

Newsletter 18 – Spring Term



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

This Week's Events

Date	School Events	International Events
Monday 31 st January	Y6 Dodgeball Club	
Tuesday 1 st February	Y5 Swimming Y4 Forest School Y5 Dodgeball Club	Chinese New Year/LGBT & History Month begins
Wednesday 2 nd February	Y2 Cricket club	Candlemas
Thursday 3 rd February	Year 4 Dodgeball Club	
Friday 4 th February	Year 3 Dodgeball Club	World Cancer Day
Advanced Notice:	Children's Mental Health Week 7-13 th February Walk to school week 7-13 th February	
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: Charlie Hendrix, Diwan

KS2: Mati P, Isabelle, Romeo, Ben, Dominik

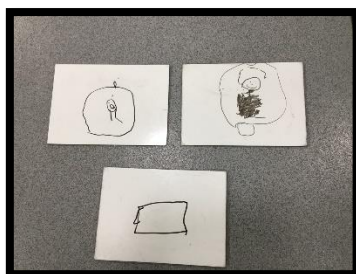
The Hub

Over the past few weeks, The Hub children have been learning new practical skills in their Design and Food Technology lessons. Here they are practising cutting melon and cucumber safely using the bridge and claw method.



Nursery

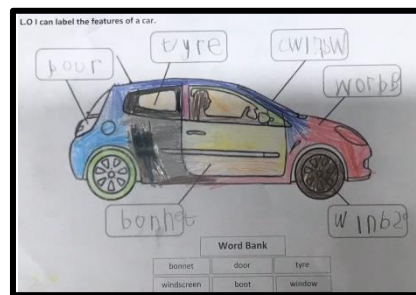
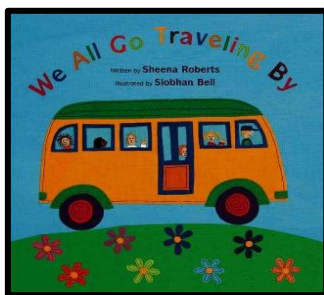
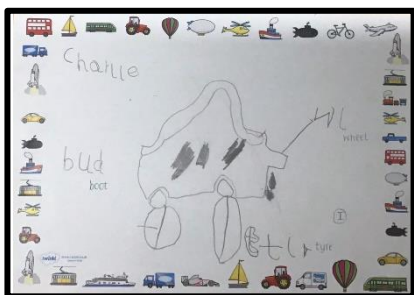
This week in nursery we have been building houses for the three little pigs. First we planned what we wanted to build, next we chose which material we were going to build with. Finally we built our houses.



Reception

The children have listened to a new story titled 'We all go travelling by' by Sheena Roberts. We spoke about the different vehicles in the story, talking about the descriptive language for example; a long blue train and a bright red truck.

We also looked closely at the car this week, learning about the different features of a car and looking at how it works. The children enjoyed labelling the parts of a car and comparing the similarities and differences between an old car and a new car.



Year 1

This week, Year 1 have been helping Lego man solve a problem! They carried out a fair test to find out which material would be the best to make an umbrella. They found out that plastic would be the best because it is waterproof.



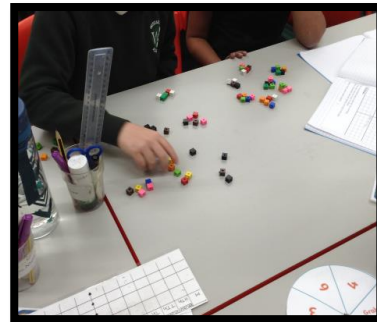
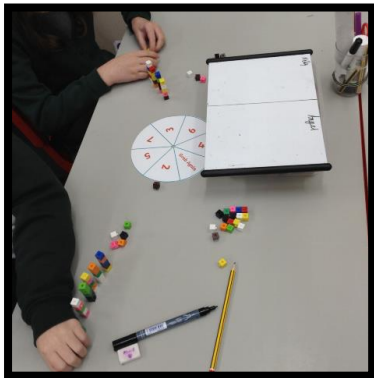
Year 2

Last week the children learnt all about the Great Wall of China. They then worked as a team to create their own wall – the Great Wall of Wistaston!! It was lots of fun and it nearly reached across the whole room!



