

Newsletter 37 – Summer 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: Corey (RA), Renee (RB)

KS1: Lilianna (1B), Ivy-Rose (2A). Oliver Skellon-Rowlands (2B)

KS2: Rhoan (5A), Ruby & Aston (5B) Alexia (3A) Barney (3B)

The Hub

As it was General Election Day today, we spent some time learning how voting works. The children each had a token to vote with and had to choose which song they wanted to listen to from a selection of three. Once all of the votes had been cast, the song with the largest amount won and all the children got to listen to it. The activity was a good lesson in tolerating the choices of others and understanding that things don't always go the way that you would like them to.



Nursery

This week we have been exploring the story Creepy Crawly Calyspo. First, we shared the book and looked at the different number of mini-beast. Next, we listened to the story with music. Then, we joined in singing the words. Finally, we used instruments to play the different sections of the story.



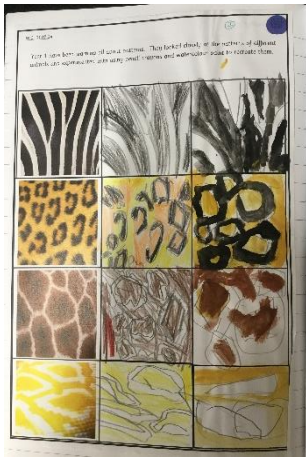
Reception

This week, the children have been learning about sharing. They have investigated what sharing is and described equal sharing as fair and unequal sharing as unfair. The children have enjoyed activities such as sharing the snack and sharing quantities of food items for a teddy bears picnic.



Year 1

In Art this week, we have been looking closely at different animal patterns as part of our topic 'Amazing Animals'. We then recreated these patterns using coloured pencils and watercolours.



Year 2

We were lucky enough to visit All Saints church in Crewe. The priest showed us different artefacts in the church and then acted out an infant baptism. We found out about the important people and objects in the church.

We chose parents and god parents to baptise the baby with the priest and then spent some time thinking about what we are thankful for.



Year 3

This week in science, Year 3 have been investigating whether or not taller people always have longer bones.



Year 4

This week, Year 4 had a brilliant time experimenting with how, when citric acid and sodium bicarbonate mix with water, bubbles are created. We then used this new scientific knowledge to make our own sherbet. The results were amazing!



Year 5

All Saints Church – Teachings of Jesus

In our RE lesson this week, we visited All Saints Church, where Reverent Peter let us explore the church to find things that linked with God and Jesus. We found lots of crosses, which were displayed in different ways. Also, we lit a candle to let God know that we were present. Whilst we were there, we discussed miracles, which many Christians believed Jesus performed, including calming the storm, feeding the 5000 and walking on water. We also talked about the concept of Kingdom of God and how this is compared to a mustard seed and pearl.



Year 6



This week, The Year 6 children went to Reaseheath College. We were able to see cows being milked, fruits and vegetables been grown and even cheese being made. Not only did we have fun, but we also become more aware of the many different job opportunities available to us in our local area. It was a brilliant day!

Art News

Focus on Year 4, 5 and 6

Some children from Years 4, 5 and 6 have been involved in collaborating to create our new sculpture that you may have noticed in our growing sculpture garden.

This bee sculpture (partly inspired by the recent installation of the anti-violence bee in Crewe Town Centre and partly by learning around the plight of endangered pollinators) was exhibited first at The Royal Cheshire Show as part of our bee-themed stand and now enhances our school grounds. We are fortunate to have availed of the welding expertise of Steve Oldham for our initial structure for both our angel sculpture and our bee and the children (and families) constructed the rest. Well done everyone! We hope to attract vital bees and pollinators to the living part of his abdomen.



We would respectfully ask that parents ensure that children do not touch or play with the sculptures. We have worked hard to construct them and they will not withstand being moved around.

PLEASE LOOK, BUT DO NOT TOUCH.

THANK YOU.

Focus on Year 5

Art Bytes

The online gallery showcasing the winners from each school across the country in Year 5 and Year 9 is open.

You can access the gallery using this link to see our own Angel Swift's work and the work of many other young artists around the country:

<https://artbytes.co.uk/virtual-gallery-2024/>

Here are some highlights from our celebration event at the Whitworth Gallery in Manchester. Well done to Angel Swift, Cassidy Young and James Finnan. We enjoyed an art workshop, a look around the gallery and the prize-giving event itself.



PE News

KS2 Cross Country Competition

On Monday our KS2 runners competed in the Crewe and Nantwich Cross Country Competition at Crewe Vagrants. The children were great at pacing themselves and showed determination from start to finish.

Congratulations to all who ran, especially Rhoan and Miran who both finished 1st in their races.



Year 5&6 Trophy 75 Football Tournament

On Tuesday afternoon children from Y5&6 competed in the Trophy 75 football tournament at the Soccer centre. The team played brilliantly and got through to the Semi Final against St Mary's. Unfortunately, we were beaten in the Semi Finals after a tense penalty shoot-out. Well done team!

Year 3&4 Diamond Cricket Festival

On Wednesday children from Y3&4 took part in a diamond cricket festival at South Cheshire College. It was a non-scoring festival with the aim being on improving cricket skills through taking part. The children have been working hard in PE lessons to improve skills and learn rules. They played some fantastic cricket, well done to all!



