

# Newsletter 19 – Spring 1



Wistaston Academy  
Primary and Nursery School  
Together We Learn • Together We Achieve

## This Week's Events

Date	School Events	International Events
Monday	9 <sup>th</sup> February SALT Hub Parents Workshop 2pm	
Tuesday		
Wednesday	11 <sup>th</sup> February "Day to Create" KiVa Kindness Revolution	
Thursday	Reception Peckforton Castle Trip	
Friday		
<b>Advanced Notice:</b>	EYFS, KS1 and KS2 Sports Day Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May Nursery Sports Day date TBC	
<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:** Ivy (RA), Kyan (RB)

**KS1:** Michael (1A) Alfie (1B), Carter (2A), Lily (2B)

**KS2:** Gabi (3A), Micky (3B), George (4A), Vivaan (4B), Leo (5A), Freddie (5B), Kaylub (6A), Francis-Lee (6A)

### Hub 1

We've had lots of fun recently exploring small world play and being creative in our chosen activities. We've been building towers as tall as we can, making patterns with blocks, colouring in, drawing pictures and gathering and sorting objects. We've also loved our train track, building long tracks with as many pieces as we can and then playing with the trains along it.



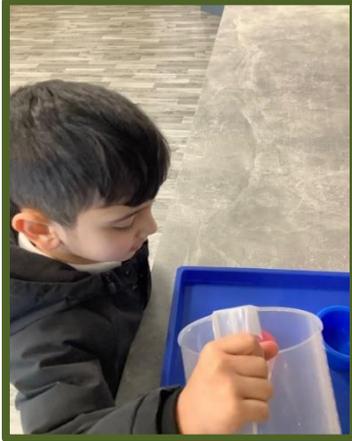
### Hub 2

We have continued to focus on seasons, specifically Autumn this week. We have categorised pictures as either 'Autumn' or 'Not Autumn', explored books about seasons and created Autumn trees in Art.



### Hub 3

We have been practising some practical life skills this week. The children have poured water into cups in a range of different sizes, and have used a knife to spread butter onto toast.



### Hub 4

The children are making great progress with their reading. They have enjoyed learning new sounds and exploring new books as a class and individually. Next week, we will be reading the story 'On the Way Home'.



### Nursery 1

This week in Nursery we have been looking at the word 'little'. First, Concept Cat introduced us to our new word. Next, we organised circles into little and not little. Then, we have been exploring the word little in the provision.



### Nursery 2

This week, we have been on an adventure to the South Pole. First, we discussed what the boy from our story would be able to see, hear and feel in the South Pole. Next, we explored the South Pole and looked at the different animals and the icebergs. Then, we discussed how it was cold in the South Pole and designed the boy a hat to wear to keep him warm.



### Reception

This week, we have helped Zog because he did not know what a knight was. We have designed a coat of arms, made shields, created peg flags and then had to put out the fire from the dragons. We then met Sir Gadabout and we are encouraging him to fulfil his ambition of becoming a doctor.



## Year 1

This week, Year 1 have been scientists! We have carried out an experiment to see which material had the right properties to be an umbrella. We found out from our experiment that nylon is the best material because it is waterproof.



## Year 2

This week in Topic, the children wrote a retell of The Great Race. We performed the story using 'Storystick', thinking about the characters and how they'd move before going into 'Active Script' for the conversation between the Cat and the Rat. The children had great fun and it was lovely to see them all engaging in the drama activities.



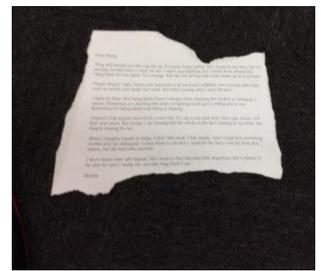
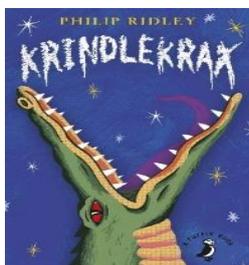
### Year 3

This week in literacy we received a mission from Miss Sneerwell 'Chief Minister of Dodgy Dealings'. She asked us to find out more about the dealings of Daffy Dodgy and record what we saw in a diary. We started by carrying out surveillance to find out more about her dodgy plans. We returned to the ministry and reported some of our findings using 'Gossip Circle'. Finally, we used rolling drama to map out the sequence of events. We started with collectively drawing each part, we then created a tableau for each section before finally performing the whole sequence using Narrator, Action Sound.



### Year 4

This week, we have been continuing to expand our drama skills within our literacy lessons. We had lots of fun when we did our circle packing activity and we wanted to see what was inside the bag!



## Year 5

This week, year 5 have enjoyed a Chemistry with Cabbage workshop, where they have experimented with acids, alkalis and neutral chemicals.



## Year 6

This week, Year 6 took part in an Eco Day, which linked closely to our geography learning about protecting our planet. We were visited by representatives from the RSPCA, Jaguar Land Rover, and GIST/M&S, who delivered a range of engaging workshops. We were fascinated to discover how these companies and charities consider their carbon footprint, work to protect nature, and take steps to ensure they are not contributing to climate change.



## PE News

### Y5&6 Netball Tournament

On Wednesday our Y5&6 netball team took part in the Crewe and Nantwich netball tournament held at Shavington Academy. Our results were as follows:

*Wistaston Academy 1 Shavington Primary 0*

*Wistaston Academy 1 Leighton Academy 0*

*Wistaston Academy 0 The Berkeley Academy 0*

*Wistaston Academy 0 Sound and District Primary 4*

The team were fantastic and we finished in 2<sup>nd</sup> place overall. Well done to all involved!

