

Newsletter 28 – Spring Term



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

This Week's Events

Date	School Events	International Events
Monday 27 th March	Before school dodgeball club 3- 6 Yr 1&2 Dodgeball Y1-2 Football Yr 1&2 Lunchtime Gym	
Tuesday 28 st March	Before school dodgeball club 3- 6 Yr 3-6 Lunchtime Gym Swimming Y4 Yr 3&4 Football Yr 3-6 Sewing Yr 3&4 Performing Arts	
Wednesday 29 th March	Before school dodgeball club 3- 6	
Thursday 30 th March	Before school dodgeball club 3- 6 Yr 3-6 Dodgeball Yr 3-6 Singing Yr 1&2 Lunchtime Singing	
Friday 31 st March	Before school dodgeball club 3- 6 Yr 5&6 Football	
Advanced Notice:	<p><u>2nd May 25pm or 5.00pm</u> – Phonics Screening Check parent meeting for Year 1 and invited Year 2s.</p> <p><u>Thursday May 4th Polling day-</u> The Dunwoody Hall will be in use as a polling station on this day. No hot dinners will therefore be available, Clever cats packed lunches will be available for those who usually choose a school dinner.</p> <p><u>Friday 5th May</u> – Coronation picnic celebration.</p> <p><u>WC 12.6.23</u> – Phonics Screening Check. Please ensure your child is in school every day during this period.</p> <p><u>Saturday 20th May</u> – Crewe Out Loud at Cheshire College South and West. Soul Children will be performing and we will be exhibiting artwork on the top floor.</p> <p><u>Wednesday 24th May</u> Sports day for Reception up to Year 6 pupils- Weather permitting. If any issues with weather it will be rescheduled to Friday 9th June. Timings TBC.</p>	
Polite Notice:	<p>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.</p>	

We are Brilliant Winners

EYFS: Tobi (The Hub) Layton (Rec B)

KS1: Isabella (1A), Summer (1B), Adam (2A) Jacek (2B)

KS2: Aylin (3B), Lilly W (4A) Filip (4B), Sebastian (6A), Holly (6B)

The Hub

One of the targets for all of The Hub children is to develop their balance and coordination skills. During Sensory Circuit, we have been working on travelling over some very challenging obstacles and jumping to a safe landing.



Nursery

This week in Nursery the egg disappeared. We used binoculars to carefully look for the egg. The Nursery children thought the egg could be a dinosaur egg. We enjoyed our dinosaur hunt to identify different types of dinosaurs. I wonder what dinosaur could be inside the egg?



Reception

This term we have been exploring how we keep our bodies healthy. We've explored new foods, learnt about eating a rainbow of fruits and vegetables and doing exercise or resting to keep our bodies moving and healthy. As part of our learning we have been getting active with some Jump Start Jonny and relaxing to some calm music, feeling how our heart rate changes between each activity.



Year 1

This week, Year 1 had lots of fun using the digital microscope as we continue our topic 'All about growing'. They explored the leaves, petals, roots and stems of different plants and were amazed at what they could see.



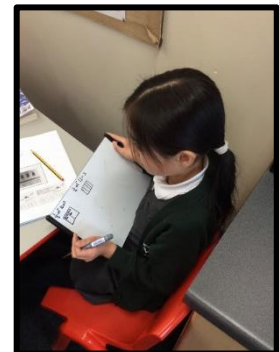
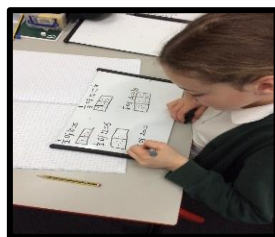
Year 2

In RE, we learnt more about how Jewish people celebrate shabbat at home by recreating a traditional shabbat meal. We sampled challah, a Jewish bread, cholent, a traditional Jewish stew as well as some other Jewish treats. It was delicious!



Year 3

This week, we continued our learning on fractions. We used our knowledge to work out unit fractions of an amount and took part in fun with fractions. This game had the children sort items into halves, thirds or quarters.



Year 4

On Thursday, we welcomed our Muslim community to celebrate Eid. They brought traditional dishes that they normally eat during Eid (breaking of the fast). All of year 4 would like to **thank you** for spending your time making such wonderful dishes and sharing these with us to enjoy.



Year 5

Year 5 were very fortunate to have a visit to the 'recycling truck' this week. We learnt about how recycling can benefit our planet, what can and can not be recycled and had a go at organising the litter that we picked up from the school grounds. It was very eye opening.



Year 6

Year 6 are enjoying learning about their new topic 'the Windrush' in History and Reading lessons. In Reading lessons this week, we created a short improvisation to explain why the Windrush Generation came to England. We then created a tableaux about how people felt at different stages of the journey: from their arrival to being given their new homes.



