

Newsletter 26 – Summer 1



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

This Week's Events

Date	School Events	International Events
Monday	20 th April Guinness Housing Drop In 9-10am	National Volunteer Recognition Day
Tuesday	21 st April Y4B Swimming Lesson	
Wednesday		
Thursday		
Friday	24 th April Class Photos	
Advanced Notice:	Y6 Leavers Assembly Friday 17th July at 2.30pm KS1 & KS2 Sports Day Friday 22 nd May Nursery Sports Day Wednesday 24 th June	
Polite Notice:	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.	

We are Brilliant Winners

EYFS: Lorenzo (RA), Oscar (RB)

KS1: Lucas (1A), Jocelyn (1B), Winnie (2A), Kian (2B)

KS2: Hunter (3A), Eddie (3B), Leo (4A), Freddie (4B), Jacek (5A), Bobby (5B), Roman (6A), Bella (6B)

Hub 1

This week we've introduced our new story 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'. As part of our sensory science lesson, we baked the chocolate cake that the caterpillar eats on Saturday. We mixed the ingredients, baked it in the oven, iced it with chocolate icing and then tried it for snack. It was delicious!



Hub 2

This week, in Computing, children were given iPads and staff supported children 1:1 in turning the iPad on, finding the right application and playing teddy's counting on topmarks. This gave children the opportunity to practise their counting and the skill of drag and drop on an iPad. Children could also access the game on the Clevertouch and the PC.



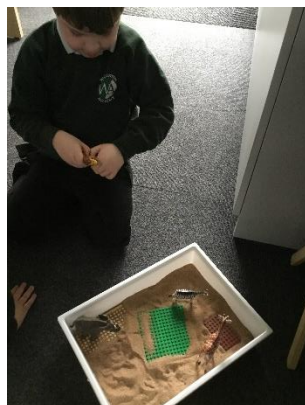
Hub 3

Hub 3's new book this half-term is The Gigantic Turnip. Alongside learning about this traditional tale, the children dug up a selection of vegetables hidden in the play tray and explored how they look and feel. Our Science theme is linked to the book too as the children will be finding out about what plants need to grow. They have sown seeds in different conditions to see which grows the best over the next few weeks.



Hub 4

This week, we have introduced our vehicle text for this term, Old Enough to Save the Planet. We have started our learning looking at continents and climates around the world. The children have enjoyed exploring the sensory trays of different climates; from the icy, frozen Arctic to the hot and dry savannas in Africa.



Nursery 1

This week we have read Noisy Farm by Rod Campbell. First, we looked at the different animals in the book. Next, we sang Old MacDonal Had a Farm and made different animal noises. Then, we played a farm-based turn taking game. Finally, we have been looking after different farm animals and pets in our Vets.



Nursery 2

This week we have read Jasper's Beanstalk by Nick Butterworth. First, we read the story. Next, we found a packet of seeds and decided to plant them in the garden outside. Then, we planted the beanstalk seeds using a pot and soil. Finally, we watered the seeds to help them to grow.



Reception

This week, we have enjoyed using the resources in our brand new home corner. We have been busy cooking, cleaning, washing clothes and ironing.



Year 1

This week in Year 1 to continue our topic of 'All about growing', we started planting our seeds. We planted, lettuce, broad beans and peas. We can't wait to watch them grow!



Year 2

To begin our new topic 'Let's grow', Year 2 had lots of fun planting some different seeds. We are hoping to grow carrots as well as different flowers. We also planted some strawberry plants. Over the next few weeks, we will be looking after our growing area and watching what happens.



Year 3

In Literacy and History this half term, Year 3 are learning all about Ancient Egypt. They started off their topic by reading a new book 'The Scarab's Secret' and making sacred scarab beetle amulets out of clay. It was lots of fun!



Year 4

This week in maths we played a 5 in a row game to help us learn about dividing 2 digit numbers by 10. We had lots of fun and used place value charts and counters to help us!



Year 5

This week, we have been introduced to our new text 'The Explorer'. The will continue reading this in our literacy and reading lessons. The children will also have a copy to take home and read at their leisure. We created freeze frames to represent key parts of the story which we are beginning to retell.