## Art News

### Creativity and The Kindness Revolution

As a KiVa school, kindness is always top of our agenda, but we are really celebrating it between now and Valentine's Day!



We are holding a Kindness Revolution this half term, to encourage our school community to “commit acts of KiVa kindness” in school and at home, so we can really change the world for ourselves, our friends and our families! Children who teachers catch in an act of kindness will go on our kindness wall to encourage others to follow their example. We want to celebrate children's kindness and so we'll be generous with dojos, raffle tickets stickers and postcards home! If parents catch children being kind at home too and happen to photograph it, feel free to send the picture by email to [admin@wistastonacademytrust.co.uk](mailto:admin@wistastonacademytrust.co.uk) or [lwalsh@wistastonacademytrust.co.uk](mailto:lwalsh@wistastonacademytrust.co.uk) and we will print it and add it to our kindness wall 😊

This will all culminate with a special “Day to Create” on **WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 11<sup>TH</sup>!!**

We will celebrate kindness through:

- Painting with artist Victoria Turner
- Drumming with Mr Proctor
- Family yoga sessions based on the love chakra with Fiona Sherwood from Musicbox Mediations
- Art lessons with Mrs Walsh
- Learning through drama with class teachers
- Singing in assembly with Mr Wilson
- And a visit from Arts Council England, who want to capture the creative joy that runs through our school!
- What a half term is ahead! 🎉



Keep a look out for special invitations from individual classes to participate with your children on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February!**

Let's remember:

No act of  
KINDNESS  
NO MATTER  
how small  
IS EVER  
WASTED

### Exhibition: Parent Call Out!

We are aware that it's not just our children who are artists, but many of our parents too! If you are creative and would like to inspire our school community by exhibiting some of your own artwork in our up-coming Spring Exhibition, please speak to Mrs Walsh or email on [lwalsh@wistastonacademytrsut.co.uk](mailto:lwalsh@wistastonacademytrsut.co.uk)

Any size, theme and medium are valid.



### Focus on Year 5

We are excited to be entering 30 of our Year 5s into the National Art Bytes Competition again this year!



Our children have been working hard on their entries and our 30 have been selected. Chosen this year are: Jacek, Freddie, Elodie, Ameen, Llyam, Racheal, Maja, Millie, Clara, Diwan, Lilly, Darius, Takshay, Gabriel, Evalyn, Evelyn, Michael, Max, Samuel, Caleb, Carter, Teddie, Bobby, and Morayo from Year 5 and from Hub 4: Ariya, Fanciszek, Oliver, Amara, Riley and Ashen!

Their work will be uploaded next week to the Art Bytes website, 3 selected to become finalists by external professional judges, then.....

### IT'S OUR TURN TO VOTE!

The link will be shared so that all families can vote for our favourite of the finalists. The student with the most votes wins 1<sup>st</sup> place, then 2<sup>nd</sup>, then 3<sup>rd</sup>. All three finalists will be invited to an award ceremony at a gallery or museum not far from here in June and our 1<sup>st</sup> place winner is in the running to win a regional or national prize also.

Please look out for more details and SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS' CREATIVITY! 😊

## 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

A toy company called Mattel has released a new Barbie doll designed to represent people who have autism, with features such as a fidget spinner and noise-cancelling headphones. The doll was created with help from the autistic community, so more people can see themselves reflected in their toys.

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

- Do you think it's important for toys to show different kinds of people?
- How do you feel when you see a character or toy that is like you?
- Can you come up with other examples of books or toys that aim to help people feel included?
- How can we help other people feel included when they might feel different or left out?

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)



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## Maths News

All children from Reception through to KS2 have access to an app called **Numbots**. This fantastic app supports children with their number fluency, allowing them to use efficient mental calculation strategies to add/subtract, so they don't rely on using their fingers!

If your child is in Year 2 and KS2 they will also have access to an app called **Times Table Rocks Stars (TTRS)**, which supports knowledge of times tables and therefore builds confidence in multiplication and division.

Evidence tells us that logging on for **just a few minutes each day** will make a massive difference to their number fluency/times tables skills.

Check out the dedicated website for parents to answer any questions on TTRS:

<https://trockstars.com/parents/> , and the factsheet of FAQ's for Numbots:

<https://static.numbots.com/data/pdf/NumBotslaunchparentguide.pdf> and

[https://strapi.trockstars.com/uploads/numbots\\_parent\\_guide\\_554ecf5cb5.pdf](https://strapi.trockstars.com/uploads/numbots_parent_guide_554ecf5cb5.pdf)

# NUMBOTS



RSPCA LEAD WORKSHOP,  
FEBRUARY HALF TERM 18TH AND  
19TH FEBRUARY



RSPCA

Join us for some animal fun!

Activities, based around The Great British Spring Clean

10am - 3pm ( 2.30pm last entry )



Save our wildlife,  
keep our  
community clean.



The Great British Spring Clean 2026

21 MARCH TO 6 APRIL

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR  
**JUNIOR BAKE OFF**

Aged between 9-15 and love to bake?  
We'd love to hear from you!

[WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK](http://WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK)



APPLICATIONS CLOSE 15TH MARCH 2026