

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 14 th February	Y6 DODGEBALL CLUB CANCELLED Y5&6 Sportshall Athletics competition at Shavington High School 2:30pm-4:45pm	Valentines Day
Tuesday 15 th February	Y5 Swimming Y4 Forest School Y5 Dodgeball Club	
Wednesday 16 th February		
Thursday 17 th February	Year 4 Dodgeball Club	
Friday 18 th February		
Advanced Notice:	Thursday 3 rd March is non-school uniform for World Book Day. Children can come to school dressed as their favourite character from a book.	
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: Clara

KS2: Leon, Alfie B, Jacob R, Alyia – Rose, Madison, Bailey

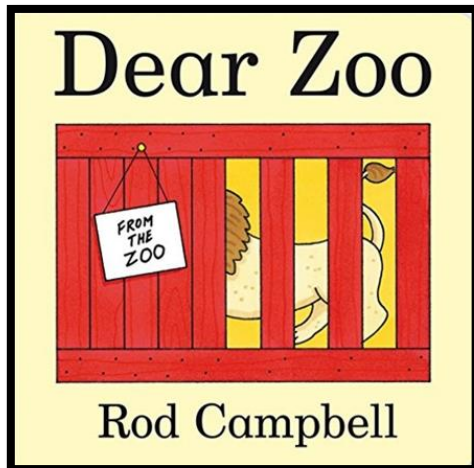
The Hub

The Hub children have enjoyed learning about melting this week. They looked at a bar of chocolate when it was cool and set hard and then what happened to it after being warmed up in a microwave. Not wanting the melted chocolate to go to waste, the children then made Valentine sweet bars with them.



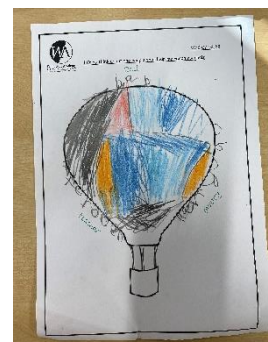
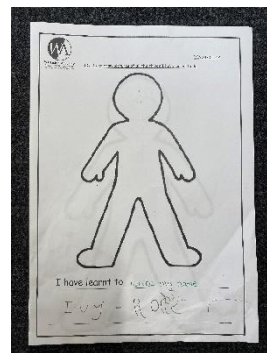
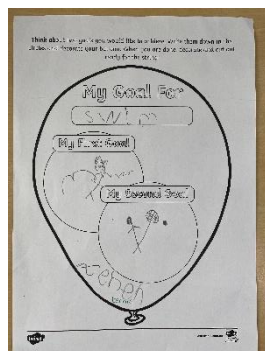
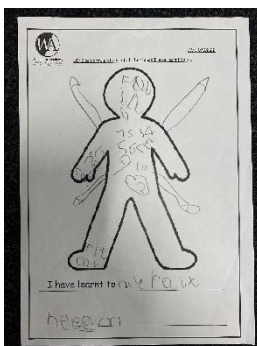
Nursery

This week in nursery we have been reading the book Dear Zoo. The children have talked about their favourite animal from the story. They have chosen which animal they would like as a pet, and have worked hard to draw pictures of them.



Reception

This week is Children's Mental Health week and the focus is 'Growing Together' and the children in Reception have been thinking about the things they have learnt to do since starting school, such as learning to share, read, skip etc. We then talked about setting goals and the children said they would like to learn how to do a back flip, learn to swim on their own and learn to tie their shoes. We talked about the people who can help us reach our goals and lots of children said parents, teachers, friends etc. We also focused on some mindful breathing throughout the week, the children understand that this is a really good exercise to help them feel calm.



Year 1

As part of our Computing lessons, Year 1 used Purple Mash. They had to use directional language such as forwards, turn right and turn left to direct their partner to the correct flower. They learnt how to debug an algorithm when it went to the wrong piece of equipment.



