

# Newsletter 21 – Spring 2



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

## This Week's Events

| Date                    | School Events   | International Events |
|-------------------------|---|----------------------|
| Monday                  |   |                      |
| Tuesday                 | YR5B Swimming Lessons   |                      |
| Wednesday               | World Book Day  |                      |
| Thursday                |   |                      |
| Friday                  |   |                      |
| <b>Advanced Notice:</b> | Parents' Evening Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March<br>20 <sup>th</sup> April 9-10am Guinness Drop In   |                      |
| <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:** Elyse (RA), Millie (RB)

**KS1:** Alison (1A), Georgia-Sue (1B) Pippa (2A), Tommy (2B)

**KS2:** Lilianna (3A), Eliza (3B), Aaradhya (4A), Archy (4B), Bowie (5A), Taiah (5B), Alona (6A), Hendrix (6B)

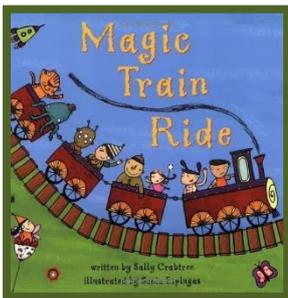
## Hub 1

This week, we've introduced our new story 'We're going on a Bear Hunt'. We've read the story through, used a communication board to interact with the story and practiced mark making, tracing lines between the parts of the story. We can't wait for to explore the deep, cold river next week!



## Hub 2

This week, we have been focusing on the concept of fast and slow, inspired by our book, The magic train ride; in the book a train travels fast and slow through different environments. In music, we played the drum fast and slow, in PE, we moved fast and slow and in science we rolled cars down different ramps to demonstrate fast and slow. The steeper the ramp, the faster the car moved.



### Hub 3

The children are exploring the Stick Man character in Literacy this half term. Today they have made their own Stick Man model using sticks, felt and pipe cleaners. To fasten each of the materials together, the children used a range of techniques: double-sided tape to join the edges of the material, glue to adhere eyes to their stick, and the action of twisting the pipe cleaners to secure them.



### Hub 4

This week, we revealed clues about the setting and characters of our new story, The Smeds and The Smoos. The children have enjoyed playing within the space role-play area, puzzles, small world toys and have made their own clay models of aliens.



### Nursery 1

This week we have been enjoying exploring our environment again after half term. First, we went outside and enjoyed dressing up. Next, we explored the role play area. Then, we enjoyed building towers in the construction area.



### Nursery 2

This week we have enjoyed going to Magic Story World. First, we have been introduced to our new story 'Poo in the Zoo by Steve Smallman'. Next, we looked at the map of a zoo and all of the animals in it. Then, we met the zookeeper from the book and we found out what they do for their job!



## Reception

This week in our Magic Story Box, we met a little snail who lives at the docks and dreams of sailing the sea and travelling the world. The children were very excited to help her get ready for her big adventure! We completed lots of fun challenges to prepare the snail for her travels, thinking about what she might need and how she could stay safe on her journey.

In child-initiated time, the children chose to build snail boats in the workshop using a variety of materials. They carefully selected resources and thoughtfully built their designs. They then tested their boats in the water to see if they would float and safely carry the snail across the sea.



## Year 1

This week we have introduced our new topic 'Wonderful Weather' by creating a picture of our favourite weather using Purple Mash. We learnt the importance of keeping a password safe and practised writing down our sentence before typing it onto our picture.



## Year 2

This week, we started to learn about our 'Great Fire of London' topic by investigating what houses were like at the time. We looked at different sources to find out more about them before making our own version of a Tudor house. We put them all together to recreate Pudding Lane, which is where the fire started.



## Year 3

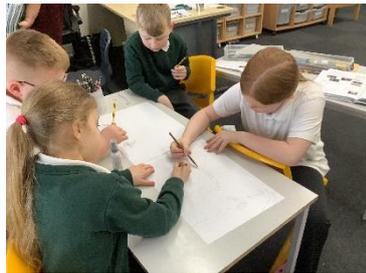
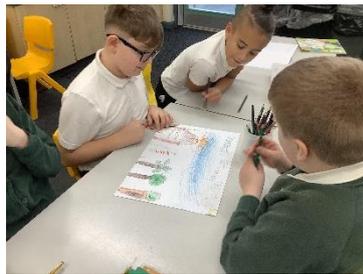
This week in science Year 3 had lots of fun learning about friction. They planned a fair test to find out if the surface a car travelled on would affect the distance that it travelled. It was lots of fun!



## Year 4

This week Year 4 were introduced to our new class text, *The Firework-Maker's Daughter* by Philip Pullman.

We were given clues to help us decide what our new text was about. The children had some fantastic predictions about what was going to happen! We then read some extracts from the text that described the setting. Working in small groups we then defined the space and created an image that represented the world of the book as it appeared in our minds. All of our drawings were completely different and showed the different ways we interpret what an author is describing. The images are now placed around our literacy display, so we can feel immersed in the story as we find out more!



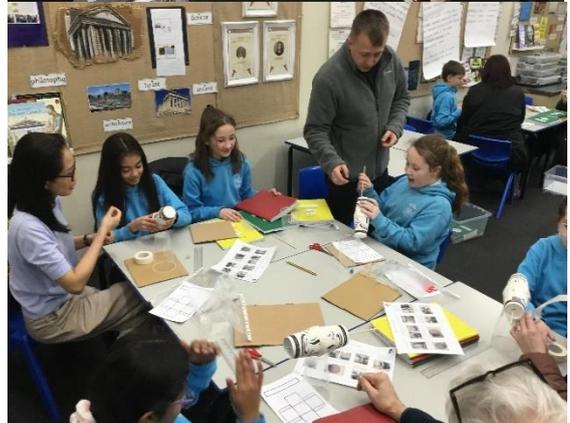
## Year 5

We used masking tape to define the space of the Parisian Train Station and gathered ideas to describe this setting. We watched the clip of the train station from the film to help inspire our thoughts.



