



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 6.2.26

Respect

Responsibility

Reflection

Resilience

Dates for your diary

Activity	Dates	Action for Parents
SEND parent meetings	4 th ,5 th , 10 th – 12 th Feb	
Parent Consultations	11 th and 12 th February	
Year 5 trip to Aylesbury Mosque	11 th February	
INSET Day	13 th February	School Closed
Half term	16 th February – 20 th February	School Closed
PTA Movie Night	26 th February	Save the Date - info to follow
Year 6 Residential parent information event	2 nd March	3:45pm
Year 6 God and the Big Bang	4 th March	Consent and pay on ParentPay
World Book Day	6 th March	
Year 5 Class Assemblies	10 th , 11 th ,12 th March	
Year 4 trip to Cuffley ALC	16 th March	Consent and pay on ParentPay
Year 3 trip to Celtic Harmony	18 th March	Consent and pay on ParentPay
INSET Day	27 th March	School closed

Letters / documents sent this week

Letter/Email	Action
WCEJS Rockstar Battle Friday 6th February	See for competition details
Y6 Residential Information Meeting	Meeting details
Spring Term Extra Curricular Clubs	Details, dates and how to book
Y6 God and the Big Bang workshop	See letter for details

Pupil led fundraising activities this half term

Date & time	Activity
Friday 6 February - lunchtime	Table top sale in aid of Breast Cancer UK
Thursday 12 February	Table top sale in aid of Florence Nightingale

The items being sold include things the children have made themselves, as well as small novelty and stationery items. These are pocket money style sales and children are welcome to bring in a couple of pounds to help support each cause.

We kindly ask that any money brought in is in change rather than notes.

Worship

This half-term's theme is belonging; this is part of the school council's Mental Health and Wellbeing Passport.

Our focus this week was humility. We shared the parable of the wedding feast. A guest arrived and sat themselves at the most important seat; they then had to move further and further down the table. Another guest seated themselves at the lowest position and was invited to move up. We thought about when we put the needs of others ahead of our own.

Our focus next week will be commitment.

Weekly Highlights

Year 3

Year 3 children have enjoyed using natural materials to make marks and colours, thinking about how people in the Stone Age would have created art with colour

Children have completed their sentence stacking in English - each class creating a persuasive text about visiting the Neolithic village of Skara Brae.

Children enjoyed using percussion instruments to rehearse and perform their 4-beat noted rhythm

Year 4

The Year 4 children showed great creativity and resilience in music, designing their own Gumboot Dance while playing the glockenspiel and singing – very impressive! It was the children's last lesson on la clase in Spanish and the Year 4s enjoyed playing bingo and completing sentences to describe what would be in an imaginary pencil case.

Year 5

Year 5 have worked exceptionally well on their maths unit on fractions and percentages. They have a good understanding on fraction, decimal and percentage equivalences. In addition they had great fun using everyday objects in the classroom to make an art installation. I must say there were some very interesting and impressive installations. Well done!

Year 6

Year 6 were excited to be able to browse all the Book Fair books and create their wish lists. It is wonderful to see such excitement about books and reading!

Learning Update

What do we mean by fluency?

We are working hard to ensure that children develop their fluency. In short, this means that children are able to apply knowledge and skills immediately and without conscious effort.

We learn first. We then practice before moving on to new learning. Regular opportunities are provided in lesson for children to over-learn.

In explaining this to the children, we have used a number of analogies. Professional footballers will spend many hours practising passing, so that they are able to perform well under pressure. Musicians regularly practise basic techniques, so that their playing seems natural. Actors practise their lines so that they deliver a polished performance.



Why is fluency so important?

In maths, good basic number knowledge is crucial to fluency. Knowing your times tables, number bonds and the four basic operations greatly help children solve more complex problems. In reading, children understand the text far more when they are able to decode words quickly and accurately. When writing, using basic punctuation accurately and fluently results in more fluid writing, better overall structure and clearer meaning. In Science, children with fast recall of prior knowledge and processes are able to investigate more effectively. In other subjects, being able to remember knowledge and techniques helps learners to be more creative, thinking more about what they want to do rather than how to do it.

Fluency, leads to less frustration, less effort being required and more permanent knowledge. In short, being fluent with the basics allows you to perform more effectively.

Learning Update



Practicing fluency at home

We expect all children to engage in Extended Learning (homework). This can greatly help their fluency and also helps children establish good attitudes for secondary school and later life. Doodle maths is specifically designed to build fluency in maths.

