

Newsletter 22 – Spring 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		
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: Katelyn (RA)

KS1: Austin (1A), Ivy-Rose (2A), Harvey (2B)

KS2: Ryan (5A) Saya (3B)

The Hub 1 and 2

As it was Chinese New Year at the weekend, the Hub children have celebrated this annual event with a themed sensory afternoon. The afternoon began with yoga in the hall and ended exploring a range of traditional Chinese foods, trying to use chopsticks and opening fortune cookies. The children got very messy and had a great time.

Kung Hei Fat Choi!



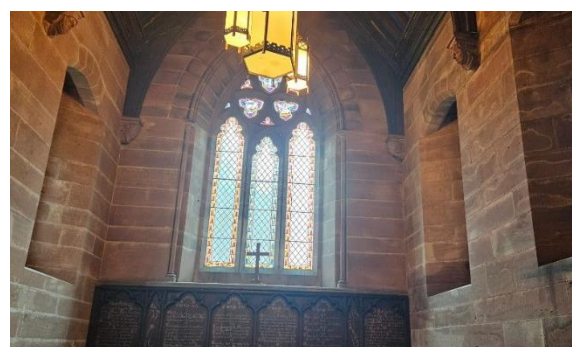
Nursery

In Nursery this week, the children have enjoyed playing in the provision. The children have loved that the role play area has become a shop. First, we picked out the food we wanted to buy. Next, we went to the till. Finally, we paid for our shop using money or our bankcards. We have also enjoyed making hearts in the playdough for Valentine's Day.



Reception

This week the children enjoyed a special visit to Peckforton Castle. We explored inside the castle and the castle grounds, identifying the features that we had already learnt such as the moat, the turrets and the drawbridge. The children created and designed their own crowns fit for a king or a queen, had a royal banquet in the castle's dining room and learnt a medieval dance at the ball.



Year 1

In Design and Technology in topic, year 1 have had a go at making a playground structure. We went out to look at playground equipment to see what we could find out about their structures. After our research, we created the design criteria which we referred to as we designed and made our equipment. We explored the different materials and resources to make our playground equipment and selected the best materials based on our designs. We then evaluated our playground structure against the design criteria and thought about what went well and what we would do differently next time.



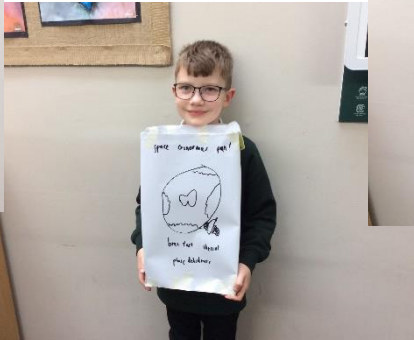
Year 2

In Year 2 Maths this week we have been starting to look at measurement! We have learned all about centimetres and meters, even having the opportunity to use the trundle wheels to measure around the classroom and outside.



Year 3

In DT this week, year 3 have had lots of fun creating packaging for space food!



Year 4

This week year 4 have been using their ICT skills to type up a letter that we have written in our literacy lessons. Some of us found it challenging to find the right letters on the keyboard and it took a lot of resilience when things were deleted by mistake!! Everyone worked very hard and some excellent letters were produced.

Corky Pigeon
59 Lizard Street
Krax Town
7th March 1984

To whom it may concern,

I am known as Corky Pigeon. For 11 wonderful years, I have been a caretaker at St Georges school on Lizard Street. You're likely wondering why I decided to write this letter. I wrote it because I have a story, a story like no other. For what feels like an eternity, I have kept this secret within me. But I'm afraid that if I keep this secret any longer, Lizard Street could become nothing but a distant memory... Read this message and spread my warnings.

I haven't been a caretaker forever. Back in my day, I had lovely brown hair and I worked in the sewers. I wasn't old and I didn't use a walking stick. I had a torch strapped to my forehead so bright it could blind you. Non-stop, small, dirty earthworms burrowed carefully around me as excited rats dodged past the randomly misplaced skull. Knotted wires transmitted internet rapidly over my head as I worked. Regardless of these sensations, I adored it down there. Each day brought a knew adventure as I explored the sewers. That was, until the day I met... THE KRINDLEKRAX!!

