

Newsletter – Summer Term



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

This Week's Events

Date	Event
Monday 14 th June	Y4 Dodgeball Club
Tuesday 15 th June	Y2 Dance Club Y5 Cricket Club Last day of Sponsored Read
Wednesday 16 th June	Y6 Cricket Club
Thursday 17 th June	Y3 Dodgeball Club Sponsored Read sponsorship money collection day
Friday 18 th June	
Advanced Notice:	No Y1 Dance Club Friday 18 th June Sports Day Thursday 24 th June
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.

Welcome back. It has been lovely to see everyone back in school refreshed after a week's holiday. It's hard to believe that another academic year is almost done. This term will see lots of exciting activities happening for children, particularly Year 6 who leave us for pastures new at the end of this term.

Thank you for continuing to adhere to the Covid-19 restrictions we have in place around the school grounds. As a school, we feel that it is important to maintain these particularly when we hear that the numbers of positive cases are rising in the area.

Keeping Safe In The Sun

We are officially into the second term of summer and the weather is getting increasingly hotter. Most of our outdoor provision is not in the shade and children are in the sunshine at breaks, lunchtimes and PE sessions. Therefore, please ensure children come to school with suncream on (or bring it in for them to apply themselves), have a sunhat/cap and bring in a refillable water bottle. Thank you for supporting us in keeping children safe in the sun.

We are Brilliant Winners

KS1: Bobbi, Cassidy, Elsa, Chloe

KS2: Ffion, Samuel, Joe

Sports Day

We are very pleased to announce that our sports day event will take place this year on Thursday 24th June. Unfortunately parents and carers will not be able to spectate this year due to the recent rise Covid-19 cases but we promise to make the day bigger and better than ever for the children.

As the Euro 2021 football tournament is taking place this summer we thought it would be nice for the children to be in teams which represent some of the countries taking part. Children have been divided

into into the following teams to encourage a small element of competition. The team names are **England (red), Portugal (green), Sweden (yellow) Italy (blue)**. Children should come to school in **Sports Day Kit (black shorts, teams coloured t-shirt)**.

In the case of hot, sunny weather your child must wear a sun hat and sun cream.
Please also ensure that your child has a bottle of water to take out with them onto the field.

Nursery

This week the Nursery children have been learning all about shapes. We decided to make our learning more active and took our lesson out onto the school field. The children were put into teams and each child was set the challenge to run and collect one of the missing shapes for their team. The children did a fantastic job and as a team they managed to collect all the missing shapes.



Reception

Reception have started their new topic 'FANTASTIC FOOTBALL' this week. Each week we are going to be learning about the different countries that are taking part in the EUROS. We will be learning how to say hello and goodbye in different languages and we will be tasting foods from the countries we are focusing on. We began this week talking about different sports, including our favourite sport. We also learnt about sporting events such as Wimbledon, Tour de France and the Olympics. We ended the week learning about the importance of being a good sportsperson.



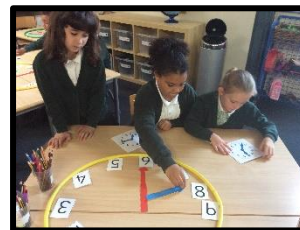
Year 1 – Pens Down Day

Year 1 had a very exciting visit from Zoo-Lab to start our new topic, 'amazing animals'. They brought in lots of animals for the children to learn about, touch and even hold! We found out that animals belong to different groups such as reptiles and mammals. We learnt lots of facts about each animal, for example, cockroaches are an insect and they have been on earth for millions of years – they were around even before the dinosaurs!



Year 2 – Pens Down Day

Year 2 have had a fantastic start to a new half term! It was 'Pens Down Day' this week, and we completed lots of wonderful learning. In maths, we are learning about time and so we made our own giant clock faces to show different o'clock and half past times. We then took it in turns to be a teacher and quiz our friends on different times. In literacy, some of us started learning about traditional tales. We read Jack and the Beanstalk and then acted out the story. In topic, we started our topic 'Let's Grow'! We thought about how music is often inspired by nature and listened to several songs about flowers. We then worked in groups to compose our own piece of music inspired by a particular plant. We thought carefully about the rhythm and dynamics of our piece so that we could really capture the essence of our chosen plant.



