

WELFORD ON AVON PRIMARY SCHOOL



Newsletter No. 12

1/12/2023

Dear Parents,

December is suddenly here! Hope you are all well and have had a good week.

NEXT FRIDAY IS OUR WINTER FESTIVAL DAY. CHILDREN CAN WEAR FESTIVE CLOTHES TO SCHOOL, IN RETURN FOR A BOTTLE OR CHOCOLATE DONATION FOR THE SCHOOL TOMBOLA. ALL DONATIONS TO THE CLASSROOM OR SCHOOL OFFICE PLEASE ON FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER.

Welford Christmas Post Box - open from Monday 4th December

Our Christmas Post Box will be in operation from Monday 4th December. It will be placed beside the KS2 school gate for children to post their Christmas card (please remember to write the full name and class) and our trusty Year 6s will be collecting, sorting and delivering the cards to their class destinations.

Birmingham City Mission Toy Collection Monday 4th – Friday 8th December

Please see attached a leaflet from the Birmingham City Mission about their 'Toy-Link' initiative which provides gifts to around 3,000 children each year. If you wish to contribute, we will be collecting toys in school during the first week of December. Please deliver any new, unwrapped, toys to the school office between Monday 4th and Friday 8th December.

Tombola Donations Request – Friday 8th December

FOWS will be providing refreshments for our Christmas concerts, which start on Monday 11th December. They will also be running a tombola stall and are asking for donations of bottles and chocolates for prizes. Your kind donations should be brought into school on Friday 8th December (Winter Festival Day) and brought to the classroom or the office. Many thanks in advance.

Theatre Trips

We had two amazing theatre trips this week, with Reception and Key Stage 1 attending 'The Gruffalo' at Warwick Arts Centre and KS2 travelling to the RSC, to see 'Box of Delights'. We are so fortunate to have such great theatres on our doorstep, giving our pupils the opportunity to enjoy high-quality performances. Both trips were a great success. Thank you to all the parent helpers who came along to support.

Learn to Succeed – Year 6

On Monday, Year 6 took part in a workshop, 'Learn to Succeed'. They thought about what being successful means to them, then during the day, they completed various challenges (both individually and in teams) that helped them to understand that positive learning behaviours are a stepping stone to success.

Mrs Pote and Mrs Barnard – Year 6 class teachers

Year 2 Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot

On Friday, Year 2 took part in a 'Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot' knowledge building day. We started the day by using puppets to re-enact the life of Guy Fawkes and the subsequent events surrounding the Gunpowder Plot. We had great fun learning a song to help us to remember the life of Guy Fawkes! The children then used chalks to create their own bright and colourful firework artworks.

We were joined by David Livingstone from Coughton Court, who talked to us about the links between Coughton Court and the conspirator Robert Catesby. The children were all really interested to hear about the local links to someone of such historical significance. We had a great day learning about Guy Fawkes and the events surrounding the Gunpowder Plot!

Mrs Bird Year 2 Class Teacher

Annual Teddy Collection

Year 1 have begun collecting teddy donations ready for the Christmas Fair. Please deliver your donations to the Year 1 classroom and if you are able to put the teddies through the washing machine before bringing them in that would be greatly appreciated.

Update about Teddy Tombola - Please continue to donate your clean teddies to the Year 1 classroom, we currently have about 200, but need more to ensure that every child in our Nursery and School can come home with a teddy from the Fair!

Thank you, Mrs Cowley

Let's Spread Peace

Creating a Welford on Avon 'Peace Chain'

While our minds are focused on the build-up to Christmas festivities and spending time with close family and friends, we are conscious that our world has seen conflict and unrest this year and sometimes this news can feel daunting. With this in mind we have decided to design a Peace Corner at school which will remain until the school term finishes.

We feel that spreading peace is important for us to be good citizens. Our area of reflection is an opportunity to sit and reflect and also to write short notes/ prayers/ thoughts/symbols on paper links. We will loop the links together to create a 'Peace Chain' to strengthen our ideals of peace, symbolising a commitment to peace around the world.

