

Newsletter 22 – Spring Term



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

This Week's Events

Date	School Events	International Events
Monday 13 th March	Before school dodgeball club 3- 6 Yr 1&2 Dodgeball Yr 3-6 Basketball Yr 1&2 Lunchtime Gym	
Tuesday 14 th March	Before school dodgeball club 3- 6 Games for all event at South Cheshire College Yr 3-6 Lunchtime Gym Swimming Y4 Yr 3&4 Football Yr 3-6 Tag Rugby Yr 3-6 Sewing Yr 3&4 Performing Arts Year 5 & 6 Hockey Finals at Ruskin High School	
Wednesday 15 th March	Before school dodgeball club 3- 6	
Thursday 16 th March	Before school dodgeball club 3- 6 Yr 3-6 Dodgeball Yr 3-6 Singing Yr 1&2 Lunchtime Singing	
Friday 17 th March	Before school dodgeball club 3- 6 Yr 5&6 Football Yr 1&2 Cricket	
Advanced Notice:	Year 1 & 2 Gymnastics competition at Camm Street Gym – 22 nd March 2023 Friday 24 th March – SingFest for Year 4, Congleton Town Hall Year 5 & 6 Trophy 75 Football competition – 27 th March 2023 Year 5 & 6 Tag Rugby at Crewe Vagrants Sports Club – 28 th March 2023 Tuesday 21 st and Wednesday 22 nd March – Spring Art Exhibition in Irlam Hall Friday 24 th March – SingFest for Year 4, Congleton Town Hall	
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

Reception: Noah (RB)

KS1: Savannah (1B), Adam(2A), Ethan (2B)

KS2: Walter Blake (3A), Charlie B (3B)

Mati P (5A), Isla (4A), Finlay (4B), Faith and Alfie N (6B), Jenson P and Poppy (6A)

Sports Awards

KS1 : Freya (2A) , Noah (Rec B)

KS2 : Kaiden (5A) , Julia (6B)

The Hub

In The Hub we have a season wall which we decorate with our artwork throughout the year. As March sees the start of Spring, we have begun our display this week by creating blossoming trees.



Nursery

This week in Nursery we have been learning about flowers. We have been doing observational drawings of daffodils. On Tuesday we went to the big school field to plant our own seeds. We scattered the seeds across the field.



Reception

This week we have had some very exciting visitors to our Reception classes. This half-term we are learning about growing and life cycles and we have been looking after some tiny caterpillars. We are watching as the caterpillars begin to grow and we can't wait until they create their chrysalis and then turn in to a beautiful butterfly! We will share pictures on Tapestry when we begin to see them change.



Year 1

This week in science, we have been learning about the weather focusing on rain. We created our own rain gauges using plastic bottles and have attached them to the fence outside our classrooms. Each afternoon, at the same time, we are going to measure the amount of rainfall and use this data to create a graph.



Year 2

This week in maths, Year 2 have had lots of fun learning all about volume and capacity.



Year 3

We have enjoyed our fictional Literacy and Reading text 'The Lost Happy Endings' by Carol Ann Duffy. We have created dialogue sequences, participated in thought tapping drama, acted out suspenseful scenes and developed short role play videos on iPads.



Year 4

As part of our school drive on outdoor learning, mental health and wellbeing, Mrs Dean, in collaboration with The Wild Life Trust, arranged for us to scatter seeds on the field to create what will become a meadow area.



Year 5

This morning, we spent time with Chip Kendall in an RE/Music workshop. This was connected to our learning about the meaning of Easter for Christians and how salvation is a key focus during this time.

The children enjoyed this workshop. Well done Year 5.



Year 6

Last Tuesday, Year 6 were very lucky to have a special visitor. Emily Hall is a doctor at Leighton Hospital and gave up one of her days off to talk to the children about the human heart. As you can see from the images, the heart dissection was a real eye opener where the children discovered many things. Here's what they had to say about it:

- ❖ The fat felt stone hard, so that tells me that eating too much fat must be bad for us.
- ❖ It was heavier than I thought—I didn't realise that muscle would be so heavy.
- ❖ The aorta was rubbery and tough—that's because it needs to be robust to keep the blood constantly pumping.
- ❖ I wasn't expecting there to be so many different textures within one organ.



Art News

Focus on Year 4: Performing Arts



In Year 4, we have been working extremely hard on our singing, in preparation for “SingFest”, which is coming soon! Our children are preparing to perform with Shavington Academy, Wistaston Church Lane and A-level musicians from Cheshire College South and West, at Congleton Town Hall on Friday 24th March. Our concert begins at 12:15pm, going on until 1:30pm – it promises to be a fabulous show.

