

Newsletter Friday 20th November 2020



**IMPORTANT
NOTICE**

Important Information for Parents...



Please remember we are closed on Monday 23rd November, we have moved this from December, so the last day pupils are in school is now Friday 18th December.

Covid-19 update...

At the moment we have 4 members of staff who have tested positive for COVID-19, this is out of 190 staff and 300 children. I know you will wish them a speedy recovery and we apologise for the knock-on effect this has on people's lives. We have many staff who have children in other schools who are having to look after their own children because they are now self-isolating. I know it's incredibly difficult but we have to follow the strict guidelines that we are working to. We're also only human and will make mistakes along the way - for that I apologise but everything is done to protect pupils and staff. For those parents that do not believe in COVID-19 or the severity of the virus I make no apologies about the way we are doing things.

Where classes are self-isolating or not at school because staff are self-isolating, class teams will be providing work (remote learning). During lockdown 1 we had some lovely photos of some of the work and activities you did at home - we'd love to see what you're up to now.

To try and limit contact even between bubbles, we are now ensuring that every class eats their lunch within their classroom so there will be nobody using the dining room.

Please make sure you are checking texts and emails from school daily as things are happening very quickly at the moment, especially if we have a positive case of COVID-19 (results that may affect the day to day running of the school can come through very late).

Please make sure we have up to date contact details for yourself.

As I have never led a school through a pandemic before, and hopefully after this never will again, I am very keen to learn from the experience and would very much welcome your feedback. Therefore, I would like you to complete a very quick survey

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/GTHQPZZ>



Recycling our rubbish

The Pickup Artists

Pupils from the Bridge at WFS have been analysing litter that they collected around the school grounds. On one day they collected 34 pieces of rubbish, 5 were plastic bottles and 4 pieces of paper/cardboard that could be put in the recycling. We also we found one Sharpie pen that could be re-used. Litter picking was done with appropriate COVID precautions, using equipment provided by the Kidderminster Pick Up Artists. Thank you to them.

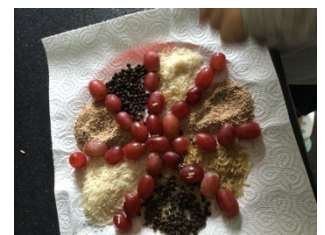
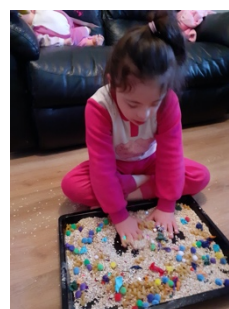
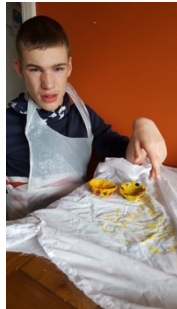
When back in the classroom the pupils sorted pictures of rubbish into the correct bins and made a display in the classroom. See photograph below.



The Bridge pupils are working on the Green Tree Award from the Woodland Trust, which encourages pupils to care for the outdoor space around school. They are planning on planting trees around school in December...watch this space!

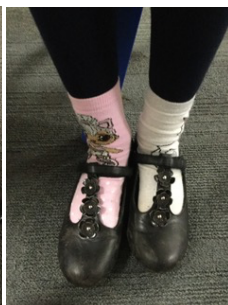
Diwali

WOODLANDS and WILLOW Classes have been enjoying some remote learning about Diwali and recreating some patterns and making lights



HAZEL Class

On Monday, the staff and children in HAZEL class wore odd socks for National Odd Sock Day for Anti - Bullying week 2020. We have been doing lots of work around what makes us different and how being different makes us all amazing in our own unique ways. The children demonstrated what a good friend is and does and loved showing off their odd sock combinations!



A parent's guide to Instagram



Instagram is one of the most popular social media apps amongst both children and adults. There are over 1 billion active users of which 500 million use it every day so there is a good chance you or our pupils have already come across it.

Instagram is a free photo and video sharing app which enables users to upload their own or to look at other peoples from around the world. Users can “follow” anyone they like to see their posts and anyone can see what the user uploads. This can be solved by setting the profile to private in the same way other apps like Facebook and tiktok are done.

Also, Instagram has a new feature which is called “reels” which is very similar to TikTok (look out in our future newsletters for a guide to TikTok). It is also used by celebrities and influencers to project a glamorous image of their world so it is easy for young children to believe what they see.

Children should be 13 years old to create an account and Instagram have a set of guidelines which forbid images such as nudity, crime, hate, terrorism etc but obviously things can slip through the net like with all social media apps.

To find out more visit;

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/instagram-everything-you-need-know-about-photo-sharing-platform>

Kidderminster College have asked us to share that they are offering a selection of online/distance learning courses. The qualifications have been designed to enhance and enrich an already established knowledge of the childcare and social care system. Topics cover Understanding Behaviour that Challenges, Children and Young People's Mental Health and Understanding Safeguarding.



The courses are available to anyone over the age of 19 and who has lived within the EU for the past 3 years.

The courses are free to applicants as long as they meet funding criteria. Once an application is made online, each person is contacted to go through a quick check to make sure they are eligible. Once this is established, they can then start the enrolment process.

