



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 7:24-27)

Newsletter 20.10.2023



<http://www.wendover.bucks.sch.uk/web>



admin@wendoverjunior.co.uk

Respect

Responsibility

Reflection

Resilience

Collective Worship

This week has seen us exploring the lives of Martin Luther King and Malala Yousafzai – two people who have changed the lives of many for the better. We thought about how they have used their gifts to bring about positive change, as well as the injustices that they challenged. Children have thought about their gifts and how they could be part of positive change within their community.

The Write Stuff

As you know, last year we changed the way in which we teach writing in school. The Write Stuff is an approach that encourages us to look at writing through different lenses. They provide opportunities for us to develop different features of writing within the same text – typically children will look at two or three different lenses each lesson. The approach also gives ample chances for writers to better understand grammar and to organise their ideas more coherently.

Governors and leaders conducted a deep dive in writing last Friday. We went into lessons, talked to children and looked at examples of writing that the children have completed so far this term. We were very pleased with the level of engagement, how positive the children are about writing and the quality of writing they are producing. Please read the summary of the visit in the following slides.

The Write Stuff – A Deep Dive

We had the pleasure of visiting the school to take part in the Deep Dive into Writing on Friday 13th October. Mrs Khan, the English Lead, introduced the 'Write Stuff' scheme into the school during the last academic year. When we visited in March, Year 6 had already been using the scheme for some time. Following extremely positive feedback from both children and staff, the rest of the school years were beginning to implement it into their daily writing practises. The 'Deep Dive' last Friday was to observe how this implementation had been going throughout the school since our last visit.

In each class we visited, there was an extremely high level of participation. It was a delight to see how keen the children were to share their thoughts with each other (during moments of 'chotting' – a mixture of chatting and jotting) and their teachers. 'Working walls' were covered with children's sentences to demonstrate good examples, allowing all children's work to be celebrated and shared. Children across the years were keen to show us their books and there was a wonderful sense of pride in their work.

Overall, there was great enthusiasm for the new writing scheme amongst the children we spoke to, with a resounding theme of ‘it’s more supportive’ and ‘it’s less daunting’. They all seemed to have a real understanding of how it was helping them to improve their writing.

Thank you very much to Mrs Khan for the enormous amount of work she has put into introducing this scheme across the school. Thank you, also, to all the teaching staff for embracing it so enthusiastically and working hard to implement it in their classrooms. There seems to be no doubt that the children are benefitting enormously from this writing scheme and the hard work is paying off.

Helen Anderson (Governor)
Chris Lane (Governor)



Campus Safety

Thank you to vast majority of parents who are helping to keep children safe by not driving onto campus. However, despite numerous polite reminders some parents continue to drive onto the campus without authorisation.

Our Junior Road Safety Officers will be working with Police Community Support Officers to ensure that only parents who have a pass will be allowed onto campus. If you believe that you qualify for a pass, then please email the school office and one will be provided for you to display in your windscreen.

Online Safety Information

As a school, we teach Online Safety using ProjectEvolve. Our Autumn focus is Self-Image & Identity, Online Reputation and Online Relationships.

Self-image & identity - how people represent themselves online, including avatars used in gaming apps and understanding how our online and offline identities are different. We also learn about how our online identity may change depending on what we are doing online. For example, our eSchools and Reading Plus identity would be different to a gaming identity that we use for games like Roblox or Minecraft. This strand also looks at challenging gender and stereotypes online.

Online Reputation - what is safe to share online, the need to be careful before sharing anything online and about asking permission before sharing information about others online.

Online Relationships - creating a positive online presence, making responsible choices that supports and interacts respectfully with others and creates healthy online behaviours. This includes how we behave in group chats on eSchools or gaming chats etc. This strand also focusses on what people can do if they or others feel upset or worried by something they see or hear online.

To support your child at home, we have included two parent information sheets within this week's newsletter: 'How to create a great environment for kids to talk' and 'Parent Online Safety Guide'.

