

Newsletter 3 – Autumn 1



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

This Week's Events

Date	School Events
Monday	
Tuesday	Y6A Swimming
Wednesday	Aqualease Y2 Visit
Thursday	
Friday	Y5 Liverpool Trip
Advanced Notice:	Parents' Evening – Tuesday 24 th & Wednesday 25 th November Wizzy Carnival – Friday 16 th October Nursery Christmas Singalong – Monday 14 th December Reception Inspire Event and Sing Along – Wed 16 th December KS1 Christmas Show – Wednesday 16 th December Panto Trip – Thursday 17 th December Christmas Dinner – Friday 18 th December
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

KS1: Oscar (1A), Poppy (1B), Amelia (2A), Evie (2B)

KS2: Ayla (3A), Dawn (3B), Oscar J (4A), Ezmay (4B), Leo (5A), Rudaw (5B), Adam (6A), Llyam (6B)

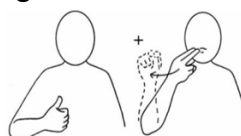
Makaton.

Our Makaton signs of the week are '**Goodbye**' and '**Good Afternoon**'! We will be practising these signs throughout the week and encouraging the children to use them during our daily routines.

Why not practise them together at home too?



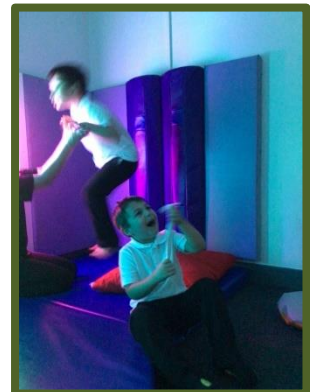
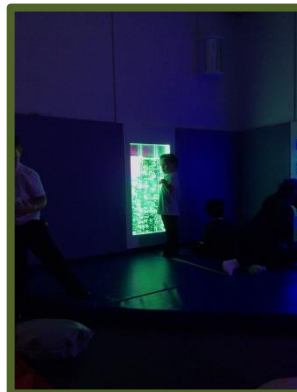
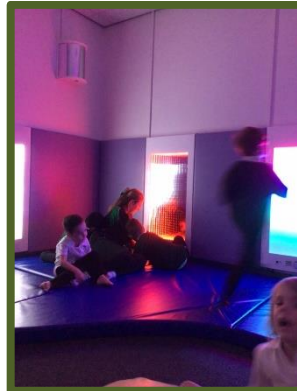
Goodbye – Wave hand.



Good afternoon – index and middle fingers point forward.

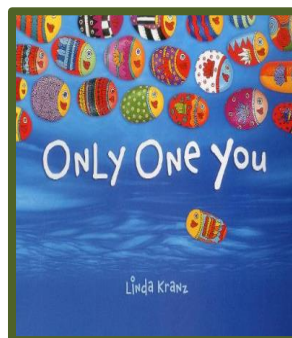
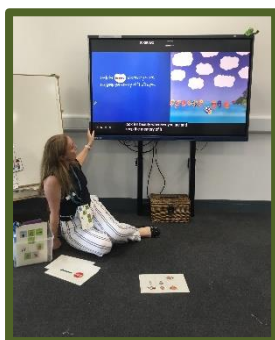
Hub 1

We've had a great time exploring our Sensory Room this week. Our favourite items were the bubbles, light up wall panel and the rocking chair. We loved to get cosy on the chair with our friends.



Hub 2

This week we had our first social story read by Una our NHS SaLT specialist, the children loved having her in as she shared a new story and provided lots of props to help engage with the story. The children responded well to communication boards which helped us understand the story.



Hub 3

The children in Hub 3 have been exploring the concept of 'matching' and 'the same' in their maths lessons this week. They have used a range of different practical resources to pair up matching images.



Hub 4

The children in Hub 4 have enjoyed spending time together playing in the classroom. They have settled well and have explored the resources and different play environments. It has been wonderful to see what interests them and how they interact with each other through play.



Nursery

This week we have been learning our Rainbow Rules. First, we looked at the Rainbow Rules. Next, we discussed what they meant. Then, we showed our adults and our friends how we follow our Rainbow Rules.