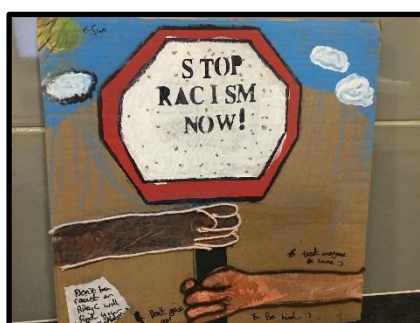
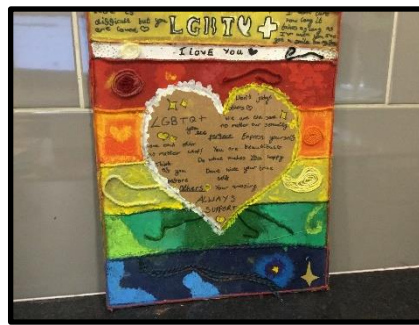
Art News

Focus on Year 6

In Year 6 we have been thinking about “Protected Characteristics” that are safeguarded in the 2010 Equality Act.



We have been thinking about hate crimes and prejudice in this context and how we want to be those that show tolerance to others, no matter what their age, disability, ethnicity, race, sexuality, religion or gender identification. We have produced art work that focused on one or more of these protected characteristics, as well as including patterning or colours that we noticed when analysing the work of Gustav Klimt and Chris Ofili. Here are just some of our pieces:





Artwork by:

Neo, Sophie-Mai, Evin, Logan P,
Alison, Roza, Millie-Mai, Ryley
E, Jacob, Andreea, Preeya,
Alyssa, Holly G, Jenson B, Faith
and Hannah.



Well done everyone! Here is a
reminder of our award-winning
video we made on the same
subject a couple of years ago:



Many of us will have heard of the incredible sculpture “The Knife Angel”, created by artist Alfie Bradley. It is a 27foot high sculpture created from 100,00 siezed knives and blades from the streets of Britain. This poignant statue symbolises a call for change as well as a memorial for victims of knife crime and their loved ones. We are privileged to have the angel come to Crewe, from 3rd – 30th May. Make sure you don’t miss a chance to see it and to get involved in many activities that will be held in conjunction with this artwork. Leaflets have been sent home, but the details are also pictured below for your information.

Please join in the poetry competition and submit your entries to the address on the leaflet before 22nd May. By doing so, you give yourself a chance to win a prize, as well as powerfully highlighting the problem of knife crime!

CREWE KNIFE ANGEL

Knife Angel Poetry Competition

Send us your poems related to the impact of knife and violent crime

Three categories: **Primary - Secondary - Adult**

Prizes to be won!

Find out more: comms@crewetowncouncil.gov.uk

Email entries to: comms@crewetowncouncil.gov.uk

Or drop off at: Crewe Town Council
1 Chantry Court, Forge Street,
Crewe, CW1 2DL

Deadline: Mon 22 May @ 5pm

CREWE TOWN COUNCIL Creative Crewe CREWE

CREWE WELCOMES THE KNIFE ANGEL

3rd – 30th May 2023
Memorial Square, Crewe, CW1 2BJ

The designated charity for the Knife Angel visit is Cheshire Crimebeat who support young people of Cheshire to get involved with crime prevention, community safety and citizenship projects in their local communities.

CRIMEBEAT

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CrimeStoppers.
0800 555 111
100% anonymous. Always.

Whatever you're facing We're here to listen

Call this day or night on **116 123**
Email: jo@samaritans.org

SAMARITANS

For general enquiries email: support@crewetowncouncil.gov.uk

Activities during the Crewe Knife Angel visit

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Opening ceremony
Wednesday 3rd May at 4.30pm

Closing ceremony
Tuesday 30th May at 6:30pm

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Theatre activities, gang culture workshops and engagement in local schools

First aid demonstrations and training (including use of defibrillators and bleed kits)

Safer streets bus

Youth skills events

Poetry competition with Creative Crewe

Visit the Knife Angel!

Everyone is welcome to visit the Knife Angel on Memorial Square, Crewe – free of charge

Find out more on the Crewe Knife Angel webpage: www.crewetowncouncil.gov.uk/whats-on-events/knife-angel

THE UK'S FIRST NATIONAL ANTI VIOLENCE YOUTH EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME AND TOUR

What is the Knife Angel?

The Knife Angel, also known as the National Monument Against Violence and Aggression, is a 27 foot tall sculpture created entirely from 100,000 seized knives and blades taken from the streets of Britain. The blades were collected by forty-three Police Constabularies following knife amnesties and surrenders across the UK and have been sterilised and blunted.

It symbolises a call for change whilst acting as a National Memorial for victims of knife crime and their loved ones.

Where did the Knife Angel come from?