It may only be a small gesture but by linking our peaceful thoughts, just think of the potential impact on our school, community and the wider world to build a better more peaceful planet. After all, peace starts with good intentions from good people towards everyone, without prejudice or discrimination. We will be sending some links home, if you wish to complete one as a family to add to our chain.

Christmas Food Bank Collection Monday 11th December – Monday 18th December

Details about the collection for the food bank have been sent home as a hard copy as well as email this week. Your donations are greatly appreciated and are very much needed around our local community.

Welford Winter Festival

FOWS and school staff are making the final preparations for this year's Welford Winter Festival next Friday 8th December. The day will consist of activities, including Breakfast with Father Christmas, Christmas Tales, Christmas scavenger hunt and our traditional Christmas Fair. There will also be Winter themed activities in class. FOWS have sent out all the information.

This year we are combining all our magical events into one school day and we **kindly ask for a voluntary contribution of £12 per child via ParentPay**. Any proceeds raised over and above the costs to run these events, will go back to FOWs to raise valuable funds for the school. Thank you in advance for your support.

You must consent for your child to receive a baked treat and drink at the breakfast and should follow the following link to do so <https://www.parentpay.com/>

You can also make your voluntary contribution by following the same link.

CHILDREN CAN WEAR FESTIVE CLOTHES TO SCHOOL ON FRIDAY 8th DECEMBER

Year 1 Victorian Toy Day

Year 1 had a fantastic day developing their historical skills and knowledge, when Mr Murphy came to visit us. We spent some time in the morning pretending we were in a Victorian classroom, practising our reading, writing, arithmetic and religion. We also learned all about the punishments that were used in Victorian schools including the cane, finger stocks and holding chalk boards on your head if you were late arriving at school. We played parlour games, including 'charades' and 'squeak piggy squeak'. We spent time exploring everyday household objects and toys from the past. We played a listening game that allowed us to identify some of the jobs that children might have done, such as chimney sweep, selling bunches of lavender, selling roasted chestnuts or going down the mines. We had a full afternoon handling and playing with toys and games from the past.

Mrs Cowley- Year 1 Class Teacher

Coats, hats and gloves

A reminder to make sure that your child brings a coat to school every day to ensure they are ready for any change in the weather. As the weather becomes colder, they will also need to have a hat and gloves, so that they remain warm during break and lunchtime.

Welford (Binton) Bridge

The Binton Bridge remains closed. Please make sure you continue to make the necessary adjustments to your journey to and from school to deal with the possible delays.

School Playing Field

As the long winter evenings have now taken hold we will start to lock the school field after school in line with our health and safety and safeguarding policies. The gate will be locked at 4pm every weekday and be unlocked at the weekends for the time being. As a reminder to all, the playing field is school (WCC LA) property and the school is responsible its upkeep. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

Monday 11th December from 3.30pm until 5.30pm- Open Afternoon

We will be holding an open afternoon on Monday 11th December from 3.30pm -5.30pm. This is an opportunity to pop into your child's classroom and have a look at the classroom environment and the work they have been doing. Your child should accompany you so you can make it a shared and more valuable experience.

Food Vouchers

We all know how difficult it can be at the moment to make ends meet, so we want to remind families that if you require help, you can contact the school to ask about food vouchers. All enquiries we be dealt with in the strictest confidence.

Year 3 and Year 6 Wright Knowledge Assembly

Our last house assembly for this term was delivered by Year 3 and Year 6 Wright House. Both year groups shared an amazing amount of knowledge across a wide range of subjects. Year 3 shared facts about Henry VIII, his six wives and the reformation while Year 6 presented their art and design album covers, as well as some amazing photography. There is no assembly next week as all classes are preparing for their Christmas Concerts. Remember we have added some extra dates.