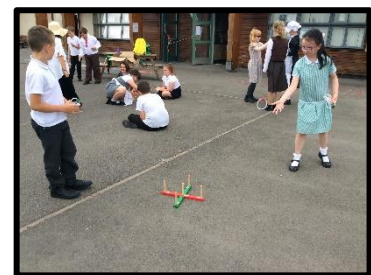
Year 3

This week, in Literacy, Year 3 were introduced to our new class text: 'Jumanji' and we read the whole story. We then split the story into three parts: beginning, middle and ending. We discussed how the different characters might be feeling at each part of the story. We then created a whole class tableaux for each part of the story and used thought tapping to step into the minds of the characters and answer these questions: Who is your character? What are you doing/why are you doing that? How are you feeling?



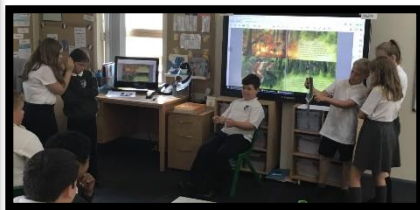
Year 4

In Year 4 on Wednesday, we explored what a Victorian school would have been like. The children arrived at school to strict teachers and a different classroom layout. This morning, we had an arithmetic lesson and made an abacus and then we did some drama in Literacy. In the drama, we created a tableaux and did some thought tapping and hot-seating. We also did a conscience alley where the children had to give advice to a child who had misbehaved. This afternoon, we had a singing assembly and then did some PE drills. Finally, we explored some leisure activities, including playing ball with a cloth, exploring Victorian toys and Ring a Ring a Roses.



Year 5

On Wednesday we had Pen Down Day, which was a real eye opener: we discovered a plethora of fascinating facts as well as some staggeringly sad statistics. Our day began with a brief overview of what a rainforest is, where the Amazonas are and where the Amazon rainforest is located. We discovered that it spans many countries and is between the Tropic of Cancer and Capricorn which explains its tropical climate. Reading played a key role in today's learn as we shared a story called The Vanishing Rainforest where we then discussed the plot as well as created drama pieces using freeze frames, tableaux and thought tapping. During the afternoon we created some fantastic pieces of art depicting our new learning. We hope you enjoy the pictures below.



Year 6

Year 6 have been busy learning some important First Aid this week. They have been lucky enough to complete a full day of training including CPR (on Little Annie using the tune of 'Staying Alive' to help them!), bandaging and lots of other life saving skills.



Although we hope that they will never need to use it, this course aims to give them the knowledge and confidence to be able to help someone should they find themselves in that situation.







Focus on Year 5!

Year 5 have also been using their growing knowledge of light and dark values of colour that emphasise the form of an image. After drawing superb still-life shells from observation, we began collaging in the various shades with different papers and wool.





READY STEADY READ



Sponsored Read!

Wednesday 9th -Tuesday 15th June 2021

We are continuing to encourage a lifelong love of books and reading at home and at school by holding another Sponsored Read! The project is once again being organised in conjunction with our local Usborne Organiser, Jane Dickinson. In addition to the sponsorship money, Usborne will donate up to 60% of the total raised in EXTRA FREE BOOKS to the school. So, for every £600 raised, we will get an extra £360 in FREE Usborne books!

All children, whether sponsored or not, are being encouraged to do as many minutes of extra reading as they possibly can. They will be able to exchange their minutes of extra reading for 'Reading Points' which will be valid for choosing Usborne Books to keep for themselves! There will be an **Usborne Bookfair at school** on Tuesday 22nd June - more details will be available after the Sponsored Read.

Please help us to enhance every child's reading resources by encouraging your child to spend an extra amount of time each day either reading to themselves, to others, or being read to. They can read books, comics, magazines, newspapers, menus, websites, recipes, leaflets, instructions – anything with words! There will be prizes for the 'Most Minutes Read' in each year group, for the class that reads for the most minutes and for the class that raises the most money!

