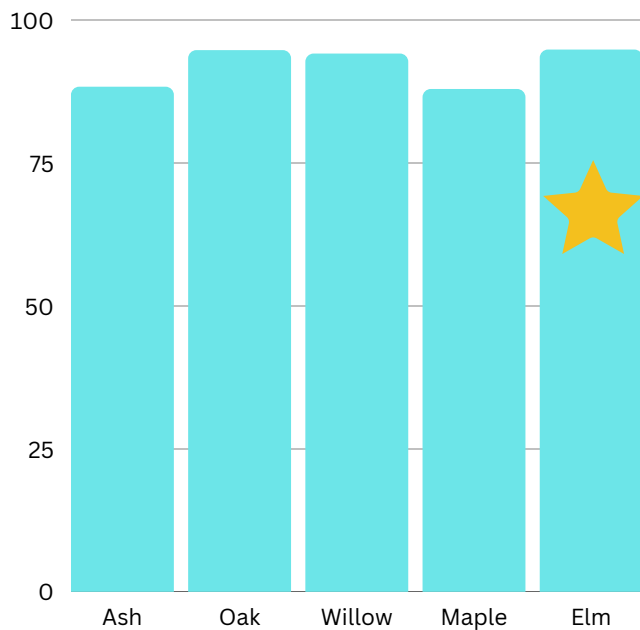# Newsletter

Attendance

The whole school attendance for this week is 92.1%, with Elm class having 94.8%, Oak class having 94.7% and Willow 94.1% attendance this week.

Highlights

- The Book Fair raised over £1000 which gave us 60% commission so lots of lovely new books for the classes! Thank you so much for supporting this event.
- This week I observed each class taking part in reading activities; there was a fabulous range from phonics to whole class shared reading to reading for pleasure. In every class, pupils were fully engaged in the lesson and they made excellent contributions.
- The pupils taking part in the Celebration of Music concert at the Winter Gardens on Monday, had their final rehearsal today. It is going to be a fabulous performance. If you are going to watch, please send us some feedback.
- We had 20 pupils walk to school today! It would be great if we could have even more next week!

Year 6 Revision Books

Year 6 pupils are now working hard to prepare for their SATS tests in May. Due to the extra bank holiday for the Coronation on May 8th, the tests will now run from Tuesday 9th May to Friday 12th May. Mrs Simpson has ordered a range of revision books that you can purchase for your child to do practise questions at home. I highly recommend that you take up this option as extra practise between now and May will really help and will also boost confidence.

Glow in the dark dodgeball

On Tuesday, each class will have a taster session of glow in the dark dodgeball. This is a new one for us so we are not sure what to expect! Please can all pupils come to school in PE kit next Tuesday.

Comic Relief Day – Friday 17th March

To raise funds for Comic Relief, pupils can come to school in their pyjamas in exchange for a donation through the link below. We will also have a cake sale at break time where the children will be able to purchase 3 items for £1. If you are able to donate cakes or biscuits, we would be very grateful.

https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=10148

Online Reading Subscription

We have recently bought into an online reading subscription which all pupils have been enrolled on. Class teachers will send home log-ins and will have allocated books at the right level for your child to read, There are also quizzes linked to the books which help with developing reading comprehension skills. The teachers will be able to look at the books your child has read and monitor the answers to the quizzes. They will regularly assess progress and move children up the book bands when they are ready. Some children may prefer to read books online and it also gives us a much wider range of reading material.

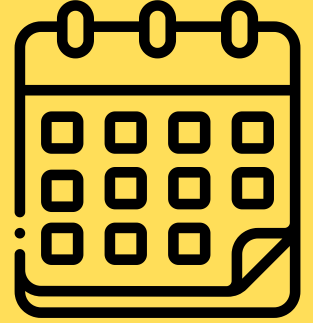Here are the fun packed activities planned for next week in the Woodland Den.

Please book on via ParentPay - sessions run until 4:30pm (half session) or 5:30pm (full session), and all children are provided with a drink and a snack. Booking closes 48 in advance online, but contact the office if you need a last minute place in the afterschool club.

