

Welford on Avon Primary School News

Dear Parents,

Welcome to this week's school newsletter, marking the end of the first half of the Spring Term. It has been a very busy half term, filled with new knowledge, wonderful experiences and many memorable moments within our school community. Remember that school closes today and re-opens on Monday 19th February.

Revd Jay - Lenten Assembly

We welcomed Revd Jay back to school today, to deliver an assembly for Year 2 to Year 6. He spoke about the importance of Lent to Christians, in preparing them for the Easter, the most important celebration in the Christian faith. He explained that Lent is often seen as a time for personal growth and that it encourages Christians to pause and consider their actions, attitudes and behaviours. Many people choose to give up something for Lent, such as sweets or screen time, as a way to challenge themselves and practise self-discipline. It can be a time to help others, some choose to volunteer, donate to charity or perform acts of kindness. While it may have religious roots, by understanding Lent we can appreciate the diversity of beliefs and practices in the world around us. Many of the classes will be looking at Lent and Easter in more detail after half term, as part of their RE programme of study.



Year 3 Theme Day

On Thursday, Year 3 participated in their curriculum day, 'Food Glorious Food!'. We travelled to 'Italy' to study the features of a Mediterranean biome and the types of food grown there. The children developed their knowledge of the foods we import and export, here in the UK. We enjoyed finding out how many miles some of our imported food has to travel to reach the UK. Do you know that Bananas from Jamaica travel around 4000 miles before we get to eat them! We also enjoyed some observational drawing and created a 'fruit basket' from around the world. After a busy day talking all about food, we were all incredibly hungry! Mrs Hobkirk Year 3 teacher

VR Experience for KS2 Pupils

Our Key Stage 2 pupils had an amazing opportunity today, to experience their learning as a virtual reality, using VR headsets. Our children were provided with immersive 3D environments, to enhance their understanding of the units of work that they are currently studying in class. VR engages the senses and makes learning more interactive and memorable. How else could they experience being transported back to a Viking and Stone Age settlement, walk past an erupting volcano and travel to South America and all this was achieved without leaving the school premises. This is a new way to foster a love of learning and prepare our pupils for success in an increasingly digital and interconnected world.



Safer Internet Day

We celebrated Safer Internet Day on Tuesday, starting with a whole school assembly and some follow up sessions in class, which complement our computer curriculum. The day aims to raise awareness of a safer and better internet for all and especially for children and young people. "As part of the celebration, we encourage everyone - including children and young people, parents and caregivers, teachers and educators, policymakers, industry and others - to join together for a better internet".

CO Safety Session for Year 2 and Year 5

Last week we had a whole school assembly from the CO Safety Team. Following the assembly, Year 2 and Year 5 participated in a workshop all about the dangers of carbon monoxide (CO). They learnt about the types of appliances that can produce CO, as well as how it affects our body. They linked it to their own homes and appliances and learnt about the importance of having a CO alarm. Year 2 pupils received a carbon monoxide tester to take home.

Follow this links for more details and resources

<https://www.saferinternetday.org/home>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/>

Vital information to read before making a decision about allowing your child to have their first phone.

<https://www.vodafone.co.uk/help-and-information/nspcc-phone-safety-toolkit>

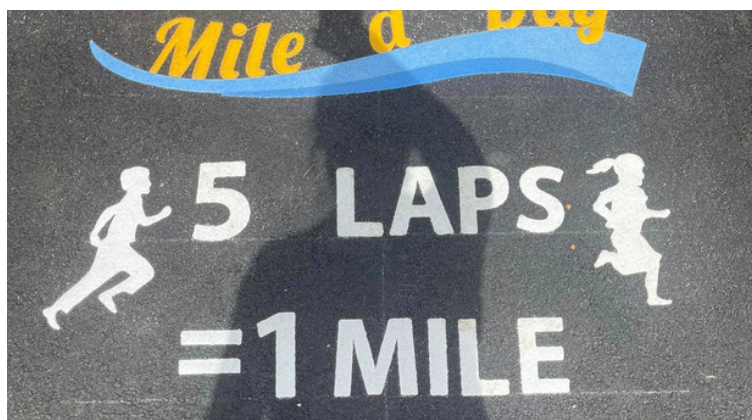
Leave of Absence Information

Please read the information below which is a reminder that holidays will not be authorised during term time and a leave of absence only agreed in exceptional circumstances.