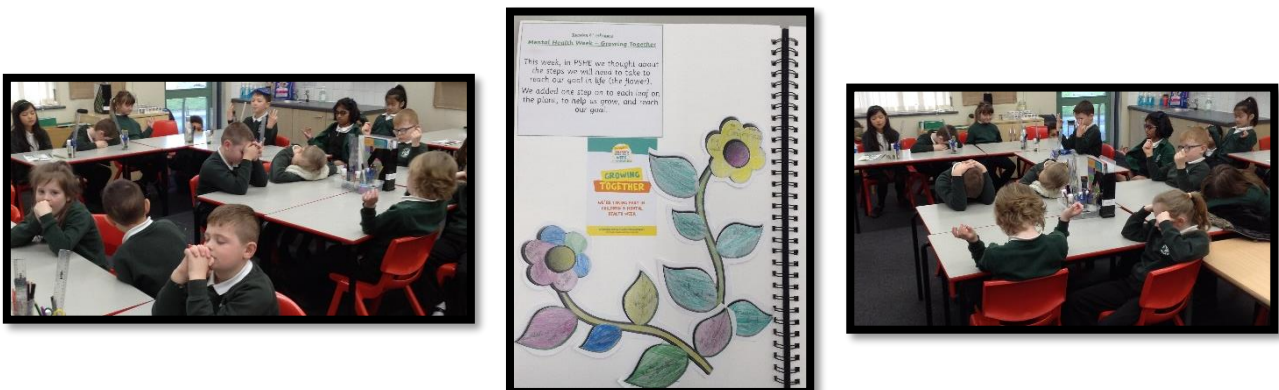
Year 2

As part of our topic, this week the children have been learning all about the famous pottery design of The Willow Pattern which is inspired by China. On Monday, they found out about the importance of Stoke-on-Trent in the production of this design and why the region has the nickname of 'The Potteries'. Later in the week, they learnt more about the history of the pottery industry in Stoke-on-Trent.



Year 3

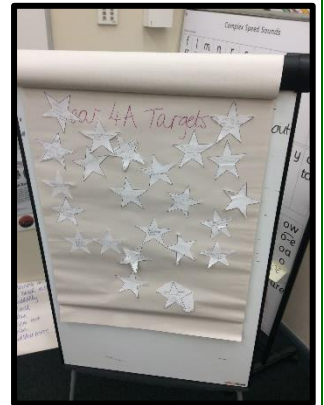
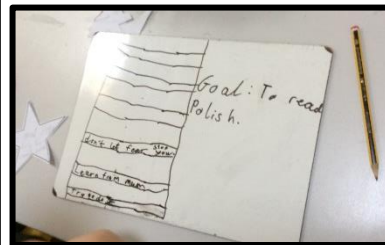
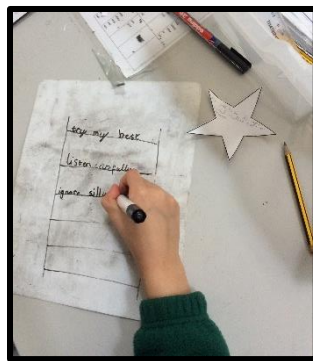
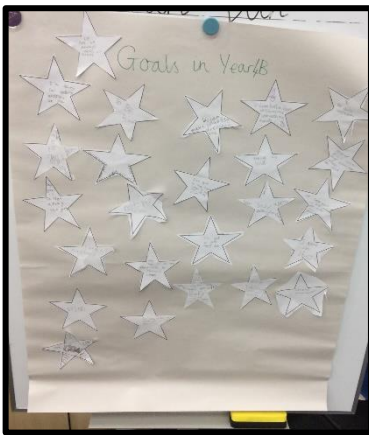
As it was Children's Mental Health week, we discussed how we can grow to reach our goals. We explored the meaning of personal growth and looked at the different steps we can take to reach our goals. We wrote those steps on the leaves of a flower leading up to the flower at the top (the goal). We also did some meditation to understand how it can help us to look after our own mental health.