## Year 6

Yesterday, we invited parents in for an Inspire Afternoon. To consolidate our learning on sustainability, we worked alongside our parents to create our own wind turbines using recyclable materials. We had so much fun creating them and testing them out whilst also discussing the importance of renewable energy sources like wind power.



## PE News

### KS2 Girls Rugby



On Tuesday girls from Year 5 and 6 took part in a rugby skills session at Crewe Vagrants. The girls showed off their rugby skills and were able to see the Women's World Cup Trophy. Well done girls!

## Art News

### Haiku Competition!

Poetry Whitchurch have invited us to take part in their haiku poetry competition! If you would like to take part, you need to create a haiku on the theme of "countryside". A haiku is a 3-line non-rhyming poem which is created by a pattern of the first line being composed of 5 syllables, the second of 7 syllables and the last line of 5 syllables again. For example:

"Sunset"

Green hills turn to gold, (5)  
The sun hides behind the trees, (7)  
Silence fills the air. (5)

There are two entry categories, adult and under 18. Each winner will receive £50. To enter, email your poem under the following guidelines:

#### Submission details

- Submissions are free of charge
- Submissions must be from UK residents
- Each poet can submit a maximum of two poems
- Submission poems must not have been published previously or be under current consideration for other poetry prizes.
- Poems should be submitted by email to: [poetrywhitchurch@hotmail.com](mailto:poetrywhitchurch@hotmail.com) by 5pm on 1 March 2026.
- The poem must be attached in a Word or PDF format. This attachment must contain the poem only (no other details of the author, or any other details, should be included in the attachment).
- The covering email should contain the author's name, address and date of birth.



Scan the QR code for more details!

### Crewe's bid to become Town of Culture!

We are delighted to be working to support our local Art Centre "Crewe Makes" in their efforts to bid for Crewe to become "Town of Culture"! Until now, only cities have been awarded the title of cities of culture, but now this has been widened to include towns.

If our town were to win this bid, it would mean we would receive £3,000,000 of funding to create real arts and cultural opportunities for our community! Novae, from Crewe Makes would love to ask for your feedback to help her make this bid to the Government on our behalf. If you would like to express your views about this, please fill out answers to these questions and return them to Mrs Walsh, who can pass them on to Novae. You can also email Mrs Walsh directly on [lwalsh@wistastonacademytrust.co.uk](mailto:lwalsh@wistastonacademytrust.co.uk) or bring your feedback to the Platform Gallery in the old Burtons shop in our town centre.

This is the information from Crewe Makes:

### **Shape Crewe's Story - UK Town of Culture 2028**

Crewe is bidding to become the **UK's first Town of Culture in 2028.**

By culture, we mean the things that shape who we are - our heritage and history, our people and skills, engineering and innovation, arts and creativity, and the ways our communities come together.

Now it's time for the whole town to help shape the vision for Crewe in 2028. Whether you're a creative, a business, a community group, or a proud resident, this belongs to you.

**1. What makes Crewe special to you?**

**2. What would you love to see happen in Crewe during a Town of Culture year?**

**3. What challenges or needs should cultural activity help address in Crewe?**

**4. How would you like to get involved?**

*Select all that apply*

- Share ideas
- Volunteer
- As a creative
- As a business
- Just keep me updated
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Optional:** Name / Email

**5. What difference do you want Town of Culture to make in Crewe beyond 2028?**



**CREWE**  
TOWN COUNCIL



UK TOWN OF CULTURE

## 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

Scientists at NASA are preparing to send astronauts back to the Moon, as part of a new space programme running over the coming years. The series of missions aims to test new technology, learn more about the Moon, and help humans prepare for future journeys deeper into space. The next mission is Artemis II. The plans have sparked discussions about why people explore space and how they could help life on Earth.

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

- What do you already know about space or the Moon? What would you like to find out?
- Why do you believe people choose to explore space, even though it can be difficult and risky?
- If you could explore anywhere beyond Earth, where would you go and why?

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 Years 2-6, 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.

In school we award top 3 certificates and prizes to those children who are accessing Numbots and TTRS. We also recognise children who pass the different levels in Numbots and who gain new Rock Status' in TTRS!

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)



YMCA CHESHIRE

# Bunny HOP RUN



Sunday, 29th March 2026 | From 11AM

Queens Park, Crewe

Adult 5K (Ages 16+) | Family 2K (Ages 4+)

Hop into spring at our Bunny Hop Run, a joyful, non-competitive event for runners and walkers of all ages!

Choose between a 5K or a shorter Kids/Family Hop, featuring a festive Easter egg hunt along the course with chocolate prizes for finishers. Costumes are highly encouraged, and every pound raised directly supports local life-saving services and community wellbeing.

SIGN UP



Adults (16-64): **£10**

Under 16s: **£5**

Family Ticket: **£16** (2 Adults  
+ 2 Kids OR 1 Adult + 3 Kids)

Over 65s & Under 2s: **FREE!**

**YMCA** | Here for young people  
Here for communities  
Here for you