

Newsletter 29 – Spring Term



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

This Week's Events

Date	School Events	International Events
Monday 8 th May	School closed due to bank holiday	
Tuesday 9 th May	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 10 th May	Before school dodgeball club 3- 6	
Thursday 11 th May	Before school dodgeball club 3- 6 Yr 3-6 Dodgeball Yr 3-6 Singing Yr 1&2 Lunchtime Singing	
Friday 12 th May	Before school dodgeball club 3- 6 Yr 5&6 Football	
Advanced Notice:	<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: Ezmay (Rec B)

KS1: Logan (1B), Teddy (2A)

KS2: Pagan(4A) Ashton(4B) Jaycob-John (5B) Kairon (6B)

During our Science lesson this week, The Hub children have explored what happens to fruit when they are put inside a dehydrator machine overnight. They noticed that the fruit got smaller in size but stayed the same colour.



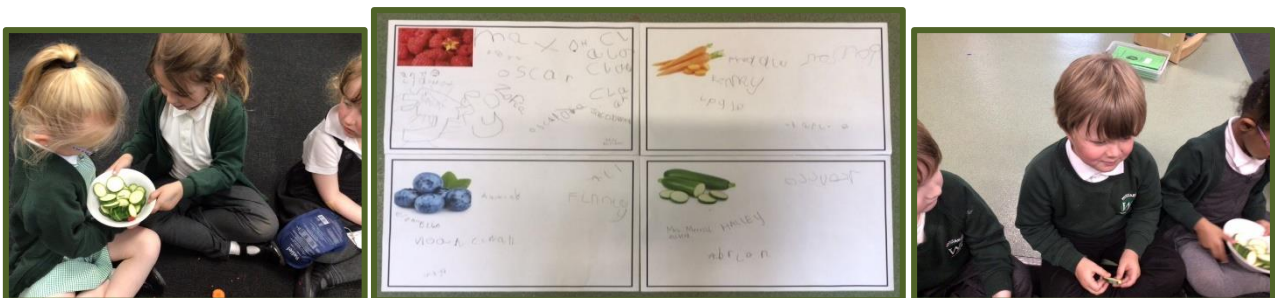
Nursery

This week we read the story 'Jasper's Beanstalk'. After reading the story Nursery began to prepare the compost in our outdoor area. We enjoyed wearing gardening gloves and digging. The children found lots of different minibeasts through magnifying glasses.



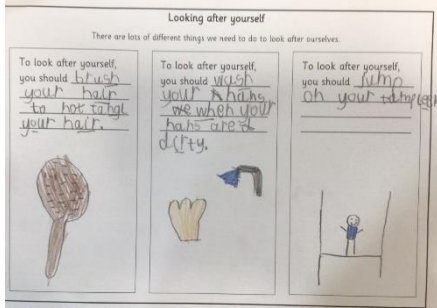
Reception

This week as part of our 'being healthy' PSHE topic, reception have had to opportunity to try new and different fruits and vegetables as part of our snack time. We tried courgette, carrot, blueberry and raspberry. We all took a piece of each food and either took a bite if we knew we liked it already, or had a nibble if we were unsure. At the end we wrote our name next to our favourite one. As you can see below, raspberry was the clear winner!



Year 1

For this term in PSHE, Year 1 have been thinking about what we need to do to keep our bodies and mind healthy. We have talked about eating a balanced diet, getting enough exercise, having plenty of sleep, having good hygiene and having a good daily routine.



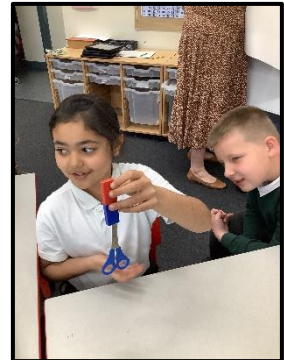
Year 2

Year 2 went to investigate the plants growing in a local woodland habitat. We looked at our school on a map and plotted a route that would take us to the nearest woodland.



Year 3

This week, we were introduced to our new non-fiction text of 'Magnetic Poles'. We experimented with a range of different magnets and materials. We discussed with our partners what we observed.



Year 4

On Thursday, Year 4 were really lucky to have been selected as a school to have the Recycling Truck come in for the day as part of its tour for Cheshire. It is aiming to help educate many pupils about the impact rubbish has on our world, and the actions they can take to ensure a brighter future...for humans and the planet.