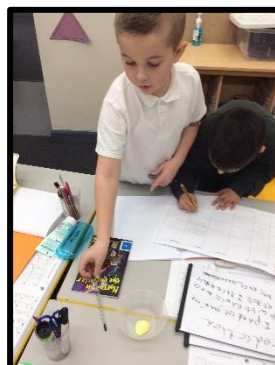
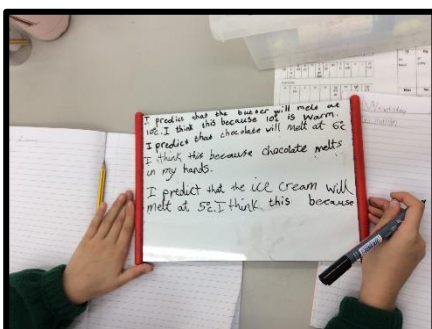
Year 3

This week in maths we were looking at remainders when dividing 2 digits by 1 digit numbers. We played a game to create the highest remainder from a calculation.



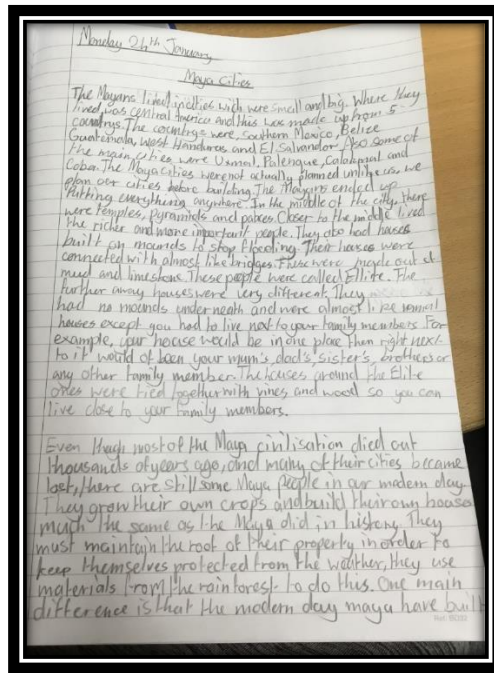
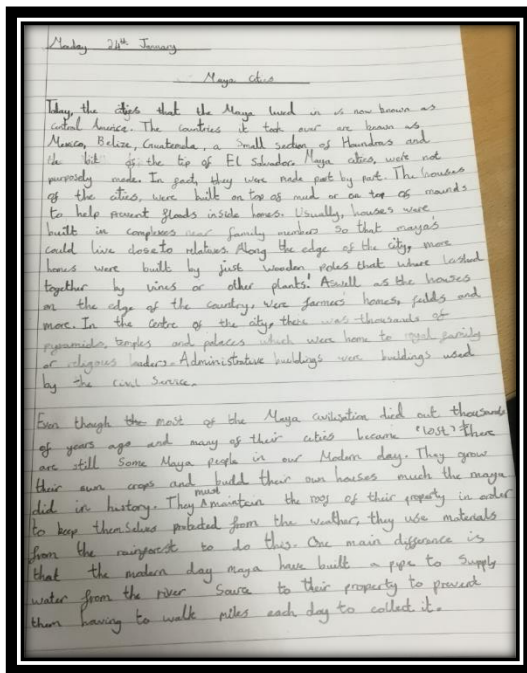
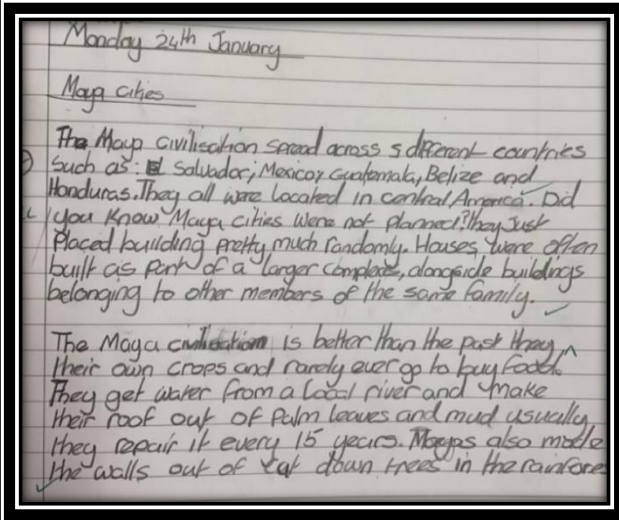
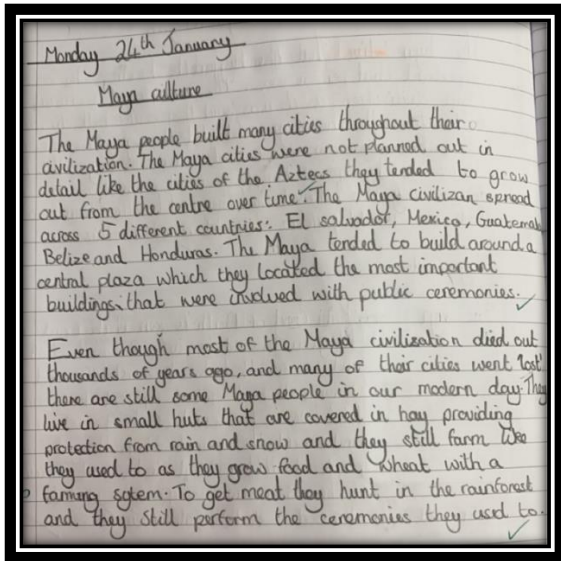
Year 4