Year 4

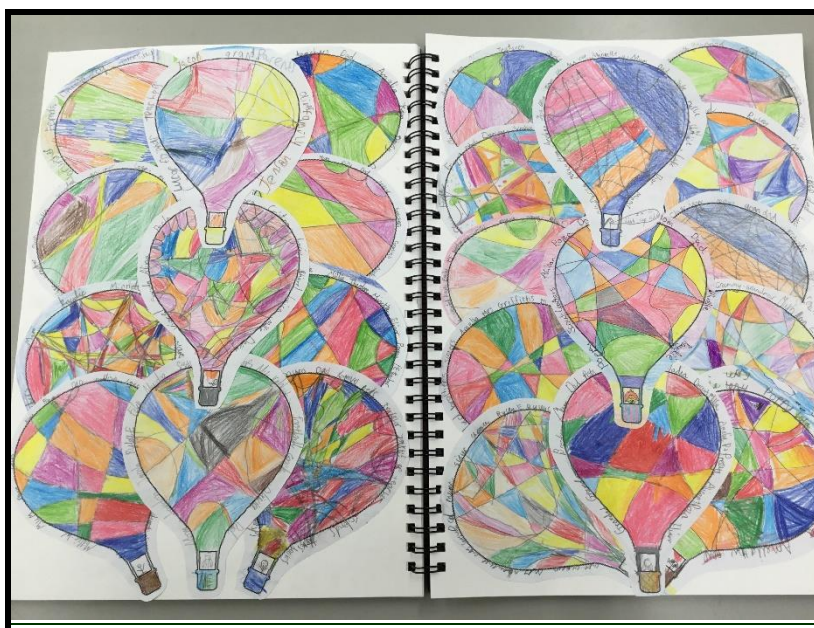
This week during children's mental health week, we have been discussing the theme of growing together. We discussed how as humans we change and grow and do it all the time in many ways. We discussed about our goals and how we could make it to a certain goal. Then we discussed having a well-being box that we could use to support our mental health. We talked about how we have grown since being in year 4 and wrote a compliment slip for someone in the class about noticing how much they have grown.

Throughout this week, we have been using the text 'Bloom' to discuss growing and how we treat ourselves and others can have a detrimental affect on our mental health.



Year 5

As part of our learning for children's mental health week, we looked at emotional growth. We heard the story of musician, composer and broadcaster Yolanda Brown which filled us with inspiration to keep trying regardless of setbacks. We thought about people in our lives who support us and produced a 'support balloon'.



Year 6

This week was Mental Health Week. As part of this, Year 6 spent some time talking about our own mental health. We realised that the things we do affect our mental well-being. We realised that looking after ourselves a little more might improve our mood.

For our task, we wrote some ways that we can show ourselves kindness. We often think about how to be kind to others, but how about taking some time to be kind to ourselves?



British Values

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 **UN Rights of a Child**

It is important we have information about how to stay healthy. Being outdoors can form part of our healthy lifestyle.


HEALTH, WATER, FOOD, ENVIRONMENT

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 **British Values** 

Individual liberty

There are many benefits of being outside and learning from the natural world around us. We can choose to take the opportunities that arise to get us outdoors and connect us with nature.



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Art News

Rachel Bishop: Our Second Arts Patron

We are delighted to share that locally-based artist of international fame, Rachel Bishop, who is the head designer at Moorcroft Potteries, has agreed to become our second Arts Patron! (Chip Kendall being the first). We look at her work for inspiration in Year 1 and 5 and Rachel is keen to encourage our children with their art studies, sharing her story about how she succeeded in the arts despite opposition and discouragement from many. Her time at art college was not an easy one – her work was not rated highly – yet now, the same institution has named two of their buildings after her, such has been her success. As we can see in the Jubilee example below, Rachel has designs in Buckingham Palace and is collected worldwide. Her message to our children is to **“stay true to yourself”, “follow your dreams”** and;

“When you are faced with a crossroads in life, the easy path is not necessarily the best.”

