

WELFORD ON AVON PRIMARY SCHOOL



Newsletter No. 17

28/1/2022

Dear Parents,

I hope you have had a good week. School continues to be very busy with a highlight being the inaugural meeting of our Climate Council. Ms Cox, who is facilitating this new venture, was overwhelmed with the ideas and suggestions from pupils, about how the school can make a difference to protect our world.

We have several pupil led Councils in school, allowing pupils the opportunity to develop a pupil voice, to make changes within school, as well as the local community, the country and even the whole wide world. Our pupil lead councils are:

- School Council
- Climate Council
- Online Safety Committee
- Junior Friends of Welford
- House Committee

Through the work carried out in these committees, we offer our pupils a chance to understand the Rule of Law and their rights within our democratic society, as well as how they can influence it.

COVID-19

The Government restrictions may have lifted but we still have rising cases in school and need to continue with our regulations. Our school restrictions and procedures remain firmly in place and will be reviewed at half term. In the meantime, here is a reminder of our school procedures:

- The continuation of our way system at the start and the end of the school day.
- Continue to have a staggered start in the mornings from 8.40am, with all pupils expected to be in class at 8.55am.
- We ask that parents continue to wear a facemask when dropping off or picking up.
- Year 1-6 pupils dropped at the red school gates and can walk to their classroom where their teachers will meet them.
- The school day finishes at 3.15pm and the gates will open at 3.10pm. Please follow the one-way system.
- Classes are not required to be in bubbles and lunches and playtimes will be together. Currently we only have two-year groups on the playground together to limit numbers.
- Rooms will continue to be ventilated regardless of the weather outside. Children should wear layers so if the classroom is becoming a little chilly or too hot they can quickly adjust to the environment. We now have air purifiers for three classrooms and will look into getting one for each class.

Forest School @Welford

We have had another great week in Forest School. Across the school pupils have been continuing to focus on perseverance and team work skills. They have completed challenges such as the inside out rope challenge, bridge building and looking at the how the Forest School area has changed since September. The children have work brilliantly on encouraging each other and not giving up.

Mr Deeley- Forest School Lead

Climate Council @ Welford

The Climate Council met for our first large meeting this week, with all of the representatives from each class in attendance. Firstly, I would like to thank all of the Year 6 reps who chaired meetings in each class, previous to this week's meeting, when they led each class through their section of our eco audit. We discussed the information from this audit, which will now form the basis for our action plan moving forward. All members in the meeting were so enthusiastic and spoke with great eloquence on aspects that interested them, or that their own class had raised and came up with some great ideas for moving forward. We will be developing a Climate Council page on the school website, where we will be able to post information about our action plan, school and community projects and also Climate Council fund raising events, so watch this space. If you feel you could help in any way with this area of learning, then please do get in touch, we'd love to hear from you.

Ms Cox- Climate Council Lead

Welford @ School

The School Council were keen to improve playtimes for all and wanted to ensure that everyone always felt included at breaks and lunchtimes. Therefore the children have introduced and are monitoring the use of a Buddy Bus Stop for Years 5 and 6 and a Blue Buddy Bench for Years 1-4. It is lovely to see how anyone who is feeling a little lonely or unsure, is swept up into a new game or conversation. The children have also been making posters to promote the use of the bench, these will be unveiled shortly on the new School Council display board.

Mrs Cowley School Council Lead



Knowledge and Learning Assembly

Year 1 Owen

Year 1 Owen children have been working hard to enhance their story writing, by using adjectives. They shared their stories, which showed how successful their efforts have been. In Science they have been learning about the identification and classification of animals and now understand the difference between mammals, birds and reptiles. In Geography the children have been exploring the seven continents of the world and looking at the countries within them. They have been learning about the Great Wall of China, which is visible from space, as well the fascinating Terracotta Army. In addition to learning about Asia, they have visited the continent of Australia, looking at the amazing Ayers Rock, also known as Uluru. This is a large sandstone formation which is sacred to the Aboriginal (Pitjantjara) people. Uluru is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the area around the formation is home to an abundance of springs, waterholes, rock caves, and ancient paintings. It is one of the most important indigenous sites in Australia.

Year 4 Owen

Year 4 Owen children presented their diaries and persuasive writing, inspired by the book 'Escape to Pompeii', which is their Guided Reading text at the moment. This builds on their previous learning about volcanoes and the mighty Mount Vesuvius, which sealed the fate of the people of Pompeii in 79AD. In Science they are looking at 'States of Matter' demonstrating in groups the properties of Solids, Liquids and Gases. Year 4 have also been looking at the Countries of the world and using maps to locate countries around the world.

