

# Newsletter 8 – Autumn Term



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

## This Week's Events

Date	School Events	International Events
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	Before school Y3-6 Dodgeball club Y1 & 2 Gymnastics lunchtime club Y5/6 Football match at Church Lane Academy Year 3 – 6 Basketball Club – Cancelled Year 1 & 2 Football Club – Cancelled Artsmark Celebration Week!	
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Before school Y3-6 Dodgeball club Y5 & 6 Gymnastics lunchtime club <b>Y6 Swimming – (Swimming Kit/Towel/goggles needed)</b> Y3 & 4 Football Club - Cancelled Y3-6 Athletics Club – Cancelled Y3 – 6 Sewing After school club- Cancelled Parents Evening Artsmark Celebration Week! *Art Exhibition during Parents Evening in the Irlam Hall.	
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	Before school Y3-6 Dodgeball club Y5 & 6 Girls Basketball Competition at William Stanier Parents Evening Artsmark Celebration Week! *Art Exhibition during Parents Evening in the Irlam Hall.	
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	Before school Y3-6 Dodgeball club Year 3 – 6 Dodgeball Club Artsmark Celebration Week!	
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	Before school Y3-6 Dodgeball club Year 5 & 6 Football Club Year 1 & 2 Multi Sports Club School Council at Remembrance in Crewe town Artsmark Celebration Week!	Remembrance day
<b>Advanced Notice:</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> November Anti-Bullying- odd sock day. AntiBullying week 14 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> November 14 <sup>th</sup> November – Games for all at South Cheshire College 17 <sup>th</sup> November – Y5 &6 Dodgeball Competition at Shavington Academy 18 <sup>th</sup> November – EFL Kids Cup at Crewe Soccer Centre 22 <sup>nd</sup> November – Indoor Sportshall Athletics Competition at Shavington Academy	
<b>Polite Notice:</b>	<b>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.</b>	

## We are Brilliant Winners

**KS1: Amara (The Hub), Jamie, Prudence (1A), Charlie (1B), Ethan (2B)**

**KS2: Abigail (3B), Isla (3A), Sylvia-Rose(5B), Patryk (4A), Mason (4B)**

### The Hub

The Hub children have been lucky enough to be invited to LG gymnastics club on Wednesday afternoons. They are able to take part in lots of exciting activities and use all of the equipment in the room. Despite being very high, the children all enjoyed bouncing on the big trampoline and then landing in the foam pit.



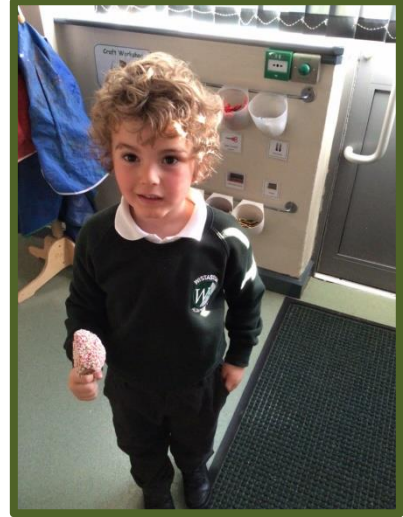
### Nursery

This week the Nursery children have been exploring chalk patterns. First we watched some short firework videos and then we discussed the different colours and patterns. The children then had a go at making their own firework pictures using chalk and water. The children loved using the water to smudge the chalk!

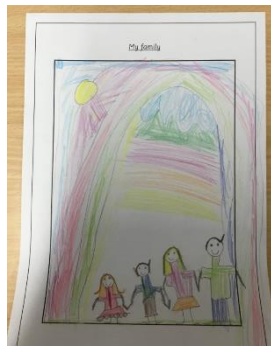


### Reception

This week we have been learning about the tradition 'Bonfire night'. We've explored the origins of Bonfire night and what it means and learnt about Guy fawkes too. We've also learnt about how to stay safe when out and about at Bonfire Night events and had so much fun creating our very own chocolate apples – a special Bonfire night treat!



### Year 1



In PSHE, we have been discussing our families and how they are similar or different to other families.

We have also had our Pen Down Day this week for our new topic 'travel and transport'. We continued to find out more about London and created an advert for our favourite landmark. We then completed some abstract art work inspired by the London skyline.



## Year 2

This week, Year 2 learnt how to retell the story of 'The Three Little Pigs' using different musical instruments. Firstly, they experimented with timbre and rhythm. Listening to the sound, they then chose an instrument and thought about which part of the story it could represent and why. For example, sticks, bricks or straw. Finally we performed the story with the musical instruments.