Mrs West
Computing Lead

Year Group Highlights

Year 3 children have enjoyed making magnetic games in Science. This week year 3 have researched and published information about Wendover.

Year 4 children thoroughly enjoyed the Hobgoblin production of The Curse of the Mummy which consolidated their learning on Ancient Egypt. They all participated well in the drama workshop and produced some excellent freeze frames based on the play. Thankfully, no children were cursed during the play although a number of teachers had to be treated for shock!

Year 5 enjoyed learning more about inspirational people from the Civil Rights Movement during their Guided Reading sessions.

Year 6 had a fantastic time at Hazard Alley and thoroughly enjoyed learning how to deal with dangerous situations in a make-believe way. They loved practising making a 999 call. In addition to this, Year 6 have thoroughly enjoyed using a technique called chiaroscuro in their artwork this week. The technique is used to make something look more three dimensional on a flat surface. The artwork they produced was excellent. They also had great fun learning about the Ancient Maya number system.

This Week's House Points

1 st	Blue House	1800 points
2 nd	Red House	1740 points
3 rd	Green House	1380 points
4 th	Purple House	1170 points

Young Carers

This week, our young carers had a Spooktacular time at their Halloween-themed meeting. They unleashed their creativity by decorating paper plates with various Halloween-themed designs using crafty techniques. Laughter and imagination filled the room as they brought spooky art to life. This event allowed our young carers to connect, bond, and be kids, reminding us of the importance of moments of joy and creativity amidst their responsibilities.



Extended Learning Competition

BBC's 500-word competition is back! Children between the ages of 5 and 11 are invited to write short stories that are a maximum of 500 words long and submit them online to enter the competition. To enter this fabulous competition, children just need to write an original story that is 500 words or less, on a computer and get a parent or guardian to submit it online. There are many prizes to be won.

We will also be doing our own version of the competition. Simply print off or send to the office the same 500-word stories and Mrs Khan will be judging them too. If you do not want to take part in the BBC's version, then it is fine to write one just for Mrs Khan to judge! There will be prizes and every person who enters will receive 10 house points.

Deadline: Stories need to be submitted online by Friday 10th November 2023.

For further information, please visit the website:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words/about-500-words/zctk7v4>



Mental Health Week - donations

Thank you for your support and the contributions towards our Mental Health Week, we have so far managed to raise 86% of our target goal of £400.

Mental health is a critical aspect of our children's well-being, and this week served as a valuable opportunity to raise awareness, promote understanding, and provide essential resources to those in need.

Your continued support can make a significant difference. We kindly request your generous donations to help us achieve our goal. Every pound counts and brings us one step closer to creating a more supportive and empathetic environment for our children.

Please consider contributing to this important cause. Your donation will go a long way in ensuring that our awareness to Mental Health Week is a resounding success.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/young-minds-wendover-junior-school>



£348

raised of £400 target
by 69 supporters

October 2023 Skipping Challenge

We are excited to kick off a fundraising initiative this month at school - the Skipping Challenge for Cancer Research. Inspired by Mrs. Weeks-Pearson and her dedication to raising awareness and funds for cancer research.

Journey Update

Total skips: 20,256

Distance travelled: 60,770 km

Current location: Utah, USA



Join Us in Supporting Cancer Research by:

1. Encourage your child to take part in the skipping challenge every **Monday, Wednesday and Friday** at **12:50**. It's a fun way to stay active, and every skip counts toward our collective goal.

2. Donate: Your generous contributions can make a significant difference in the fight against cancer. Please use the link below to donate to this important cause <https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/nikkis-giving-page-2417>



ZEN Sensory Garden – Voting is live!

We are delighted to announce that Wendover Junior School has been entered into the Tesco Stronger Starts programme and our ZEN sensory garden project will be put forward to a customer vote in Tesco stores. Voting will commence in store from the first week of October 2023 until Mid January 2024.

