

Newsletter Friday 13th November 2020



**IMPORTANT
NOTICE**

Important Information for Parents...



Lots to share this week.

I am sorry to say we have had to close Bubble 5 (Elm, Willow, Yew & Maple) and Woodlands because we have had two staff (not connected) test positive for COVID-19. Although I am sad we have had to do this, I know you will wish the members of staff well and hope they get better very soon with no complications. It's always a difficult decision but we need to keep everyone safe. Home learning and communication with staff teams will continue. If your child presents with symptoms please get them tested and let us know. The self-isolation ends 21.11.20 and pupils will return 24.11.20. Thank you for your continued support - it really means a lot.

We also had to close Nursery, but this was due to shortage of staff who were looking after their own children who are having to self-isolate. Getting agency/supply staff is very difficult in our school as we have such high standards to keep your children safe, but also, we don't want people who have been working in and out of different schools - potentially spreading transmission.

We've texted and emailed all Parents to say we are moving the INSET day from 18th December to 23rd November. This is so we can use the day for staff PPA and free up staffing towards the end of term if people are absent, and hopefully not have to close any additional classes. Therefore, the last day of term is now Friday 18th December 2020.

School photographs will now be in the summer term. You can imagine trying to do this at the moment is a logistical and potentially catastrophic nightmare. Fingers crossed we will then return to having photographs yearly in the Autumn Term of 2022.



During Lockdown 2 we are continuing not to allow offsite visits and have even stopped our visits to the allotment. We are suffering financially with the increased cleaning etc and the fact we have had to cancel the lettings of the hydrotherapy pool. The running of the hydro pool is very expensive and the letting usually just about cover the running costs, but not this year.

Following the consultation of the Relationship and Sex Education policy with parents, the updated policy is now on the website for you to read

<https://www.wfs.worcs.sch.uk/page/?title=Policies&pid=16>

ELM Class News

We have been learning a firework song with firework sounds in, making salt paintings and printings, making and trying toffee apples with sprinkles and some have been learning about the gun powder plot!



October Holiday Club

Once again we had some great days. We have been carving pumpkins, Scavenger Hunting, created autumn themed art, been alternative Trick or Treating plus the usual activities in and around Russell House. As always - A HUGE thank you to the fabulous staff and wonderful children.



HAZEL Class

HAZEL Class had great fun learning all about campfire safety, everyone could remember how to keep safe. We all loved making our own s'mores on the campfire.

In P.E HAZEL Class have been playing curling, this is a new sport for us and everyone remembered how to roll the stone and score points on the mat. To begin with HAZEL worked in pairs to roll the curling stone to each other - we loved learning curling and can't wait to carry on and play games together throughout the half term.



Remembrance Day

Although it was very different this year, we all took time to remember those who gave their lives for ours. Various classes did lots of things, made biscuits, drew poppies etc



More Zoom sessions for Sixth Form

On Wednesday Class 13K and some pupils from Class 12B took part in a Zoom meeting with Di from Mencap. They learnt that Mencap can support you up to the age of 24 to gain work experience and eventually a job.



Outdoor Good Fortune.



Last week Class 11P wrote to local stores asking if they could help them with resources for improving the outdoor areas in school grounds, this is part of their John Muir Award. Luckily JTF in Kidderminster replied and the Manager, Andy Mitchell, provided Class 11P with compost, bulbs, gloves, paint, and brushes. Julie Grainger went to fetch them on Thursday, which was tricky in her very small car!!

Friends of Wyre Forest School - AGM

To all Parents, Carers and Staff

You are all invited to join us at our first Zoom AGM on Monday 7th December at 8.30 PM.

If you would like to attend, please email Chloe Smith (Chair) on chloejsmith@hotmail.co.uk and I will send you an invitation via email, and the relevant documents (agenda, minutes, and reports). The main business of the meeting is to vote in the Committee. We currently have a vacancy for Secretary, so please let me know if you are interested! The meeting is not expected to last longer than 30 minutes. Hope to see you then.

A little bit about Friends of Wyre Forest School

We are a friendly group of parents and carers, whose aim is to raise money via setting up events such as Christmas and Summer Fairs, and enable pupils at the school to take part in opportunities to choose and wrap Christmas, Mothers' and Fathers' Day gifts. All money raised is redistributed into the school via requests from staff. In the past we have contributed to buying bicycles and bike equipment, and an all-weather gazebo for outside lessons, among other things. We meet a couple of times a term, and although Covid 19 has put a stop to events for the time being, we will meet on Zoom and discuss how to spend the money already raised. Most of our current Committee members have children in the upper school, so we are keen to meet anyone who would like to join us, especially those with younger children.

You can contact us via the school office. office@wfs.worcs.sch.uk



Christmas on-line market!

One of our Parents has set up a Christmas on line market in aid of Wyre Forest School.

The Facebook group where everyone is welcome to join to browse our stalls from the comfort of your own home and Christmas shop safely while supporting our school and local crafters and businesses is called Wyre Forest School Christmas Market 2020. The link is below
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/804388543677313/?ref=share>

We are also looking for any online raffle prizes that can be sent direct from the business/crafter to the winner (with no contact). We already have pledges and vouchers for, afternoon tea for two. Photo portrait session, body shop goodies, Christmas cake, chocolate bouquet and much more. These will come direct from the giver to the winner.

If you are interested please contact Suzanne Giles-Pulley via email suzannegiles-pulley@hotmail.co.uk



Christmas Appeal from a member of staff.

2020 has been a difficult year for many and with that in mind, I have launched a Christmas appeal to help local families in need still have a lovely Christmas - we are supporting with Christmas presents for children and festive food hampers for families within the Wyre Forest area. If you feel you, or someone you know would benefit from this then, please email in full confidence to KWheatley@wfs.worcs.sch.uk or join our Facebook group "a very merry mint Christmas" (see link below).



https://m.facebook.com/profile.php?id=1189189761482569&ref=content_filter

Thank you, Kate.

Looking forward to seeing Children in Need Photos next week.

