Week 14



Wistaston Weekly

Friday 12th December 2025

What an elf-tacular, un-fir-gettably festive day we had yesterday with all our festive activities, especially the claus-some Elf Run! Every child looked snow wonderful in their elf hats as they jingled through a merry warm-up on the playground before sprinting, prancing, and dashing around the school perimeter. We wrapped things up in the hall with a brilliant elf dance routine that was truly tree-mendous! All this festive fun was in aid of St Luke's Hospice . A huge sleigh-utations and snow-big thank you to all the families who have already donated—your generosity keeps the season merry & bright! There's still time to add more holly-jolly cheer this weekend, please use the link below. WCLA Justgiving page for Elf Run



Kind regards

Mrs Elsley

Principal

Useful Dates for Diary

Further details are shared nearer to the time.

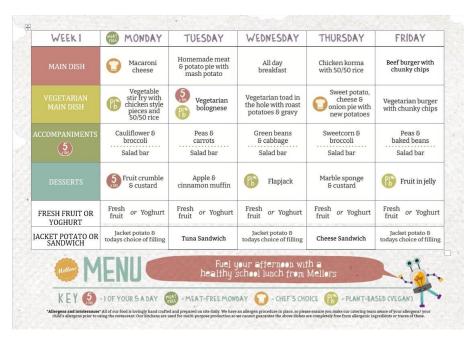
Any new dates added to this will be highlighted in green.

Important dates can also be found on the School Calendar at:

https://www.wclacademy.co.uk/calendar

Week commencing 8th December	Friday 12 th	Friends of WCLA Christmas Event at The Brittles (3:45-5:45pm - see below for details)
	Saturday 13 th	Community Share Hub Baby Bank Pop-Up Event at Her Hub, Beech Drive, Crewe (10-2)
Week commencing 15 th December	Monday 15 th	Cygnest visit to St Mary's Church (Afternoon Session)
	Tuesday 16 th	KS1 Christmas Carol Concert (5pm – Parents/carers/siblings welcome)
	Wednesday 17 th	Cygnet Christmas Crafts with Parents (2:15pm)
	Wednesday 17 th	Alsager Library SEND Drop In (1:30-2:30pm)
	Wednesday 17 th	Shavington Christmas Concert (5.30pm)
	Thursday 18 th	Staff Pantomime
	Thursday 18 th	Monks Coppenhall SEND Hub (Appointments only) (9:30-11:30am)
Week commencing 22 nd December	Mon 22 nd – Fri 26 th	Christmas Holidays
Week commencing 29th December	Mon 29 th – Fri 2 nd Jan	Christmas Holidays
Week commencing 5 th January	Monday 5 th	INSET Day
	Mon 5 th – Fri 9 th	There are NO after school clubs this week (Swan Stars is open as normal)
	Tuesday 6 th	Crewe Alex Assembly
	Friday 9 th	Friends of WCLA Monthly Tuck Shop - On the Playground at End of School Day
Week commencing 12th January	Monday 12 th	Autumn Football League vs Bridgemere (3-4pm By invitation only)
	Tuesday 13 th	Smart Uniform Click & Collect (3-3:30pm)
	Thursday 15 th	September 2026 Reception Admissions Applications Close
	Friday 19 th	Non Uniform Day for Times Tables Rock Stars Prize Winners ONLY (See below)
Week commencing 19 th January	Tuesday 20 th	Year 3 Conway Centre Burwardsley Stone Age Day (CHANGE OF DATE)
Week commencing 26th January		
Week commencing 2 nd February	Thursday 5 th	Educational Psychology Team Connected Conversation Appointments (30 mins bookable in advance) at Monks Coppenhall Family Hub (9:30-4:15)
	Friday 6 th	NSPCC Number Day
	Friday 6 th	Friends of WCLA Monthly Tuck Shop - On the Playground at End of School Day
Week commencing 9th February	Mon 9 th – Fri 13 th	Children's Mental Health Week
	Mon 9 th – Tues 10 th	Year 5 Level 2 Bikeability
	Tuesday 10 th	Safer Internet Day
	Tuesday 10 th	Smart Uniform Click & Collect (3-3:30pm)
Week commencing 16th February	Mon 16 th – Fri 20 th	Half Term
Week commencing 23 rd February	Friday 27 th	Year 2 Florence Nightingale Workshop

Week Commencing 24th November will be WEEK 1 (New Autumn Menu) for lunches



What's New!