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.

TAKEHOME



In the news this week

This summer, the 2024 Olympics, held in Paris, will run from 26th July to 11th August, and the Paralympics will take place from 28th August to 8th September. The Games will see the world's greatest athletes come together in France's capital city to compete for their place at the top of the podium. For many athletes, these Games are the peak of their sport, with a gold medal as the highest accolade. The competitors are likely to have spent months and years training for numerous hours per day to prepare.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > Share your knowledge of the upcoming 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Ask someone at home to share their experience with you.
- > Will you be watching any of the events? Which sports do you find most interesting and why?

What does it take to be an Olympian or Paralympian?



Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss



Maths News

Remember, if your child is in Reception or Year 1, they will have access to an app called **Numbots**. If your child is in Year 2 or KS2 they will have access to an app called **Times Table Rocks Stars (TTRS)**.

Logging on for just a **few minutes** every day will make a massive difference to basic number skills and support your child to become confident mathematicians!

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

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



Learning to tell the time

Telling the time is an **important skill in everyday life**, but we all know how tricky it is to learn despite the number of devices we have in our homes that keep us punctual.



Before your child will be able to tell the time on a clock, they will need to grasp how time relates to their own experiences. You can start to increase their awareness of time from a young age by doing some simple activities and games.

How can you help at home?

Have fun with a timer! Tell them something they'll need to do in 15 minutes, then set a timer. They can check the clock once the alarm goes off.

You can also get them to develop their concept of the length of a minute by starting a timer and getting them to tell you when they think a minute is up. If their minute was too short or too long, can they make it more accurate next time?

SPOTLIGHT ON SAFEGUARDING

Working together to keep our young people safe



In this month's issue:

- Body safety
- Regulating screen time
- App focus: Snapchat- For My Eyes Only

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Body safety- how to make children aware

A parent's top priority is ensuring the safety of their children. Since it's impossible for parents to be with their children at all times, it is crucial to educate them on how to keep themselves safe. Teaching body safety from a young age is essential and the more you discuss it with your child, the better they will comprehend it. Engaging in these conversations during shared activities is an effective way to establish a strong connection.

Some examples are:

- whilst running a bath
- during a bedroom clean up
- when preparing dinner
- on a car journey
- when shopping in the supermarket
- walking the dog or walking to school

It is beneficial to identify moments to address real-life scenarios where personal space or boundaries were not respected. For instance, if you tickle your child without their consent, it serves as a suitable opportunity to emphasise the importance of seeking permission before engaging in such actions.

Code word

Choose a code word with your child to signal when they feel uncomfortable with someone's actions.

Five Essential Lessons to Educate Your Child on Body Safety

It's your body

You have control over your body. You don't have to tolerate unwanted physical contact like cuddles, hugs or tickles.



Use proper names

Use the proper names for private parts. If you hear your child use a different word, ask them where they heard it.



Private parts are private

Teach them that private parts are not to be shown to others and no one should show their private parts to them, even as a joke.



No secrets

No one should ask you to keep secrets, good or bad. Even if the secret seems insignificant.



Model good body safety

Show them what good body safety looks like. For example, ask them if you can have a hug.



SPOTLIGHT ON SAFEGUARDING

4

Steps for ensuring a positive outcome when managing your child's screen time

Determine a suitable screen time limit

Have in your mind what you think a suitable amount of screen time for your family is. However, be willing to compromise with your child.



Talk to your child

Initiate discussions with your child regarding the impact of excessive screen time and encourage them to participate in other activities as well.



Make a plan, with your child

Set boundaries for your child's screen time. Be open to finding a middle ground since your perspective may differ greatly from your child's.



Keep them busy

Find activities for them to do when they are not on their devices.



How to regulate screen time over the summer holiday

During school holidays, children enjoy a break from their regular schedules and rules, allowing for more flexibility. This may involve staying up later, sleeping in longer, extending curfews and increasing screen time or gaming. Some children may spend most of their day on screens or playing games, leaving little room for other activities. The six weeks of freedom can make it challenging to establish positive routines before the new term begins in September.

If you are exploring ways to limit your child's screen time without conflicts, these four steps could be helpful.

Initiating discussions with your child regarding screen time restrictions might appear challenging. You might worry about potential conflicts arising between you and your child. It is beneficial to begin with steps one and two well before the summer holiday begins. Starting conversations about the adverse effects of screen time now can pave the way for smoother discussions in the future.

Conversation starters:

- 'Have you seen the news report on the negative impact of too much screen time?'
- 'So you don't spend the whole summer on your phone/computer, what other activities shall we plan for you?'

Snapchat: 'For My Eyes Only'



Understanding 'For My Eyes Only'

For My Eyes Only (FMEO) serves as a secure vault within Snapchat designated for saving messages and pictures privately. This feature protects the content, ensuring only those with the passcode can view it. Users need to set up the vault initially to allow content to be saved into FMEO; this means any content found there is intentionally added. Accessing FMEO is possible through the 'memories' section of Snapchat.

What Risks Does FMEO Pose?

Setting up FMEO indicates that users have content they prefer to keep hidden. This implies that any inappropriate messages or pictures could be stored there. It also means that, as a parent, you won't be able to monitor what your children are sending or receiving, or who they are communicating with.