Our Zen garden will be used to provide a safe space for the children to reflect in.

The project with the highest number of votes across the region will receive £1,500, the second placed project £1,000 and the third placed project £500.

The stores listed below are taking part in voting for our project.

Aylesbury Extra, Broadfields Retail Park

Tesco Superstore - Tring Road, Aylesbury

Tesco Express - Jackson Road, Aylesbury

Tesco Express - Wendover

Tesco Express - Meadow Way, Aylesbury

To vote, you will need to make a purchase within store of any value. You will receive one token per transaction and it's not necessary to purchase a carrier bag in order to receive a token.



Community Activity

Please come and support one of our year 5 students at a community litter pick event that she has organised!

Date: Sunday 5th November

Time: 10am

Meeting Location: Wendover Memorial Hall

Please bring bin bags, gloves and litter pickers if you have them. If not, don't worry, as there will be equipment available for you to borrow.

Lets work together to keep our village beautiful!



Dates for the Diary

Break up for half term	Friday 20 th October	3:30pm
Back to school	Monday 30 th October	8:40am
Flu Vaccinations (all years)	Wednesday 1 st November	
Meet the SEND team	Thursday 2 nd November	2:30pm-3:30pm
6W Class Assembly	Wednesday 15 th November	9am – 10am
Year 5 Space Day	Thursday 16 th November	Consent/payment required by 2 nd November via ParentPay
6J Class Assembly	Wednesday 22 nd November	9am – 10am
Year 6 Graffiti Art Workshop	Friday 24 th November	Consent/payment required by 1 st November via ParentPay
6S Class Assembly	Wednesday 29 th November	9am – 10am

Premier Education Wraparound & Holiday Club

We're thrilled to share the weekly activities schedule for our Afterschool Wraparound Program, running Monday to Friday. Our goal is to provide a fun, engaging, and enriching experience for your children.

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: Jaki Birch

✉ Email: jbirch@premier-education.com

☎ Phone: 01296 620 097

General Inquiries: Martyn

✉ Email: office-11@premier-education.com

☎ Phone: 01296 620 097

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



Lunch-time Performing Arts Clubs

at Wendover Junior School

Grow in confidence, develop communication, co-ordination and collaboration AND have FUN!

MONDAYS with ALANA
Musical Theatre Club (yrs 3-6)

WEDNESDAYS with DANIELLE
Drama Club (yrs 4-6)

THURSDAYS with ALANA
Drama Club (yrs 3 & 4)



We are delighted to partner with ***Dramarama Clubs*** to provide lunchtime performing arts opportunities for our students in the school library.

Children are invited to either bring a packed lunch to the club or get a fast-pass to their hot dinner and join after they've eaten

The new term starts on Monday 18th September and places should be booked directly with Dramarama on their website.

Term starts Mon 18th Sept. Places must be booked online:

www.dramaramaclubs.uk

Fancy learning a musical instrument?

There are still spaces in our extensive range of instrumental lessons.

Did you know we offer:

Drums/Bass/Electric Guitar (Pippa Beckford)

Piano/Keyboard (Michele Beckford)

Brass (Steve Kitchen)

Strings (Gareth Hart)

Classical Guitar (Chris Milton)



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.

Spaces still available in: Brass (Trumpet, Trombone, French Horn) Strings (Violin, Viola, Cello) and Classical Guitar

Some lessons can be taken in small groups, which reduces the cost.

Applications for:

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

Brass please email rjkitchen@sky.com

Family Support

Our Time

The charity supports children of parents with mental health difficulties, see further information [HERE](#)

Support for Families and Staff

The [Support and Resources for Schools and Families in Buckinghamshire](#) document has been updated with further contacts and links for finance and budgeting, health and wellbeing, food and cooking advice. Please share with staff, families, colleagues, friends and let us know of anything we have missed.