

# **WELFORD ON AVON PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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Newsletter No. 24

1/4/2022

Dear Parents,

**After all the glorious sunshine last week, it was quite a surprise to watch the snowflakes fall on Thursday morning, as we watched the Reception Easter assembly! Hopefully the seasons will get back on track for the start of our Easter break.**

## **Mrs Dyson and Star Club**

Mrs Dyson will be finishing her role as Star Club Manager at the end of the Spring Term, to take up another position closer to where she lives. We are very sad to lose such a dedicated member of staff and wish her well in all her future ventures.

We are very pleased to announce that after a successful recruitment progress, we have employed Miss Joely Wilkins, to take up the position of Star Club Manager from the start of the Summer term. Miss Wilkins has worked at Welford for several years as a teaching assistant, as well as an assistant at Star Club several days a week, so she is very familiar with our school, pupils and our wrap around provision.

## **Autism Acceptance Week -Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April**

Classes have completed an 'Autism Acceptance' lesson in class this week, to raise the profile of this condition.

Autism Acceptance week is an internationally recognised event, based around Autism Awareness Day, which is supported by the National Autistic Society in the UK.

Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) is a lifelong condition that can affect a person's social skills, such as communication and the way they interact with other people. It is estimated that there are around 700,000 Autistic people in the UK. The aim of Autism Acceptance Week (formerly known as Autism Awareness Week) is to help more people understand what Autism is, as well as the ways it can affect life for Autistic people.

## **FOWS Cake Sale- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April**

Sorry about the confusion with our cake sale today, communications got muddled. Thank you to all the parents who baked cakes. All proceeds will go to FOWS to provide additional facilities and resources for our pupils.

### **Year 3 School Trip**

On Wednesday, Year 3 visited Ryton Pools Country Park and enjoyed a whole range of Stone Age experiences. We handled some genuine Stone Age artefacts, including a fossilised tusk and teeth. We had great fun building Stone Age shelters, making our own natural paint brushes and paints from foraged materials and we even practised our fire lighting skills! We ended our day by toasting marshmallows around the campfire. The children demonstrated fantastic team working skills and collaboration throughout the day. Well done Year 3!

### **Family Drop in Evening**

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April, 3.15pm-5.00pm**

We are really looking forward to welcoming you into school on Tuesday evening to have a look around the school and share your child's learning. No need for an appointment, just drop anytime between 3.15pm and 5.00pm.

### **Forest School @Welford**

Mr Deeley

Another great week at Forest School. With it being Shakespeare week, some classes have been doing Forest School activities linked to the plays they have been studying. Year 2 have created their own magical potions like the witches in Macbeth and Year 1 created magic wands like Prospero in the Tempest.

#### **Reminder:**

It is really important our recently planted saplings are given the best chance to grow. Can we remind our school community that the forest school area is out of bounds after school? Many thanks

### **Knowledge and Learning Assembly**

#### **Reception Easter Assembly**

The Reception class delighted us with their learning during their Easter assembly this week. They looked amazing in their T-shirts that they have tie-dyed themselves and their Easter bonnets. We were told all about the Easter story and the reasons why Christians celebrate this time in the Spring. The pupils shared their paintings of Easter chicks and explained what each element of hot cross buns represent, such as the white cross made from flour paste which represents the cross on which Jesus died. This was followed by a rendition of the song 'Hot Cross Buns', with the pupils using glockenspiels and bells to play along. The pupils sang and signed 'Spring Chicken', which we all enjoyed joining in with and finally 'Springtime', that brightened our day despite the snow! Well done Reception class.

### **House Cup winners**

## **Congratulations to Higgs House who won the House Cup this week**



<b>Assemblies Spring 2022</b>	
<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Key Stage 1 Easter Assembly @ 9.10am
<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April</b>	KS2 Easter Assembly @ 9.10am

### **Parents are invited back into assemblies.**

- Assemblies will start at 9.10am
- Please drop your child off at the start of the day following the usual procedures
- Walk to Gate 1 and enter through the school field gate using the new path to the green gates at the back of the field.
- A member of staff will open the gates and you should make your way to the side door of the hall.
- Please take a seat immediately and wait for pupils to arrive.
- Once the assembly is finished you should leave the hall through the side door, turn right and exit the school through the green playing field gates.
- There is no requirement to wear a mask but please do not attend if you are feeling unwell

### **Current Affairs Class Assembly**

#### **This week's story:**

The shipwreck of Sir Ernest Shackleton's ship, Endurance, has been found 107 years after it became trapped in ice and sank off the coast of Antarctica. The pupils found out about the fascinating life of Shackleton and what it was like to be an explorer.

#### **The question under discussion was:**

If you keep trying, will you always succeed?

#### **Virtual Assembly: Found here: [www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss)**

Pupils were reminded about the British value 'Individual Liberty' and the perseverance that people showed to find the long-lost ship Endurance, which finally led to success. Children were reminded that we can all choose to persevere with something we really want to achieve and not give up. The

children were reminded about safety, as this mission was carried out by experienced group of trained and suitable qualified adults.