We learnt about the 3 R's Reuse, Reduce and Recycle. We learnt about many misconceptions involved in these processes and what we can change to educate our adults about to help make these processes even better.

We even took part in a mini litter pick, ensuring we knew which bin to put each item in.



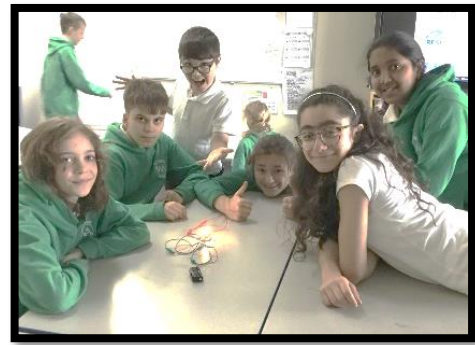
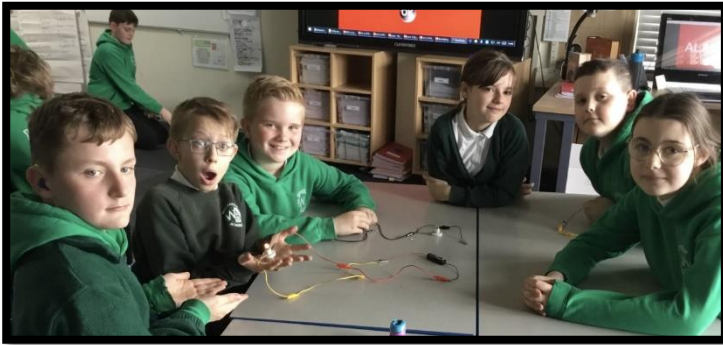
Year 5

Year 5 had a visit from a Viking warrior who came to enhance our knowledge about everything to do with the Vikings. We began our day by rowing across the seas in our longboats to arrive at Lindisfarne. We then invaded the monastery with our spears and armour and stole their gold and gems. Just before lunchtime, we ground some wheat to make flour and learnt that the Vikings did not eat potatoes. In the afternoon, we made clay models of Viking tools. A great day was had by all.



Year 6

In this week's Science lesson, we had to circulate the classroom and work collaboratively to 'fix' some faulty circuits. We discovered that circuits had to be complete, bulbs needed to be properly installed, batteries must have enough power for the number of components and cells must have enough power in them to create even a simple circuit.



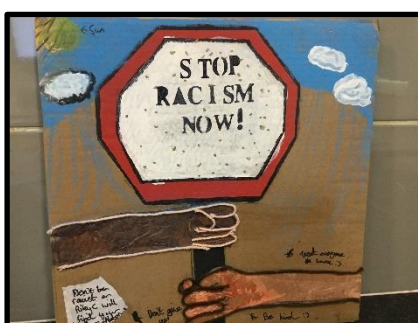
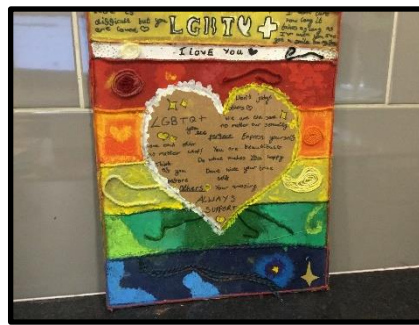
Art News

Focus on Year 6

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



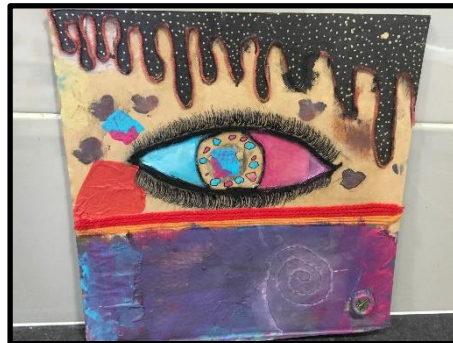
We have been thinking about hate crimes and prejudice in this context and how we want to be those that show tolerance to others, no matter what their age, disability, ethnicity, race, sexuality, religion or gender identification. We have produced art work that focused on one or more of these protected 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:



The Knife Angel

Many of us will have heard of the incredible sculpture “The Knife Angel”, created by artist Alfie Bradley. It is a 27 foot high sculpture created from 100,00 seized 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: [QR code]

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 five day evenings on **116 123**
Email: jodi@samaritans.org
Samaritans.org SAMARITANS

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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](http://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 – 88.63%
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 lots 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.

