



NEWSLETTER

We have had a busy start to the new term and the children are really enjoying their new topics.

Can I remind parents the children will be breaking up for half-term on Thursday 16th February. There is a teacher training day on Friday 17th February.

YOUNG VOICES

Our school choir visited the Resorts World Arena last week and had a wonderful time at Young Voices.

As well as performing a number of songs with thousands of children from other schools, they enjoyed watching performances from singer Heather Small and violinist, Anna Phoebe. The children had an incredible time and their behaviour and attitude was exemplary.



Many thanks to Mrs Khawaja for organising the event and preparing the children so well and to Miss Bradshaw, Ms Hall, Mrs Poole and Mrs Hayden for accompanying the children.

FOREST SCHOOLS

We are very pleased to inform you that we are setting up a Forest School at Wootton. Mrs Cooke, who is a qualified Forest School leader, will be taking sessions with our children after half-term.

In the next few weeks, work will begin to convert land at the bottom and side of the playground into an area suitable for these sessions. We will be setting up a small peace garden elsewhere in the school grounds.

Much of the cost of developing the site will be met by our Sports grant. However, we would be grateful for any donations of:

- wooden pallets
- tarpaulin
- Large sticks for den building / logs for seating
- Potato peelers/old pans and metal or plastic bowls
- Small hammers
- Garden trowels and fork

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- Seed donations.
- Water containers/bowls
- Bird feeders
- Hammock

If you can help in any way please speak to Miss Bradshaw who is leading this project.

STARS OF THE WEEK

Friday 14h January

Theme – Writing

Well done to: Arnon, Ann-Marie, Louis, dan, Alys, Bella, Dexter, Katie, Ruby and Olivia.

Friday 21st January

Theme— Trust

Well done to: Thea, Freddie K., Rosa, Alys, Eine, Poppy, Oliver, Elliot and Megan.

VALUE

The Christian Value we will be focusing on this term is Perseverance. This means to keep trying even when the going gets tough. The children will be encouraged to have self belief in order to keep on going and to speak out for what they believe is right. They will also reflect upon God's persevering love.



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Accelerated Reader UPDATE

Today we celebrated the success of our KS 2 children who are using the AR reading scheme.

We now have three millionaire readers: Elliot (2,097,034 words), Gabriel (1,571,280 words) and Ruby (1,048,680 words). We also have Megan, Lola and Dexter who have each read over 400,000 words.

Our Year 2 children are also doing very well. Arya leads Willow class with a magnificent 109,355 words read.

YEAR 4 MULTIPLICATION CHECK

Can I remind parents/carers with children in Year 4 that their child will be taking the Multiplication Check test (MTC) in June. A parent booklet was sent to out today via Studybugs and information can also be found by following the link to a DFE video.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=ct5cDctLVTI

The MTC is very similar to TT Rockstars Sound Checks. The children complete these regularly at school but we would be grateful if parents/carers could encourage their child to also practice at home.

Our TT Rockstar table continues to be led by Lola.



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Year 2 and 6 SATS MEETINGS

Many Year 6 parents commented about how useful the recent meeting about the KS 2 tests was. We have sent a copy of the slides to all parents via Studybugs, as I know some people were unable to attend.

A reminder there will be a meeting for parents/carers of children in Year 2 on Thursday 2nd February about end of Key Stage 1 assessments.

ONLINE SAFETY

Keeping children safe on-line is at the forefront of our Computing curriculum.

We have been asked to remind parents/carers about the importance of checking your child's online activity as there has been a rise in the numbers of grooming incidents linked to gaming chat rooms.

At the back of this newsletter is a helpful guide from National Online Safety offering advice for parents of our younger children.

ATTENDANCE

Various studies have shown that children who attend school regularly achieve better academically than those with poor attendance.

We closely monitor attendance and have a responsibility to inform parents/carers when their child's attendance becomes a concern and especially when it falls below 90%. We call this persistent absence.

