

Newsletter 19 – Spring Term



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

This Week's Events

Date	School Events	International Events
Monday 7 th February	Walk to school week Children's Mental Health Week Y6 Dodgeball Club-CANCELLED Y5&6 Hockey competition at Ruskin High School 3pm-5pm	
Tuesday 8 th February	Y5 Swimming Y4 Forest School Y5 Dodgeball Club	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 9 th February	Y2 Cricket Club	
Thursday 10 th February	Year 4 Dodgeball Club	
Friday 11 th February	Year 3 Dodgeball Club Y1 Gymnastics Club	
Advanced Notice:		
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: Johnny, Morayo, Jacek

KS2: Kaiden, Muhammad, Samuel, Faith, Wiktorina, Freddie, Maya

The Hub

This week, The Hub children have been investigating materials. He were are using the metal detectors to sort items into groups of metal and not metal.



Nursery

We would like to say welcome to our new January intake. They have all settled in really well and have had great fun exploring the nursery both inside and out.



Reception

In Maths the children have been looking at the numbers 6, 7 and 8. The children have been able to represent 6, 7 and 8 in different ways for example; sorting dominoes into groups, showing the number on their fingers and counting 6, 7 and 8 counters onto a ten-frame. We are beginning to subitise these larger numbers by arranging 6, 7 or 8 items into smaller groups for example; I know it is 6 because I can see 3 and 3.



Year 1

We have been loving our visits to the gym this half term as part of our PE lessons.



Year 2

As part of our topic on China, Year 2 have been researching all about The Giant Panda. As part of this, the children have been finding out about climate change and the impact that this is having on the habitat of the panda, and the wider world. We also adopted a panda from the WWF!



Year 3

This week in science we dissected a tulip, naming and looking closely at all the parts! To do this we used the vocabulary that we had learned in today's lesson.



Year 4

We were very lucky On Friday 28th January to welcome our arts patron to school to talk about the Holy Trinity. Chip Kendall went through the three elements again in an interactive and informative 'dance party' with videos to aid discussion.



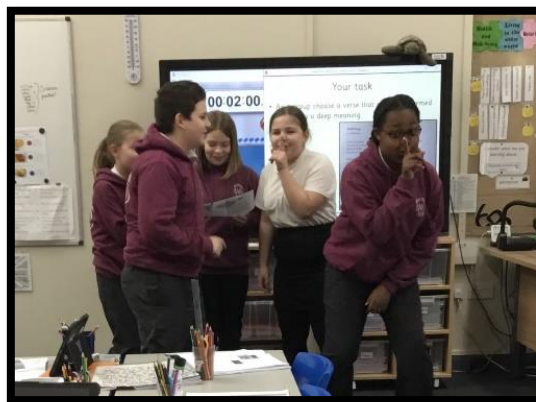
Year 5

Year 5 enjoyed celebrating the Holi festival in RE this week. We lit a fire to burn away things that we wished to leave behind and then celebrated together with the throwing of brightly coloured powder paints and dancing. Lots of fun was had by everyone.



Year 6

This week, Year 6 enjoyed taking part in drama activities during Guided Reading lessons. We used freeze frames and tableaux to perform a poem called Earth Song. As well as having fun, we also expanded our understanding of the poem through the mechanics of drama.



PE NEWS

Next week is 'Walk to School Week', week commencing 7th February. We would love to see as many children as possible walking, cycling and travelling on their scooters to school. If you normally drive to school, what about parking a bit further away from school this week and walking part of the way?

For every day your child is active travelling to school this week and next week they will receive an achievement mark on Arbor, which you will be able to see on your school gateway.



Remember to leave your bikes and scooters by the bike shed at the front of the school!

School will not accept any responsibility for bikes which are left unlocked.

British Values



 **UN Rights of a Child** 

We can choose our own thoughts, opinions and religion. This may affect what we choose to celebrate. Our choices must not stop others from enjoying their rights.

 14
FREEDOM OF THOUGHT AND RELIGION

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 **British Values** 

Mutual Respect

There are many different events people choose to celebrate. Some events might celebrate our beliefs, things that are important to us or our achievements. Not everybody celebrates the same things and we respect that.



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ART NEWS

Focus on Year 3

This half term in Year 3 we are focussing on 3D work, and we began by creating colourful bowls from balloon moulds. We decided whether we wanted to keep our bowls more organically shaped and wiggly, or whether we wanted to shape them with straighter, more man-made edges. They look very jewel-like and bright with the sequins we added for embellishment. Well done Year 3!



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



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