Please read 'Picture News at Home' if you wish to continue the discussion. For more information on Picture News follow the links below

*Facebook:* [www.facebook.com/picturenewsprimary](http://www.facebook.com/picturenewsprimary)

*Twitter:* <https://twitter.com/HelpPicture>

The links below are great resources for your child to access at home to develop their knowledge of current affairs. Using current affairs helps develop your child's confidence, motivation and self-esteem.

<https://theweekjunior.co.uk/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround>

<https://www.firstnews.co.uk/>

### **School Community Council**

Apologies that we had to postpone our meeting today, but a new date will be arranged after the Easter holidays.

### **Welford Wrigglers Playgroup**

This lovely group is becoming more popular every week. Our last meeting of the Spring term will be on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April from 9.15am -11.15am and will resume on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April.

### **Wellbeing @ Welford**

### **Family Information Newsletter**

In this week's Family Information Service newsletter find out about free activities for eligible families over Easter break as part of the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme, a one-stop shop for food vouchers and other support, sensory packs to support disabled children and much more!

<https://us5.campaign-archive.com/?u=a24b439ef7022ae0d86f9ca6e&id=23b7885701>

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](mailto: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>

**COVID Update: 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022**

**Public Health Headlines for Schools and Early Year settings**

**Symptomatic and asymptomatic testing (PCR and LFT) will cease for the majority of the population, with the exception of a number of settings.**

- People with respiratory symptoms (including COVID-19 symptoms) should stay at home, avoid contact with others and return to normal activities when well enough and don't have a temperature.
- For schools and early years settings this means that children who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature and they are well enough to attend.
- For adults testing positive for COVID-19 (some people will still have LFT kits available), they should stay at home **for 5 days** (remembering day 0 is day of onset of symptoms/day of test if no symptoms) and avoid contact with others. They should then return to normal activities only if well enough and don't have a temperature.
- For children testing positive for COVID-19 (under 18 years old), **they should stay at home for 3 days** and avoid contact with others. They should then return to school and normal activities only if well enough and don't have a temperature.

The mainstay of COVID-19 advice for the general public will remain as:

- wear a mask/face covering in enclosed spaces
- keep indoor spaces ventilated
- stay away from others if you have any symptoms of a respiratory illness, including COVID
- vaccination remains the best way to protect us all from severe disease and hospitalisation due to COVID infection

If we have high numbers of staff/children unwell with respiratory symptoms but we are not clear if it is or isn't COVID-19, we will keep parents informed as we would usually have done during the pandemic.

Remote learning is available for children who are off school due to COVID but are fit to learn.

**Face Masks**

There is no longer a requirement to wear a mask when coming on the school site. We will continue to operate our drop off and pick up procedures including our one-way system.

**Please contact the school office if you have any COVID queries**

**And finally**

It is Shakespeare week and every class has been looking closely at some of the Bard's work. Here is a summary of what each class has been doing.

<b>Nursery</b>	<b>Nursery pupils were introduced to Shakespeare in their own locality, looking at pictures of where he is remembered around Stratford Upon Avon.</b>
<b>Reception</b>	Reception focused on 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. They watched the 'Early Shakespeare' retelling of the story and then worked in small groups to make puppets and retell the key parts together. Throughout the week, they watched other retellings, including the 'Shakespeare Week' retelling with actions to help immerse the children in the story. During the week, the children completed a range of artistic activities linked to the story: collaging magical flowers, making Puck's potions, painting the forest setting for the story, working with an adult to make a dream catcher and discussing their experiences of dreams. They also spent some time looking at different portraits of William Shakespeare and expressing their opinions about the different artistic styles.
<b>Year 1</b>	Year 1 found out about the life of Shakespeare and learnt some important facts about his life. They then explored 'The Tempest', focusing on the magical storm. They created artwork, wrote storm making spell poems, explored 'The Tempest' through dance and movement and enjoyed a mindful moment based on Tempest magic.
<b>Year 2</b>	Year 2 looked at 'Macbeth' and the potion that is created in the book. The children looked at instructional writing and then wrote their own instructions to create their own potion! On Wednesday in Forest School, they created some of their own smelly potions.
<b>Year 3</b>	Year 3 explored the play 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. They looked at various retellings of the story, including an active retelling with actions and retold the play through dance, as part of PE lessons. They attempted to act out a version of the play themselves and also created a whole class collaborative portrait of William Shakespeare.
<b>Year 4</b>	Year 4 went on a virtual tour of the Globe Theatre in London. They also explored the play 'Antony and Cleopatra'. They retold the play through actions and then through movement and dance as part of their PE lesson.
<b>Year 5</b>	Year 5 explored the early life of Shakespeare and how his childhood inspired him to start writing by using primary and secondary sources from BBC Teach. They created actions to accompany an action rhyme based on Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' and the story of Romeo and Juliet.
<b>Year 6</b>	Year 6 were inspired by this year's Shakespeare Week theme – Movement and Dance. They incorporating 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' into their dance lesson and created moves to show the viewpoint of the character Lysander. They looked a little more closely at the themes of power and dreams, presented within the play, and what they mean to them.

**School closes next Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April at 3.15pm for the Easter break. We reopen on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April at 8.55pm.**

Have a great weekend

**Mrs Leeman and Staff**