Weekly Digital Safety Spotlight

Weekly Digital Safety Spotlight
This week: Generative AI safety

Road Safety Consultation

Following recent concerns about child safety on the approach to school, we are looking to restrict access along the driveway to school between the hours of 8:30 and 9am. We would be grateful if you could share your views on tis proposal via the Google form below by *Monday 15th December*

https://forms.gle/EpcAW977fS8mvAnUA

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Church Lane Netball Team - First Match of the Year

Tuesday marked the first netball match of the year for our Netball team. After more than a year of dedicated practice with coaches Jo, Claire, and Mrs Horan, the team were excited to finally take on another school.

Church Lane hosted Shavington, and the match started in the best possible way with an early goal in the first minute. The team battled hard throughout the game, showing great determination and teamwork, but Shavington managed to score three goals to secure the win.

A fantastic first competitive outing for the Church Lane Netball Team, and we're looking forward to many more matches ahead.

Huge thank you to Jo and Claire for umpiring on the day!

Friends of WCLA Christmas Event

Please see below for details of the Friends of WCLA's Christmas event which will take place at The Brittles tonight (Friday 12th December). Entrance is payable on the door.



After School Clubs Week Commencing 15th December

Please be aware that all after school clubs have now finished for this term. There will be NO after school clubs next week (week commencing 15th December)

KS1 Carol Concert

As you all know, our Year 1 and 2 Christmas Carol Concert is taking place on Tuesday 16th December at 5pm. Please could we ask that all children who are taking part come to school through the side gate that leads to Cygnets and the external classroom doors at 4.45pm. Please could they wear their school uniform and wrap up warm in hats/scarves/gloves etc and wear suitable footwear for standing outside. Festive headwear (e.g. their hat from this week's Elf Run) is welcome. If possible, could they also bring a small torch to hold while they are singing.

Parents, grandparents and siblings etc. are all welcome to come along to watch and refreshments will be available while you wait. The concert will take place in the Reception garden.

Children not due to attend Swan Stars should be collected from school as normal at 3.15pm and then return with parents at 4.45pm ready for the concert to start at 5pm. Children attending Swan Stars will be brought over to the concert by staff.

If your Year 1 or 2 child is due to attend Swan Stars after school on 16th December, please let Swan Stars know your arrangements for collection (i.e. whether they will be going home with parents straight after the concert or returning to Swan Stars).

Please be aware that if children in other years are being collected from Swan Stars between 4:50 and 5:40, the car park will be closed for safety reasons.

Shavington Academy Christmas Community Concert

Our school choir will be performing at the Shavington Academy Christmas Community Concert on Wednesday 17th December. Please see below for more details regarding tickets – Please note that tickets are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Further details of arrangements on the day will follow by separate communication:



Times Tables Rock Stars- Non-Uniform Reward Day (For Prize Winners Only)

We' re proud to use Times Tables Rock Stars as a fun and engaging way to help children practise and improve their times tables skills. Each week, we run a KS1 and KS2 tournament to encourage friendly competition and celebrate progress.

As a reward for their hard work:

- Children in Key Stage 2 who score over 5000 points
- Children in Key Stage 1 who score over 1000 points

... will be invited to attend school in non- uniform on Friday 19th December!

Parents, please keep an eye on your emails to find out if your child has been successful as invitations will be sent out today.

There will also be a raffle for participating children on the day, so it's set to be a fun celebration of learning!

Let's keep rocking those times tables!

EYFS Absence Messages

Please be aware that Tapestry should not be used to report absences. If your child is absent, please report this by email to the school office (admin@wistaston.cheshire.sch.uk), telephone (01270 663619) or by submitting on online form via the website (https://www.wclacademy.co.uk/). Thank you for your kind cooperation.

Christmas Cards for Patients in Leighton Hospital

Over the next 2 weeks, Leighton Hospital are hoping to collect handmade Christmas cards to share with patients spending Christmas Day in hospital. They have invited local schools to take part in this small act of kindness.

If your child would like to make a card, please bring the completed card to the school office by **Wednesday 17th December.** The children's creativity and festive messages would bring joy, comfort, and a sense of community to patients who may be feeling isolated during the holidays. *Please note that individual names of the children are not required on the cards.*

Togetherness: An Update on Wellbeing for Every School Parent

Cheshire East Family Hubs are delighted to share some helpful resources for parents experiencing all the big emotions of growing children. Togetherness - the NHS emotional health digital learning hub funded in our area. Families have free access to expert learning about childhood development, wellbeing, brain changes, and much more to help families to connect with their children. Please see the links below:

Cheshire East | Togetherness - Togetherness

Parent wellbeing newsletter December 2025

CAPT Top Tips for Buying Safe Toys

As Christmas fast approaches, please see below advice from the Child Accident Prevention Trust to help keep children safe when buying toys:

