

Newsletter 16 – Spring 1



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: Cody (RA), Daniel (RB)
KS1: Lily (1B), Hailey (2A), Tayanna (2B)
Aaradhya(3A), Nathanael (3B), JJ (4B)

The Hub

This week the children in Hub 3 have been learning about where they live. They have used a range of resources including a Solar System model, maps, a globe and Google maps online, to locate the planet, country, county, town and house that they live in. We have talked about how the children all come to the same school but live in different places and how there are similarities and differences between each of their homes.



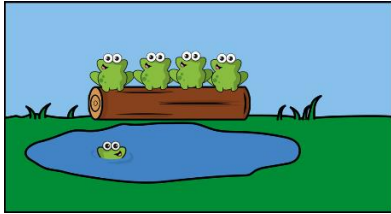
Nursery

This week we have been introduced to a new story called 'Lost and Found'. Over the week we researched new information about penguins. Then, we became penguin experts! At the end of the week we went on a winter walk to explore the snow and ice.



Reception

This week we have exploring the composition of numbers 1 to 5. The children were given practical opportunities to explore a range of ways to partition a whole number into two parts. For example, 4 can be composed of 2 and 2 or 3 and 1.



Year 1

This week in Topic we have been creating art inspired by winter. We began by looking at how different artists had been inspired by winter trees. We created drawings of winter trees. First, we experimented with different pencils and ways of making marks, and then drew our trees.



Year 2

This week we have introduced our new topic of China. Using QR codes the children researched different parts of the country and experienced eating using chopsticks and finally made a Chinese New Year lantern.



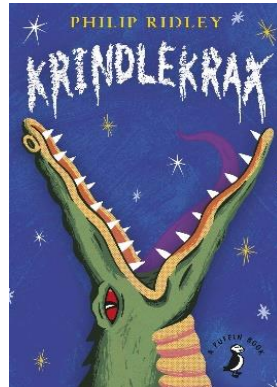
Year 3

This week in Literacy, we have been introduced to our new book 'Alien in a Jam Factory'. On Tuesday we met Daffy, a character from the story, who gave us a top secret spy mission.



Year 4

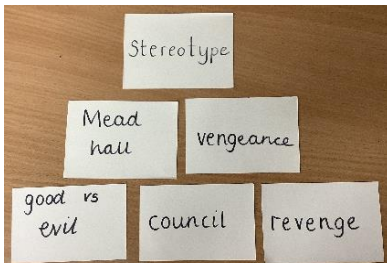
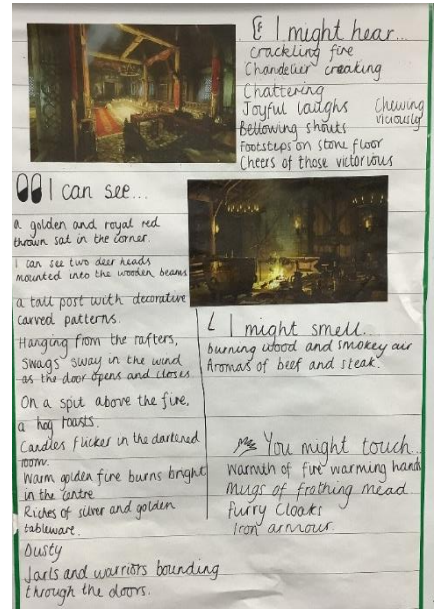
Within our literacy lessons this week, we explored different character clues and vocabulary to discover what book we will be reading and writing about this half term. We used the drama strategy of 'character clues', to discover things that belonged to our protagonist in the story, Ruskin Splinter. We have learnt that the book we will be reading and using in our literacy lessons is called 'Krindlekax', which involves a small, young boy named Ruskin who has great ambition to play the hero in the school play to battle and defeat the furious dragon.



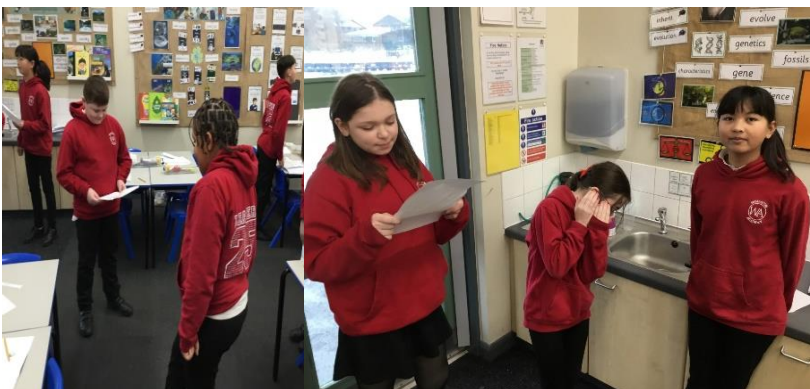
Year 5

In literacy, we explored different clues and vocabulary words to uncover what we will be writing about this half term. After completing the drama strategy 'placing the text', we have learnt that we will need to help the king defeat the creature who has been killing all of his bravest warriors.

We then looked at pictures of the Mead Hall and 'read the pictures'. We created words and phrases to describe what we could see, hear, touch and smell whilst in our setting.