Year 6

On Monday, the children took part in a fantastic workshop that was led by a professional actor. He taught them the basic plot of the famous Shakespeare play, A Midsummer Night's Dream. During the workshop, they were able to bring the story to life using words and actions. The classes loved the plot twists and left the workshop feeling really enthused about their new unit of Literacy work.



PE News

Sports Day 2026

Our annual Sports Day event will take place on Friday 22nd May. The Reception and KS1 event will start at 9.30am and the KS2 event will start at 1.30pm. As in previous years we will have a parent and carer spectator area available; you are more than welcome to come along to support your children.

As the FIFA World Cup is taking place this summer, we thought it would be nice for the children to be in teams which represent some of the countries taking part. These countries have been selected by our Sports Ambassadors. Children have been divided into the following teams to encourage a small element of competition. The team names are **Spain (red)**, **France (blue)**, **Portugal (green)** and **Brazil (yellow)** **Children should come to school in Sports Day Kit (black shorts and team coloured t-shirt)**. Children will find out which team they are part of next week.



In the case of hot, sunny weather your child must wear a sun hat and sun cream. Please also ensure that your child has a bottle of water to take out with them onto the field. If sports day has to be postponed because of poor weather we will inform you asap.

Clubs

This term our after-school clubs will run from **Monday 20th April – Thursday 21st May**. Spaces have become available at Monday Djembefola club which begin **Monday 27th April**. Please note there is a cost of £2 per session for this club. All other clubs will be free of charge. Please remember to only sign your child up to one after school club so that each child has a fair chance of attending. If your child attends an invite only club then they can also sign up to one other club. All clubs go live on Arbor today from 4pm.

Summer 1 Clubs

Week Commencing - Monday 20th April –Thursday 21st May

After school clubs – KS1 & KS2

Monday

Club	Year Group	Time	Staff	Price	Location
Boys & Girls Djembefola club (max 20)	4-6 INVITATION ONLY	3:15-4:15pm	Graham Proctor (Outside provider)	£2 per session	Classroom
Boys and girls Football club (max 20)	3-4	3:15-4:15pm	WA Teacher	FREE	All weather pitch/playground

Tuesday

Club	Year Group	Time	Staff	Price	Location
Sewing Club (max 15)	3 - 6	3:15-4:15pm	The Sewing Coach (outside provider)	FREE	KS2 classroom
Boys and girls Yoga (max 20)	1-3	3:15-4:15pm	Fiona (outside provider)	FREE	Irlam Hall

Thursday

Club	Year Group	Time	Staff	Price	Location
Boys & Girls dodgeball (max 20)	3-4	3:15-4.15pm	Mrs Adamczyk WA PE Specialist	FREE	Irlam Hall
Boys & Girls football (max 20)	5-6	3:15-4:15pm	WA Teacher	FREE	All weather pitch

Friday

Club	Year Group	Time	Staff	Price	Location
Boys & Girls dodgeball (max 20)	5-6	3:15-4:15pm	Mrs Adamczyk WA PE Specialist	FREE	All weather pitch
Boys & Girls Dance (max 15)	Reception, Y1, Y2	3:15-4:15pm	Sophie – Young Arts Academy (Outside provider)	FREE	Reception classrooms
Boys & Girls gymnastics (max 15)	Reception, Y1, Y2	3:15-4:15pm	Alisha Evanson- Cheshire Gymnastics	FREE	Irlam Hall
Boys & Girls Drumming (max 20)	4-6	3:15-4:15pm	Graham Proctor (Outside provider)	FREE	Classroom

Club places

If there is a high demand for certain clubs, we will look to ensure all children who wish to go to the club, but do not get a place this term, have the opportunity to attend the club at some point across the school year.

Below are the conditions that we will be following to keep our clubs process fair and consistent.