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In the next week we will be sending letters out to parents/ carers whose children's attendance is below 90% .

Whilst we appreciate that most absence is because of illness, parents may not be aware of the impact the odd day off can have on their child's overall attendance.

Our attendance for the first three weeks of this term has been pleasing as it has been above our target of 96%.

Last week it was 96.8%. Well done to Oak class with a very impressive 100%.

I hope you have an enjoyable weekend. The next newsletter will be on Friday 3rd February.

DATES for this half-term

25/01/23—EYFS and Year 6 Height and Weight Check

26/01/23—Willow and Chestnut to wear PE kits.

02/02/23—Year 2 SATs meeting at 3.25pm

02/02/23—Governors Meeting at 7pm

07/02/23— Safer Internet day

13/02/23—Last swimming session

16/02/23—NEW DATE Break the Rules day/Parents' Celebration Assembly at 2.40pm

16/02/23—BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM



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ONLINE SAFETY FOR UNDER 5s

10 Top Tips for Parents and Carers

According to Ofcom's most recent research, a significant proportion of children are already online by the time they start school, with 17% of 5-year-olds owning their own mobile phone and 50% using messaging platforms. As becoming familiar with technology is generally encouraged in younger children – and has been essential for education during the pandemic – it is crucial that trusted adults recognise both the benefits and the risks of infants and toddlers using digital devices. We've compiled our top tips to help the under-5s start their online safety journey.

1 USE DEVICES TOGETHER

This lets you monitor and control what your child is using the device for. It also provides the interaction that supports children's understanding of what they're seeing – allowing them to ask you questions, and so on.

PARENT CODE:

6 BLOCK IN-APP PURCHASES

If your child uses a device that's linked to a payment method (such as a bank card), use the parental controls to block buys from app stores, as well as in-app purchases. That will prevent your child from accidentally spending money while on your device.

2 ACTIVATE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Most digital devices have built-in parental controls that can limit the type of content children have access to. If your little one uses any device (even borrowing yours), it's a good idea to explore what controls the device has and enable them whenever they have access to it.

7 CHOOSE SAFE APPS AND SITES

There are some fantastic apps and platforms that are specifically designed to be safer for children. Always check the PEGI age rating before downloading an app, and test it yourself before allowing your child to use it.

3 MANAGE SCREEN TIME

This can be tricky, especially if your child is interested in a certain video, app or game. Try to agree on some ground rules and get your child into a routine which includes certain times of the day when they go without devices.

8 INVOLVE THE FAMILY

If your toddler has older siblings, it's likely that their rules for device use will be different – and that they'll access content that isn't appropriate for younger ones (a particular worry if they share devices). Encourage the whole family to be good role models and help little ones stay safe online.

4 TALK ABOUT BEING SAFE ONLINE

Just like we teach children about being safe in the real world, we need to educate them about how to stay safe online. Use age-appropriate language to help them understand, and plenty of hand gestures can reinforce what you're telling them.

9 IF IN DOUBT, ASK

The easiest way to find out what your child is doing online is usually just to talk about it with them. Developing an open dialogue at an early age helps them grow up feeling able to talk to you about their digital life – providing opportunities to intervene if you're concerned.

5 SET A GOOD EXAMPLE

Children often learn by watching and copying those around them, and using digital devices is no exception. When you're around your child, try to follow the same rules that you've set for them. Let them see you balancing your time online with interacting with people in real life, too.

10 SUPPORT CREATIVE & ACTIVE PLAY

Physical and creative activities are important for a child's wellbeing, and there are plenty of ways to incorporate technology into that. For example, you could encourage games that require physical movement; dance and sing along to songs your child loves; and follow step-by-step crafting videos.

Meet Our Expert

Konstantina Moustaka is a professional development and EYFS coordinator at an 'outstanding' nursery school in London. She has been working as a nursery and early years practitioner, both in the UK and internationally, for the past 16 years.



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