This week in science, we completed a Post It Planning chart for our investigation. We wanted to find out about the melting point of different solids. We made predictions based on what we know about the melting point of ice and then we used thermometers to measure the surrounding temperature. We then observed solids over time to see if they would all melt the same in a warm room. We were surprised that some solids melted quickly and others melted slowly!



Year 5

In History this week, we looked at Maya cities: where they were and how they were constructed. We then did some writing to explain this.



Year 6

This week, Year 6 were lucky enough to have Miss Hall visit from Leighton Hospital to perform a heart dissection. The children were so engaged and asked lots of insightful questions.



After school clubs

Please make sure that children are collected from the main reception door after clubs. Staff and outside providers cannot send children out on their own to the gate or parents waiting in cars.

British Values

UN Rights of a Child

We all have the right to actively participate in school, at home and in our community. A disability or impairment should not be a barrier.

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CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

The infographic features the UN logo, a cartoon character, and a book cover with a person in a wheelchair.

British Values

Democracy

We all have a voice and can share our opinions. Sometimes raising awareness of an issue, such as British Sign Language having no legal status in the UK, can make an impact.

The infographic features two Union Jacks, a cartoon character, and a photo of people clapping.

ART NEWS

Focus on Reception

This week in Reception we created our own mini-canvas based on the famous piece “squares with concentric circles”, by Wassily Kandinsky. We used oil pastels to draw our own circle (or “squircle” as we liked to call our rather squiggly circles!) around a stone and then drew more circles concentrically around the first one. Then we painted circles with ink, watching how colours mixed when they touched each other. Well done Reception!



“Squares with concentric circles”



By Wassily Kandinsky.

Children's Mental Health Week 7th-13th February



Children's Mental Health Week is taking place on **7-13 February 2022**. This year's theme is **Growing Together**.

Human beings change and grow – we do it all the time and in many ways. Emotional growth is often a gradual process that happens over time, and sometimes we might feel a bit 'stuck'. At these times, we are reminded of how much we need others in our lives to help us to keep growing.

In exclusive interviews with presenter and Place2Be Ambassador Josh Smith, familiar faces from the world of TV, music and sport have shared their stories of emotional growth with us.

These videos can be used at home with your child, to help start a conversation about growth and the different challenges we may face:

https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/growthstories?utm_source=Place2Be+E-news&utm_campaign=8c74e94586-CMHW4_CAMPAIGN_2022_01_24_03_59&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_acf77df294-8c74e94586-220885836

Recycling Plastic Bottles

We are collecting empty large plastic bottles for Reception's Greenhouse Project. If you would like to help us, please place your empty plastic bottles into the labelled bin outside the school office.