Christmas Concerts

Monday 11th December	<i>Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Concert @ 9.15am</i> <i>Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Concert @ 2.00pm</i>
Tuesday 12th December	<i>Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Concert @ 9.15am</i> <i>Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Concert @ 2.00pm</i>
Wednesday 13th December	<i>Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas Concert @ 2.00pm</i>
Thursday 14th December	<i>Reception Christmas Concert</i>
Thursday 14th December	<i>Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas Concert @ 2.00pm</i>
Friday 15th December	<i>Nursery Christmas Concert @ 9.15am</i>

We have added new dates to our Christmas performances so more family members can attend. We have not issued tickets but ask that no more than two members of your family attend the Year 1- 6 performances, so that we have sufficient seating space. We should be able to accommodate attendance at Nursery and Reception as they are single class performances but if you intend to bring more than four people please let the office know.

Christmas Class Parties

Please see below the date for our class parties.

Monday 18 th December	Nursery and Reception Party AM (Sports Hall)- Time 10.30am
Monday 19 th December	Year 1 and Year 2 Party- PM (Sports Hall)
Tuesday 19 th December	Year 3 and Year 4 Party – PM (Sports Hall)
Wednesday 20 th December	Year 5 and Year 6 Party- PM (Sports Hall)

- Children can come into school in party clothes
- A selection of fun party games, music and dancing including pass the parcel

Forest School

A lovely week out at Forest School. Year 1 were challenged to build their own name using natural materials, whilst Reception and Nursery have been building miniature dens for cuddly toys. Year 3 created hedgehog houses and Year 2 have been building ladybirds houses in preparation for winter.

Mr Deeley- Forest School Lead

Revd Jay Advent Assembly

Thank you to Revd Jay who came into school today to deliver an assembly about the upcoming Christian festival of Advent. He explained the significance of this period of preparation, in the run up to Christmas for Christians, as well as the various symbols, such as the Advent Wreath and the meaning of the pink, purple and white candles.

Parking

Parents are reminded that you must not park on or opposite the zig zags at any time during the school day, including clubs. Please do not park across or block driveways or at road junctions. We run an unofficial one-way system so that all cars drive in from the Barton Road and leave via the church and ask that parents drive at 10mph. Your cooperation will ensure greater safety for all coming to and leaving school.

Welford Wrigglers Information

Our next 'Welford Wrigglers' will take place next Wednesday 6th December from 9.15am-11.15am.

Change of time: Wednesday 13th December

The following week, Wrigglers will start at 10.00am as the hall is required for a dress rehearsal at 9am.

Welford Wrigglers Christmas Party

Welford Wrigglers Christmas Party will take place on Wednesday 20th December. Lots of fun and games and a special visitor will be popping in as well, with a gift for all who attend!

Picture News:

This week's story: Scientists have found more flowering plants, moss, and algae in Antarctica in the last 10 years than usually grow in 50 years, and the extent of floating sea ice there has hit record lows.

Question: Who is responsible for Antarctica?

Reflection: The landscape of Antarctica is changing, the rate of the melting ice is impacting the animals that live there and the rising sea levels are having a negative impact on the wider world. All our actions combined can make a positive difference.

British Value connected to this story: Individual Liberty

I am responsible for my actions. It is important to remember they can have an impact on people, places and things. We can choose actions that can help preserve and protect Antarctica.

Protected Characteristic- Religion and Belief

UN Rights of a Child: Aims of Education: as part of our education, we should be taught to live peacefully and protect the environment.

'Picture News at Home is attached to this newsletter' so that you can continue this conversation at home.

Have a great weekend

Mrs Leeman and Staff



In the news this week

Scientists have found more flowering plants, moss, and algae in Antarctica in the last 10 years than usually grow in 50 years, and the extent of floating sea ice there has hit record lows. Polar explorer and environmentalist, Robert Swan, has been so concerned about the radical changes to Antarctica that he founded the 2041 Foundation, with the aim of ensuring the preservation of Antarctica through the promotion of recycling, renewable energy, and sustainability to combat the effects of climate change. The charity, 2041 School, encourages young people to learn more about the initiative.

Things to talk about at home ...

- Share any prior knowledge you have about Antarctica. Is it a place you would like to visit? Why?
- Do you believe individuals have a part to play in protecting places such as Antarctica or should world leaders do more?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

