

Newsletter 4 – Autumn 1



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

This Week's Events

Date	School Events	International Events
Monday	Nursery - Autumn Stay and Play 3:10pm-3:45pm	
Tuesday	KS2 Quadkids Athletics at Ruskin High School 3:30pm-5:30pm	
Wednesday	Y5&6 Tag Rugby competition at Crewe Vagrants 3:30pm-5pm	
Thursday	Y3&4 Football competition at The Soccer Centre 12:30pm-4pm	
Friday	No performing arts club	
Advanced Notice:	No performing arts club on Friday 17 th November	
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

KS1: Oscar W (1A), Hunter (1B), Kiera (2A) Pagan (2B)

KS2: Brooke, Poppy, Clara (3A)

3B - Phoebe

The Hub

During our Science lesson, children have been exploring the different parts of a real plant. They were able to identify the leaves, flowers, stem and roots on a range of varieties.



Nursery

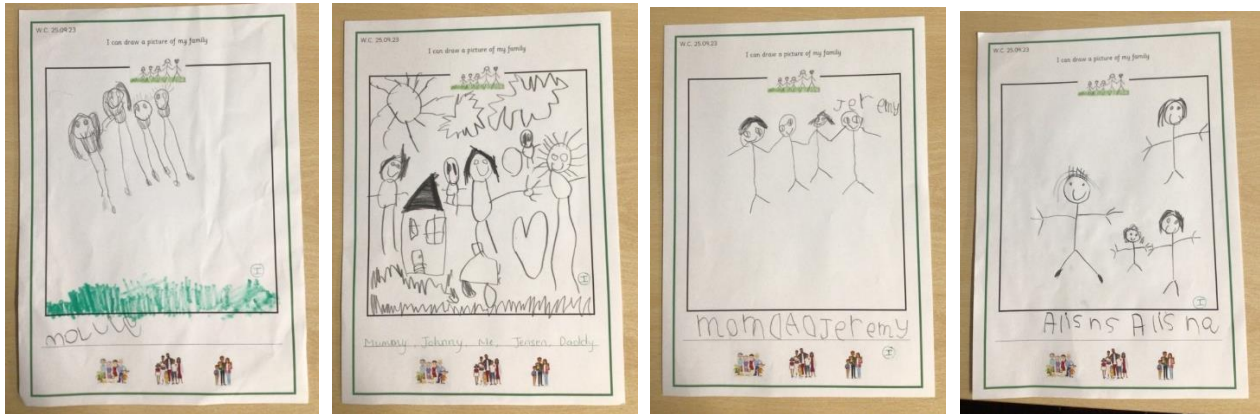
This week we have been learning all about the colour blue. First, we learnt the sign for blue. We have practised using the sign throughout the week. Next, we sorted colourful items into two groups, blue and not blue. Then, the children enjoyed taking turns to make bright blue playdough by mixing the ingredients using a spoon and a bowl. One of our favourite areas in nursery is definitely the playdough area.



Reception

This week, we have introduced our new topic 'It's good to be me and this is where I belong'. We have spoken about who is in our family and discussed how every family is unique. The children have enjoyed sharing their family photographs on tapestry and talking about what they enjoy doing with their families.

We have drawn some fantastic family pictures and self-portraits within the environment.



Year 1

Year 1 have been using different resources in maths to support their learning with 1 more, 1 less and comparing numbers using the symbols $<$ $=$ $>$.



Year 2

This week in Year 2, we've learnt all about food chains in our Topic lessons, with a special look at the microhabitat of a rock pool! We used our prior knowledge and facts we had retained from our trip to Thurstaston beach last week to create table's showing a food chain of: Sea lettuce, limpets, hermit crabs and seagulls. Fab work, Year 2!



Year 3

This week in RE, year 3 began to learn about Diwali. Working in teams, they had lots of fun creating Rangoli patterns. It was really good fun but very messy!!



Year 4

This week in Science, we have been exploring pitch. We have used different instruments and vibrations to discover the relationship between vibrations and pitch. We have all created our own sets of panpipes! We can use the different length tubes to create a high or low pitch. Have a look at some of our instruments!



Year 5

This week, we have been exploring the concept of day and night time. The children used globes and torches to demonstrate how this occurs. We have challenged the children to find out what countries experience night time when the UK have daylight.



Year 6



This week in year 6, we have been focusing on working collaboratively. This is to develop our communication skills as well as building positive team spirit. We researched our chosen animals in Literacy before teaching each other our new-found knowledge. We also used a strategy called Rally Coach in maths to master a new division method. As you can see, we are really starting to gel into a strong team.

