

Wardley CE Primary School

'With God's love we can do all things'

Newsletter

Autumn Term Dates

JANUARY

- 05.01.26 – Return to school – **Monday**
- 14.01.26 – Red Tiger Karate Assembly
- 15.01.25 – Reception class NHS vision screening
- 21.02.26 – Courageous Advocacy
- 28.01.26 – School Council Meeting
- 30.01.26 – Y4 school trip to Tatton Park to support their Anglo-Saxon unit

FEBRUARY

- 04.02.26 – Y4 visit to All Saints Church – parents welcome to the 10:30am service
- 05.02.26 – Ethos Committee Meeting
- 10.02.26 – Safer Internet Day
- 13.02.26 – Ambitions Day – children to come into school dressed in the clothes they might wear for a chosen future job role.
- 13.02.26 – Break up for half term.
- 23.02.25 – INSET day
- 24.02.26 – Pupils return to school - **Tuesday**

09.01.2026

Welcome back after the Christmas break. I hope that you all had a restful time and enjoyed some precious family time together.

The children have been busy telling us all about the wonderful things they got up to over the Christmas break including lots of exciting gifts, lots of delicious food and for many, a well-needed rest.

Can I please thank you for all your generous gifts and messages to the staff before we finished for Christmas. They really were appreciated.

Now we start on a new term – the Spring Term. We have already been busy in school with lots of learning taking place to get the children back into the pace of school life.

I have been busy popping in to maths lessons this week where I have seen all the children busy with their number skills. They have certainly come back after Christmas with lots of positivity and focus. Well done everyone!

Reading at Wardley

Reading plays such an important role in the development of children. Not only does it allow them to experience adventures and characters, it supports their writing development as well as their fluency and decoding of words.

Children at Wardley have access to a wide range of books and should always have a current reading book on the go. Our infant children have a reading diary which is recorded in and our junior children have an electronic diary on Boom Reader.

Please support your child with their reading on a regular basis. Reading out aloud is a skill and one that even our eldest children need to practise. Please listen to your child read as much as possible – thank you.

Home Worship Books

We actively encourage any child from Year 1 – Year 6 to complete their Home Worship book at home and bring it into school on a Thursday where they can share what they have done during our Thoughtful Collective Worship. Pupils can create a picture, write a prayer or create a poster to represent any matter of collective worship. We have had children write about the current value, re-write Bible stories, draw pictures of key Biblical figures, write a prayer, illustrate The Wardley Way, write about littering or pollution issues...the list goes on. It is always lovely to see what the children create and to share their ideas and thoughts with the rest of the school.

Each week, we have the difficult task of choosing one of the children to look after Sammy – who is a Wardley Teddy – for the week. They get to take Sammy back to class with them where he sits proudly on their desk.

Courageous Advocacy

Here at Wardley we are always happy to discuss matters which are important to the children and to hear their voices. Our Courageous Advocacy gives children the opportunity to stand up in front of the school to talk about matters which are important to them. We have had children talk about pollution, littering, slavery, protecting animals, anti-bullying, politics and war...and many other issues.

These sessions are a wonderful opportunity for children to speak publicly and we have been astounded by the courage and determination of pupils in the past.

If your child would like to speak about a matter close to their heart, our next Courageous Advocacy session is on **Wednesday 21st January**. We look forward to hearing what issues matter most to our pupils.

Jewellery

Can I please ask that you do not allow your child to wear hooped earrings to school. They can be dangerous and can easily be torn out of ears. Stud earrings are the only ones permitted.

I have also noticed some children wearing necklaces and bracelets. These are also not permitted as they too can pose a health and safety risk. A copy of our uniform policy can be found on the school website where all items permitted are explained. Thank you for your support with this matter.

Reminders from the office

- Dinner money next week is £10.50 and is due on Monday morning

Our Christian values and thoughtful time

Collective Worship Theme – Compassion

We have started to develop our understanding of compassion and how we can show others this quality. We read the story of the Widow from The Bible and how her sacrifice of 2 copper coins showed more compassion than the rich merchant's offering of a bag full of cold coins. We have also started to learn a new song for collective worship to add to our wonderful repertoire. The singing in our school really is marvellous!

During classroom worship, the children wrote their own prayers for compassion and these were shared with everyone by our Year 6 Worship Leaders in Thursday's Thoughtful Worship. They selected prayers from each class to read aloud and it was lovely to hear the reflections and understanding of compassion already expressed.

Lettie in Year 4 was awarded Sammy for her piece of work on compassion in her Home Worship Book. She had reflected on the Bible story read earlier in the week and demonstrated a deep understanding of this value – well done Lettie!

Please see the Diocese Home Values sheet attached all about compassion and how you can support your child with their understanding of this value at home.

As we fast approach the end of the first week back, can I please thank you for your continued support and love for our school community. It really has been a pleasure to welcome everyone back after the Christmas break and a real joy to see all the children's lovely, smiley faces each day.