- If you would like your children to sign up for a club, we recommend that you sign up on the day that the clubs go live. If you have been unsuccessful, please make sure you pop in to the office and place your child on the waiting list.
- If you have been successful, please ensure your child is aware that the club will run for the whole half term and they are expected to attend each week.
- If your child no longer wants to attend it is your responsibility to contact the office to inform them that your child no longer wants a place. This way we can remove your child from the register and add someone from the waiting list.
- If your child does not attend for **2 consecutive weeks** (without reason) you will then be contacted and your child will be automatically removed to allow someone from the waiting list to attend.
- If your child has a space, we expect them to follow the school rules outlined in our behaviour policy during club. If your child displays disruptive behaviour, you will be informed and their place will be removed.

Weather

The school has worked hard to invest in an all-weather Astroturf so that your children can participate in sports all year round. This does mean that if it is raining during clubs such as football and dodgeball that clubs will continue to run on the all- weather pitch. Please make sure your child has the appropriate clothing i.e. coat, trousers, jumpers so that we can continue to offer high quality sports clubs.

If you do not wish for your child to participate when it is raining it is your responsibility to collect them at 3.15pm.

Sports clothing

Please ensure that your child has the correct clothing for their after-school club. If the club is run outside then jumpers, joggers and coats are needed. If your child participates in football we are asking if they can bring trainers as well as football boots (if they have them). Football boots will only be worn if the club is taking place on the field as we are no longer able to use studs on the all-weather pitch.

Please ensure that ALL children are collected from clubs outside the main reception on time. If children are not collected from clubs on time they will be taken to Wizz Kids and will need to be collected from there. You will be charged for their time in Wizz Kids.

Art News

Art Bytes VOTING CLOSSES ON SUNDAY 19TH APRIL!!

PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO VOTE for our three finalists for the national Art Bytes Competition!! They are Sam and Millie from Year 5 and Oliver from Hub 4! CONGRATULATIONS!



The top 3 artworks from each school have been shortlisted by the judging panel.

It's now time to VOTE!
artbytes.co.uk/browse-schools

The complex block contains the Art Bytes logo, a 'VOTE NOW' button with a hand cursor, and circular portraits of the judging panel members. The text is arranged in a central column, with the logo at the top, the button in the middle, and the text at the bottom.

We now need your vote!

VOTING CLOSES ON SUNDAY 19TH APRIL!!

Please scan this QR code:

Or: search Art Bytes in google, then select “Browse Schools”, then “W”, then “Wistaston Academy”. You can then vote for one of our three candidates. You will be asked to verify your email to confirm your vote – please do this as otherwise your vote won’t count! We need as many votes as possible. Not only will this encourage our young artists, but we could win a community engagement award, which will mean art supplies for all of our pupils to use.



The first-place finalist will attend an award ceremony on June 18th at The Harris Museum and Gallery in Preston



The artist who gains the most votes will win first prize from our school and may become a regional or national winner!

Well done to all our wonderful artists who took part. You can see all of our entries when you browse the website. Good luck to Sam, Millie and Oliver!

Save the Date!

“Crewe Makes” our local Art Centre, in the Platform Gallery in the old Burton’s building, is supporting the launch of “**Afro-Fest**” an amazing carnival day that will take place in **Queen’s Park on Saturday June 6th**.

Crewe Makes is calling for people to declare their interest if they would like to help design or create the costume for the Carnival Queen. Please contact Crewe Makes either through Facebook or call in in person.

If nothing else, **SAVE THE DATE!** It is shaping up to be a festival day that includes all things excitingly Afro-Caribbean, including, dancing, music, food and arts and crafts. Many things will be free and it is free to enter.

DON’T MISS OUT!

(More details to Follow!)

Excitement builds as AfroFest gets set to launch in Crewe



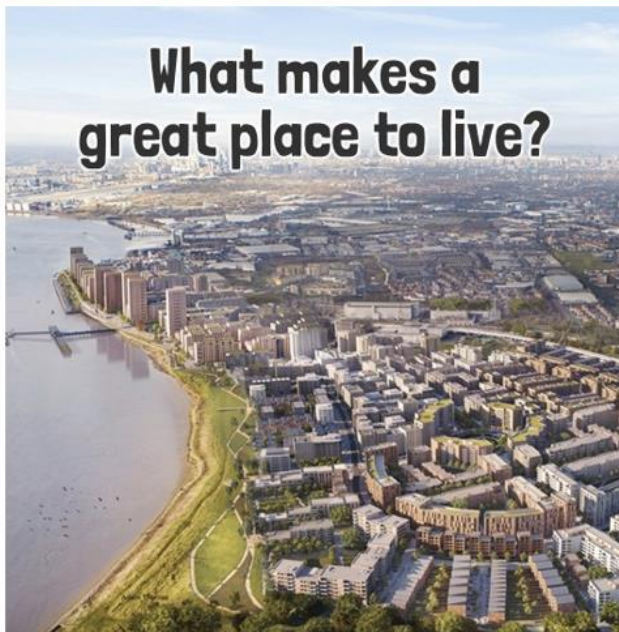
Click this link for more details and follow CreweCreates on Facebook for updates!