'Parents do not have any entitlement to take their children on holiday during term time. Any application for leave must establish that there are exceptional circumstances and the Headteacher must be satisfied that the circumstances warrant the granting of leave. Headteachers will determine how many school days a child may be absent from school if the leave is granted.'

School Uniform Reminder

School uniform is an important part of the identity of our school and is linked to our ethos and values, particularly one of equality and contributes to the behaviours and attitudes we want to see across our school. We do not expect children to wear uniform with our school logo, that is a personal choice. However, we do ask that your children wear our school colours of red tops / white polo shirts and grey/black trousers/ skirts and wear comfortable and practical school shoes. Children should not wear nail varnish and if they have long hair, it should be tied back. Pupils are only permitted to wear small stud earrings and smart watches are not permitted in school.



Do you have a skill or knowledge to share?

To further develop the experiences for pupils and our links with our school community, we would like to find out if you or an adult member of your family, has a skill or knowledge in a particular area, which you would be able to share at school. Examples might include, sewing, design, author, performer etc. If you feel you could share your skill/knowledge, please contact the school office.

Cross Country Competition

On Saturday 20th January, 18 children across Key Stage 2 competed in the Warwickshire Schools Cross Country event, at Stratford Upon Avon Secondary School. They all competed really well, with one first place finish and several finishing inside the top five across the different year groups! The next event was due to be held on Saturday 3rd February but has been postponed, we await news of a rearranged date. Mr. Deeley PE Lead

A rather wet and windy week out at Forest school this week. Nursery and reception were challenged to build their own squirrel obstacle courses using the materials out in the area. Year 2 and 3 continued the theme of team building by completing the Sort It challenge, and Year 6 played reverse hide and seek. - Forest School

Events



PARENTS' EVENING: MONDAY 26TH FEBRUARY AND MONDAY 4TH MARCH - 3.40PM – 6.00PM

SCHOOL OPEN EVENING- MONDAY 18TH MARCH – 3.30PM- 5.30PM

We will be running parents evening on Monday 26th February from 3.40pm – 6.00pm and Monday 4th March from 3.40pm - 6.00pm. The meetings will be virtual but you will have an opportunity to visit your child's classroom on Monday 18th March from 3.30pm until 5.30pm to have a look at their books and classroom environment.

Children's Mental Health Week – 5th February - 9th February 'My Voice Matters'

'This year, we want children of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to be empowered to work together to create a positive change for their mental health and wellbeing'. We will be running parents evening on Monday 26th February from 3.40pm – 6.00pm and Monday 4th March from 3.40pm - 6.00pm. The meetings will be virtual but you will have an opportunity to visit your child's classroom on Monday 18th March from 3.30pm until 5.30pm to have a look at their books and classroom environment.

My Voice Matters is about empowering children and young people, by providing them with the tools they need to express themselves. When we feel empowered, there's a positive impact on our wellbeing. Children who feel that their voices are heard and can make a difference, have a greater sense of community and self-esteem.

During Children's Mental Health Week, we want all children and young people to be able to say and believe - "My Voice Matters."



FOR MORE VISIT: www.welfordonavonschool.co.uk

Spring Term Knowledge Assemblies

Year 1 Davenport Assembly

Year 1 children spoke confidently, enthusiastically and knowledgeably about their art unit of work from this term. They explained the steps in their learning journey all building towards our giant class collaborative sculpture; which they plan to share during the Easter Assembly next half term. They also shared some of their Geography learning about the 7 continents. All of the children did a fabulous job, in particular in learning their words by heart.

Year 4 Davenport Assembly

In this week's assembly, Year 4 Davenport enjoyed sharing the cinquain poetry they have been writing in English as well as the 'letting go' yoga flow they have been practising in PE. The children shared their knowledge of tints and shades in art and showed how they are learning to use this knowledge to paint 3D objects and create some fantastic artwork! We're looking forward to seeing their final pieces.