Parents may purchase tickets at £5 each from the Love Music Trust website via this link:

<http://www.lovemusictrust.com/singfest-tickets>

Please note, we are “Concert 7”.

We hope many of you can join us on the day. Some of our children are even brave enough to sing solos, or be rhythm keepers! We are very proud of our children as they explore music and rhythm – it has lifted our spirits.

Well done Year 4!

Arts Ambassadors

This week letters have gone out to invite children in Year 1 – 6 to become Arts ambassadors. Selection of representatives will be made the week beginning 13th March. These children will help gather pupil voice regarding art, help prepare for and lead our arts events – such as our up-coming exhibition (21st/22nd March), help lead art activities, and represent the school at some external arts events. Exciting!



Sport News

Focus on International Women's Day

On Wednesday 8th March it was International Women's Day, so the sports leaders and Mr Barton planned some sport related activities to get as many girls involved in sport as we could. The sport leaders ran a football match during break time on the school field and then a football match for years 3 to 6 on the all-weather pitch. The sport leaders also delivered various activities such as dribbling skills, challenge and passing and receiving to encourage girls to participate in football. This day was in partnership with The FA as we are aiming as a school and a nation to get more girls playing football. Mr Barton was so proud of all the sports leaders and how they showed off their leadership skills. Overall in KS1 and KS2 63 girls participated in football related activities which is brilliant. Well done to all!



CREWE TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB
EST. 2018
20 18
Play. Smile. Develop.

ACCREDITED
PART OF ENGLAND FOOTBALL

PLAYERS WANTED

NEW TEAM

U7 DRAGONS

CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR 1. TRAINING TUES 5.30-6.30pm

CREWETOWNFOOTBALLCLUB@GMAIL.COM

@CREWETOWNFC

CONTACT: VIA EMAIL/FACEBOOK

PE Kit Reminder:

Please can you make sure that your child has got the right clothing for P.E.

They should have: -

- ✓ **Green Wistaston Academy Logo T-shirt**
- ✓ **Black Shorts**
- ✓ **Black/White Socks**
- ✓ **Trainers/Pumps**
- ✓ **Tracksuit bottoms (Dark Blue or Black)**
- ✓ **Tracksuit Top (Dark Blue or Black)**



Sport Clubs News

This half term, clubs will run from 27th February until 31st March.

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 **** (Spaces Available) ****

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 **** (Spaces Available) ****

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 Tag Rugby Club with Mr Barton **** (Spaces Available) ****

3:15 till 4:15pm

Thursday

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

3:15pm till 4:15pm

Friday

Year 1 & 2 Cricket Club with Miss Brown **** (Spaces Available) ****

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.



EASTER HOLIDAY CLUB

Come and join our Wizz Kidz Easter holiday club

3rd - 6th April 2023

7:30am - 6:00pm

£22 per day

Includes a light snack

Reminders:

Please provide your child with their own packed lunch

Pay and book on Arbor from Friday 10th March

Decorate an Easter Egg

Make Chocolate Nests

Rock Painting

Planting Sunflowers

Movie Afternoon with Treats

Easter Bonnets

Creativity Day



Protected Characteristics



There may be times when someone's age affects how they spend their money. Not all children have bank cards or mobile phones and not all adults want to use them either. Everyone should be able to choose how they spend their money.



UN Rights of a Child



Governments should provide money or other support to help children from poor families.



British Values



Individual Liberty

People can choose how they spend their money. There may be benefits and consequences of spending money in each of its forms, which may vary for each individual.

Lots of games naturally encourage you and your child to be face to face. Here are a few to try at home:

Blowing bubbles—watch your child's excitement when you blow bubbles for them

Sing nursery rhymes like "Row Row the Boat", "Round and Round the Garden" and "Zoom Zoom"

"Peek-a-boo"
Hide behind hands or some fabric. Your child will love you reappearing!

Be a mirror—copy each other's facial expressions and see how crazy you can make your faces!

Sit face-to-face and have fun playing with puppets, or even old socks on your hands!

Top Tips for Parents

Being face-to-face helps connections take place!



Talking and playing face-to-face with your child helps you connect with each other



Find us on Facebook!
'Cheshire East Chatters'



Did You Know?

Being face-to-face with your child:

- Helps you to see and hear each other
- Shows your child that you are interested in them
- Allows you to tune in with what your child wants to do and talk about
- Supports your child to learn about eye contact, facial expressions and emotions



Babies are born wanting to look at the human face!

Get right down to your child's level—this may mean having to get down on the floor!