Our expectations for Extended Learning:

Year 3

- Reading – 10 minutes a day
- Weekly spellings
- Doodlemaths – 3 lots of 10 minutes a week
- Timetables practice – as much as you can!

Year 4

- Reading – 20 minutes a day
- Weekly spellings
- Doodlemaths – 3 lots of 10 minutes a week
- Timetables practice – as much as you can!

Year 5

- Reading – 25 minutes a day
- Weekly spellings
- Doodlemaths – 3 lots of 10 minutes a week
- Timetables practice – as much as you can!

Year 6

- Reading – 30 minutes a day
- Weekly spellings
- Doodlemaths – 3 lots of 10 minutes a week
- Timetables practice – as much as you can!

Our Extended Learning Policy can be found at: <https://www.wendover.bucks.sch.uk/web/policies/188848>

Educational Visits

Educational visits really help to support learning. We strive to offer educational visits that are both engaging and affordable.

We need parents to support educational visits in order that they continue. Parent consent is required to take children on visits outside the local area. We also need sufficient contributions to cover the cost of travel, entrance fees and tuition at the places we visit.

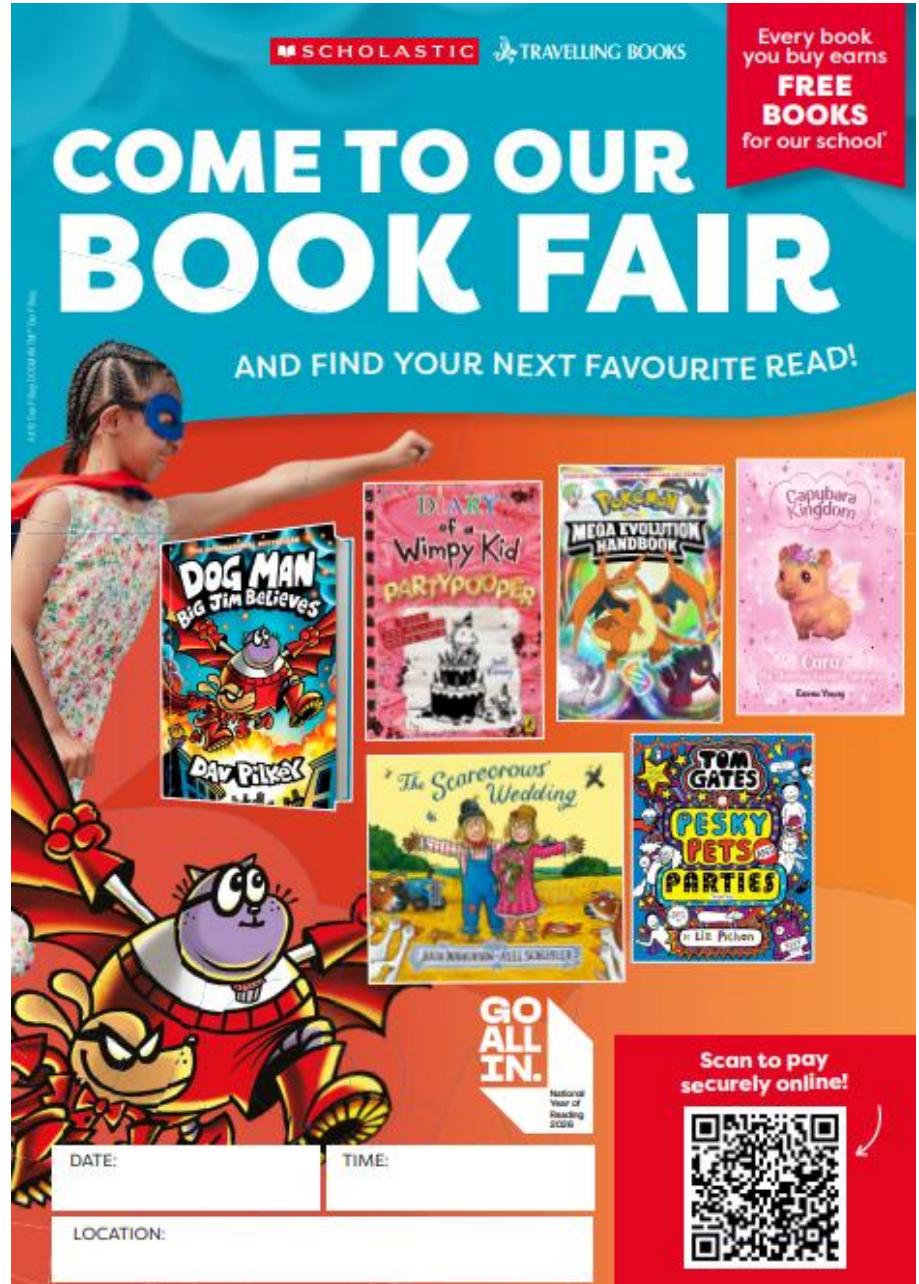
The school office spends a lot of time chasing parents for their consent; this is not sustainable. Some visits have received insufficient contributions. We are reviewing our offer of educational visits and we may need to cancel visits without high levels of parent support.