To whom it may concern,

My name is Corky Pigeon but you can call me Corky. For the past 11 years, I have worked as a caretaker at St George's school on Lizard Street. Why am I Writing about this you may ask? I have a secret to tell you but you will jump out of your this and be safe and take shelter.

Before I was a caretaker I had grey hair, I worked as a sewer man and I had dark hair and I had a torch on my forehead like an alien Every day would past and earthworms in my shoes and I did not now so I accidently stepped on them but people did not like it down there but it felt like home to me every day I love it UNTIL I MET THE KRINDLERAX.

Year 5

Chemistry with Cabbage - Science Day

Today, we enjoyed a full day of science learning with Lorelly. We were lucky enough to take part in many experiments throughout the day, whilst learning interesting scientific facts. From the activities, we learnt that we can change solutions from being alkali to acid and vice versa. We also tested whether solutions were acid, alkali or neutrals. All of this was done using the molecules from red cabbage leaves. We also discovered that we can make a gas from combining different solids and liquids to inflate a rubber glove.



Year 6

Year 6 have worked incredibly hard this week. Not only have they done practise assessments, they have also written some really complex explanations about evolution. We are very proud of the resilient, hardworking bunch they are maturing into. We hope they all have a very well earned half term!

Art News

Focus on Year 4

Year 4 have been working extremely hard to create fantastic 3D shoe models! We created moulds using real shoes covered in tissue paper and masking tape. Then, we cut our shoes out of the moulds, so we could continue strgthening our structures, defining the form, and then move on to embellish them with laces, buckles etc. We kept our shoes monochrome, because we were considering the plight of refugees the World over, who are forced to flee their home countries and travel to safety. We reflected on this using an exert from Warsaw Shire's poem "Home" and thought that the white colour of our shoes reflected their often-unnoticed distress and perilous journeys.



Focus on Year 5



Year 5s incredible artwork inspired by Agnes Cecile has been uploaded to the Art Bytes website along with our school bio, so that our school page can be generated for the National Competition which is open to Years 5 and 9!

Soon, the judges will whittle our entries down to 30, then to three finalists.

When this happens, we will all need to vote for our children's work.

VOTING WILL BE OPEN FROM MONDAY 15TH – THURSDAY 30TH APRIL.

(Details of how to do that will be shared with you before this date.)

Whichever art piece receives the most votes will become part of an online exhibition alongside many other schools, which our entire school will have virtual access to.

There will also be a celebration evening open to families of finalists and the teachers at the Whitworth Gallery Manchester on Thursday 13th June! A live-stream of this event will also be available.

Performing Arts



Soul Children Clubs will be resuming after half term! We have some incredible events to be preparing for, such as "Crewe Out Loud" (Saturday 18th May at Cheshire College South and West) and "Soul Children UK Festival" at audacious Church in the summer.

Our new rehearsal timetable will be posted on the first week back.

Please contact Mrs Walsh with any questions 😊

PE News

Y3&4 Gymnastics Competition

Congratulations to our Y3&4 gymnasts who performed brilliantly at the Crewe and Nantwich Gymnastics Competition on Friday. The children have been working really hard in both PE lessons and at after school gymnastics club with Mrs Harrington.

Y4 Swimming



All Year 4 children will be going swimming next term as part of the compulsory national PE curriculum. The sessions will begin on the afternoon of **Tuesday 27th February and will finish on Tuesday 19th March 2024.**

The children will be travelling, by coach, to the Crewe Lifestyle Centre, accompanied by members of the Year 4 team. Your child will need to bring in their **swimming costume/shorts 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. 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.

If your child has a medical condition which prevents them from swimming, they will require a signed doctor's note; otherwise they will be expected to swim. If your child has a one-off medical condition on one of their swimming sessions, then please speak directly to their class teacher, or send in a signed note. We will not accept the children's reasons for why they are missing swimming, without confirmation from an adult.