### Year 3



After learning about Hinduism and the festival of Diwali, we learnt the story of Rama and Sita, which talks about good overcoming evil. This week, we performed the story to KS2 in an assembly, where we also displayed our Diya lamps and heard first hand, how a pupil in our school celebrates the festival of lights. On both parents evenings, in the Irlam hall, you can view a video of the actual assembly, which shows us dramatizing and dancing our way through the story! Year 3 were amazing!



## Year 4

We had an amazing trip to the Dewa experience in Chester. The children were immersed into a Roman Britain experience, learning and using Latin phrases immediately. Completing a patrol gave them an insight into the Roman army's need to expand and conquer and they were able to gain first hand experiences of battle strategies and defensive manoeuvres. The museum, constructed as a Roman Camp, gave the children a wealth of knowledge and facts as well as opportunities to engage in role play.



## Year 5

On Tuesday, we were very lucky to have Johnny from Alsager Church come and spend some time with us. He taught us about the foretelling of Jesus' birth and we created some lifesaving rings to represent the Christian idea that Jesus came to save people.



## Year 6



Hello Everyone, my name is Akshadha and today we will talk about Diwali, Mainly looking at these two individual questions: What is Diwali and how do we celebrate it? Diwali, also known as Deepavali, is a Hindu festival celebrated in numerous parts of India as well as being celebrated globally. It is a celebration that marks the triumph of Good over Evil. This important event commemorates joy, harmony and victory as well as marking the return of Lord Ram to Ayodhya after 14 years of exile.

Well done  
Akshadha!

This festival, which is derived from the Sanskrit word (an ancient language from India), means 'a row of lights'. So, this festival is often celebrated by lighting lamps to symbolise the victory of light over darkness, also known as good over evil, and is celebrated for 5 continuous days. In India, it is a festival of fun and happiness. People adorn their homes with various lights, cooks scrumptious food, buy new dresses, travel long distances – just to celebrate together! They embellish their front yards with colourful patterns called rangolis, clothes and sweets are also distributed to the needy and last, but not least, bursting crackers! From my perspective, I love spending this quality time with my family and meeting close relatives and friends as well as having a get-together. I also enjoy assisting with the decorations and I adore bursting fire crackers and watching them illuminate the starry skies – shading it with colour. Especially the sparklers. Thank you for listening and **HAPPY DIWALI!**

## Art News

This coming week is.....



(Scan the QR code to watch our promo video, which has been endorsed by the National Arts Council!)

We are hugely excited to showcase your children's incredible creativity this week through an exhibition that will be installed in the Irlam Hall during the hours of parents evening. **Please come** with your family before or after your **parents evening** appointment – or **just drop in after school** if you are unable to come to parents evening.

We want to celebrate your children's creative achievements and to gather your opinions and thoughts through some fun vox-pop videos! Your thought matter to us and we want to capture what you think about creative education in our school (...and have some fun doing it!)



We would also like to invite you and your families to help us finish our collaborative angel sculpture too, as part of the exhibition. Find us in the Irlam Hall! 😊

Our theme for Artsmark Celebration week is "community" – and we need YOU! 😊



## Communitree

To kick-start our Artsmark week, we have been busy creating a “communitree”!  
We thought about what makes a tree flourish and, in turn, what makes our school community flourish.  
These answers are embedded in the bark and leaves of our tree, which is now installed in our Reception area. We’d love you to come and have a look next week!



### Mrs Walsh needs your help!

As part of our art activities this week, we are in need of some more of your wonderful greenery supplies – to help the school council create a wreath for Remembrance Day. If you can help, please send in cuttings of bushes, like ivy, Ielände and hebe – or anything else sturdy and attractive 😊



Thank you for your help!

### Christmas Card Competition!



Return your entries to Mrs Walsh!

We have been invited by our local MP, Dr Keiran Mullan, to design a Christmas card that will be printed and sent to his contacts at Christmas. The winner will have their design shared with our new Prime Minister, Rishi Sunak!

Some children will have opportunity in school to create their design, but if anyone would like to have a go at home, you are more than welcome, and we will send it together with entries made in school.

The brief is this:

- Draw / paint / create your design on a plain piece of A4 paper. *(Do not fold the paper, we only want your design for the front of the card.)*
- You then need to clearly write:
- YOUR FULL NAME
- YOUR AGE and
- WISTASTON ACADEMY

## Harvest



For your fantastic generosity during our Harvest Appeal!