Your child should have brought a sponsorship form home from school this week (if not, please ask your child's class teacher for another copy). If you are able to support our sponsored read by collecting sponsors please use the attached Sponsorship Form. After the sponsored read, **please make sure your completed Reading Log is returned to school and your sponsorship money is paid in by Thursday 17th June, by cash, and given to your child's class teacher in a sealed, named envelope.**

We look forward to having lots more books for your child to read. share and enjoy!



<p>Babies and toddlers</p>	<p>Primary school children</p>	<p>Secondary school children</p>
<p>Infants and young children aged 0-3 years old should never be left alone – even for 15 minutes while you pop down the road. This applies not just to leaving them home alone but also in your car while you run into the shops.</p> <p>For more detail, please see our advice on baby and toddler safety.</p>		

feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What parents & carers need to know about... AMAZON ALEXA

Alexa is an artificial intelligence (AI) software assistant created by Amazon in 2014 through which smartphone, tablet and smart device users can issue voice commands and ask questions in a range of languages by issuing the 'wake' or activation word Alexa. It can be accessed in several ways and is integrated into a growing number of 'smart' products including speakers, phones and clocks. Once viewed as expensive gimmicks, Alexa is now one of the most used voice assistants in the world.

Privacy concerns

Age-inappropriate content

18+

"Alexa...Switch on the lights please..."

..Sure...Switching on lights..

Insecure devices

Changing Tech Relationships

Safety Tips

Check privacy settings

It's possible to delete Alexa's recordings either entirely, or for a given period, with the instruction "Alexa, delete everything I said." Alternatively, set up the Alexa account privacy settings for that account to delete recordings every three or 18 months. Existing recordings made using the Alexa app can be deleted via Settings > Alexa Privacy > Review Voice History. A final tweak is to turn off the setting that allows Amazon to use voice recordings to improve Amazon services.

Control voice input

If privacy is paramount, one idea is to locate Echo devices in only one room rather than having several throughout the home. In addition, Alexa can be activated only when it is needed by manually turning off the microphone on Echo devices between use. Users can tell when Alexa is in listening mode as an indicator light should appear or an audible tone should sound.

Set pin code

Amazon account users can order items from the company using a voice command, for example "Alexa, buy some toilet paper." To counter accidental use or misuse and avoid racking up big bills, this can either be disabled or protected with a PIN code (it should be noted that this is an audible PIN however, so is not as secure as a typed code).

Look out for 'Skills' apps

A big appeal of Alexa is that thousands of companies have created apps, which Amazon calls 'skills', that add useful capabilities, often integrations with other products or services. These are installed by asking Alexa to 'open/play/start' the skill. For example, a travel skill might be installed to check and automate checking train times and hotel bookings. However, it's important to remember that each of these might have a different privacy policy. A cautious approach is to install as few as possible, de-installing ones no longer in use.

Talk about technology

As more and more homes install voice assistants and smart speakers such as Alexa, it's a good idea to talk to children about safe use of technology. Talk to them about what Alexa can be used for, how useful it can be and how to use it properly. Use it together to begin with and discuss any concerns they might have. Always make sure that children know to never share any personal or sensitive information and that if they need to talk about anything, they should always speak to a trusted adult.

Meet our expert

John E. Dunn has edited and written for numerous computer and technology magazines since the early 1990s, most recently Which Computing, The Register, Forbes.com, Techworld, Computerworld and Naked Security. He is a specialist in online cybersecurity and cybercrime and their growing effect on education, young people and the public.





Top Tips for Parents

**Putting screens away
gives me more time
to talk and play!**



**Screen time can reduce language
learning opportunities for your child**



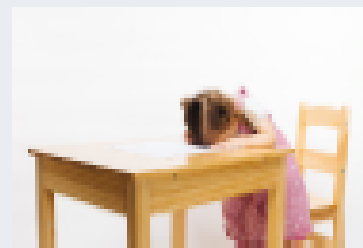
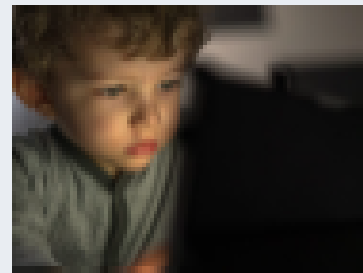
Find us on Facebook!
'Cheshire East Chatters'



Did You Know?