This week Rachel has been looking at Year 5’s work based on her designs – we look forward to seeing what she has written in our sketchbooks!



The William Sissons Gallery - Moorcroft Pottery Specialists

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'Jubilee' designed by Rachel Bishop BA (hons) NEW for 2022 as part of Moorcroft's Platinum Jubilee Collection is available to view on our website. Usual discounts apply with FREE UK P&P.

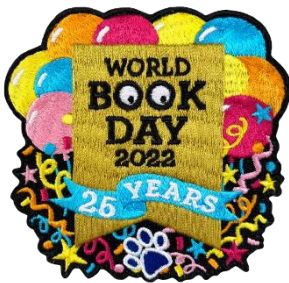
http://www.sissonsgallery.co.uk/moorcroft_pottery_collections.html



Rachel said her cats were helping mark the books! 😊



World Book Day - Thursday 3rd March 2022



We are very excited for World Book Day in school this year and we have lots of lovely activities planned. To fully embrace the day, we would like all children to come to school dressed as their favourite character from a book on Thursday 3rd March. We can't wait to see you dressed up!



Click this link for ideas for costumes: <https://www.worldbookday.com/dressing-up-ideas/>

Healthy Lunch boxes



A healthy lunch keeps children alert and focused, and gives them the nutrition they need every day. Lunch boxes can be exciting and enticing if you vary the content by including food from the different food groups and prepare food differently to avoid boredom.

Please ensure you are packing your child a healthy packed lunch. As a healthy school we must promote a healthy balanced diet and we would really like to work together with parents and carers in doing this.

Below is a link with some great packed lunch ideas.

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/>



February Holiday Club

22nd – 24th Feb

£22 each day







7:30 – 6:00pm

**30 Spaces per day! Book and Pay via Arbor.
First Booked First Served basis**

Breakfast and

Light Meal Provided

7:30-8:30am and 4pm

<p><u>Tuesday 22nd Feb</u></p> <p>WALKING THROUGH THE JUNGLE</p> <p>PLEASE CAN CHILDREN BRING IN SOME JUNK MODELLING</p>	<p>JUNGLE MASK MAKING</p> 	<p>MAKE YOUR OWN JUNK MODELLING ANIMAL</p> 
<p><u>Wednesday 23rd Feb</u></p> <p>LET'S EXPLORE THE OCEAN</p>	<p>MAKE YOUR STAR FISH BISCUIT</p> 	<p>MAKE YOUR OWN PAPER PLATE OCEAN PICTURE</p> 
<p><u>Thursday 24th Feb</u></p> <p>SECRET LIFE OF PETS</p>	<p>MAKE YOUR OWN PET PENCIL TOPPER</p> 	<p>MOVIE AND POPCORN THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS</p> 

JUST A LITTLE REMINDER

- Please make sure your child/children have a packed lunch everyday.
- Please provide a change of clothing as they make gets messy or wet during actives or outdoor play

CHECK IN WITH YOUR FRIENDS

If one of your friends doesn't seem OK, checking in on them can make a huge difference. One in every five children struggles with their mental health, so let's make sure we support each other through any difficult times.

BE A GOOD LISTENER

ASK HOW YOU CAN HELP

SHOW EMPATHY

SEND A NICE MESSAGE

BE KIND

★ BE ★ SUPPORTIVE

**IF YOU ARE WORRIED ABOUT A FRIEND
TELL A TRUSTED ADULT**

I SAW THIS AND THOUGHT OF YOU!

WANTED TO LET YOU KNOW I'M THINKING OF YOU!

I'M HERE WHEN YOU NEED ME.

MISSED YOU AT SCHOOL TODAY. EVERYTHING OK?



NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

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