Our next assembly is:

Thursday 22 nd February @ 9.10am	Year 3 and Year 6 Davenport
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Please see the rest of the Spring assemblies below

Spring Term Knowledge Assemblies

Thursday 29 th February @ 9.10am	Reception Owen Assembly
Thursday 7 th March @ 9.10am	Year 1 and Year 4 Owen Assembly
Thursday 14 th March @ 9.10am	Year 2 and Year 5 Owen Assembly
Wednesday 20 th March @ 2.45pm	Nursery and Reception Spring Celebration Assembly
Thursday 21 st March 2024 @ 2.45pm	Year 1 and Year 2 Spring Celebration Assembly
Friday 22 nd March @ 9.10am	KS2 Spring Celebration Assembly

FOR MORE VISIT: www.welfordonavonschool.co.uk

Monthly Updates

Food Vouchers in January

January can be a particularly tricky month following all the expense of Christmas. We want to remind families that if you require help, you can contact the school to ask about food vouchers. Please get in touch if you need help. All enquiries we be dealt with in the strictest confidence.

Welford Wrigglers

Our next session will take place on Wednesday 21st February starting at 9.15am and finishing at 11.15pm

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 (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. We have attached the most recent schedule about the closure for your information.

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 cold weather. We also encourage pupils to bring hats and gloves, so that they remain warm during break and lunchtime.

School Playing Field

Our school field will not be available while after-school football clubs are running on Monday and Tuesday, in line with our safeguarding policy and the gate will continue to be locked at 4pm on Wednesday and Thursdays The field 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 for its upkeep. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter as regards the safety procedures of the school.

Wellness @ Welford Information

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Warwickshire Family Information Services

<https://us5.campaign-archive.com/?u=a24b439ef7022ae0d86f9ca6e&id=c239134217>

In this week's Family Information Service newsletter there is information about kitchen fire safety, stop smoking support, February SEND newsletter, free anger awareness course and much more!

The Family Information Service (FIS) supports families across Warwickshire with information and signposting. You can get in touch with the team by emailing fis@warwickshire.gov.uk, calling 0800 408 1558 or finding support on www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies.

Head over to our Facebook to see where you can find the FIS team across the county this week.

If you would like to know more about FIS and where to find information and support on the FIS and SEND Local Offer webpages, book a place on an online FIS discovery session.

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Special Edition of Family Information Newsletter

<https://us5.campaign-archive.com/?u=a24b439ef7022ae0d86f9ca6e&id=22aa8c59ad>

'A special edition of the Family Information Service newsletter. We understand that a lot of families are worried about the impact of the increasing cost of living, and we know that many might struggle to make their incomes stretch to cover the basics. Visit the Cost of Living website to find information and support to manage increased household costs.'

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

RISE

Please follow the link below to Warwickshire RISE website.

<https://cwrise.com/for-parents>

They provide early support, information and guidance on many emerging mental health issues to children, young people, parents and carers. They can offer:

o consultations with a clinician

o training

o themed coffee mornings focusing on areas of requested support.

If you would like to know more please email rise

risecommunityoffer@covwarkpt.nhs.uk

Welcome to the Recovery and Wellbeing Academy

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

'The Academy offers a wide range of courses and workshops designed to empower your mental health and wellbeing provided by a number of Partner organisations working together. Courses are delivered face to face and online via Zoom. All Academy courses and workshops are completely FREE OF CHARGE and open to anyone over the age of 18 living in Coventry and Warwickshire who wants to better manage or understand their mental health and wellbeing. Friends, family, staff, and carers are encouraged to attend as we strongly believe in learning together to get the most out of the courses on offer.'

Picture News

This week's story: 45-year-old Mar Galcerán from Spain has become the country's first elected parliamentarian with Down's syndrome.

Question: *What makes someone inspirational?*

Reflection: *Inspirational people can be found all around us, helping motivate us to become the best we can be and achieve wonderful things!*

British Value connected to this story: *Democracy*

As adults, we will be able to vote for the people we want to represent us in parliament. As children, we have the opportunities to vote for those we want to represent us, such as School Council members, sports, arts and eco committees

Protected Characteristics – Disability

Nobody should be treated unfairly because of a disability.

UN Rights of a Child: 23. *Children with Disabilities*

Every child with a disability should enjoy the best possible life in society. Governments should remove all obstacles for children with disabilities to become independent and to participate actively in the community

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