individual Liberty
We can choose whether to use reusable or disposable items such as face masks. It is important to consider a number of factors, including the environment, when we make our choices.



27th September 2021
UN Rights of a Child

One of the aims of education is to help us to protect the environment. Exploring how to recycle and reuse can help us to do this.

AIMS OF EDUCATION 29

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

HOOP

FOR



App Store
Rating

13+

Hoop is a social networking app that syncs with Snapchat to help users build their community of friends. It works along similar principles to Tinder: swiping left or right will reject or accept potential contacts, making new connections in the process. When two users accept each other, they can then communicate via Snapchat. There is no chat function on Hoop itself: video and audio calls, messaging and image sharing all take place through Snapchat. When a user adds a new Hoop contact, they are essentially sharing their personal information from Snapchat.

No Age Verification

18+

The app groups ages 17–13 together and age children's profiles – and Hoop warns users that +18 years separately, so adults do not see they must input their real date of birth. However, there is no age verification system, meaning that an individual with intentions of grooming could sign up pretending to be a child, so that they could be connected with younger users.

In-app Purchases

Hoop offers in-app purchases that allow users to buy diamonds: the digital currency required to connect with others. Users can earn diamonds by watching Videos, sharing links or contact lists, adding friends and completing surveys; alternatively, diamonds can be bought in packs, with costs ranging from 99p to 28.99£, which potentially could prove to be very expensive if a child has a payment method linked to their device.

Visible Location

Hoop gives users the option to share their Snap Story on their Hoop profile. Snap Stories are visible for 24 hours and, by default, show the user's exact location on the Snap Map. This means that not only will a young person's friends be able to see this information but all Hoop users too – including, potentially, individuals who may have sinister motives for pinpointing a child's whereabouts.

Grooming Risk

If a stranger uses Hoop to connect with your child on Snapchat, it means they would have access to your child's personal information, location, photos, videos and stories shared with their friends on Snapchat (unless your child has changed their privacy settings). Messages in Snapchat are automatically deleted after they're read, making it impossible for parents to monitor conversations.

Potential Compulsive Use

Users are rewarded with diamonds for hitting certain targets. To reach these milestones, young people may be inclined to add as many friends as possible – including strangers. Users are also assigned a level that is displayed on their Hoop profile; to achieve a higher level, users must add more connections – which provides an incentive for children to spend even more time on the app.

Possible Data Collection

One of the reasons Hoop has remained free to use is that it hosts video adverts and user surveys, which reward users with diamonds for taking part. This practice strongly suggests that the app collects personal information from the user, based on the adverts they watch and their responses to surveys, and then shares their data with third-party organisations.

Advice for Parents & Carers

Learn How to Report and Block

If your child sees or is sent something that makes them feel uncomfortable, Hoop has a reporting and blocking function. When reporting a user, you are asked to provide a reason why you are reporting them (for example, nudity or sexual content, hate speech, or using a fake age or gender). You then get a notification that the other user has been reported or blocked.

Limit Spending Power

If your child's device is linked to a bank card, a PayPal account or another form of payment, ensure that you have either removed this connection or adjusted the security settings, so that you get notifications of any attempts to make in-app purchases. Make sure that you have set a password which has to be entered for a purchase to go ahead.

Avoid Over-Sharing

Talk to your child about what they share online and who they share it with. Make them aware that once something is online, then anyone can see it. Talk to them about what might not be safe to post online (for example, things which could give away their home address or that of their school, explicit photos or their current location). Make sure that they don't share something they will regret later.

Be Wary of Strangers

Talk to your child about the dangers of connecting with strangers online. Encourage them not to engage in private messaging with people they don't know – particularly on Snapchat, as automatically disappearing messages makes the app difficult for trusted adults to monitor. Ask them to think about why they are adding all these connections and whether they genuinely need hundreds of 'friends' on Snapchat.

Adjust Privacy Settings

Check the privacy settings in place on your child's Snapchat account to make sure that only their friends or a custom group can see their stories, Snap Map and any images that they post. You may wish to seriously consider going into the settings and enabling 'ghost mode' to turn off the location services, so your child's whereabouts won't be publicly visible to other users.

Encourage Safe Communication

With the amount of time that young people spend communicating with others online, it's vital to ensure that these connections are positive and healthy ones. Regularly check which apps your child is using; if there are any new ones, talk to your child about what these apps are and how they work. If you are unsure about a new app, you could download it to try yourself and see if it is suitable.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber-safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



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