

Welford on Avon Primary School News

Dear Parents,

Welcome to our weekly newsletter. Our newsletter is designed to keep you informed about all the exciting things happening at our school. It is an opportunity to share updates and achievements and upcoming events with you. We encourage you to take a moment to read it through and stay connected with our school community.

School Council News

The School Council met last week to give feedback on menu changes at lunch time. They are also excited to report that we now have a Great Tit nesting in one of the bird boxes that the School Council installed on the school site a couple of years ago. The children in school will be able to watch the bird nesting and hopefully chicks hatching, through the bird box camera. Mrs Sims has also kindly shared a link with staff to her own bird box at home, where she has a Blue Tit nesting.

Forest School

A lovely week out at Forest School. Reception were challenged to build their own squirrel obstacle courses whilst Year 1 created their own smelly potions. Year 2 completed a scavenger hunt with Year 4 and 5 building their own nests.

Please make sure that you child brings their Forest School kit on the correct day so that they can enjoy this outdoor experience.

Mr Deeley Forest School Lead



Refurbishment of the Boys' Toilets

Fantastic news! Over the break, we have been hard at work transforming the KS2 boys' toilets into a space that truly reflects our commitment to providing the best environment for our pupils. The refurbishment project has resulted in a vibrant and inviting area that our boys can use. With bright and cheerful colours, well designed features, the toilets are not just aesthetically pleasing but also promote a positive and hygienic experience for all. The upgraded boys' toilets are a testament to our ongoing dedication to enhancing every aspect of our school environment.

Partly funded by a very generous contribution of our FOWS committee, we were able to turn our vision into a reality. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to FOWS for their support and commitment to enhancing our school facilities.

[CLICK HERE TO TAKE A LOOK!](#)

Alison Wright Visit - Disability Awareness Assembly and Workshops

School organised a Disability Awareness assembly and session today for Year 1 to Year 6. Alison Wright, from 'Accept, Listen & Learn', delivered workshops to KS1 and KS2. In KS1 Alison delivered a talk about exploring differences between us all and explained why she was born with short arms. She showed a video called 'It's ok to be different' and Alison also showed the children how she can use her feet to pick things up and draw a picture. KS2 had individual class sessions in the classrooms, where Alison explored with the children the different types of disabilities, including physical, sensory and hidden. She showed another short video and demonstrated her ability to use her feet. The purpose of Alison's visit was to promote understanding, empathy and inclusivity among our school community. We hope to foster and develop empathy and compassion towards individuals with disabilities, by promoting understanding of their challenges and experiences. Also, we wish to promote inclusivity, by encouraging a culture of acceptance, where we value everyone regardless of their abilities or differences. We hope to combat stigma and encourage supportive behaviours by equipping students with the knowledge and skills to interact respectfully. Overall, we hope today's visit from Alison raised awareness and served as an important educational opportunity to cultivate empathy and understanding, so as to build a more inclusive and compassionate society.

Cross Country County Championship Results

On Saturday 13th April, 2 children competed in the Cross Country County Championship race at Stratford upon Avon School, after qualifying from the initial round of Cross Country events. A huge congratulations to Henry in Year 4 for finishing 2nd in the race. In addition, a massive congratulations to Eliza in Year 6 who finished 1st. Well done to both!

School Trip Parent Volunteers

Our school experiences and trips would not be able to take place if it wasn't for the commitment of our parent volunteers and we extend our sincere gratitude to all who help. While we truly value your willingness to assist, it is important to clarify a key aspect of our school trip procedures. Volunteers will be allocated to supervise groups that may not include their own child, except in exceptional circumstances. This approach ensures fair and equal supervision for all our pupils, contributing to a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in this matter, which ultimately enhances the overall trip for all.



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.

FOWS MOVIE NIGHT is from 5pm until 7pm on Friday 26th April. This will be a fun night for your child to enjoy and FOWS are very busy preparing. FOWS will be sending out further details about how to book tickets.

Food Vouchers

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 will be dealt with in the strictest confidence.

School Playing Field

Our school field will not be available while after school clubs are running on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, in line with our safeguarding policy and the gate will be locked at 5.30pm on Thursday. The field will be unlocked after school on Fridays and 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. Attached to this newsletter is a further update about the school playing field from governors.

Welford Wrigglers

This is a great opportunity for parents and grandparents and their little ones to come together for fun, learning and socialisation right here at our primary school. The club is run by members of our school team and is free to attend. From arts and crafts to music and movement, each session is packed with exciting opportunities for exploration and discovery.

Our next session is on Wednesday 24th April from 9.15am until 11.15am the sessions are run in our sports hall.

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to the school.

Summer Term Assemblies

We started off our knowledge assemblies this term with an amazing assembly from Year 3 and Year 6 Owen children. They shared an amazing amount of knowledge, showcasing their creativity, confidence and dedication in various areas of the curriculum. Thank you to the parents who attended.