Year 6



We used two new drama strategies in this week's Literacy lessons – Guided Tour and Narrator, Action, Sound. Using them has helped us to gain a greater understanding of the setting of our story – the Canal.

Art News

Focus on Year 2!

Year 2's Topic this half term is China!

Inspired by many aspects of Chinese life, in art this week we began drawing our own dragon – partially in response to the beautiful book by Jackie Morris; “Tell Me A Dragon”. This week we began with our linear designs, that we emboldened with sharpies. Next week we will add colour using oil pastels and watercolour inks. Here are some of our imaginative creations:



PE News

Y5 Swimming



All children from 5A will be going swimming after Christmas as part of the compulsory national PE curriculum. The sessions will begin on the afternoon of Tuesday 14th January and will finish on Tuesday 11th February 2025.

The children will be travelling, by mini bus, to the Crewe Lifestyle Centre, accompanied by members of the Year 5 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

This half term clubs will run from **Monday 13th January – Friday 14th February**. All clubs, including those delivered by outside providers, will continue to be free of charge. **Please remember to only sign your child up to one after school club so that each child has a fair chance of attending.** If your child attends an invite only club then they can also sign up to one other club. **All clubs will go live on Arbor on Wednesday 8th January from 4pm.**

Miss Brown's morning dodgeball club will continue to run each day from 8:20-8:40am on the all-weather pitch. There is no need to book onto this club. Year 4&5 children can take part on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays and Year 5&6 children on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Children can join in when they arrive at school.

Please note, Mrs Evanson's Monday gymnastics club will finish at 4pm.

Spring 1 Clubs

Week Commencing – Monday 13th January 2025 – Friday 14th February 2025

Lunchtime and after school clubs – KS1 & KS2

Monday

Club	Year Group	Time	Staff	Price	Location
Boys & Girls dodgeball (max 30)	5-6	3:15-4:15pm	Miss Brown WA PE Specialist	FREE	Playground/field
Boys and Girls gymnastics	3-4 INVITATION ONLY	3:15-4pm	Mrs Evanson WA Gymnastics Specialist	FREE	Irlam Hall
Boys & Girls Drumming (max 20)	4-6 INVITATION ONLY	3:15-4:15pm	Graham Proctor (Outside provider)	FREE	Classroom

Tuesday

Club	Year Group	Time	Staff	Price	Location
Sewing Club (max 15)	3 - 6	3:15-4:15pm	The Sewing Coach (outside provider)	FREE	KS2 classroom
Boys and girls Football (max 20)	3-4	3:15-4:15pm	Miss Brown WA PE Specialist	FREE	All weather pitch/playground
Boys and girls Yoga (max 20)	1-2	3:15-4:15pm	Fiona (outside provider)	FREE	Irlam Hall

Wednesday

Club	Year Group	Time	Staff	Price	Location
Gymnastics	Year 1	12pm-12:30pm	Alicia Evanson Jasmine Evanson (outside provider)	FREE	Irlam Hall

Thursday

Club	Year Group	Time	Staff	Price	Location
Boys & Girls dodgeball (max 30)	3-4	3:15-4.15pm	Mrs Adamczyk WA PE Specialist	FREE	Irlam Hall/All weather pitch
Boys & Girls football (max 20)	5-6	3:15-4:15pm	Miss Brown WA PE Specialist	FREE	Playground
Gymnastics	Year 2	12pm-12:30pm	Alicia Evanson Jasmine Evanson (outside provider)	FREE	Irlam Hall

Friday

Club	Year Group	Time	Staff	Price	Location
Boys & Girls Netball Club (max 20)	5-6 INVITATION ONLY	3:15-4:15pm	Mrs Adamczyk WA PE Specialist	FREE	Playground
Boys & Girls Dance (max 15)	1 - 2	3:15-4:15pm	Sophie – Young Arts Academy (Outside provider)	FREE	Irlam Hall
Boys & Girls Sportshall Athletics Club (max 20)	3-4 INVITATION ONLY	3:15-4:15pm	Miss Brown WA PE Specialist	FREE	All weather pitch

Winter PE kit

During these cold months it is important that children are fully prepared for outdoor PE lessons so please see below as a reminder of the outdoor PE kit your children should have in school.

Outdoor PE kit: Black plain jogging bottoms/ leggings, hoodie or zip up and trainers. Children may wear a plain black waterproof jacket if they wish.



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

Birdwatch is an annual UK-wide citizen science project held every January, inviting people to gather data to support the work of scientists. Both the Big Garden and the Big Schools' Birdwatch offer people the chance to count birds visiting gardens, playgrounds or school outdoor spaces. This simple activity helps identify bird populations and the most common species. The data collected then helps scientists monitor bird numbers and deduce whether any species are in decline.

Things to talk about at home ...

- Tell someone at home about Birdwatch 2025. Is it something your household would like to take part in?
- Discuss with someone at home about your local area and the wildlife found there.
- Do you know whether there are any schemes in place where you live to protect wildlife or nature?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Maths News

All children from Reception onwards will have access to an app called **Numbots**. If your child is in Year 2 and above, they will also 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/>

NUMBOTS