- 8 dangerous gifts that could be a nightmare this Christmas
- How to buy safe toys online
- Tov safety guide

Please pay extra attention to some of the biggest toy safety risks to children including:

- Button batteries
- Magnets
- Water beads
- Dangerous baby products

Community Share Hub

The Community Share Hub will be holding a Baby Bank Pop-Up Event at Her Hub, Beech Drive, Crewe, on Saturday 13th December, from 10am to 2pm. This free community event is open to everyone and offers families the chance to access a wide range of pre-loved baby essentials, including:

- Childrens and babies Christmas outfits
- Party dresses
- Baby clothes (up to age 2 years)
- Prams and cots
- Winter coats and snowsuits
- Bottles and sterilisers
- Other baby essentials

The pop-up is part of Her-Place's ongoing commitment to reducing waste, supporting families, and promoting dignity through sustainability. All items have been kindly donated by the local community, checked for quality, and made freely available to those who need them most. Visitors can drop in at any time during the event to browse, collect items, and find out more about the other services available through the Community Share Hub.

The Community Share Hub will be closed from 18th December, and will be reopening on the 5th of January. As a result they will not be accepting donations or hub orders again until they reopen.



Lunchtime & After School Clubs - Spring Term

If your child wishes to attend any of the clubs below, please go to your child's Arbor account and choose the appropriate club for our child's year group. After signing up, children will be expected to attend **all** sessions (for safeguarding reasons we need to keep a register). The clubs in green are organised by Coach Barks and should be booked directly at <u>Coach Barks Spring Term Link</u>. The club in blue is organised by Crewe Alexandra in the Community and has to be booked directly with them via <u>www.crewealexandrainthecommunity.com</u>. The club in red is organised by Cheshire Cricket Board and has to be booked directly with them.

All after school clubs will run weekly (term-time only) from the week beginning 12th January to the week ending 13th March unless otherwise stated below. All after school clubs will end at 4.15pm and children should be collected from the Junior Playground.

Clubs run by staff members are free and only those booked directly through external organisations are charged for.

Where places are limited, we are operating on a 'first come, first served' basis. All clubs run by school staff are now live on Arbor. We kindly ask that you initially book ONLY ONE free after-school club for your child to ensure that everyone has a fair opportunity to take part in the clubs. If there are still places available on Sunday 4th January, additional clubs may then be booked.

Please note that due to staff absences we may need to cancel clubs at short notice. We will, of course, do our utmost to avoid this and to help where we can.

Please consider that the notice period for cancelling places at Swan Stars is four weeks for contracted sessions and 7 days for ad hoc bookings and that we are sending this letter out early to help you to make the necessary arrangements.

Year Group	Club	Day of the Week	Club Leader	Maximum Numbers	Comments
Reception &	Nature Detectives	Thursday	Mrs Gratton &	20	
Year 1			Miss Boschi		
Reception &	Drawing Club	Monday	Miss Longhorn	20	
Year 1					
1 & 2	Film Club	Thursday	Mrs Sutton	20	
1 & 2	Board Games	Monday	Miss Harvey	20	
1 & 2	Cricket	Tuesday	Cheshire Cricket	20	£4 per session.
					Sessions on 13 th
					January, 20th
					January, 27th
					January, 3rd February and 10th
					February. Club to
					be booked
					directly (Info to
					follow)
1 & 2	Football	Wednesday Lunchtime	Coach Barks		£5 per session. To
		,			be booked
					directly (see flyer)
3	Storytelling	Tuesday	Mrs Watson	20	
3 & 4	Board Game & Puzzle	Monday	Miss Hillard	20	
	Club				
3 & 4	Film Club	Monday	Miss Davenport	20	
3 & 4	Football	Monday	Crewe Alexandra		£5.25 per session
			in the Community		Sessions on 12 th
					January, 19th
					January, 26th
					January, 2 nd
					February and 9th
					February only See separate
					letter for more
					details.
3, 4, 5 & 6	Girts Football	Tuesday Lunchtime	Coach Barks		£5 per session. To
3, 4, 3 60	GII LS T GOLDAII	roesday conciline	Coacii barks		be booked
					directly (see flyer)
3, 4, 5 & 6	Pickleball	Friday Lunchtime	Mr Raiswell	24	
4 & 5	Maths 24	Tuesday	Mrs Culshaw	20	
5 & 6	Netball	Monday	Mrs Horan, Mrs	20	
			McDonald & Mrs		
			Finney		
5 & 6	Journalism	Monday	Mrs Storey	20	
5 & 6	Football	Wednesday	Mr Raiswell	24	
6	Maths Booster	Tuesday	Mrs Dunbobbin,	N/A	See * below for
			Miss Smith, Miss		dates
			Willington & Mrs		See separate
			Lawrie		letter for more
		1			details.

