



West Kidlington
Primary & Nursery School
Be kind, give your best!

WEST KIDLINGTON NEWS

Dear Families

The final week of term is next week. This has come around quickly. The children have been busy in school this week. A large group of Year 5 and 6 children competed in the indoor Athletics Festival and did very well. It was lovely to see ex-pupils organising the event, as part of the Sport Leader work at Gosford.

Please keep reading for an update on keeping children safe online. There are some useful links for Families.

The School Garden is continuing to support the school. There is an update about some of the exciting things happening.

Next week the school is being audited for Attendance by the LA. Oxfordshire County Council will be reviewing how we are encouraging attendance at school. This audit takes place on Tuesday.

World Book Day is on the 6th March. Children are invited to dress as a character from a book - this is optional. Please have a look at the website for some low cost ideas. <https://www.worldbookday.com/celebrate-world-book-day/dressing-up/>



Drinking in school

We are a healthy school and we encourage the children to drink water whilst in school. This is detailed in our Healthy Schools Policy. It is not clear on the website. Please ensure that only water is put into your child's water bottles. If any family has huge concerns with request, please talk to me individually.

Important Dates

- 12th Feb - DT Celebration
- 14th Feb - Valentine's Day cake sale
- 3rd & 5th March - Parents Evening
- 6th March - World book Day
- 21st March - Red Nose Day
- 26th March - Mother's Day Teas

Internet safety mattersSS

Children are increasingly becoming major components in the online games industry. Many games are deceptively pay to play, whilst claiming to be free. For most of these apps the download is free but most of the gameplay is locked. Free in the context of apps is a highly flexible term. Online gaming firms use the 'free' label to draw in players, whom when talking about minors may be attractive due solely to that quality. Money making tactics such as these, can be hard to detect even for adults. Their use of bright colours, distracting music and other methods can be highly persuasive in gaining players. Better Internet for Kids has crafted a learning module designed to explore digital marketing tactics. You will learn why companies use these tactics and how they can impact your child and their rights. You will also learn how you can support your child to spot and avoid these issues, as well as where you can seek help and support. If interested, please follow the link below:

<https://better-internet-for-kids.europa.eu/en/learning-corner/parents-and-caregivers/marketing-games>

Our key messages were to support your child in creating habits to stay safe online, monitor your child's devices however confident you feel- it's not what they could necessarily do but what others could share with them, being curious and showing interest in your child's online use will help you understand their online preferences and habits, information about age ratings, plus where to get support & advice with online issues. Remember to check out this variety of links for additional support with online safety:

our school's website...

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/6-10/>

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers/phones>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-reporting/>

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/report-remove/>

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/>

<https://app.ollee.org.uk/#/welcome>

School Garden update

In October last year, Bunkers Hill Plant Nursery ran a scarecrow competition. We rustled up 'Big Funnybones' from the Funnybones books by Allan and Janet Ahlberg, and as there were fewer entries than hoped, all entrants won £100 worth of gardening materials. This is amazingly generous of Bunkers Hill and we have gratefully received two large planters, a water butt, a bundle of hedging plants, five packets of seeds and two bags of peat free compost.

Last week we enjoyed making paper seed spinners with children in year 1, 2, 3 and 4. They first decorated the paper and experimented with the design of the spinner and using different amounts of paper clips. It was great fun seeing them fly over the playground.

We have started 'chitting' some seed potatoes ready to grow in a large container in the school garden. The chitting potatoes are currently in the school entrance greenhouse. Can you let us know when the sprouts are 5cm long and we can plant them?

Our School Garden art gallery has had its first new addition this week. Arlo from the Reception class made a fantastic garden drawing which will proudly hang alongside works by famous artists. We would love to have more garden and nature inspired pictures on display. They can be drawings, paintings and multi-media. If it is a sculpture, a photograph of it that we can laminate would be the best option. Please drop off your creations into the school office. Remember to add a name and class.

We are looking ahead to some busy months of sowing, planting, creating and exploring. We hope to fill the garden with a variety of fruit, vegetables, wildflowers and wildlife, and lessons in sustainability and a love for looking after our natural environment.

Thanks once again for the donations. We would be delighted to receive more gardening gloves and kneeling pads, a leaf rake, bird food (dried mealworms and calciworms are very popular), seed compost and a rabbit hutch! Also, we would like some old newspapers and flattened cardboard boxes that we can rip and add to our compost bins. Please put them in the large brown bin under the bike shed.

Sport at West Kidlington

GIRLS FOOTBALL PROGRAMME

West Kidlington Primary School, have teamed up with Imperium Sports Coaching to offer girls in years 3 – 6 the opportunity to play football for FREE. Our aim is to help girls in the local area make new friends, get active, and to develop a love for football.

WHAT IS THE PROJECT?

A girls only football club, aimed all around having fun.

WHERE IS IT BEING HELD?

West Kidlington Primary School

WHEN IS THIS HAPPENING?

4:30pm – 5:30pm on Fridays (selected dates – see website address)

For more information, or to register your place, visit:

<https://imperiumsportscoaching.com/girlsfootballprogramme>



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FEBRUARY HOLIDAY COURSE

DATES:

Monday 17th, Tuesday 18th, Wednesday 19th (February 2025)

TIME: 9:00am – 3pm

VENUE: West Kidlington Primary School

WHO FOR?: Children in years 1-8

COST:

£20.00 per single day booking

£50.00 for all 3 days (10% discount for early bird booking)

WWW.IMPERIUMSPORTSCOACHING.COM

HALF EIGHT IS TOO LATE



**HOW MUCH TIME YOUR
CHILD SPENDS ON A
SCREEN IS IMPORTANT**



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