The courses are now live on our website, if anyone is interested please apply through the following link: <https://www.kidderminster.ac.uk/distance-learning/>

If you would like further details or have any queries, please contact Victoria Strand at Kidderminster College. Her email address is: vstrand@kidderminster.ac.uk

Help available for Parents



OPERATION ENCOMPASS

Are you concerned about a child or children in your school who are experiencing domestic abuse?

Would you like FREE advice and a professional dialogue with an Education Psychologist about how to best support them?

Call the Operation Encompass Teachers' Helpline

0204 513 9990

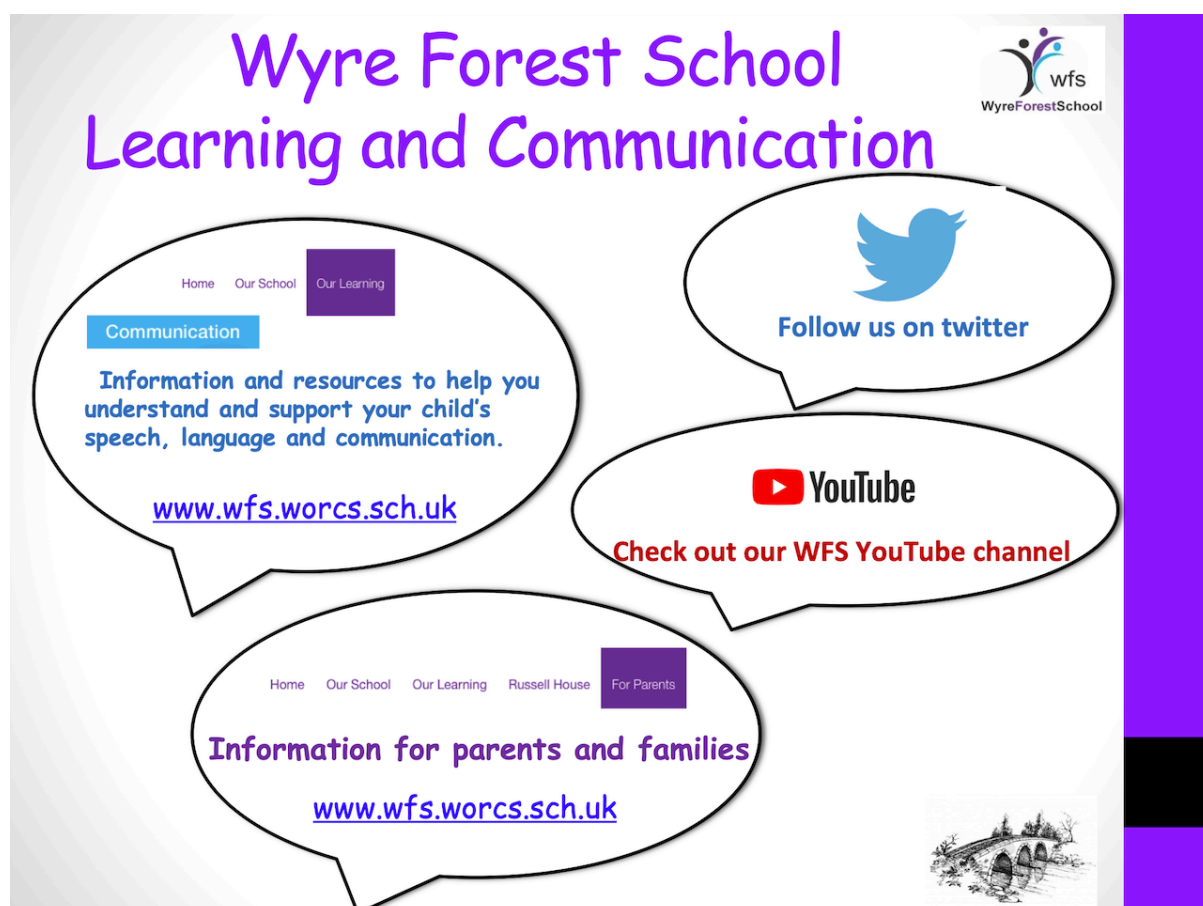
(Charged at local rate)

Monday to Friday 8.00am to 11.00am


Funded by



Home Office



Wyre Forest School Learning and Communication




Home Our School Our Learning


Communication

Information and resources to help you understand and support your child's speech, language and communication.

www.wfs.worcs.sch.uk



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Information for parents and families

www.wfs.worcs.sch.uk



Your local Health Visitors are here for you

If your child is under 5 years old and you need advice on issues such as feeding, behavior or constipation, contact our telephone advisory service on:

0300 123 9551


Available Mon-Fri 8am-4pm


www.startingwellworcs.nhs.uk



EVERY CONTACT SHAPES A LIFE

Help for those age 11-19





Starting Well Partnership
EVERY CONTACT SHAPES A LIFE

CHAT HEALTH

IF YOU'RE AGED 11-19 YEARS YOU CAN TEXT THE NUMBER BELOW TO SPEAK TO A SCHOOL NURSE FOR CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE AND SUPPORT ON A RANGE OF HEALTH AND WELLBEING ISSUES

text: 07507331750

www.startingwellworcs.nhs.uk

EVERY CONTACT SHAPES A LIFE