Too much screen time can:

- Restrict opportunities for two-way interaction throughout the day
- Reduce the amount of time your child has to learn through play
- Impact on your child's ability to listen and concentrate
- Affect the quality of your child's sleep
- Reduces opportunities for experiences in the real world which can impact on emotional development



How can I make the best use of screen time?

Choose TV programmes and computer games that are designed for children.

Turn the TV off when no-one is watching - background noise can make it difficult to listen.

Be aware of how much time you spend on your phone/tablet and the effect this may have on your child.

Talk about what your child has been looking at on screens and relate it to the real world.

Watch TV and play computer games with your child. Explain new words to them as they hear them.

Instead of screen time - try reading a book together, or playing games based on your child's favourite characters

Try to limit screen time —guidelines recommend that 2-5 years olds should watch screens for no more than 2 hours per day. For under 2s, it is only 30 minutes.

(American Association of Paediatrics)

Where can I find apps that will support my child's communication?

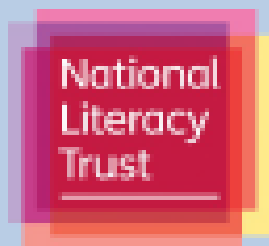


Free app filled with interactive stories for 0-5 year olds. A great way to introduce a love of reading with your child!



Lingumi

Government approved app to help children with learning English as a first or additional language. Includes speech recognition games alongside games targeting first words and building sentences.



The National Literacy Trust's Literacy Apps Guide has reviews and recommends apps for children to support a love of reading and later literacy skills:
<http://literacyapps.literacytrust.org.uk/>



Useful website to look at for more information on using apps with pre-school children to support early communication skills:
<https://hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk/>

Caring for your child's eyes...

Your child's eyes are special. In the early years, vision helps children find out about the world around them, about their home, about you. Later, as they go through school, their eyesight lets them learn and discover – in fact, about 80% of what is taught in schools is presented visually. Being able to see clearly is therefore incredibly important in your child's overall development.

Most very young children have their eyesight assessed as part of their routine developmental checks. While these are very important, they are not as thorough as a complete eye test by a qualified optician.

Ensuring your child has their eyes tested as early as possible means that any problems that they may have are identified early, setting them up for a happy and fulfilling school life. Young children may find it hard to explain the difficulties they are having with their eyesight and may not even be aware they have a problem at all.

Conditions such as squint and amblyopia (lazy eye) can be treated more effectively if they are picked up earlier and this could make a huge difference to your child. We recommend annual eye tests that are free on the NHS.

Things to look out for

It's often difficult to tell whether your child has sight problems, which is why regular eye tests are so important. However, there are a number of things to look out for:



Straining their eyes or tilting their head to see better

Frequent eye rubbing

Consistently sitting too close to the TV or holding a book too close

Losing their place while reading, or using a finger to guide their eyes

Avoiding activities which require near vision, such as reading or homework, or distance vision, such as participating in sports or other recreational activities

Sensitivity to light and/or excessive tearing

Falling behind in school

Closing one eye to read, watch TV or see better

Complaining of headaches or tired eyes

Avoiding using a computer or tablet because it "hurts their eyes"

The presence of a "turn" in the eye or a misdirection of the eyes

A "white reflex" in photographs. This is similar in appearance to red-eye, except it's white. It is extremely serious – if you notice it, you should seek medical attention immediately.

British Values

7th June 2021
UN Rights of a Child

Governments can provide money to support people in lots of different ways, like older farmers who leave farming. They often also provide money or other support to help families who need it.

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SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC HELP



British Values
7th – 13th June 2021
Individual Liberty

There are lots of different jobs that we can choose to do when we leave school. The types of jobs people do might change over time. Sometimes employees, like older farmers, are offered money to persuade them to find a different job. Older farmers can choose to stay in the job or take the money and leave farming.