The Knife Angel and its concept was created by the British Ironwork Centre and designed by Alfie Bradley, and is currently engaged in a National Anti-Violence Tour across the UK. Crewe is the 35th venue to host the sculpture in five years.

Why has the Knife Angel come to Crewe?

It is hoped that the presence of the statue and accompanying programme of engagement will inspire social change not only in Crewe but also the wider area.

Funding for the project has been given by Crewe Town Council and the Safer Cheshire East Partnership supported through funding from the Police Crime Commissioner's Office.

What are the objectives of the visit?

The Knife Angel is intended to educate children, young people and adults about the harmful effects of violent behaviour on communities all across our nation. It has also helped to encourage those carrying knives to renounce violence as a solution for solving disputes and inspire leading bodies to create better initiatives to turn the tide on aggressive behaviour.

Become a National Youth Anti-Violence Champion

An 'Anti-Violence Champion' is someone who completely renounces violent and aggressive behaviour as a means to solve issues, disputes and difficulties.

You can find out more by visiting:
www.britishironworkcentre.co.uk/become-a-national-youth-anti-violence-champion



Toileting Tips

Toileting

When is the best time for toilet training?

Potty training can take time and can be stressful. It's a good idea to make it as relaxed and as fun as possible. Every child is different however, most children are ready to be potty trained between 18 months and 3 years old

Top tips to share with parents

Make sure you pick a good time to try and potty train. Moving house or new baby might make it more stressful

Wear clothes that are easy to take on and off. Stay positive try not to make a fuss about accidents – they happen!

What can we do?

Start talking about using the toilet. It's best to avoid negative words like "dirty, smelly"

Read books about the potty, have a potty to play with and put teddies on.

Start getting into the routine early, change children's nappies in the toilet, standing up if possible and wash their hands afterwards

Watch for signs they are ready - Are they aware they have done a wee or poo?

Give children time without a nappy or add a washable flannel to their nappy – so they know what it feels like to be wet

Attendance

Attendance

Wk - 06.02.23 – 10.03.23

Target 96%

3A = 95.1%
3B = 94.6%
4A = 95%
4B = 96%
5A = 96.3%
5B = 95.3%
6A = 97.1% 😊
6B = 96.4%



KS2 for the week = 96.1% 😊
Whole school attendance for the academic year – 94.5% 😞

Attendance

Wk 06.03.23 – 10.03.23

Target 96%

Reception A – 93.6%
Reception B – 88.6.3%
1A – 90%
1B – 99.3% 😊
2A - 97.4%
2B – 95.3%



KS1 Attendance for last week - 94.1% 😞
Whole school attendance for the academic year – 94.5% 😞

Sport News

Year 5 & 6 Tag Rugby at Crewe & Nantwich Rugby Club

On Tuesday 28th March, 8 children took part in a Year 5 & 6 tag rugby competition which was held at Crewe and Nantwich Rugby Club. The team played against a number of schools, where they managed to win a lot of their matches. Mr Barton and Miss Brown were so proud of the way the children passed the ball and

worked as a team. Well done to all.



Year 3 Swimming

Year 3 classes will be going swimming for approximately 6 weeks as part of the compulsory National PE curriculum. The sessions will begin on Tuesday 18th April and will finish on Tuesday 23rd May 2023. The classes will go swimming from 1:30 till 2:30pm.

Your child will need to bring in their **swimming costume and a towel**. If your child forgets their kit, we will contact you during the morning to try to arrange for their kit to be dropped off. Alternatively, we can provide spare swimming costumes, shorts and towels if kit cannot be brought in. Children are not allowed to wear any jewellery in the pool, so all must be removed before they enter. Please ensure that all earrings are removed before children come to school, if the children cannot remove the earrings themselves. In addition, long hair must be tied up in a swimming cap.

If you have any questions about Y3 Swimming, please speak to the PE Team or your child's Class Teacher.



Sport Clubs News

This half term, clubs will run from Monday 17th April until Friday 28th April 2023

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

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

Thursday

Year 3 – 6 Dodgeball club with Miss Brown

3:15pm till 4:15pm

Friday

Year 5 & 6 Football Club with Miss Brown

3:15pm till 4:15pm

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



UN Rights of a Child



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



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.



Sex



Sexual Orientation



Age



Disability



Gender Reassignment



Marriage and Civil Partnership



Pregnancy and Maternity



Race



Religion or Belief



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.

E-Safety

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

TWITTER



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Twitter is a social media network which allows users to post short messages (tweets) of up to 280 characters. Tweets can consist of text, photos, videos, audio, links, polls and GIFs – often linked by hashtags if they share a common theme or message. Hashtags receiving high levels of interest are said to be ‘trending’. Twitter users can engage with other people’s posts by liking, retweeting (sharing) or ‘tweesting back’ (commenting on). Since the entrepreneur Elon Musk acquired Twitter in October 2022 for \$44 billion, he has implemented several major changes to the platform.