Babies and young children will copy you from a very early age

Watch what your child is doing and comment on it

Keep your language simple, using words your child can understand

Give your child plenty of time to take their turn



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 games 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

FIFA 23

FIFA 23, like its many predecessors, is a massively popular football simulator featuring lifelike recreations of thousands of real-world players, drawn from teams around the globe. While the gameplay is subtly improved year on year, the publisher EA Sports' tweaks tend to focus on FIFA Ultimate Team mode, which can tempt gamers of all ages to spend real money recruiting better players for their side. With each new release of FIFA comes a host of new players to unlock – meaning that youngsters can feel pressured to keep buying to compete with their friends.



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

RELEASE RAZZAMATAZZ

FIFA 23 will be the last in the blockbuster series, before EA goes solo with its own football title next season. This 'end of an era' vibe – coupled with a huge advertising budget making the new release almost impossible to miss – will elevate FIFA 23 into even more of a 'must have' for football-mad young gamers, no matter how minor the updates are on last year's version.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CHAT

Based on a popular sport which appeals to people of all ages, the FIFA franchise draws a huge audience of both children and adults. Communication is a key element, with many players enjoying in-game audio chat via headsets. With the mixed age range of players and a lack of regulation, however, chats can often turn offensive or toxic – especially in the heat of competitive matches.

IN-GAME PROMOTIONS

Unless precautions are taken, dedicated FIFA fans can spend significant sums when attempting to improve their Ultimate Team. Most top-level players can be unlocked by simply participating in matches, but some sought-after stars can be obtained more quickly in limited-time promotions which cost a large amount of FIFA points (the in-game currency, often paid for with real money).

CIRCLING SCAMMERS

The popularity of FIFA Ultimate Team (FUT) mode has led to online scammers convincing many impressionable gamers to pay real money for non-existent FUT coins and player cards, or directing unwary FIFA fans to phishing sites. If your child gives these individuals their login details, the scammers can access not only their carefully built team but potentially your payment information.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

One match on FIFA (usually around 15 minutes, but often lengthened by extra time and penalties) almost invariably leads to another. It can be a powerful temptation for young players, regardless of unfinished homework or an approaching bedtime. If the 'just one more game' mindset starts to impact a child's daily routine, it could be a sign of gaming disorder: a recognised mental health issue.

GAMBLING-ADJACENT BEHAVIOUR

Ultimate Team has become a major feature in FIFA due to the revenues it generates. It can also be addictive, with children striving to earn coins and level up while swapping, selling and buying players. Spending FUT coins to open a player pack (which many experts have likened to gambling) is designed to be an exciting act – with bright lights, fanfare and attention-grabbing prizes.

Advice for Parents & Carers

BE SELECTIVE WITH CHATS

It's enormous fun for FIFA players to chat online with friends, even as their teams do battle in the game. It's probably the safest idea, though, to restrict contact with strangers. By turning off voice chat in FIFA and allowing cross-party chat in their device's settings, your child can speak to people who are already on their friends list but won't be able to talk to (or hear) strangers online.

STAY ALERT FOR SCAMS

There are some key things to remember about potential FIFA scams. Firstly, EA never contacts users via any method other than emails to the account holder (which may well be you). Neither will they ever ask for a player's username or password outside the game itself. EA's terms and conditions outlaw the buying of FUT coins, so anyone selling them should be treated as suspicious.

CONTROL SPENDING

If your child plays Ultimate Team mode on FIFA, ensure their account isn't linked to your payment methods – so they'll need your permission to make in-game purchases. Alternatively, you could use parental controls to limit spending – or set up a pre-paid 'allowance'. When excitedly clicking options on screen, it's easy for a young person to forget the real-world repercussions of online purchases.

AVOID 'EXTRA TIME'

If your child's spending a lot of time on FIFA 23 and seems less enthusiastic about other activities in their life, you could consider restricting how long they can play for each day with the parental controls in their device's settings. Even if they're not playing on their console or computer, there's a FIFA companion app for smartphones – but that can be limited through parental controls, too.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Games Editor of technology and entertainment website Dexerto and has been working in the gaming media for three years. A long-time fan of the FIFA franchise, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have also been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar, among others.



10



Sources: <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2022/oct/10/fifa-23-ultimate-team-mode-raises-concerns-over-9000-16s-take-highlighting-predictions-game-designers> | <https://www.cnet.com/news/questions-and-answers/fifa-addictive-behaviour-gaming-disorder/> | <https://www.gamingnews.com/2022/10/10/fifa-23-ultimate-team-mode-raises-concerns-over-9000-16s-take-highlighting-predictions-game-designers/>