Date	Activity	Snack
06/03/23	Bracelet Making	Fruit & nibbles
07/03/23	Science Activity	Biscuits
08/03/23	I-pads & Creative Play	Crackers
09/03/23	Cheerio Threading	Cheerio Creations
10/03/23	Outdoor Play	Hot Chocolate & snack

Lunches

Please complete the lunch form for ALL pupils in school https://forms.office.com/r/exTQMJtNLL

Dates for your diary

Monday 6/3/23 - Celebration of Music @ Blackpool Winter Gardens

Tuesday 7/3/23 - Glow in the dark Dodgeball taster session for each class

Wednesday 8/3/23 - World Maths Day - focus on Maths activities

Friday 10/3/23 - Football league fixture vs Stalmine

Monday 13/3/23 - Commonwealth Day - 10am Knott End flag pole

Tuesday 14/3/23 - KS2 Athletics County Finals 10am - 12pm @ Blackpool Sports Centre

Friday 17/3/23 - Comic Relief Day (details will be posted on ClassDojo)

Sunday 19/3/23 - Mothering Sunday Service at St Oswald's Church (see above)

Friday 31/3/23 - School closes for Easter holiday

Monday 17/4/23 - School reopens

Monday 1/5/23 - Bank holiday (school closed)

Monday 8/8/23 - Bank holiday (school closed)

Thursdsay 25/5/23 - School closes for half term

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) SOLUTIONS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AI solutions are becoming increasingly popular. Trained on vast datasets of text (such as books, articles and websites) in order to learn patterns and relationships, AI solutions can generate text, images, audio, video, code or synthetic data, and can be used for things such as crafting poems or books, creating digital imagery or delivering video content. Recently there's been significant discussion in relation to the benefits and risks of AI solutions, with many undecided on whether it will be a force for good or potentially reduce the need for some job roles.

ROOM FOR INACCURACY

AI solutions, such as language models, generate their responses purely based on the data they've been trained on, which often comes from sources on the internet. Whilst questions will often illicit relevant responses, if some of the information they've been 'fed' is incorrect, it follows that the answers too may contain factual errors or inaccuracies.

REINFORCING BIAS

AI solutions, such as those generating content or images, can perpetuate existing biases present in the data they were trained, whether through the algorithms written by humans or the content taken from the web. This could easily lead to biased responses and potentially reinforce existing stereotypes, such as those around gender, race or disability.

IRRELEVANT INFORMATION

AI solutions don't have the ability to understand the context or meaning behind a question or a user request. Although highly advanced, the AI relies entirely on the data it's been exposed to and is devoid of independent thought or reasoning, which could lead to irrelevant or even nonsensical responses to queries.

LACK OF ACCOUNTABILITY

Fundamentally, AI solutions are machines or technology programmes that don't have the ability to take responsibility for the responses they generate. This could lead to confusion or misunderstandings in certain cases if the answers are taken as given. For instance, image-generative AIs can lead to output clearly derived from other peoples' content but without any attribution to the original source artist's work.

STIFLING CREATIVITY

One of the potential risks of children and young people continually using AI solutions for things (such as their homework) is that eventually, they might become reliant on it. In the long term, this could potentially impact their development and hamper their ability to think creatively or solve problems independently without the aid of an AI tool.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CREATE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

If possible, try to be around when your child uses any type of AI solution and employ content filters to try and reduce the chance of profanity or age-inappropriate subjects appearing in responses. As with any kind of technology, it's important to ensure that children are using AI solutions responsibly and to be there to enable opportunities to discuss their use as part of a safe environment.

PROMOTE CRITICAL THINKING

Explain to your child that AI solutions can be used as one of many tools to help them research and learn, but that they shouldn't simply accept the responses they receive as the truth. Encourage them to question, verify and think critically about the information they get back – all of which apply equally to any website or platform they use.

DISCUSS BIAS

Talk to your child about the potential biases that may be present in the data that AI solutions are trained on, and how these viewpoints might find their way into the responses that AI generates. Again, with many things children might read online, it's healthy for them to consider whether the information is factual and presented fairly.

ENCOURAGE HUMAN INTERACTION

Not only should children supplement any use of software like AI with additional resources such as books and reputable internet sites, but they also should remember what they can learn from interaction with other people. Discussing things with teachers, relatives and friends isn't just an important and often invaluable aspect of learning – it's an essential part of life, too.

CHECK SCHOOL RULES

Make yourself aware of any rules or guidance your child's school might have about the use of AI solutions. Most software is still extremely new, so many schools may not yet have a policy, however, it's important to make sure your child is aware of how to use it appropriately and will be using it for the right reasons.

Meet Our Expert

Gary Henderson is the Director of IT at a large boarding school in the UK, having previously taught in schools and colleges in Britain and the Middle East. With a particular interest in digital citizenship and cyber security, he believes it is essential that adults and children alike become more aware of the risks associated with technology, as well as the many benefits.

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