Reception

We have completed many different activities in Reception this week. We've had opportunities to complete turn-taking games, compete a gross motor skills obstacle course, draw our own portraits and make many different models in the Construction Area.



Year 1

This week, Year 1 started their Literacy Week, focusing on the wonderful story *Paper Dolls*. We enjoyed exploring the story and got creative by designing and making our very own paper dolls. Each child created a unique doll, which we then joined together to make a fantastic class paper doll chain.



Year 2

This week, Year 2 have continued to learn more about the seaside and they created a 'tableau' of a rockpool food chain. We then used a magic microphone to question what happens in a food chain.



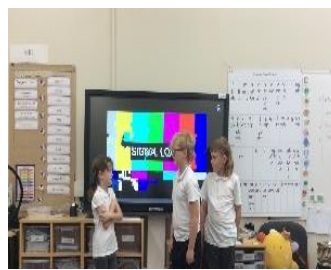
Year 3

In Science this week, Year 3 had lots of fun investigating the permeability of different rocks. They worked in teams to set up and conduct a fair test.



Year 4

This week, Year 4 learnt all about volcanoes. We then travelled back in time to Pompeii to warn residents about the eruption of Mount Vesuvius. We shared our knowledge of volcanoes by explaining the stages of an eruption and the damage they can cause. We discussed what was about to happen to the town and explored ways people could stay as safe as possible.



Year 5

This week, we have stepped into our story 'Wall' and considered the perspective of the young boy on the East side of the Berlin wall. We received a letter from dad, who is stuck on the West side, asking for us to respond to him and let him know that we are safe. We completed the drama strategies read the picture, conscience alley and hot seating to put ourselves into the boy's perspective and understand how he would be feeling.



Year 6

Year 6 have immersed themselves in a range of drama activities to fully understand the story of Mauro Prosperi: the desert runner. During our lesson, we became journalists and were made aware of a breaking news story. Our job, as journalists, was to piece together clues to be able to fully report this story to the nation. We then had a visit from Mauro himself and we got the opportunity to 'Hotseat' him to find out about his experience and emotions - first hand. Thanks to vital pieces of evidence, we were able to broadcast the biggest story of the day, with an interview from Prosperi himself.



Art News

School Sculptures

Parents: We need your help!

Dear Families, outside our school we have two sculptures which have been collaboratively made by many children from our school: an angel and a bee.

Unfortunately, many children are climbing on the bee sculpture after school and have bent it beyond recognition. Children have also been twisting the bee's antennae. While we hope to fix the damage, we would greatly appreciate parents' help in asking your children to refrain from climbing on the artwork. It is easily bent and is intended to be artwork, **not a climbing frame**.



Similarly, our angel sculpture has repeatedly had its hand bent by children so that it looks out of shape. Soft metal such as the aluminium we used will break after being manipulated many times.

When chatting after school, it is parents' responsibility to supervise their children. We ask families to stop children from climbing on, or playing with these sculptures. Many of our children have worked hard on these artworks and they are being destroyed.

We are hoping to add to these sculptures soon, and we respectfully ask that you work with us to enable this to be accomplished. It makes our artists sad to see their work ruined.

Thank you, Mrs Walsh.

Focus on Year 5

This half term, Year 5 will be looking at the incredible textile artist, Bisa Butler.



We will be creating stunning self-portraits in her style, which will form our entries for the National Art Bytes Competition. It would really help Mrs Walsh out if parents could send in a photo of their child wearing non-school clothes to aid us in our project. The photograph needs to be:

- **Clear, as it will be enlarged to A2 size.**
- **Have light on the child's face**
- **Doing anything at all!**

The sooner you can send this to Mrs Walsh on:

lwalsh@wistastonacademytrust.co.uk

the better please, to give her time to edit them ready for our project. If you cannot, we can take a picture in school, but for the sake of interest and variety one from home would be better.

Thank you for your support in this!

Focus on Year 3

This half term, Year 3 will be looking at Hindu Rangoli patterns, to link with our learning about Diwali in RE. We will be creating a form of Diwa lamp and need empty, clean jam jars for the project. If you can bring any in to school it would be appreciated! We don't need lids.

Thank you for your help!



Advance Notice



Wizzy Carnival!

As part of our learning in art and for Black History Month in October, we will be holding a special Carnival Day on **Friday October 16th**!

