



# Wendover CE Junior School

*Through living our Christian values, everyone at WCEJS has the opportunity to flourish.  
We nurture the curiosity to learn, the courage to lead and the compassion to care.*

**Building solid foundations (Mathew 7:24)**

## Newsletter 08.11.24

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**Respect**

**Responsibility**

**Reflection**

**Resilience**

# Dates for your diary

Activity	Dates	Action for Parents
Parent Consultations	13 <sup>th</sup> November	Booking portal closes 10 <sup>th</sup> November
Parent Consultations	14 <sup>th</sup> November	Booking portal closes 10 <sup>th</sup> November
Year 5 Space Day	18 <sup>th</sup> November	Consent on Parentpay by 10 <sup>th</sup> November
6W Class Assembly	19 <sup>th</sup> November	
6J Class Assembly	20 <sup>th</sup> November	
6S Class Assembly	21 <sup>st</sup> November	
PTA Pizza and Movie Night	21 <sup>st</sup> November	Event details in newsletter (PTA News)
Year 6 Maya Day	3 <sup>rd</sup> December	
INSET Day	6 <sup>th</sup> December	School closed
Year 6 Hazard Alley trip	10 <sup>th</sup> and 11 <sup>th</sup> December	
Culinera Christmas Dinner	18 <sup>th</sup> December	
Last Day of Term	20 <sup>th</sup> December	Finish at 13:30

# Letters / documents sent this week

Letter/Email	Action
Year 6 Height and Weight Screening	Read letter attached to email

# Reflection

This has been a very busy and successful half-term at Wendover CE Juniors. Children have settled into their new classes and the high participation strategies are working effectively. The revised WINKS (What I Need to Know) documents are being used as learning tools in all subjects, with children eager to highlight what they have learned. Whole class guided reading and a renewed focus on the use physical resources and pictures in maths is helping children to make even better progress (manipulatives such as as bead strings and pictorial representations, such as bar-modelling).

Our pupil voice groups have been elected with many children taking on a leadership role (school council, Eco Group, Worship Leader, Wellbeing Ambassador, House Captain etc) and there continues to be a wide range of clubs and activities. There have been a number of successful charity sales organised by children, further evidence that our virtues of courage and compassion are being lived.

In response to parental feedback (summer survey), we have further improved communications; in particular, we have revised the format of the newsletter and have added content to the website so that parents are more informed about the work of the school. It was lovely to see that Harvest Festival was so well supported. We look forward to welcoming you into school for parent teacher consultations after half-term.

# Weekly Reflection

Remembrance has been the theme this week, as we prepare for our service on Armistice Day. We've thought about why the poppy is a good symbol for remembrance (see next page), as well as how we can help others (sometimes having to make a small sacrifice such as time or doing something that we might not want to do).

The school council will be taking the lead next week as it is national antibullying week. The main theme of this is respect. They have been working hard to provide activities that we share the important message that we should respect everyone and that bullying can never be tolerated.



Look at your poppy.

Poppies are bright and cheerful flowers: give thanks to God for the lives of those who have died in war, remembering all the joy they brought to families and friends, and all the good things they did for their home and their country.

Then look at the red petals: red reminds us of danger and harm. Ask God to be close to those who are still facing danger each day, to give courage to the armed forces, and compassion to all who help others.

Place your whole hand over the poppy: poppies are also fragile and need to be handled gently. God cares for those who are hurting and those who are sad. Ask God to comfort all who are grieving the loss of someone they love.

Finally place a finger on the centre of the poppy: ask God to help you play your part in working for peace in the world.



# Pupil Voice

The school council and worship leaders continue to do a sterling job. Our Eco Team is also hard at work, ensuring that food waste, amongst other things, is properly recycled and that we are saving energy where we can.

Our wellbeing ambassadors and junior road safety officers have also been sharing important messages this week with children at the John Hampden.

“Many thanks for arranging for the ambassadors to come and speak to our Year 2 classes yesterday. They were all amazing! They delivered their presentation about kindness clearly and confidently and our children were greatly interested to hear the important messages that they shared. They also really enjoyed watching the video story and were able to talk about what they had learnt back in class.

Many thanks for enabling these pupils to play an important part in our focus week on Safety. We look forward to seeing the Road safety ambassadors on Thursday!”

Mrs Spencer, John Hampden School

# Weekly Highlights

## Year 3

Y3 have started learning songs for their Nativity play with great enthusiasm! The children have demonstrated great resilience this week, continuing to practise exchanging across tens and hundreds when subtracting in Maths

## Year 4

Year 4 children had great fun finding out about the Ancient Egyptians during Egyptian Day on Tuesday. They performed drama with Queen Nefertiti, participated in an Egyptian themed escape room and made Egyptian jewellery that the queen herself would be proud to wear. The year 4s have also made a start on designing and making canopic jars out of clay and are excited to show their creations to their parents at Parents' Evening next week.

## Year 5

Year 5 are very excited about their new theme for this half term: Space! They learned more about the planets in our solar system, started reading a book in class about a boy who accidentally ended up in space, and are all looking forward to Space Day!

## Year 6

This week two groups from Year 6 visited John Hampden Infant school to deliver assemblies to the Year 2 children on Being Kind and on Road Safety. They were fantastic and amazing ambassadors for the school. Well done.