Assemblies Spring 2022 All assemblies will be on Teams	
Thursday 3 th February	Reception Davenport
Thursday 10 th February	Year 3 and Year 6 Davenport
Thursday 17 th February	Year 1 and Year 4 Wright
Thursday 3 rd March	Reception Owen
Thursday 10 th March	Year 2 and Year 5 Wright
Thursday 17 th March	Year 1 and Year 4 Higgs
Thursday 24 th March	Nursery Assembly
Thursday 31 st March	Reception Easter Assembly
Thursday 7 th April	KS1 and KS2 Easter Assembly

All assemblies will remain as remote for this term, but we will review this regularly in line with COVID updates. You can join the assemblies by accessing the Welford Maypole tile on Teams, where you can click on the link for the assembly. The assembly will have the name of the assembly and the time and date so you know you are in the right place.

House Cup winners this week were Higgs. Congratulations



Current Affairs Class Assembly

Our current affairs assembly had a Strictly theme this week. Following Ross Ayling-Ellis being the first deaf contestant to compete in Strictly Come Dancing, the number of people wanting to learn British Sign Language has surged. Now Rose has called for BSL to be given legal status in the UK. Although BSL was recognised as a language in its own right by the Government in 2003, it has no legal status. Pupils have been finding out what sign language is, learning a few signs and have been discussing whether they think it is important to raise the awareness of sign language, through the following question.

‘Should everyone learn sign language’?

You will receive a copy of our ‘Picture News at Home’ today, if you wish to continue this conversation at home.

Children have also learned that they have a voice and can share their opinions, raising awareness through developing our knowledge and understanding issues that affect our lives, such as British Sign Language, can make an impact.

Walking Home

As you already know, we had a pupil frightened this week while walking home along the Barton Road. The passenger of the car reached out of the window towards the child who then stepped back. The pupil was able to take note of the make, model and registration of the car and the incident was reported to the police, it is now in their hands. We do not want this event to stop the activities of our pupils walking to and from school, or around the village, but we want to make parents and pupils aware so they can remain vigilant and safe. If we have any further information, we will inform you immediately. As always, we ask parents of children who walk home to carefully risk assess the walk and make sure that there is always someone at home to greet them. We strongly discourage your child walking alone after clubs while the evenings are dark.

Parents’ Evening

We will be holding Parents’ Evenings in February. This is an opportunity to discuss how you child’s learning. A letter about the booking arrangements will be sent out next week.

Tuesday 15th February 2022

Parents Evening 3.30pm-6pm (Remote)

Wednesday 16th February 2022

Parents Evening 3.30pm-6pm (Remote)

The meetings will be remote and held through our Teams Platform

We strongly encourage all parents to attend.

School Community Council

Our first meeting will take place via Teams on Friday 11 February at 11am.

Welford Wrigglers Playgroup

We had a very busy session this week with lots of new families attending. Our next session will be on Wednesday 2nd February from 9.15am -11.15am. Parents can access the school via our new school path on the school playing field.

New Family Information Newsletter

In this week's Family Information Service newsletter find out more about how fishing can benefit your wellbeing, volunteer with Warwickshire County Council to help improve public health outcomes, find healthier food choices with the NHS Food Scanner app and much more!

<https://us5.campaign-archive.com/?u=a24b439ef7022ae0d86f9ca6e&id=60ab661160>

The Family Information Service (FIS) is continuing to support families across Warwickshire in 2022 and beyond. As always, you can get in touch with the team for any advice and support by emailing fis@warwickshire.gov.uk or calling 01926 742274.

Free Parenting Programmes available free to Warwickshire families

<https://api.warwickshire.gov.uk/documents/WCCC-829341009-253>

Link for parents to book onto workshops and programmes:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/warwickshire-children-and-families-17595309993>

Ordering Rapid Response Tests:

Follow this link to order Rapid Response Tests of LFTs

<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

Remote Learning is available for pupils who need to isolate due to COVID but are still well enough to learn.

And finally

Once again, this week we continue to have COVID cases reported to school and warn and inform letters have been sent out to the relevant classes. Some children have now had COVID for a second time within a short period of time. In addition, we have several members of staff off with COVID or post COVID symptoms. We continue to work hard to keep the case numbers low and we advise

parents to follow the recommendations below, so that we can continue to deliver face to face learning as well as attend external events.

- test as a household on Sunday and Wednesday in line with staff testing. This will help control the spread of Coronavirus in our school.
- If you have any symptoms of illness we advise that you carry out a LFT and follow government guidelines.
- **If your child is attending events or you are hosting events e.g. birthday parties, you should advise all attendees to carry out a rapid response test on the day of the event, to reduce the risk of spreading the virus.**

Have a lovely weekend

Take care and stay safe

Mrs Leeman and Staff