Travelling Book Fair

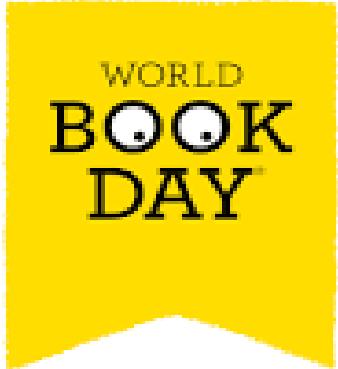
We are pleased to tell you that the Travelling Book Fair is returning to our school this year. It will take place in the hall on the following days:

- After school on Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th February 2026
- During Parents evening: Wednesday 11th February and Thursday 12th February, until 6pm.

We appreciate your support, as the proceeds from the fair will help us to fund new books for the children. Children will be coming over the course of next week with a wish list. Further details are found on the attached letter.



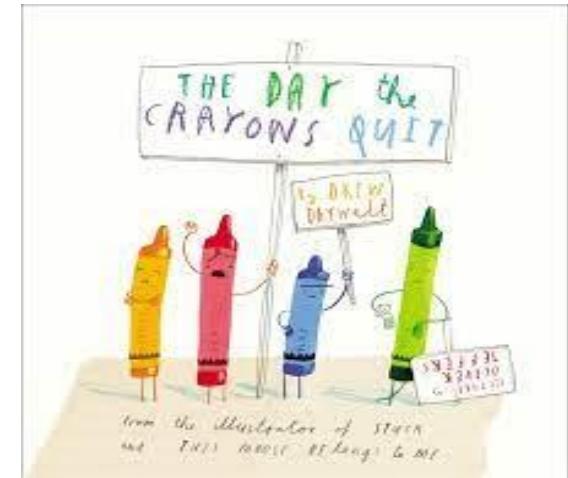
World Book Day



We are celebrating World Book day on Friday 6th March 2026! As we value reading very highly, it would be wonderful for all of us to take part in this special day to celebrate the joys of reading. During the day, the children will take part in a range of different reading-related activities, including reading to children from John Hampden School.

Favourite Book Character Costumes

We are asking for the children to come to school dressed as their favourite book character on World Book Day. Prizes will go for the most creative costume. Please do not go to any great expense to provide a costume. Many costumes can be made from things you already have with creative accessories! For example, children can simply dress up in their favourite colour and this will represent one of the crayon characters from 'The day the Crayons quit' by Oliver Jeffers.



Book tokens

We have, once again, been fortunate to receive a £1 book token for every child in the school to spend on a new book! These will be given out on World Book Day, so keep an eye out in your child's bag.

Parent Led Support Group

The chance to connect with like-minded people who have walked in your shoes.

Walking With You is a parent led support group for anyone supporting children and young people, up to the age of 25, experiencing mental health difficulties.

You can take part discussing shared experiences with other parents and carers as well as having **mental health professionals from CAMHs** on-hand to support and answer any questions you may have.

Currently sessions are being ran by Microsoft Teams and occasionally face to face. you can join or leave at any point (meetings are not recorded). However, we send notes out from the sessions.

Our next sessions are:

Monday, 23rd of February, 10am – 11.30am (TEAMS)

THEME: EATING DISORDERS

Friday, 23rd of March, 10am – 11.30am (TEAMS and/or face to face)

BULLYING AND CYBER BULLYING

If face to face, the session would be held at Princes Risborough Golf Club, but also online on Teams for those who can't join face to face. Please specify where you would want to attend.