## **Parent Consultations**

We are looking forward to welcoming you into school next week for the parent teacher consultations. Please remember to arrive early enough to look at your child's books before meeting the teacher.

All meetings will take place in the school hall from 3:40pm – 6:30pm. Your child's books will be set out on their table in the classroom. Due to the need to clean the school, we will be closing the building at 6.30pm.

# Extended Learning

Getting children into good habits regarding independent work is a really important part of getting them ready for secondary school. We have clear expectations about the extended learning that our children should complete each week and encourage them to adopt a 'little and often' approach.

ReadingPlus and doodlemaths are provided for children to increase fluency. We are providing a doodle club at lunchtime for all children to help them and we are rewarding children for their efforts at home and in school. Please ensure that your child engage with these platforms at home – contact the school office if you are having difficulties accessing them.

# PTA News



Thank you to everyone who supported the recent PTA Halloween Jam Jar sale. The event raised £320 that will be used to support children's learning, mental health and wellbeing.

## Next event: **Movie and Pizza Night**

Join us for a fun screening of Disney Pixar's Inside Out 2 on **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November** from 3:30pm-5:30pm

Tickets are now live on ParentPay! Each ticket includes a bag of popcorn, and you can also upgrade your ticket to include pizza for an extra treat.

To make the event a success, we're looking for parent volunteers to help out on the day. If you are available to lend a hand, please email [pta@wendoverjunior.co.uk](mailto:pta@wendoverjunior.co.uk)

# Christmas Decoration competition

If your child would like to enter the Christmas decoration competition this year, the deadline to accept entries is Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November.

The decorations will be put on the tree in Wendover and the winner of the competition will receive a prize will have the chance to turn the lights on at the Wendover Christmas event on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November.

Further details can be found on the poster attached to this newsletter.

Each entry will be rewarded with 10 house points and should be delivered to 3W classroom.



# Online Safety

As part of our Computing curriculum we address online safety and appropriate online behaviour. Children are taught to understand that their interactions with others online should be respectful and positive. We also discuss how the school values - the 4Rs, can help us to behave appropriately. We regularly remind children what they should do if they see upsetting content online or on devices which have internet access such as phones, tablets and games consoles.

Children are taught to speak to a trusted adult at home or in school, a school Designated Safeguarding Lead, or even speaking to a friend who can support them with finding an appropriate adult to help. Children should also leave a website or chat open to show an adult so that they can see the content which has upset them.

Please look at the Online Safety attachment to see screen grabs from a recent assembly led by our Digital Leaders which children can use as a prompt to get appropriate help.

Mrs West  
Computing Lead

Important Information

# Attendance & Punctuality

As you know, we make regular checks on attendance and punctuality. Statutory guidance has changed over the summer, which means that we will be monitoring attendance even more rigorously. We are legally obliged to share attendance information with parents. Most of the communication will be for your information only and will require no action. In a small number of cases, further support or action may need to be discussed – this will be clearly set out in the communication. To ensure consistency across the local liaison group of schools, we have a shared policy and we use model letters from the local authority.

Please remember that children should attend every day unless there is a good reason not to. They need to arrive by 8.50am. Our attendance policy is available on the school website: <https://www.wendover.bucks.sch.uk/web/policies/188848>

# Fancy learning a musical instrument?

Here is an opportunity for your child to begin their journey in music, and develop life-long skills that they will never regret. At WCEJS we are working hard to provide pupils with more performance opportunities in music, and would love more of our pupils to get involved and learn from our talented peripatetic music teachers.

Did you know we offer:

Drums/Bass/Electric Guitar (Pippa Beckford)

Piano/Keyboard (Michele Beckford)

Brass (Steve Kitchen)

Strings (Gareth Hart)

Classical Guitar



As music lessons are very popular some instruments become oversubscribed quickly but students can be added to a waiting list and offered a place as soon as one becomes available. Please contact the instrumental teacher directly via the email addresses below for further information.

**Strings and classic guitar** should be made via Bucks Music Trust <https://www.bucksmusic.org/book-lessons-2/>

**Drums/Bass/Electric guitar/Piano** please email [beckfordmusic@hotmail.com](mailto:beckfordmusic@hotmail.com)

**Brass** please email [rjkitchen@sky.com](mailto:rjkitchen@sky.com)

# Premier Education Sports Clubs:

Don't forget that Premier Education sports clubs are available throughout the half term! You can still book online (pending availability) and will only pay for the remaining sessions.

If your child hasn't already booked a place for these sessions, we encourage you to do so soon to secure their spot. Spaces are limited, and we want to ensure every child has the opportunity to participate in these enriching activities.

Booking portal: <https://www.premier-education.com/parents/venue/courses/17247/?location=wendover>

## Key Contacts:

If you have any questions or need further information, please reach out to our dedicated team:

Venue Manager: Daniel

Email: [dbell@premier-education.com](mailto:dbell@premier-education.com)

Phone: 01296 620 097

General Inquiries: Martyn

Email: [office-11@premier-education.com](mailto:office-11@premier-education.com)

Phone: 01296 620 097

We look forward to welcoming your child to our Afterschool Wraparound Programme and providing them with a memorable and educational experience. Thank you for your continued support.