We will have fun with headdresses, steel drums, dancing and more!

Your child is invited to come in dressed in brightly coloured clothes or even carnival outfits, if so desired. We are hoping to share some Caribbean and African food too, so if any parents have contacts who could provide this (or would like to contribute some traditional food from their country) please let Mrs Walsh, Mrs Shaw or Mrs Griffiths know.

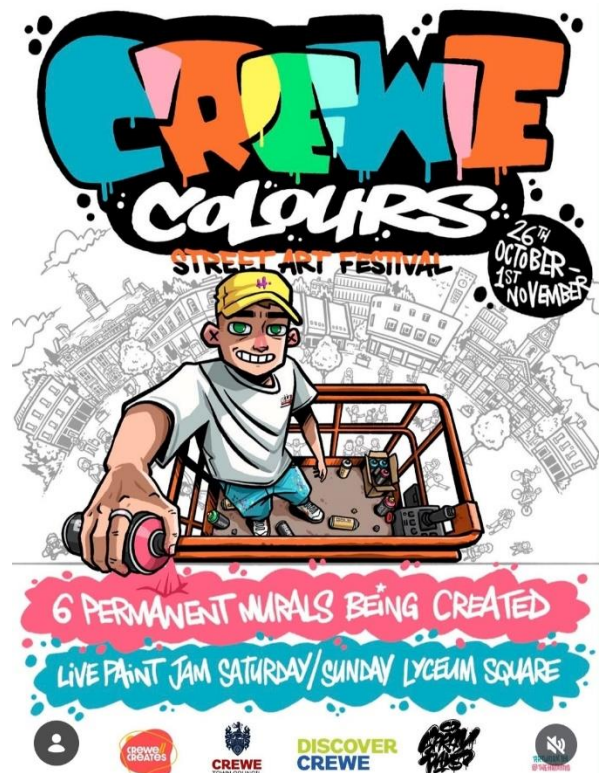
Local Art News



19 SEPTEMBER > 19 DECEMBER 2026
PLATFORM GALLERY'S FIRST GROUP SHOW
63 TALENTED ARTISTS FROM CHESHIRE EAST
FREE ENTRY



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Why not come on down to Crewe Creates' Platform Art Gallery and be inspired by the incredible work of local artists?

Don't miss this exciting new festival in Crewe Town Centre!

PE News

Become a Wistaston Academy Sports Ambassador!

Does your child love sport, enjoy helping others and want to make a positive difference in school?

We are looking for enthusiastic Key Stage 2 children to become our Sports Ambassadors for 2026–2027.

Sports Ambassadors will help to organise playground activities, encourage other children to be active, support younger pupils and assist with school sporting events and competitions. They will also act as positive role models and share their ideas for making sport and physical activity even better at Wistaston Academy.

We are looking for children who are kind, friendly and encouraging; enthusiastic about being active; responsible and reliable; and able to work well as part of a team.

Application forms are available from Mrs Adamczyk and should be returned by Friday 16 October 2026.

Could your child be one of our Sports Ambassadors?

Get involved. Get active. Inspire others!



SPORTS AMBASSADOR APPLICATION

Do you love sport? Do you enjoy helping others?
Could you make a difference in our school?

KS2 | 2026 / 27

NAME _____

CLASS _____

AS A SPORTS AMBASSADOR, YOU WILL:



HELP

Run playground games



ENCOURAGE

Help others get active



SUPPORT

Work with younger children



EVENTS

Help at sports events



ROLE MODEL

Lead by example



SHARE IDEAS

Make school sport better

WE ARE LOOKING FOR CHILDREN WHO ARE:

✓ KIND

✓ FRIENDLY

✓ RELIABLE

✓ A TEAM PLAYER

✓ ENCOURAGING

NOW IT'S YOUR TURN

Tell us why you would make a great Sports Ambassador.

1

I would make a great Sports Ambassador because...

2

A time I helped or encouraged someone was...

3

An idea I have to help children be more active is...

RETURN YOUR APPLICATION TO MRS ADAMCZYK

Get involved. Get active. Inspire others!