We have heard from St Paul's Pantry to say that together we gathered enough food to make 472 meals for people in our community who need support. That is a phenomenal achievement and we are enormously grateful for your generosity.

As a Crewe community, amongst all our schools locally, we gathered an incredible 4.4 tonnes of food, which has really helped St Paul's work, as they have been very low on stock recently.

WE ARE  
*Stronger*  
TOGETHER

## PE News

### PE Focus - KS1 Football Competition at Crewe Alexandra Training Ground

On Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October, 6 children from Year 2 took part in a football competition at Crewe Alexandra Park Training Ground in Reaseheath. The Wistaston Academy football team played 5 games in total against other schools that attended the competition. The team managed to win 3 games, draw 1 game and lose 1 game. Mr Barton and Miss Brown were so proud of the way the children all supported one another and used what they had learnt in their after school club to the competition. A massive well done !!!



### **Sport Clubs News**

This half term, clubs will run from Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December. All clubs, including those delivered by outside providers, will be free of charge. If your child is interested in taking part in any of our clubs, please sign them up through Arbor as all the clubs are live, there are still some spaces left in some clubs. If Arbor won't let you make a booking it is likely the club is full.

Please make sure your child has got the right sports kit for the club they are attending such as tracksuit bottoms and a waterproof jacket as the weather is getting colder.

#### **Monday**

**Year 1 & 2 Gymnastics Club with Jasmine and Alisha Evanson from Cheshire Gymnastics**

**11:45am till 12:25pm**

**Year 1 & 2 Football Club with Miss Brown**

**3:05pm till 4:05pm**

**Year 3 – 6 Basketball Club with Mr Barton**

**3:15pm till 4:15pm**

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#### **Tuesday**

**Year 3- 6 Gymnastics Club with Jasmine and Alisha Evanson from Cheshire Gymnastics**

**12pm till 12:35pm**

**Year 3 & 4 Football Club with Miss Brown**

**3:15pm till 4:15pm**

**Year 3-6 Athletics Club with Mr Barton**

**3:15 till 4:15pm**

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#### **Thursday**

**Year 3 – 6 Dodgeball club with Miss Brown and Mr Barton**

**3:15pm till 4:15pm**

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#### **Friday**

**Year 1 & 2 Multi sports with Miss Brown**

**3:05pm till 4:05pm**

Year 5 & 6 Football Club with Mr Barton

3:15pm till 4:15pm

Please ensure that ALL children are collected from clubs outside the main reception on time.



Active Home Challenge



**How many times can you pass a ball around your body in 60 seconds?**

**Can you beat Mr Barton's score 29 times in 60 seconds !!**

**Once you have completed the challenge, please let Mr Barton know  
and you will win a raffle ticket.**

## British Values



 **UN Rights of a Child** 

We have the right to be protected from doing work that is dangerous or bad for our education, health or development. Some dangerous tasks are now carried out by robots, helping keep people safe.



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PROTECTION FROM HARMFUL WORK

© Pictory News 2022



 **British Values**  

**Individual Liberty**

People are responsible for advances in science and technology. It is important that risks are managed and the consequences considered carefully so that these advances help us.



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## Anti-Bullying week Monday 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> November

Anti-Bullying week 2022 will take place from Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November with the theme of 'Reach Out'.

Children are welcome to wear odd socks on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> to show awareness and **reach out to stop bullying.**



## Poppy Appeal

From Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November, Year 6 school council representatives will be visiting each class to sell items for the Poppy Appeal. As well as paper poppies, children can also buy zip pulls, reflectors, snap bands and wristbands.



The poster features a dark blue header with the text "Poppy Appeal" in white, separated by a large red poppy icon. A small warning icon is in the top right corner. Below the header, four items are displayed: Zip Pulls (colored sticks with poppy icons), a Reflector (a red poppy with a silver ring), Silicon Wristbands (interlocking bands in blue, pink, and white), and Snap Bands (colorful bands with poppy icons). Each item is accompanied by its name and a suggested donation price.

**Poppy Appeal**

WARNING  
Not suitable for children under 7 years. Small parts. Choking hazard! Not a toy.

**Zip Pull**  
**SUGGESTED DONATION: £1**

**Reflector**  
**SUGGESTED DONATION: £1**

**Silicon Wristband**  
**SUGGESTED DONATION: £1**

**Snap Band**  
**SUGGESTED DONATION: £1.50**



# Apply online for a school place

It's quick and easy

If you are a parent resident in Cheshire East, with a child born between 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019, your child will be due to start primary school in September 2023.