INTERACTION WITH STRANGERS

Tweets are public by default, meaning that anyone can view and interact with posts, follow someone and send direct messages. The concern here is that young people may therefore connect and communicate with strangers. Some individuals may follow a young person’s Twitter account simply because they have similar interests; however, others may turn out to have more sinister intentions.

FIXATION ON VIEW COUNT

Twitter has recently introduced a ‘view count’ feature – telling users how many people have seen their tweet (even if they haven’t reacted to it). Previous research has found that unfavourable comparisons with other social media users can cause young people to experience feelings of insecurity, jealousy and low self-esteem – leading to an obsession with increasing their numbers.

TROLLS AND BULLYING

The anonymity offered by fake profiles encourages some users to send tweets designed to provoke a reaction; to disrupt conversations; to spark an argument; or to harass the recipient. Such trolling and bullying can impact the mental wellbeing of both the target and anyone who witnesses it. Encourage your child to come to you if they experience such behaviour on Twitter, or if they see it taking place.

PAID-FOR VERIFICATION

Previously, if a Twitter profile displayed a blue tick icon, it meant that the owner – usually a celebrity or a major organisation – had been verified as genuine. Now, however, anyone can pay for a Twitter Blue subscription to receive the tick, with the platform carrying out limited checks on the account’s authenticity. This could easily lead to more fake accounts impersonating real people or companies.

CONTENT MODERATION CHANGES

In late 2022, Twitter stated that their ‘policy enforcement will rely more heavily on de-amplification of violative content’ (freedom of speech, but not freedom of reach). No policies have changed yet, but this wording suggests they may limit who can see posts rather than removing them. While supporting free speech, this could encourage an environment where some toxic content remains online.

HIJACKED HASHTAGS

The hashtag (#) is one of Twitter’s most recognisable facets, allowing users to find specific trends or topics. But the sheer volume of tweets each hour can rapidly distort a hashtag’s meaning: an initially innocent search term can quickly end up returning inappropriate results. This is common with ‘trending’ hashtags, as people know that using them will get their tweet seen by a larger audience.

Advice for Parents & Carers

SET ACCOUNTS TO PRIVATE

To reduce some of the fear of your child’s tweets being seen and shared by anyone, you can always make their account protected. This means that your child has to give approval for another user to view their posts. You can change Twitter’s privacy settings so that your child can’t be messaged directly by other people on the platform and their geographical location won’t be shared.

FOSTER CRITICAL THINKING

It can be difficult for anyone to ascertain if something online is real or false, but particularly for young people. Encourage your child to check several reputable sources to determine if a story they’ve seen is true; remind them to watch out for scams and think about the message’s possible motive. Emphasise that it’s not a good idea to retweet something if they aren’t sure it’s correct.

ENGAGE SAFETY MODE

When Safety Mode is activated, Twitter checks for abusive or spammy behaviour such as hurtful language or repeated negative replies. The platform then flags these suspect accounts and blocks them from responding to your child’s tweets. The autoblock function then prevents these accounts from interacting with your child’s again for seven days.

EXPLORE THE NEW SETTINGS

Previously, any user could reply to anyone else’s tweets. However, the new conversation settings let your child determine who can reply to their posts – either by selecting everyone (the default option), people they follow or only people they mention (using the @ symbol). This improvement has given users extra control, providing them with more protection from trolls and online abuse.

PAUSE BEFORE POSTING

It’s important that young people think about what they’re about to post and whether they might regret it later. Twitter has developed ‘nudges’: little prompts which appear if someone is about to tweet using harmful or offensive language. These nudges promote more positive online behaviour by giving users an opportunity to pause and consider their words before they post something.

BLOCK, REPORT OR MUTE

If someone is upsetting your child on Twitter, you can block and report them. Blocking stops them from messaging or following your child, while reporting an account alerts Twitter to investigate possible misuse. The ‘mute’ feature, meanwhile, keeps tweets from a specific account (or which include certain words) out of your child’s timeline. The other user won’t know that they’ve been muted.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



BE CAREFUL WHO TO FOLLOW

As accounts are no longer being as rigorously verified under the ‘blue tick’ system, it’s essential that young Twitter users understand what this means: in terms of people not necessarily being who they claim. Anyone who your child only knows online is still a stranger, regardless of how long they’ve been communicating for. Remind your child never to disclose personal information on social media.

Source: <https://blog.twitter.com/common-thread/en/topics/stories/2022/how-twitter-is-nudging-users-healthier-conversations> | https://blog.twitter.com/en_us/topics/product/2022/twitter-blue-update | https://blog.twitter.com/en_us/topics/company/2022/twitter-2-0-our-continued-commitment-to-the-public-conversation | <https://scholarworks.lib.csusb.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2131&context=etd>