<https://onecrewe.co.uk/excitement-builds-as-afrofest-gets-set-to-launch-in-crewe/>

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 new town, called Barking Riverside, is being built in East London to help provide more homes in the local area. It will include around twenty thousand homes, as well as schools, parks, and shops for people to use. Many people are expected to move there in the future as the area continues to grow.

Things to talk about at home ...

- What do you like most about where you live? Why?
- Is there anything you would change about your local area?
- Is Barking Riverside the type of place you would like to live? Explain your thoughts.
- If you could design your perfect place to live, what would it include, and why?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss



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





**Are you in the
Voluntary, Community, Faith or Social Enterprise Sector?
Do you work with, or support our local families with children aged 0 - 5
years?**

If so, this exciting event could be for you!

You are invited to join one of our **Lunch and Learn** events focusing on supporting **Good Levels of Development for pre-school children** - helping to promote school readiness and giving them the best start in life.

These events bring together group leaders and volunteer leads
(maximum two per organisation) for a friendly lunchtime session to:

Discover...



...the incredible support available for children and families.

Gain insight...



...into priorities for our youngest children in Cheshire East.

Share ideas ...



...and learn from each other.

On the day hear more about...

- Speech & Language Therapy (SALT)
- The Literacy Trust
- FEEE (2yr funding)
- Togetherness
- Family Hub Local Offer
- Grant finder
- Healthy Start Scheme
- Safer Recruitment/ Safeguarding

FREE
'Sing It Bag'
for each
organisation!

...and more!



JOIN US...

Tuesday, 21st April @ 12:00pm – 2:00pm
Canalside Conference Centre
34-36 Brooks Lane, Middlewich, CW10 0JG

Wednesday, 6th May @ 12:00pm – 2:00pm
Crewe Alexandra Stadium
Railway Men Suite, Gresty Road, Crewe,
CW2 6EB

Friday, 24th April @ 12.30pm – 2.30pm
New Life Church
Danesford Community Centre, West Road,
Congleton, CW12 4EY

Friday, 15th May @ 12.30pm - 2.30pm
Holy Trinity Church
197a Hurdfield Road, Macclesfield. SK10 2PX

**Limited places*

**BEST
START
IN LIFE**



“More and more people are facing dangerous levels of loneliness — a couple hours of your time could genuinely change someone’s life.”

BECOME A BEFRIENDING VOLUNTEER

- Support with accessing healthy online services and interests
 - Lunch & Coffee Out
 - Outings
- Own home visits for chats
- Make a weekly phone call
- Shopping & collecting prescriptions
- Access pre-existing clubs or events

**Crewe, Sandbach & Surrounds
(including rural locations)**

Contact Us or Scan the QR code to register your interest

befriending.coordinator@gmail.com
07706 140 135



**Service 7 Days
a Week**

**Expenses Paid
Full Training
Given**



Join Us For An Open Minds Chat

Open minds is for people who have lived experiences of mental health services in Cheshire East, either directly yourself or as a carer for someone else

If you want to shape how services are run then this is an invite for you

The group will have a close connection to mental health services in Cheshire East, giving you the chance to share your experiences of services and influence how you would like to see them run. You will have the opportunity to input into service improvement, feedback into consultations and find out more about mental health services across Cheshire East



22nd April
18:30 - 20:00

We believe that everyone deserves good mental health, if you do too, then please join us

Online



To sign up, email:
communities@cheshireeast.gov.uk

For more information: communities@cheshireeast.gov.uk