

Newsletter 31 – Summer Term



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

This Week's Events

| Date | School Events | International Events |
|-------------------------|---|----------------------|
| Monday | Before school dodgeball club 3- 6 Yr 1&2 Dodgeball Y1-2 Football Yr 1&2 Lunchtime Gym | |
| Tuesday | 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 | Before school dodgeball club 3- 6 Sports Day KS1 event 9:30am KS2 event 1:30pm. | |
| Thursday | Before school dodgeball club 3- 6 Yr 3-6 Dodgeball Yr 3-6 Singing Yr 1&2 Lunchtime Singing | |
| Friday | | |
| 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. Our Dance Club and Soul Children will be performing and we will be exhibiting artwork on the top floor.</p> <p><u>Monday 12th and Wednesday 14th June</u>-Town Sports</p> <p><u>Thursday 6th July</u> Nursery sports day</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: Gabriella (RA) Harley-James (RB)

KS1: Naeva (1A), James (1B), Ryan (2A) Max (2B)

KS2: Harry (5B), Angel (4B), Olivia (6B), Millie-Mai (6A), Miran (3B), Eddie James (3A)

Sports Day



Reminder: Our annual sports day event is on Wednesday. The reception and KS1 event will be starting at 9.30am and the KS2 event will be starting at 1.30pm.

Like last year we will have a parent and carer spectator area available; you are more than welcome to come along to support your children.

The children have been divided into houses to encourage a small element of competition. The team names are **Spain (red)**, **Northern Ireland (green)**, **Brazil (yellow)** and **USA (blue)**. Children should come to school in **Sports Day Kit (black shorts, 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.

If sports day is cancelled because of bad weather we will inform you asap.

The Hub

During this week's Scissor Skills lessons, the children have been carefully cutting out pieces of a tractor add to their tractor template. We have continued the tractor theme by making up songs about driving a tractor to different locations, and talking about the things that we might see there.



Nursery

This week in Nursery we have been using our senses to explore different textures and colours. We enjoyed singing the rhyme 'Jelly on a plate' while exploring the jelly and mixing different colours in water. We have learnt new words to describe the textures.



Reception

This week the children have been on a barefoot trail in our outdoor area. We explored the different environments that each animal we have learnt about might live in and then felt how this would feel underfoot. The children were encouraged to use descriptive words as they walked through for example squelchy, wet, soft mud.



Year 1

This half term, we have been very lucky to have some yoga sessions in the Solar Dome. We have loved it!



Year 2

This week, Year 2 learnt about the national flowers for each of the countries of the UK. The children then learnt more about the characteristics of the four countries and worked in partners to sort out the facts and information.




Year 3

On Monday we were joined by Kenny Baraka – an amazing poet. We had a poetry/song writing workshop about wellbeing and then performed to the rest of Year 3 in the afternoon. We loved exploring our favourite activities and developing these into lyrics for our poem, which had a rap section! We used senses to develop the lines and considered the flow of the poem by carefully counting syllables and rhyme.



Year 4



It looked really cool and royal like.
Ayesha



Our very own Mrs Shirley Irlam who has devoted more than 53 years to Wistaston Academy shared her experience at the New Year Honours ceremony and showed us her British Empire Medal. What a great privilege to have Mrs Irlam as part of the Wistaston Academy team!

Crazy that she has met the King and saw lots of famous people!
Poppy

She deserves the medal, because she has been working at our school for 53 years.
Anesu



Year 5

This week we had a Literacy work shop with Kenny Baraka where we created a poem on the theme of Viking warriors linked to our history topic. We all agreed Kenny was cool and an expert at creating shared ideas and transforming them into free verse poetry which we performed to Year 4. Many of the children were out of their comfort zones performing to each other but they had a go anyway.



Warriors
*Code of the road,
Code of the streets,
Code of the warrior,
Hear us speak,
Strong mentally, the warrior feels their muscles cramping
Passionate taking the battlefield, imagining the enemy's demise
Calm in the face of battle, your heart pumping out of your chest
Code of the road,
Code of the streets,
Code of the warrior,
Hear us speak,
Loyal to our king, seeing his enemies as they perish
Heroic when losing, the sweet taste of victory
Trustworthy leader, the smell of lies and deceit
Code of the road,
Code of the streets,
Code of the warrior,
Hear us speak.*



Year 6

On Monday, Year 6 had a visit from Chip Kendall and musician and beat-boxer Ben to link to our RE learning based around types of worship in the Christian faith. The music was incredible and we could join in with dancing and singing along if we wanted to. We learnt that music, poetry and reading are all ways that Christians worship.



Watch our fun here:



Art News

We are very excited to remind everyone about Crewe Out Loud, which will be taking place at Cheshire College south and west tomorrow! This is a **free event** for all the family 😊

We will have lots of art work exhibited on the top floor, our Soul Children will be performing along with our dance club, led by Hannah Wood!