If you do not have web access  
call **0300 123 5012**

You can apply from  
1st September 2022 at  
[www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/  
schooladmissions](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

Applications should be submitted by

31st October 2022 for secondary

15th January 2023 for primary

Late applications may be disadvantaged



**Cheshire East**  
Council

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about FACEBOOK MESSENGER

Facebook Messenger is a communication app through which users can exchange messages and send photos, stickers, and video and audio files. Messenger allows both one-to-one and group chats, has a stories feature and – via its latest addition, Rooms – can host a video call with up to 50 people. As of 2021, the app had 35 million users in the UK alone (more than half the population!) among its 1.3 billion users worldwide. Whereas Messenger is integrated into Facebook on desktops and laptops, it has existed as a standalone app for mobile devices since 2011.

AGE RATING  
**13+**

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### ADDICTIVE NATURE

Messenger's numerous features can encourage children to spend more time on the app – and therefore on their phone, increasing their levels of screen time. It also invokes FOMO (the Fear of Missing out), especially among older children, who will almost certainly have a high proportion of their friends communicating via the app.

### LIVE STREAMING

The new Rooms feature lets Messenger users hold video calls with up to 50 people. A young person can join any room they see, but the other people in these rooms don't even necessarily need to be Facebook account holders. This live streaming development heightens risk factors around privacy, security and the possibility of exposure to inappropriate content.

### REQUESTS FROM STRANGERS

If the Facebook profile which accompanies their Messenger app is set to public, there's a possibility that young people will receive message requests from individuals they don't know. There have previously been reports of grooming attempts on Facebook, with predators using fake profiles to engage children in conversation.

### OVERSHARING PERSONAL INFO

If the app is given access to their device's photo library or location services, young people can unintentionally share sensitive information (private photos, videos, their number or current whereabouts) with people on Messenger who they don't know. Even among friends, shared photos or videos don't always stay private: the recipient(s) could save and re-share them with others.

### CYBERBULLYING

Like many communication apps, Messenger can be an avenue for cyberbullies or trolls to target children. This might take the form of harassment, abusive messages or being purposely excluded from (or targeted in) group chats. A 2021 Ofcom report revealed that more than half (55%) of 12-15-year-olds had suffered such negative experiences online in the preceding year.

### SECRET CONVERSATIONS

The Secret Conversations function lets Messenger users have encrypted exchanges that no-one else can read. Unlike regular chats on the app, these can only be viewed on the device being used at the time. Messages can also be set to delete once read (although screenshots can be taken), so a child could chat privately with someone without any record of that conversation having taken place.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### USE ADDITIONAL SECURITY

Messenger's App Lock feature uses your child's fingerprint or face ID to ensure that nobody else can access their messages without permission. Messenger has also added a variety of optional tools to increase young people's safety on the app, including two-factor authentication, login alerts and filtered message requests.

### REPORT INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR

If your child experiences anything negative on Messenger, you can help them report it. Facebook can then take action such as disabling the offender's account, limiting their ability to send messages or blocking them from contacting your child again. If your child doesn't want to display to others that they're online, they can switch off Active Status in the app's settings.

### ADJUST PRIVACY SETTINGS

Make your child's Messenger stories visible only to their friends. Avoid adding your child's phone number (so they can't be found by someone using their number to search for them), and not syncing contacts lets your child choose who to add (or not) individually. Via Settings, you can control who appears in your child's chat list, who goes into the message request folder and who can't contact your child at all.

### REVIEW THE CHAT LIST

Some parents regularly check their children's Messenger conversations (to see who they're talking to, rather than what they're talking about). While this is certainly safe, it can seem intrusive. If approached in a sensible, collaborative way, however, it can help parents and carers to keep an eye on exactly who their child is communicating with.

### DISCUSS LIVE STREAMING

Talk with your child about safe and secure video calling. When setting up calls on Messenger Rooms, only invite people who your child knows and trusts. Show them how to lock a room if they don't want other people joining – and how to remove anyone they don't want on the call. Remind them about behaving responsibly during a live stream, even if it's with people they know.

### ENCOURAGE SAFE SHARING

Ensure your child knows to send pictures and videos only to family and trusted friends, and not to publicly share images which compromise their location (showing a landmark near home or clothing with identifiable logos, like a school or local club crest). Encourage them to pause before sharing anything – if there's a chance it could harm their reputation (or someone else's), don't send it.

## Meet Our Expert

Alex Wright is a former Facebook employee and social media expert with more than 15 years' experience in digital media. He has worked with some of the biggest organisations on the planet and has a vast understanding of how social media platforms work and how they engage their audience.