Have a lovely weekend and see you all bright and early on Monday morning.

God Bless x

Mrs Walker

This term we will be focussing in school on the value COMPASSION. We hope your family will find these ideas helpful as you explore the value and have fun together.

TALK TOGETHER about Compassion

Compassion is about 'standing in someone else's shoes' when they are having a hard time. In other words, trying to understand how they might be feeling and doing our best to try to help.

Talk together about:

- how we can show **compassion** and kindness to one another at home
- recognising when friends at school need us to listen and act with **compassion**
- stories in the news demonstrating how strangers show **compassion** in times of natural disasters
- how nations show **compassion** to other nations at times of disaster or need by sending money or volunteers to help



THINK TOGETHER Words of Wisdom

"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."

Aesop



READ TOGETHER...

The good Samaritan

When someone asked Jesus the question, "Who is my neighbour?" he told a story that surprised everyone who heard it. The hero was from Samaria but those listening were mainly Jews. (Jews and Samaritans usually kept well away from each other.)

"A man set out on foot from Jerusalem to a town called Jericho", said Jesus. The crowd murmured and exchanged knowing glances. They knew this was a lonely, dangerous road, a favourite place for robbers to attack travellers. "As the man reached a rocky and desolate place, a gang of robbers leapt out and beat him. They took all that he had and left him bleeding and bruised. To the man's relief, he saw in the distance a priest from the temple. A priest is bound to help me, thought the man. He waited until the priest came a little closer and then called out, 'Thank goodness it is you. Please Sir, take me to safety.' But to his amazement the priest hurried past pretending not to see or hear him.

As the poor, injured man grew weaker and weaker in the burning midday sun, he once again heard footsteps. Looking up he saw a Levite, another of his own people. 'Please Sir, please help me', he called out. Surely this Levite would take pity on him, but to his horror the Levite just kept on walking.

The man had almost given up hope when he felt a gentle touch on his shoulder. A stranger, a Samaritan, had bent down beside him and was bandaging his wounds and giving him sips of water to drink. The Samaritan helped the man on to his own donkey and slowly, carefully took him all the way to an inn. There he paid the innkeeper to look after the man until he was well. The man never forgot the **compassion** and kindness of the Samaritan stranger."

"Who do you think was a good neighbour?" asked Jesus.

Illustration based on Luke 10:25-37



QUIZ The Stranger on the road was kind....

Change one letter in the word to answer the next clue.

The traveller was attacked as he walked along the

R O A D

Watching from the rocks was a small creature like a frog

The Samaritan ____ the innkeeper to look after the man

The Samaritan acted with courage. He was ____

We sometimes talk about the ____ of friendship (rhymes with pond)

Wrap tightly with a bandage (rhymes with find)

The Samaritan in the story was



FAMILY FOCUS

Random Acts of Kindness

Kindness is often appreciated most when it is offered at unexpected times.

Choose one week this term for your family to have "a random acts of kindness" week, and do something kind for someone each day. Try to do it without telling people it was you!



www.randomactsofkindness.org



FASCINATING FACTS

What a difference **compassion** and kindness can make!

Numerous charities help people who have been hurt, are ill or suffer through lack of resources. Below are just 3:

- **World Vision** encourages individuals and groups to 'Sponsor a Child' in an area of the world where food, health and education cannot be taken for granted. For just 75 pence a day the life of a child, in for example Uganda or Bolivia, can be transformed by providing help to grow food, source clean water, improve health services and pay for education.

www.worldvision.org.uk

- **Help for Heroes** was set up after many British soldiers returned from war zones in Iraq and Afghanistan. By giving to this charity the public show their **compassion** for the soldiers and their families and recognise the service they gave on behalf of us all.

www.helpforheroes.org.uk

- **Help the Hospices**. Sometimes when people become very ill they go to a hospice which will provide them with care and **compassion**. Often hospices are maintained by donations from people who admire and value their service or who have had a relative who has been helped by the hospice.

www.hospiceuk.org



HOME-SCHOOL CHALLENGE



Helping hands

As well as being kind and showing **compassion** in what we say, it is often what we do that other people remember.

Draw and cut out the shape of each person's hand in your family. Decorate it with all the random acts of kindness that they have shown. Mount the hands of each member of your family on some paper so they look fantastic and ready to be displayed.



HALL OF FAME

A famous bear with a spotty scarf



Pudsey Bear became a national mascot in 1985. He was designed by Joanna Ball and she named him after the small town in Yorkshire where she lived and went to school for many years, Pudsey.

When we see Pudsey Bear we immediately think of Children in Need. This charity has grown enormously since it began and raises millions of pounds every year. Thanks to people all over the country, children in the UK and across the world have come to know real kindness and **compassion**, made possible by generous donations to the charity. www.bbc.co.uk/childreninneed