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 issues 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 SOCIAL MEDIA & MENTAL HEALTH

An estimated one-third of children have a social media account, so it's important that trusted adults know what content young people are consuming, what they're posting and the interactions they're having. On social media, it can be easy to go down 'rabbit holes' that aren't beneficial to our wellbeing. As platforms grapple with managing such 'legal but harmful' content, lives are being impacted – sometimes to tragic effect. We might be daunted by the scale of the tech giants and their content which so entrails young people, but we can still help children to be aware of their mental wellness: recognising when something isn't OK... and knowing what to do about content that upsets them.

1. UNDERSTAND THE ALGORITHM

Algorithms rank content by user interest: someone who regularly interacts with sports news, say, will see the latest results at the top of their feed. Likewise, if a user browses content that can cause harm, that's what will be recommended to them in future. Someone who's had a bad day and looks for posts which reflect their mood will find similar content being suggested to them more and more.

2. AVOID THE MAIN FEEDS

Avoiding the default feeds on social media platforms limits the amount of recommended content that's shown. Users can opt to only scroll through the accounts they follow, use restricted modes, or highlight posts that they don't want to see more of. Explore the platform safety settings to see how you can take control of what your child's phone shows them when they open the app.

3. DISCUSS WHAT THEY'VE SEEN

Chatting about what your child's seen online keeps you aware of the content they're interacting with. Don't assume that platforms are screening out inappropriate material, or even that your child would recognise content as being harmful. Discuss who they follow, what posts they like and what comes up in their feeds: if alarm bells ring, it could be time for a more in-depth talk or to seek support.

4. LEARN HOW TO HIDE CONTENT

If your child stumbles across unsuitable content on social media, there's the option to hide that post as well as indicating you'd prefer any similar material not to be suggested in future. On some platforms, you might also be able to block posts that contain specific words, which is an excellent way to start taking control of what your child sees online.

5. SET DAILY LIMITS

Phones and most apps can tell you how much they're being used. Spending too long online can mean a child misses out on other activities that are important to all-round wellbeing. You could set some family rules – for everyone to follow – around device use, such as screen time limits and tech-free spaces: involving your child in creating this agreement makes them more likely to stick to it.

6. MONITOR THEIR ACTIVITY

Keeping a discreet eye on how your child is using social media can help ensure they're not entering potentially dangerous situations. As they grow up, of course, children need space to exercise their independence – but you can still occasionally ask to see what they're looking at. Be transparent about your own social media use and try not to sound judgemental about your child's.

7. TURN OFF PUSH NOTIFICATIONS

Even for adults, it's tempting to check an email or message as soon as the alert sound pings. Push notifications encourage people to open their apps and spend time on their device, so turning them off will help your child to practise mindful use of tech. Most of us have other things that we need to focus on as a priority – and those notifications will still be there later, when we have more time.

8. USE DEVICES TOGETHER

Giving children internet-enabled devices and complete freedom to explore platforms on their own can result in exposure to hugely damaging content. You could consider making a particular area at home a designated space to use phones, tablets and so on – making it much easier to monitor what content your child is viewing and (if necessary) steer them away from any potentially harmful paths.

9. ENCOURAGE OTHER ACTIVITIES

Mental health professionals often highlight the importance of exercise, quality time with loved ones, a balanced diet and restful sleep for our mental wellbeing. Spending hours on social media can cause us to sacrifice other activities that our brains need to feel well – so encouraging your child to put down their phone and enjoy something that doesn't involve a screen can be immensely beneficial.

10. TALK ABOUT PEER PRESSURE

Most platforms default children's accounts to private, so only people they've accepted as friends can see their posts. This reduces the risk of bullying or unkind comments, but – just like offline life – the digital world can still make children feel as if they need to act or look a certain way to fit in. Talk to your child about peer pressure, and listen to any concerns so you can provide the support they need.

Meet Our Expert

Shazia Sarwar-Azim is executive headteacher at a specialist primary school and, as an emotional therapy coach, works with school leaders to focus on the SEND, mental health and wellbeing agenda. A passionate advocate for vulnerable learners, Shazia is a Fellow of the Chartered College of Teaching and the author of *The Rainbow Within*, a book which supports children with SEMH needs.



Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-52024605>
<https://www.socialmediainights.com/social-media-042021/>