PE News

WOW! Another great week of PE lessons going on throughout the school. This is our first full week of after school clubs which have been a great success! We would just like to say thank you everyone who has made a special effort to walk to school this week 😊

A polite reminder to all parents/carers, please ensure that **ALL** PE Kit and school uniform is clearly labelled with your child's names. All of our children get changed in our purpose-built changing facilities and not in classroom.

Important Clubs notice



A reminder that many of our sports clubs take place outside. Please ensure that your child is equipped for all types of weather. Providing it is safe, clubs will still take place in the rain. If you do not want your child taking part in a club if it is raining then please collect them from school at 3:15pm.

There will be no Performing Arts Club on Friday 6th October and 17th November.

Art News

Focus on Reception

This week we have been using our observational skills to draw autumn leaves. We have noticed the shapes and lines in our leaves, drawing these with sharpies. Then, we used watercolour pencils in warm colours to fill in our leaves and contrasted this with cold colours on the outside. We are really proud of our work!





We have Harvest and Christmas performances lined up for Soul Children: more information to follow in emails! Children are still free to join from Year 4 up to Year 11. Please contact Mrs Walsh for any details and keep your children rehearsing

REHEARSAL PLAN

Friday Lunchtimes School Choir

(12pm—12:30pm Art Room)

15th September

22nd September

29th September

6th October

13th October

Thursday Evening Community Choir

(4:30pm—5:30pm—Art Room)

21st September

28th September

5th October

12th October

All are welcome from Year 4—Year 11—come and join the family!

Contact Mrs Walsh for details

soul  children
crewe & nantwich



**From now until Thursday 19th
October, we are collecting
non-perishable food as part of our
Harvest celebration. Please bring these into your
classroom.**

We are also collecting donations of money for
WaterAid, to provide clean water for those in
need.

Please join with us
and help us to help others.



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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 that 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

▶ YOUTUBE ▶

YouTube is a video-sharing social media platform that allows billions of people around the world to watch, share and upload their own videos with a vast range of content – including sport, entertainment, education and lots more. It's a superb space for people to consume content that they're interested in. As a result, this astronomically popular platform has had a huge social impact: influencing online culture on a global scale and creating new celebrities.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate material. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as messaging other users directly. Connecting with strangers online, of course, can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, to cyberbullying and even to encountering online predators.

SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but can also lead to binge-watching and the risk of screen addiction, especially if 'auto-play' is activated. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

HIGH VISIBILITY

Content creators can also be put at risk – especially young ones who try to make their online presence as visible as possible. Creating and uploading content exposes children to potential harassment and toxicity from the comments section, along with the possibility of direct messaging from strangers. Videos posted publicly can be watched by anyone in the world.

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends, challenges and memes that are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may harm children through either watching or copying. The painful 'salt and ice challenge', which can cause injuries very quickly, is just one of many such examples.

SNEAKY SCAMMERS

Popular YouTube channels regularly have scammers posing as a well-known influencer in the comments section, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and sometimes offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users are not who they claim to be.

Advice for Parents & Carers

APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate content (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence and sexual situations) to underage viewers. To prevent your child from chancing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that your child uses to access YouTube.



TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows you to monitor what your child is watching, uploading and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives you an oversight of how your child is using sites like YouTube and helps you ensure they are only accessing appropriate content.



CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that your child is subscribed to can be hidden. If your child is only uploading videos that are protected as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.



CHECK OTHER PLATFORMS

Influential content creators usually have other social media accounts which they encourage their fans to follow. Having an open discussion about this with your child makes it easier to find out how else they might be following a particular creator online. It also opens up avenues for you to check out that creator's other channels to see what type of content your child is being exposed to.



MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them children. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course, and react to content differently. You may want to keep an eye on how your child interacts with content on YouTube – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand the types of videos they are interested in.



LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases: users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch, for example. If you're not comfortable with your child purchasing content online, limit their access to your bank cards and online payment methods. Many parents have discovered to their cost that a child happily devouring a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!



Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.





Reading News

Talking to your children about the books they read is one of the best ways to support your child's development. Here are some tips on how to start a book discussion with your child:

While your child is reading a book, try asking:

- Will you catch me up on the story? What's happened so far?
- What do you think will happen next?
- If you were that character, what would you have done differently in that situation?
- If the book was a TV show, which actors would you cast in it?
- Where is the book set?
- If the main character in that story lived next door, would you be friends?
- What does the place look like in your head as you read? Would you want to visit there?
- Did you learn any new words or facts so far?