Clubs

Clubs will continue to run after half term from Monday 26th February-Friday 22nd March. As this is only for 4 weeks the clubs which are taking place this half term will stay the same and the children who are currently signed up will be able to continue to attend after half term. You do not need to sign your child up again. There are still places available in all of our clubs so if you would like your child to attend please sign them up through Arbor at your own convenience. If you are unable to do so this will mean that the club you are trying to sign your child up to is full. Here is a reminder of the clubs taking place:

Lunchtime and after school clubs – KS1 & KS2

Monday

Club	Year Group	Time	Staff	Price	Location
Boys and girls Gymnastics (max 16)	1 - 2	11:45-12:20	Jasmine & Alisha Evanson (outside provider)	FREE	Irlam Hall
Boys and girls Gymnastics (Max 15)	3-4	3:15-4.15pm	Mrs Harrington WA PE Specialist	FREE	Irlam Hall

Boys football (max 20)	5-6	3:15-4:15pm	Miss Brown WA PE Specialist	FREE	All weather pitch
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Tuesday

Club	Year Group	Time	Staff	Price	Location
Gymnastics (max 20)	3-4	12:00-12:35	Alicia Evanson Jasmine Evanson (outside provider)	FREE	Irlam Hall
Sewing Club (max 15)	3 - 6	3:15-4:15pm	The Sewing Coach (outside provider)	FREE	KS2 classroom
Boys and girls Gymnastics (Max 15)	1-2	3:15-4:15pm	Mrs Harrington WA PE Specialist	FREE	Irlam Hall
Boys and girls Yoga (max 20)	3-6	3:15-4:15pm	Fiona (outside provider)	FREE	Solar dome
Boys football (max 20)	3-4	3:15-4:15pm	Miss Brown WA PE Specialist	FREE	All weather pitch
Lego League club	3-6 INVITE ONLY	3:15pm- 4:30pm	Miss Hall Mrs Merrill Mrs Dean WA Teachers	FREE	Hub 2

Wednesday

Club	Year Group	Time	Staff	Price	Location
Street Dance	1 - 2	12:00- 12:30pm	Hannah Wood (outside provider)	FREE	Irlam Hall
Dance Club (max 15)	3 - 6	3:15-4:15pm	Sophie – Young Arts Academy (outside provider)	FREE	Irlam Hall/Solar dome

Thursday

Club	Year Group	Time	Staff	Price	Location
Boys & Girls dodgeball (max 30)	5-6	3:15-4.15pm	Mrs Adamczyk WA PE Specialist	FREE	All weather pitch
Athletics (max 18)	3-4 INVITE ONLY	3:15-4:15pm	Miss Brown WA PE Specialist	FREE	Irlam Hall

Friday

Club	Year Group	Time	Staff	Price	Location
Boys & Girls dodgeball (max 30)	3-4	3:15-4:15pm	Mrs Adamczyk WA PE Specialist	FREE	Playground
Performing Arts (max 15)	3 - 6	3:15-4:15pm	Sophie – Young Arts Academy (Outside provider)	FREE	Irlam Hall

Girls Football (max 20)	3-6	3:15-4:15pm	Miss Brown WA PE Specialist	FREE	All weather pitch
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Picture News

Every week in assembly we share the Picture News image and question with the children. This resource helps children to learn about the world around us, whilst linking to British Values and supporting pupil's personal development.

We hope this enables you to have an interesting conversation at home with your child.



In the news this week

Pupils in England will have the choice to take a GCSE exam in British Sign Language (BSL) from 2025. BSL is a form of communication using hand gestures and other movements. Pupils, who take the subject, will learn around 1,000 different signs. Fairfield High School (pictured in this week's poster) already runs a successful extracurricular club in response to pupils' interest in learning BSL.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > Have you ever used sign language or seen it being used by others?
- > Is sign language a language you would like to learn? What do you think are some of the advantages of learning sign language?
- > Are there any other skills or subjects you believe would be useful to learn at school?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss



Maths News

If your child is in Reception or KS1, they will have access to an app called **Numbots**. If your child is in KS2 they will have access to an app called **Times Table Rocks Stars (TTRS)**.

Logging on for just a few minutes each day will make a massive difference to their basic number/times tables skills.

Check out the dedicated TTRS website for parents to answer any questions

<https://trockstars.com/parents/>

