

Newsletter 14 – Autumn 2



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

This Week's Events

Date	School Events	International Events
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday	KiVa Family information session 9am	
Thursday		
Friday		
Advanced Notice:		
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

EYFS:

KS1: Oscar J (1A), Layla (1B), Musfirah (2B)

KS2: Arianna (3B) Leo (5A), Lynette (5B), Sam (4A), Kaylub (4B)

New Antibullying programme – We need your help.



We are becoming a KiVa School.

KiVa is an antibullying programme that has been developed at the University of Turku, Finland. The programme is research based which means that the effectiveness of KiVa has been proven scientifically.

This is a whole school programme and we NEED your help! Please come along to our family information session on

Wednesday 20th December at 9am – 9:30am.

Mince Pies and hot chocolate being served from 8:45am, just pop in after drop off.



Social media

We are now on X (formerly known as Twitter)
Follow us @WistastonAcadmy



Wistaston Academy
@WistastonAcadmy

The Hub 1

In the Hub, we've had a felt Christmas tree that we have been decorating every day. Each morning, we spin the spinner and see whose turn it will be that day. We then get to decorate it and it is put up on the wall for all to see. We've learnt to take it in turns and that it can't always be our turn every time.



The Hub 2

This week have been learning the names to some new emotions. They could already identify happy, sad, angry and excited but are now able to recognise proud, embarrassed, poorly and frightened. The children matched picture cards with the correct emotion and practised their own 'emotion faces' in the mirror.



Nursery

This week Nursery have visited the cinema. We watched Paw Patrol: The Mighty Movie. We enjoyed going with our friends on the coach and we really enjoyed the movie.



Reception

This week the children did an amazing job at their Christmas Carol Concert which I'm sure you will agree. They have worked extremely hard to learn the words and the actions of the songs and we are so proud of them all.

Also, this week the children have been learning about the composition of five in Maths. We explored this in lots of different ways and used the stem sentence 3 and 2 make 5, 3 is a part..2 is a part..the whole is 5.



Year 1

Year 1 have used the Bee-Bots this week to explore algorithms. First, they gave their partner instructions on how to move around the map for example, three steps forward then turn right. They then learnt how to press the buttons in the right order to make the Bee-Bot move around the map.



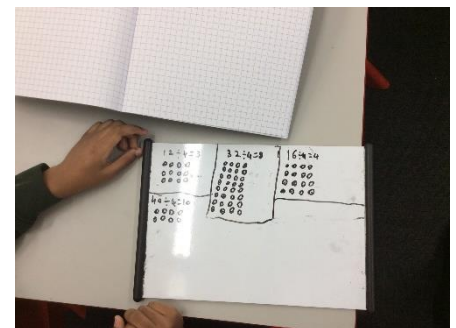
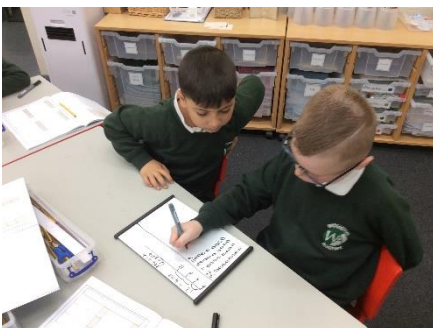
Year 2

We have really enjoyed reading with Year 5 as part of reading buddy week.



Year 3

This week in maths we have been learning how to divide by 3.



Year 4

This week, Year 4 have really enjoyed creating christingles as part of our RE unit. We have looked at what each part of the Christingle represents and why it is significant to Christians around this time of year.



Year 5

We have really enjoyed reading with Year 2 this week as part of reading buddy week. The children were wonderful role models and supported the younger pupils with their reading.