Next week's assembly:

Thursday 25 th April	Reception Higgs Assembly
Thursday 2 nd May	Year 1 and Year 4 Higgs Assembly
Thursday 9 th May	Year 2 and Year 5 Higgs Assembly
Thursday 16 th May	SATS Week
Thursday 23 rd May	Year 3 and Year 6 Higgs Assembly
Thursday 6 th June	Nursery and Reception Summer Assembly
Thursday 13 th June	Year 1 and Year 2 Summer Assembly
Thursday 20 th June	Year 3 and Year 4 Summer Assembly
Thursday 4 th July	Year 5 and Year 6 Summer Assembly
Wednesday 10 th July	Whole School Swap
Thursday 11 th July	Choir, <u>Lamda</u> and Music Performance (more details to follow)
Thursday 18 th July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly PM

Summer Term Dates

Friday 26th April 2024	Cake Sale - Year 2 to provide cakes
Friday 26th April 2024	Movie Night
Tuesday 30th April 2024	Class Photos
Monday 6th May 2024	Bank Holiday
Friday 10th May 2024	Cake Sale - Reception to provide cakes
Monday 13th May - Friday 16th May	KS2 SATS (Yr 6)
Friday 17th May 2024	Non Uniform Tombola prizes for maypole evening
Tuesday 21st May 2024	Maypole Evening - 6pm Start
Wednesday 22nd May 2024	Reserve Maypole Evening
27th May 2024 - 31st May 2024	Half Term
Monday 3rd June 2024	Inset Day - School Closed
Tuesday 4th June 2024 - Friday 14th June 2024	Year 4 Multiplication check
Monday 10th June - Friday 14th June 2024	Year 1 Phonics Screening
Monday 10th June - Friday 14th June 2024	Bikeability (Yr6)
Monday 10th June 2024	Adventure of Welford Booklets sent home
Friday 14th June 2024	Cake Sale - Nursery to provide cakes
Monday 24th June 2024	Adventure of Welford Booklets back to school
Thursday 27th June 2024	Govenors Day
Friday 5th July 2024	Sport Day AM
Friday 5th July 2024	Summer Fair PM
Wednesday 10th July 2024	Whole School Swap Day
Friday 12th July 2024	School Reports issued
Friday 19th July 2024	Summer Term Ends

FRIENDS OF WELFORD SCHOOL (FOWS) NEWS

Over the last five years alone, FOWS has raised over £50,000 for Welford on Avon primary school - an incredible amount! Through the funds kindly raised from parents supporting these events we have paid for, or contributed towards some superb resources, including:

- A new library
- Balance bikes
- Brand new IT equipment
- A new piano
- Key Stage 2 classrooms air conditioning unit (they are all south facing and used to get very hot)
- The new Reception class playground area.

The next thing we are supporting, are the brand-new Key Stage 2 boys' toilets, that should be refurbished over Easter. The current ones are old and in poor condition, we know these new facilities will benefit the boys in our school a great deal. (Please note the Key stage 1 and Key stage 2 girls' toilets are all already new or in good condition!)

We are currently planning the last few fundraisers for the school year: Movie night, Maypole tombola, the Summer Fair and WOA!FEST (hopefully, please see below)

WOA! FEST

The annual school summer 'camp out' and the highlight of FOWS calendar! This event normally features amazing bands, performances, tug of war, sports, crafts and face painting, as well as a great bar and BBQ. It's a brilliant event where special memories are made. It also generates the most revenue for FOWS and our school. We currently need a Lead Volunteer/ or 2 people to oversee it this year. We have lots of volunteers and contacts in place, we just need an organised person to pull it altogether. If you are interested please email: fowswelford@outlook.com by 11th April. Otherwise unfortunately WOA!FEST will be cancelled for 2024.

Wellness @ Welford

Warwickshire Family Information Services

<https://us5.campaign-archive.com/?u=a24b439ef7022ae0d86f9ca6e&id=c24cab7266>

In this week's Family Information Service newsletter there is information about how you can support your child to manage exam stress, the Multiply programme, social care support for children with SEND survey and much more!

What is the Family Information Service?

The Family Information Service (FIS) supports families across Warwickshire with information and signposting to help with a wide range of family issues. 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 their Facebook page to see where you can find the FIS team across the county this week.

HELP PAYING FOR YOUR CHILDCARE CHILDCARE SUPPORT IS EXPANDING APPLY NOW FOR APRIL

All the information you need about the child care offers that are available to all parents. Changes are coming into place so please follow the link to find out if you are eligible for more help

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

Discovery Webinars

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/warwickshire-county-council-31960567793>

These webinars are aimed at professionals and families within Warwickshire to inform them on the role of the Family Information Service and includes a guided tour through the FIS and SEND Local Offer webpages. This session will highlight the broad range of information and support that can be found on these two websites. Included in this webinar will be information on the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme. Please follow the link above to book

Wellness @ Welford Continued

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.’

Warwickshire SEND Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS) is a free, confidential and impartial service providing information, advice and support for parents/carers, children and young people aged 0-25 who have or may have Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. Contact Warwickshire SENDIASS

Picture News

This week's story: A new artwork, from the mysterious street artist Banksy, appeared in North London overnight in March and has since been covered with plastic and surrounded by wooden boards to protect it.

Question: What does art mean to you?

Reflection: Art can be anything created with imagination, that expresses important ideas or feelings. It can mean something different to each one of us.

British Value connected to this story: Mutual Respect and Tolerance

We understand that people have different preferences and opinions in relation to art. It is important to respect the opinions and preferences of others.

Protected Characteristics – Religion and Belief

Our religion or beliefs can affect the way we interact a variety of art. Our responses are all valid and we should never be treated unfairly because of these.

UN Rights of a Child:31: Rest, Play Culture and Arts

Children have the right to rest, relax and play in a way that they want to. Governments must ensure that artistic activities are accessible to all children.

Picture News at Home is attached to this newsletter so you can continue this conversation at home. Thank you to the pupils and families who contributed to last week story. The pupils were presented with a 'Picture News Contributor' sticker.