

# Newsletter 18 – 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	Y3&4 Sportshall athletics final at Brine Leas School 3:30pm-6pm	
Wednesday		
Thursday		
Friday	U11 Girls football final 12pm-3:30pm at Crewe Soccer Centre	
<b>Advanced Notice:</b>		
<b>Polite Notice:</b>	<b>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.</b>	

### We are Brilliant Winners

**EYFS:** Mehmet (RA), Lillah (RB)

**KS1:** Jaime (1B), Noah (2A), Ezmay (2B)

**KS2:** Cole, Lennox (3B), Ameen (4B)

### The Hubs

The children in Hub 3 have been using tokens to vote this week. They listened to the beginning of two pieces of music, voted for their favourite then, as a class we counted which song had got the most votes and played it through to the end. This activity gave us the chance to practise a range of mathematical vocabulary and compare values, more and less.



## Nursery

This week we have been learning all about the South Pole. We shared pictures of Antarctica and discussed what we could see. We found out the weather in Antarctica is very very cold. Together, we began to research different animals that live there. Finally, we packed a suitcase full of warm clothes to take to the South Pole.



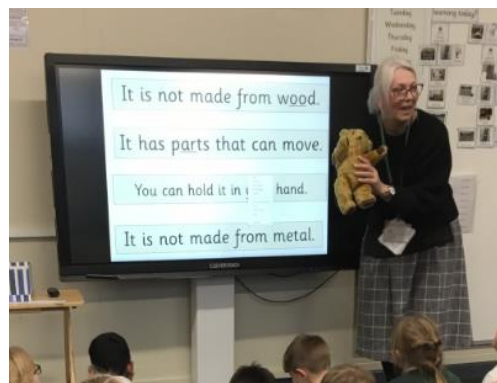
## Reception

We are enjoying our weekly PE lessons with Miss Brown. This half term, we are developing our gymnastic skills and shapes. We are becoming more confident when using the different apparatus.



## Year 1

This week in topic, Mrs Dewsbury came in to tell us about what toys were like when she was little. We learnt that some of the toys she had are similar to modern toys like pogo sticks and bikes but some of them are different. We then got the chance to ask some questions about what toys were like when she was little and Mrs Dewsbury told us about her first toy teddy which is over 50 years old.



## Year 2

For our initial response to the book 'The Great Race', we had a back to back phone call with the emperor. The interviewer asked questions about the race and the emperor shared what happened.



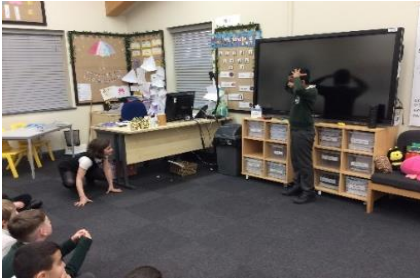
### Year 3

Year 3 had a fantastic time this week a Beeston Castle learning all about life for people in the Bronze and Iron Ages.



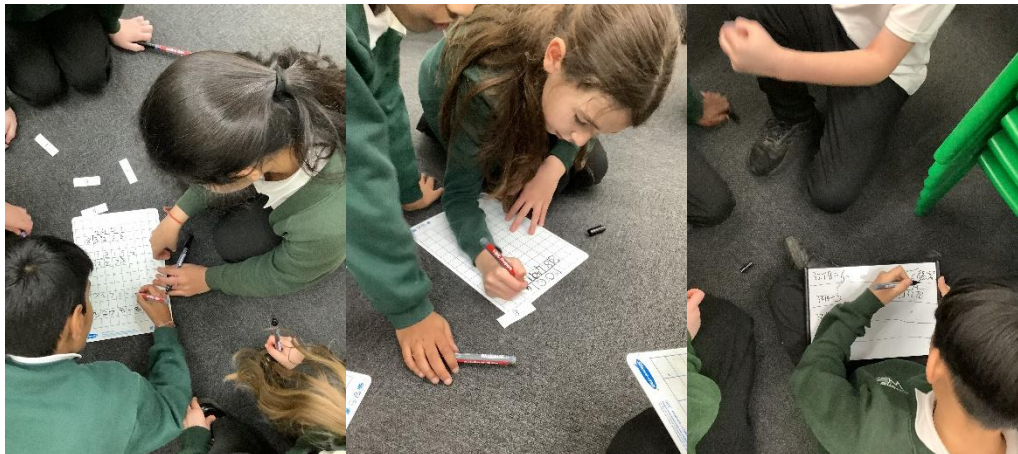
## Year 4

This week, Year 4 were commissioned to write a very important letter of warning for one of the characters in our class text, Krindlekrax. In preparation, the children created a tableau of the key events in this character's story. They engaged maturely and thoughtfully in the drama and created some excellent tableaux! They also helped our character solve a tricky dilemma with the help of a conscience alley.



## Year 5

In order to consolidate our learning of dividing 4-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers, we completed an active learning session. The children worked in groups to answer the questions using the written method of bus stop. The children were engaged, worked well in a team and surprised themselves on how many questions they answered.



## Year 6

In geography lessons, Year 6 have been learning about ocean pollution and the impact it is having. The children had a long, in-depth discussion about who is responsible for protecting the oceans and they absolutely blew us away with their mature responses and thought-provoking contributions.