^{*}Year 6 Maths Club will run on the following dates only before SATs:

27th January, 3rd February, 10th February, 24th February, 3rd March, 10th March, 17th March, 14th April, 21st April, 28th April & 5th May

Christmas Pin Badges

We still have a some Christmas pin badges in the school office. These can be purchased for a donation of £1.50 each (cash only) and are available on a 'first come, first served' basis. All proceeds will go to Macmillan Cancer Support. A big thank you to our pupil in Year 6 who has organised this.

Bikeability

If your child is in Year 4 or Year 5 and you would like them to take part in Bikeability, please complete the consent form *in full* (either the electronic form emailed to parents this week

or a paper copy) and return it to school ASAP. Please note that consent for this activity cannot be given on Arbor. Further details are included in the consent form.

The dates for Bikeability are as follow:

Year 5 Level 2 (Available to all children who completed Level 1 last year) – Monday 9th & Tuesday 10th February 2026

Year 4 Level 1 – Tuesday 24th March 2026

Infection Control

There have been numerous cases of flu like viruses and sickness in the area. With flu rates higher than this time last year, the DfE has asked us to share a reminder of the following information with you:

Managing seasonal illness – key information for schools and parents

- <u>Education Hub Blog</u>: Reducing the spread of illness this winter: Seven steps to healthier schools and higher school attendance.
- NHS Guidance for Parents: Is my child too ill for school? a useful resource to help parents decide when children should stay at home.
- A–Z of managing Infectious Diseases: Practical guidance on managing specific illnesses.

There has also been suspected cases of Scarlet Fever and Chickenpox in KS1 and slapped Cheek Syndrome in KS2. Please see the link below for advice regarding symptoms and treatment:

https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/scarlet-fever/

https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/chickenpox/

https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/slapped-cheek-syndrome/

For further NHS-recommended advice on common childhood illnesses and guidance on when your child should stay off school, visit Patient.info.





Christmas Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Clubs

HAF clubs will be running across four local venues this December holidays:

- Camm Street Gymnastics Centre, Crewe
- Offley Primary
- Haslington Primary
- St Michael's Primary

All sessions run from 9:00am to 3:00pm.

The Christmas clubs offer a fun, active and festive experience for children, with a programme that includes multi-sports activities, Christmas crafts and creative sessions and a Winter Wonderland Party experience at selected venues.

Some venues will also feature a professional Christmas entertainer, with festive magic and balloon modelling at:

- Offley Primary
- St Michael's Primary

SEND Sessions

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) sessions are on offer at:

- Camm Street Gymnastics Centre, Crewe
- Offley Primary

These sessions provide a calm, supported environment where children with additional needs can participate at their own pace, with adapted activities led by SEN-experienced coaches.

Free Hot Meal included

If your child is eligible and you would like to book, head to **eequ.org** and search 'Adv4nce Group'. Or call 01782 703065/07960292847.

Please see below the timetable for school applications for Reception and Secondary places for September 2026. More information can be found at https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/admissions/admissions.aspx.

School Applications Timetable

Please see below the timetable for school applications for Reception and Secondary places for September 2026. More information can be found at

https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/admissions/admissions.aspx.

Status	Primary Schools	Secondary Schools
Online application forms available	1 st September 2025	1 st September 2025
Closing date for applications	15 th January 2026	31 st October 2025
Deadline for giving supporting information	16 th February 2026	5 th December 2025
Offers made	16 th April 2026	2 nd March 2026
Deadline for accepting or refusing places	30 th April 2026	16 th March 2026
Waiting lists prepared and vacancies allocated	After 30 th April 2026	After 16 th March 2026
Deadline for accepting or refusing waiting list place	10 days from offer	10 days from offer
Closing date for appeal applications	15 th May 2026	30 th March 2026
Appeal hearings (on time applications)	Heard by 17 th July 2026	Heard by 15 th June 2026
Appeal hearings (late applications)	Within 40 days of appeal closing date where possible or 30 school days of appeal being lodged	Within 40 days of appeal closing date where possible or 30 school days of appeal being lodged



Educational Psychology Team Connected Conversation Appointments

Please see below for details of appointments offered by the Educational Pyschology Service:



EDUCATIONAL (8 0) PSYCHOLOGY TEAM Supporting Parents and Carers



Connected Conversation Appointments

The Educational Psychology (EP) Service is offering appointments for parents and carers at Cheshire East Family Hubs, held every half term in both North and South localities. These informal sessions are an opportunity to discuss concerns, seek advice and explore strategies to support your child or young person. Our focus areas are Cognition and Learning and SEMH (Social, Emotion and Mental Health) needs. They are not sessions for local authority processes (e.g. EHCPs or placement changes) or child assessments.