Thank you for your support.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about CRYPTOCURRENCY

What is cryptocurrency?

Cryptocurrency is software enabling the exchange and storage of digital 'coins' representing financial value. To monitor who owns which coins, platforms save an online record of every transaction, called a 'ledger' or 'blockchain'. This is secured by cryptography: a set of methods for protecting sensitive information. Bitcoin, released in 2009, was the first cryptocurrency; other platforms have since launched such as Ethereum, Tezos and Filecoin. As cryptocurrency becomes a more established part of digital life, young people are bound to encounter it – so it's vital that trusted adults understand its risks, and how it can be explored and used safely.

COMPLEX TECHNOLOGY

Like any new software, cryptocurrency comes with bugs, flaws and limitations. Broadly, it hasn't yet evolved to be as user friendly as web browsing or social media. Using it safely means spending time learning about the complicated technology it uses. We would strongly suggest anyone considering getting involved in cryptocurrency should consult specialised tutorials to learn about it properly in advance.

WIDESPREAD EXAMPLES

Cryptocurrency software for smartphones is often free to download from app stores. Emails with links to cryptocurrency services can land in any inbox. Cryptocurrency is also advertised on search engines, on social media and in online games (for example to buy add-ons which help players level up). It can't be purchased easily without a credit card or bank account, but young people will still be exposed to cryptocurrency in various settings.

CHANCE OF SCAMS

Cryptocurrency provides another opportunity for scammers to extract personal data and money from unwary web users. Unlike credit card transactions or wire transfers, a bank can't reverse cryptocurrency transactions after a suspected fraud – making it an appealing channel for online extortion. These transactions do leave evidence in the blockchain, however, which means that cryptocurrency scammers can and do get caught.

BEING LOCKED OUT

If you forget your online banking password, you can reset it by proving your identity in another way. In the world of 'crypto', however, the private key to access your funds can't be reset. Cryptocurrency operates without intermediaries like banks – so no-one stores a copy of users' private keys. This has security benefits, but also presents the huge risk of permanently losing access to your account. Learn how to store private keys securely before purchasing any significant amounts of cryptocurrency.

RISKY INVESTMENT

Prices can be very volatile, so cryptocurrencies are considered high-risk investments. If you might need your savings soon, don't hold them in cryptocurrency as their value could drop suddenly and sharply. Sometimes, cryptocurrency may be a profitable investment – but note that any gains are taxable. You may even have to pay tax when exchanging one cryptocurrency for another if the currency you're exchanging is priced higher than it was when you bought it.

Advice for Parents & Carers

AVOID IF UNSURE

In the UK, cryptocurrency is considered risky, because users aren't well protected if something goes wrong. Most cryptocurrencies use software developed by decentralised communities, so there's no customer service and no support if your funds get stolen or you lose access to your mobile cryptocurrency wallet. Unless you understand cryptocurrency, it's probably best not to use it. After all, if you couldn't comprehend the highway code, it wouldn't be safe for you to drive.

EXPECT EXPOSURE

If your child plays online games that involve some form of virtual currency, and has access to some kind of payment method, they may find themselves in a position to buy and use cryptocurrency. There's probably no immediate danger, but discussing the potential risks with them could be useful. If your child is old enough to understand the concepts of spending and saving or to grasp the basics of programming, then they're old enough to learn about cryptocurrency.

CHECK CREDENTIALS

Buying cryptocurrency for the first time involves wiring funds from your bank to a cryptocurrency exchange – a business that converts your money into cryptocurrency. They can also store cryptocurrency for you, though this could present a security risk. Cryptocurrency businesses in the UK must now comply with money laundering regulations: the Financial Conduct Authority's website has a list of all business that are approved.

STAY CAUTIOUS, STAY INFORMED

Approach cryptocurrency with caution as well as curiosity. Don't click on links in unexpected emails referring to cryptocurrency and beware of promotions promising free cryptocurrency in exchange for personal information. Avoid mentioning on social media that you own cryptocurrency, as this can attract scammers. Stay informed of potential new risks and regulations by regularly