Year 6

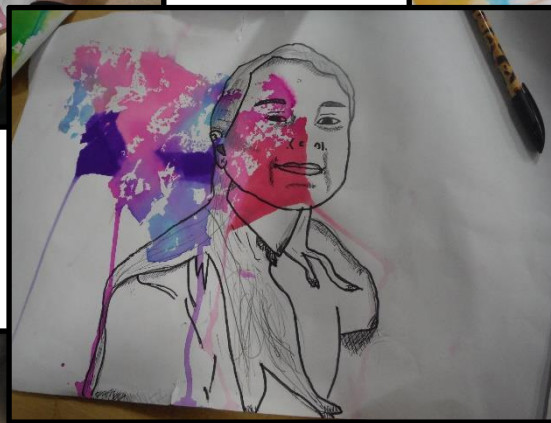
This week, Year 6 have been involved with planting bulbs around the school grounds. Mrs Dean talked to the children about how this will positively impact the environment and how the bulbs will still be blooming and flowering many years after this Year 6 have left for High School – the children are leaving behind a legacy. They planted daffodil and tulip bulbs around the solar dome. We can't wait to see them in full bloom in the spring!



Art News

Focus on Year 5!

Year 5 have been working extremely hard on our self-portraits inspired by mixed-media artist, Agnes Cecile. We thought about which emotion we would like to express in our portraits, ranging from melancholy and distressing (like many of agnes Cecile's works) or ambiguous and thoughtful to more positive emotions. We began with a linear drawing, that we developed with areas of shading and over-laid our pictures with elements of mottled colour. It was great fun and the results are fabulous. We will be entering our work in the "Dot-Art" competition this year, with a chance to be exhibited in a Liverpool Gallery!



Performing Arts News

soul children
crewe & nantwich

Our Soul Children Have been performing in several venues recently!



Soul Children at Crewe Lyceum on 3rd December.

Yesterday we had our dress rehearsal in the huge Audacious Church Auditorium in Manchester, with 400 other children from Manchester schools. Our children practised with great energy and enthusiasm!

We are performing there this Sunday on the riser stage with 2 other schools (the schools have been split into 4 performances to accommodate a large audience each time).

Parents please note:

Our coach will leave school on Sunday at 2pm, so children need to be at school by 1:45pm.

Families, don't forget to book your free audience tickets via this link:

<https://audacious.churchsuite.com/events/bthsp8ev?tickets=93fR>



Keep practising this weekend, and please email Mrs Walsh with any questions 😊

PE News



This week we celebrated the children who have taken part in sports competitions this term. KS1 and KS2 children had sports celebration assemblies with members of the PE team. Children were presented with certificates and received recognition for their hard work and dedication to school sport this term. Well done to all our children for their continued enthusiasm and dedication to school sport!



Maths News



Get involved with the **TTRS** tournaments this week by playing online.

3a vs 3b

4a vs 4b

5a vs 5b

6a vs 6b

All tournaments will run from Thursday 14th until Tuesday 19th December. All correct answers will earn points for your class, so get involved! 6am – 8pm each day (30-minute daily limit).

Attendance News

Attendance
Wk 04.12.23 – 08.12.23

Target 96%

Reception A – 90.3%
Reception B – 86.5%
1A – 91.3%
1B – 93.9%
2A - 97.6% 😊
2B – 91%



KS1 Attendance for last week - 91.8% 😞
Whole school attendance for the academic year – 96.05% 😊

Attendance
Wk - 04.12.23 – 08.12.23

Target 96%

3A = 98.9%
3B = 94.8%
4A = 91.3%
4B = 98.3%
5A = 93.5%
5B = 95.6%
6A = 95.7%
6B = 99.2% 😊



KS2 for the week = 95.9% 😞
Whole school attendance for the academic year – 96.05% 😊



DOWN SYNDROME
CHESHIRE

gingerbread socks! 2023

We're helping to empower people with
Down syndrome to live the life they choose

This is to thank **Wistaston Academy Trust**,
your brilliant fundraising efforts resulted in an
amazing **£480.00** donation!

Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary: emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games' boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.

18
CENSORED

FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle, too. When friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undoubtedly, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful; if they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

Meet Our Expert

Daniel Upcombe is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. He has also written 15 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VG247, he has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.



Source: <https://hipal.app/about/privacy.html>

NOS National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

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