APPLICATIONS CLOSE

16 OCTOBER 2026

TAKEHOME

14th - 20th
September



**Do we all have a part to play
in helping those in need?**

In the news this week

UK Prime Minister Andy Burnham has pledged that, by Christmas, everyone sleeping rough in England will be offered a safe place to stay. Accommodation will be found to end the need for sleeping rough. There will also be practical support for any health needs, as part of a £442m investment.

Things to talk about at home ...

- Share your response to the pledge that no one will be sleeping rough this Christmas.
- Can you think of some different ways that people can help others in their local communities?
- Can you share a time when you needed help from others? What help did you need and who helped you?

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 Year 6 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 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 and times tables skills.

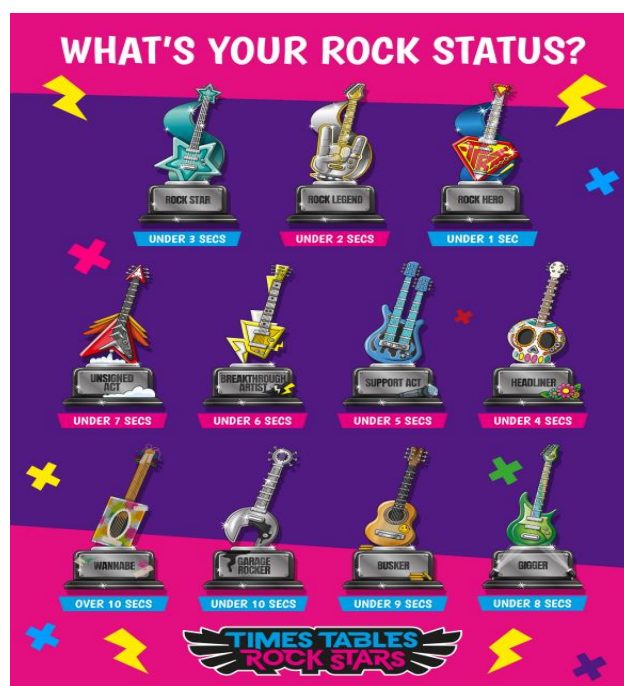
In school we award top 3 certificates and prizes to those children who are accessing Numbots and TTRS each week. We also recognise children who pass the different levels in Numbots and who gain new Rock Status' in TTRS! In TTRS they also gain a plectrum which is added to the Rock Star board next to Mrs Martin's office.

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



FREE SCHOOL MEALS ARE EXPANDING

FROM SEPTEMBER 2026

Cheshire East County Council has confirmed
changes to Free School Meals (FSM) eligibility.



WHAT'S CHANGING?



CURRENT ELIGIBILITY

Most families receiving Universal Credit only qualify for income-based free school meals if their annual earned income is **£7,400 or less** (excluding benefits).



FROM SEPTEMBER 2026

All children in households receiving Universal Credit will become eligible for Free School Meals.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS CATEGORIES



TARGETED FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Available to families who:

- Receive Universal Credit and earn **£7,400 or less per year** (excluding benefits), or
- Receive certain qualifying benefits, including:
 - Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
 - Pension Credit (Guarantee Credit)
 - Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999



EXPANDED FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Available to:

- **All** other families receiving Universal Credit, **regardless of earnings.**

THIS MEANS **ALL CHILDREN** IN UNIVERSAL CREDIT
HOUSEHOLDS WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS
FROM SEPTEMBER 2026.

IMPORTANT DATES



APPLICATIONS OPEN:
1st August 2026



EXPANDED ELIGIBILITY STARTS:
1 September 2026

Please note: Applications can be submitted from 1st August 2026, but meals under the expanded scheme cannot begin before 1 September 2026.

WHO WILL BENEFIT?



More families
receiving Universal Credit



More students accessing
a healthy meal during
the school day



Reduced pressure on
household budgets



FIND OUT MORE OR APPLY

Visit: www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/school-meals Email: freeschoolmeals@cheshireeast.gov.uk

CREWE FC COMMUNITY



CREWE FC WILDCATS SESSIONS

Current School Years: Year Two - Year Five

Commencing: Thursday 30th April 2026

Time: 5pm-6pm

Venue: Crewe FC, West Street, Crewe, CW2 8SJ

Session Cost: Free



Diabetes support group for people in Cheshire living with Diabetes

Our meetings are open to anyone over 18 years of age, living with diabetes and in the Central Cheshire area.