Come along and support our children who will be singing in the opening ceremony at 11am, then on the outdoor "Stage of Music and Song" at 12:35, with special guest Chip Kendall (one of our Arts Patrons). Our dancers will be performing on the indoor "Theatre Stage" at 1:30pm and then we will all take part in the closing ceremony at 1:55pm. There will also be many other brilliant arts and cultural performances from many other schools – so plenty to see as well as lots of activities to join in on from the college itself.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs Walsh.



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 100,000 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: 

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  **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: jobs@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!

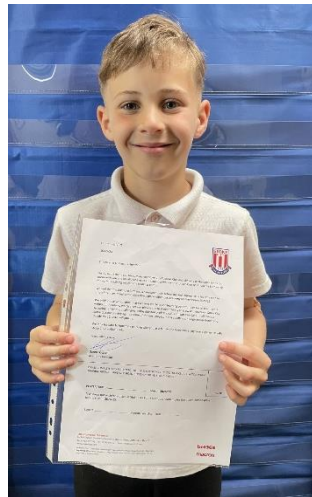
Everyone is welcome to visit the Knife Angel on Memorial Square, Crewe – free of charge

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

PE News



Congratulations to our Year 3&4 and 5&6 tag rugby teams who took part in the Crewe and Nantwich schools tag rugby festival on Monday afternoon. Both teams showed determination, played brilliantly and dominated the festival.



Congratulations to Cassius Shenton 2B who has been offered a place at Stoke City football academy. We are so proud of you!

Focus on Reception!

E-safety

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) SOLUTIONS

AI solutions are becoming increasingly popular. Trained on vast datasets of text (such as books, articles and websites) in order to learn patterns and relationships, AI solutions can generate text, images, audio, video, code or synthetic data, and can be used for things such as crafting poems or books, creating digital imagery or delivering video content. Recently there's been significant discussion in relation to the benefits and risks of AI solutions, with many undecided on whether it will be a force for good or potentially reduce the need for some job roles.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ROOM FOR INACCURACY

AI solutions, such as language models, generate their responses purely based on the data they've been trained on, which often comes from sources on the internet. Whilst questions will often illicit relevant responses, if some of the information they've been 'fed' is incorrect, it follows that the answers too may contain factual errors or inaccuracies.

REINFORCING BIAS

AI solutions, such as those generating content or images, can perpetuate existing biases present in the data they were trained, whether through the algorithms written by humans or the content taken from the web. This could easily lead to biased responses and potentially reinforce existing stereotypes, such as those around gender, race or disability.

IRRELEVANT INFORMATION

AI solutions don't have the ability to understand the context or meaning behind a question or a user request. Although highly advanced, the AI relies entirely on the data it's been exposed to and is devoid of independent thought or reasoning, which could lead to irrelevant or even nonsensical responses to queries.

LACK OF ACCOUNTABILITY

Fundamentally, AI solutions are machines or technology programmes that don't have the ability to take responsibility for the responses they generate. This could lead to confusion or misunderstandings in certain cases if the answers are taken as given. For instance, image-generative AIs can lead to output clearly derived from other peoples' content but without any attribution to the original source artist's work.

STIFLING CREATIVITY

One of the potential risks of children and young people continually using AI solutions for things (such as their homework) is that eventually, they might become reliant on it. In the long term, this could potentially impact their development and hamper their ability to think creatively or solve problems independently without the aid of an AI tool.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CREATE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

If possible, try to be around when your child uses any type of AI solution and employ content filters to try and reduce the chance of profanity or age-inappropriate subjects appearing in responses. As with any kind of technology, it's important to ensure that children are using AI solutions responsibly and to be there to enable opportunities to discuss their use as part of a safe environment.

PROMOTE CRITICAL THINKING

Explain to your child that AI solutions can be used as one of many tools to help them research and learn, but that they shouldn't simply accept the responses they receive as the truth. Encourage them to question, verify and think critically about the information they get back – all of which apply equally to any website or platform they use.

DISCUSS BIAS

Talk to your child about the potential biases that may be present in the data that AI solutions are trained on, and how these viewpoints might find their way into the responses that AI generates. Again, with many things children might read online, it's healthy for them to consider whether the information is factual and presented fairly.

ENCOURAGE HUMAN INTERACTION

Not only should children supplement any use of software like AI with additional resources such as books and reputable internet sites, but they also should remember what they can learn from interaction with other people. Discussing things with teachers, relatives and friends isn't just an important and often invaluable aspect of learning – it's an essential part of life, too.

CHECK SCHOOL RULES

Make yourself aware of any rules or guidance your child's school might have about the use of AI solutions. Most software is still extremely new, so many schools may not yet have a policy, however, it's important to make sure your child is aware of how to use it appropriately and will be using it for the right reasons.

Meet Our Expert

Gary Henderson is the Director of IT at a large boarding school in the UK, having previously taught in schools and colleges in Britain and the Middle East. With a particular interest in digital citizenship and cyber security, he believes it is essential that adults and children alike become more aware of the risks associated with technology, as well as the many benefits.



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Source: <https://openai.com/blog/chatgpt/> | <https://generativeai.net/> | <https://www.mckinsey.com/featured-insights/mckinsey-explainers/what-is-generative-ai>



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