We are incredibly proud of them!

## Art News

### Focus on Year 5!

This week we had an exciting surprise visitor to our art lesson – our Arts Patron: Rachel Bishop! We are currently looking at Rachel's designs and gaining inspiration for our own work. Rachel heard about this, and decided to pay us a visit. She told us about her work at Moorcroft and brought in one of her original pieces for the class to see and feel the raised surface. She helped guide us as we drew and we had time to ask her some questions.



Here are some of the questions we asked her, and her answers:

- Q: **“When did you know you wanted to become an artist?”**  
A: “I have always wanted to draw, from when I was a small child. Art is something I have always wanted to do!”
- Q: **“What was the first thing you drew?”**  
A: “When I was a small child, I was obsessed with pandas. So, I repeatedly drew them, over and over.”
- Q: **“What is your inspiration?”**  
A: “I have always been inspired by nature, but also by the designer William Morris. I love his work and this has influenced my own designs.”
- Q: **“How long have you been the head designer at Moorcroft?”**  
A: “For 32 years. First of all, I studied at school, then college and then I went to University. But after I finished my qualifications, I got my job at Moorcroft and through hard work and perseverance, I’ve been there ever since.”
- Q: **“How many designs have you created?”**  
A: “Too many to say – thousands!”
- Q: **“What is your favourite design you have ever drawn?”**  
A: “Possibly a huge peacock design that would stand from the floor to chest height. I love peacocks, and I really enjoyed working on that one. It took several weeks to complete.”
- Q: **“Is it true that your university didn’t like your work?”**  
A: “Yes, it is. They thought I would not even complete the course, let alone get a job doing art. Now they have changed their view and have named two buildings after me.”

It was wonderful spending time with Rachel! One of the main things she taught us was that amazing things can be achieved by US, if we work hard and don’t give up. Sometimes criticism from other people doesn’t matter – we should strive to achieve our dreams anyway!



Year 5 are also taking part in the National Art Bytes competition. We have completed our artwork that will be submitted for entry. On Monday 27<sup>th</sup>, an art specialist from Liverpool University will be meeting Mrs Walsh to help select 30 pupils who will go through to the next round. Your child may be asked to be videoed in an interview that will go on the Art Bytes Website. Please return the letter that has been sent home regarding footage permission, by Monday at the latest.

Thank you!



## PE News

### Year 5&6 Dodgeball Festival



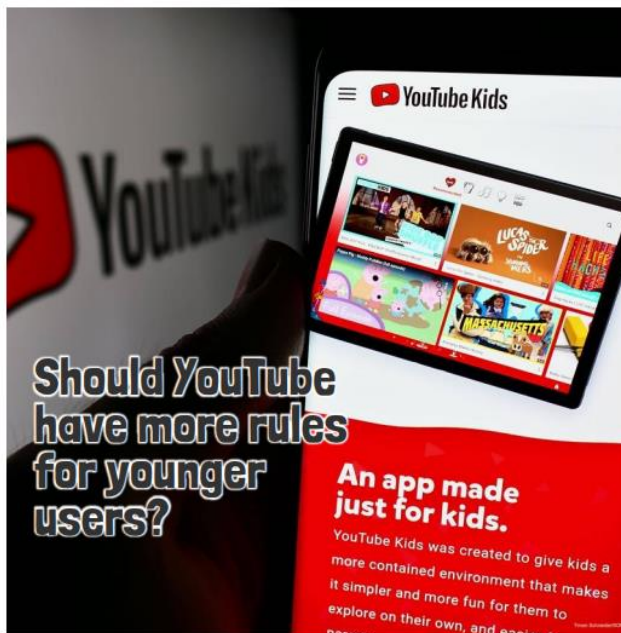
On Thursday our Y5&6 dodgeball teams took part in a dodgeball festival at Shavington Academy. Children played in games against Mablins Lane, Shavington Primary, Edleston Primary, Stapely Broad Lane and Bridgemere Primary. The games took a festival format which meant that no scores were taken, instead emphasis was on the children enjoying as much game time as possible. Both teams were brilliant and had a great time! Well done to all involved and thank you to our parents and carers who came to support.

Good luck to our Y3&4 sportshall athletics and U11 girls football teams, both competing in Crewe and Nantwich finals next week.

## 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

The UK government's culture secretary, Lisa Nandy, has written to video-sharing platforms, such as YouTube and TikTok, asking them to actively share more educational content for children. Nandy stated that while YouTube has improved children's content on its platform, it is not doing enough to make sure the content is easily seen by children.

### Things to talk about at home ...

- > Tell someone at home about the type of things you enjoy watching and where you like to watch them. Ask someone older what they watched as a child. Ask about the choice of programmes, and where and when they were able to view them.
- > Do you believe there should be more checks or rules for what people can watch online?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

[www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss)



## 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



RUST



IRON



TIN



BRASS



COPPER



STEEL



**Poppy Appeal**

We thank you for all your support with the Poppy Appeal. We raised a massive **£516.90!**



Thank you for your support

To WIS-ASTON ACADEMY

Thank you for supporting the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Your collection total £516.90

District total \_\_\_\_\_