If you would like to join our session/s or would like further information, please contact:

Roxy Uritescu, Participation Lead,

Bucks CAMHS at Roxy.uritescu@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk



Support Sessions

Free Parent Support

- **Parent Puzzle Workshops (0–5 years)** - Fun and practical sessions to help parents understand their child's behaviour and build a calmer, happier home.
- **Little Talkers (18 months–3 years)** - Relaxed sessions for parents and their child to support speech and language development through play, songs, and routines.
- **The Nurturing Programme (3–11 years)** - Learn new ways for parents to connect with their child, manage behaviour calmly, and strengthen family relationships.
- **Talking Teens (11–18 years)** - Support for parents to improve communication with their teenager and reduce conflict.
- **Keeping Your Child in Mind (All Ages)** - For parents who want to reflect on their own relationships and parenting style to make changes that can positively impact your child's emotional wellbeing
- **Balanceability (2.5 – 5 years)** - Develops confidence, spatial awareness, dynamic balance, and how to ride without stabilisers

Young People's Courses:

- **How to... Build Confidence and Self-Esteem** - Help your teenager feel better about themselves, build resilience, and navigate peer pressure and social media.
- **How to... Cope with Stress, Anxiety and Low Mood** - Equip your teenager with tools to manage their emotions and take steps toward a more positive future.
- **How to... Move up to secondary School** – we will be releasing dates of courses and webinars over the next few weeks.

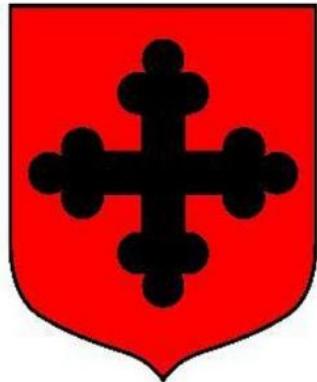
Children's Courses:

- **Wellbeing Matters (Ages 7–11)** - A fun one-day workshop to help children understand their feelings, build confidence, and learn how to get along with other

All sessions are free and delivered by experienced practitioners in a welcoming, inclusive environment. For more information or to book a place, parents can visit [View our courses, groups, and support | Family Information Service](#).

Parents and young people are also able to drop in to Southcourt Family Centre Plus for **free and confidential advice and information** Mon – Friday (posters attached).

Support Sessions



We teach —
LAMDA
— Exams & Qualifications

🎭 Unlock Your Child's Confidence and Creativity

LAMDA Performance Coaching & Exams with Danielle Gaglione from Dramarama

Unlock your child's potential through the world of performance! LAMDA (London Academy of Music & Dramatic Art) tuition builds confidence, communication skills, and creativity—skills that last a lifetime. Danielle Gaglione, an experienced drama coach from Dramarama, offers engaging 1-2-1 or paired LAMDA performance coaching sessions in acting or introductory poetry during afternoon lessons. Whether your child loves acting or simply wants to be more confident, this is the perfect opportunity to develop accredited life skills in a fun and nurturing environment .

⭐ Book a LAMDA taster session at WCEJS and enjoy 10% off Danielle's usual fees!
Spaces are limited—don't miss out!

www.dramaramaclubs.uk/LAMDA

Wraparound Care at Wendover CofE Junior

We're delighted to partner with Premier Education to provide high-quality wraparound care at our school.

Our Ofsted registered provision gives children a safe, fun, and stimulating environment before and after school, while supporting busy parents with flexible childcare options.

Why Choose Us?

- Experienced, caring staff (all DBS checked)
- Paediatric First Aid & Safeguarding trained team
- Fun, structured activities every day
- Healthy snacks included (dietary needs catered for)
- No deposit or registration fee

Who Can Attend?

- Open to Years 3–6
- Flexible ad-hoc bookings available
- Block bookings welcome

Contact Us

 01296 620097
 office-11@premier-education.com

Drop off & Collection

The sessions will take place at the Wendover Youth Centre. Children attending the breakfast club will need to be dropped here. Our staff will then take the children over to the school to start their day. For the Afterschool club, children will meet our team on the school playground. Once registration has been completed, the group will then walk to the Youth Centre, Collection can begin from 4:00pm.

Session Times & Prices

Breakfast Club

 7:45–8:45am

 £6.50 per session

After School Club

 3:30–6:00pm

 £13.50 per session

 15% sibling discount

Holiday Clubs (including INSET Days)

Full Day

 8:30–3:30pm — £37.59 per day

Extended Day

 8:30–6:00pm — £46.80 per day

Book a Place

Booking is quick and simple through our online portal.

- Book online up to 1:00 pm on the same day.
- For emergency bookings after 1:00 pm, please call us directly on 01296 620097.

(Please note: late/emergency bookings may include an admin charge.)

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

Brass please email rjkitchen@sky.com

Free parenting programmes and resources

If you are interested please click on the below:

<https://familyinfo.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/advice-and-support/parenting/free-parenting-courses/>