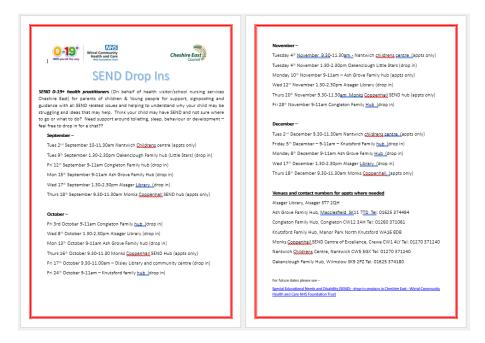
- Literacy, Maths or Executive Function difficulties
 Anxiety or school related issues
 Play, social skills or friendship needs
 Transitions and/or difficulties with change/loss
 Preparing for Adulthood

Parents/Carers can book a 30 minute slot by calling their local Family Hub - $\underline{Family Hubs}$. Dates and locations are as below:

Date	Location	Times
09.10.25	Oakenclough Family Hub	9.30am - 4.15pm
09.10.25	Monks Coppenhall Family Hub	9.30am - 4.15pm
11.12.25	Monks Coppenhall Family Hub	9.30am - 4.15pm
06.02.26	Congleton Family Hub	9.30am-4.15pm
05.02.26	Monks Coppenhall Family Hub	9.30am – 4.15pm
25.03.26	Oakenclough Family Hub	9.30am - 4.15pm
26.03.26	Monks Coppenhall Family Hub	9.30am – 4.15pm
19.05.26	Ash Gove Family Hub (Macclesfield)	9.30am – 4.15pm
21.05.26	Monks Coppenhall Family Hub	9.30am – 4.15pm
30.06.26	Congleton Family Hub	9.30am - 4.15pm
02.07.26	Monks Coppenhall Family Hub	9.30am - 4.15pm

SEND Support for Parents

Please see below for further details of upcoming SEND Drop Ins:



Visyon Parent/Carer Webinars & Peer Support Group

Visyon now offer free online parent / carer webinars covering a range of topics. Please see the website for further information and to book.

Parent webinars | visyon

Best Start in Life Parent Hub

As introduced in the recent letter from the Prime Minister, the Best Start in Life Hub can be found at https://www.beststartinlife.gov.uk/. The hub gives information about the support available to families.

Arbor Information & Consents

To ensure school has up-to-date contact information in case of an emergency, please check your child's Arbor account and inform school immediately by email of any changes or errors. Please also ensure that all consents (e.g. Local Area Visits, photographs, walking home, mobile phones, etc) are up to date and contact the school office if you have any issues. Thank you.

Easyfundraising

Thank you to everyone who is supporting us for free on #easyfundraising. Your continued support means the world to us! If you've not signed up yet, please join today and you can raise free donations for Wistaston Church Lane Academy every time you shop online this year! Over 8,000 retailers like eBay, Argos, Marks and Spencer, John Lewis & Partners, Etsy, Tesco and Just Eat will donate at no extra cost to you. Sign up on the app today and we'll get a £2 bonus!

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/easyfundraising-app/?causeId=139508&utm_term=CE941

School Lottery

We're delighted to celebrate the 8th anniversary of our School Lottery—what a fantastic milestone! A huge thank-you to our Friends PTFA and to every one of our supporters for helping us get this far.

We now have 72 supporters taking part, with a lucky winner every single week. If you're not yet involved, why not join today? Sign up and you could also be in with a chance of winning a brilliant prize bundle, all while supporting our school community.

Head over to www.yourschoollottery.co.uk and search for Wistaston Church Lane Academy.



Payment Due Dates

KS2 Snack Autumn 2 - Payment now due

Year 3 Stone Age Day – Payment due by 19/12/25

Year 1 Peak Wildlife Park – Payment due by 19/01/26

Year 6 (Current Year 5) London Residential – 2nd Deposit due by 31/01/26

Year 6 (Current Year 5) London Residential – 3rd Payment due by 31/03/26
Year 6 (Current Year 5) London Residential – 4th Payment due by 31/05/26
Year 6 (Current Year 5) London Residential – Final Balance due by 03/07/26