We are the CCICP Diabetes Support Group, and we are here to support you.

We look forward to welcoming you!!



Why Come along?

- Meet people living with diabetes in your local area and learn from each other.
- Talk with diabetes health care professionals.
- Free, friendly and informal.
- Our venues offer free parking.



Meeting Date, Time and Venues

WEDNESDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER 2026, 5.30PM - 7.30PM
Trinity Church Hall, Winsford, Station Road, Winsford, CW7 3GP
(access car park via Rookery Rise)

TUESDAY 27TH OCTOBER 2026, 6PM - 8PM
Symphony Suite, Sandbach Rugby Club 124 Bradwall Rd,
Sandbach CW11 1RA

WEDNESDAY 25TH NOVEMBER 2026, 5.30PM - 7.30PM
Trinity Church Hall, Winsford, Station Road, Winsford, CW7 3GP
(access car park via Rookery Rise)

TUESDAY 26TH JANUARY 2027, 6PM - 8PM
Symphony Suite, Sandbach Rugby Club, 124 Bradwall Rd,
Sandbach CW11 1RA

WEDNESDAY 24TH FEBRUARY 2027, 5.30PM - 7.30PM
Trinity Church Hall, Winsford, Station Road, Winsford, CW7 3GP
(access car park via Rookery Rise)

TUESDAY 30TH MARCH 2027, 6PM - 8PM
Symphony Suite, Sandbach Rugby Club, 124 Bradwall Rd,
Sandbach CW11 1RA



Central Cheshire
Integrated Care Partnership



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
CREWE BRANCH



NEED HELP? WE'RE HERE FOR YOU



VETERANS & FAMILIES TOUCHPOINT

FREE • CONFIDENTIAL • FRIENDLY SUPPORT

ARE YOU?



A Veteran



Serving Member
of the Armed Forces



Reservist



Cadet Adult Volunteer



Family Member of
the Armed Forces
Community

If so, we're here to help.

WE CAN HELP WITH:



Housing Advice & Guidance



Benefits & Financial Support



Health & Wellbeing Support



Royal British Legion Assistance



Access to Local &
National Support Services



Welfare Support



A Friendly, Confidential Chat
in a Safe Environment



WHERE?

Unit 7
Victoria Centre
Crewe
CW1 2PU



WHEN?

**EVERY
SATURDAY**
STARTING FROM
26/09/26



TIME?

13:30 - 15:30

★ **NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY** ★



Simply drop in and speak to one of our volunteers.
Whether you need practical advice, support during difficult times,
or just someone to listen, we are here for you and your family.

**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR SERVICE**



Supporting Serving Personnel,
Veterans and Their Families



Cheshire.ccsc@RBL.Community



www.britishlegion.org.uk



SERVING THOSE WHO SERVE AND HAVE SERVED



MULTI-SPORTS FUN DAY!

For Neurological Charities & Community Groups

Bringing People Together Through Sport, Friendship & Fun!



Tuesday
13th October 2026



1:00 PM – 4:00 PM



Crewe Lifestyle Centre
Moss Square, Crewe, CW1 2BB



BOCCIA

ARCHERY

BEAN BAG THROWING

★ PLUS MORE CHAIR-BASED ACTIVITIES! ★



TEAM INFORMATION

- ✓ Teams of 6–8 participants
- ✓ Supported by friendly volunteers
- ✓ Meet new people and make connections
- ✓ Fun, inclusive and accessible



OUR AIM

- Bringing together charities and community groups across Crewe and surrounding areas.
- Helping reduce social isolation.
- Building stronger connections for people living with neurological conditions.
- Encouraging friendship, confidence and wellbeing.



REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

- ☕ Tea & Coffee
- 🍰 Sweet Treats
- 🍪 Biscuits
- 💬 Time to Chat & Socialise



FURTHER INFORMATION



Dawn Clark
☎ 07488 285861
✉ thethursdayclub@gmail.com



Liz Bedson
☎ 07852 826582
✉ strokesurvivorgroup@gmail.com



💬 Please contact Dawn Clark or Liz Bedson for more information.



CREWE
TOWN COUNCIL



everybody
HEALTH & LEISURE

COME ALONG • GET ACTIVE • MAKE FRIENDS • HAVE FUN!

