

# Newsletter Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021

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https://www.youtube.com/results?search\_query=wyre+forest+school

# **Information for Parents**



Last week, 11th, 12th and 13th October, Russell House received its annual Ofsted inspection. The inspectors phoned at 9.30am and arrived at 11am for three very intensive days. When the report is published, we will look forward to sharing it with you. Following the inspection, I have been hit by a very nasty cold & cough that is doing the rounds so have been off school for a few days and working from home. I hope you don't get it because it's not been fun.

COVID has certainly not gone away and schools are experiencing ever increasing numbers of positive cases. I am the Chairperson of the Headteachers of Special Schools Association for Worcestershire and every single Special School is struggling with staffing because of Covid and illness. We know a lot of local mainstream schools that have shut whole year groups and gone to virtual learning to try and limit the outbreak. Unfortunately, we have had a couple of parents who were angry about the text warning that if we get to unsafe staffing levels, we may have to close classes. Those of you who have known me over the past 6 years, know that this will be an absolute last resort and will only be because we are unable to keep pupils safe. I will always put the safety of our pupils first.

We have a COVID contingency plan if we do have an 'outbreak' at WFS and we are looking at possibly reintroducing masks for adults (and those pupils who want to) in communal areas. We are still having a big focus on hand hygiene, respiratory hygiene and ventilation and we have a cleaner who cleans all the touch points constantly throughout the school day. We have also had the CO2 monitors from the DfE so we can make sure the rooms are well ventilated. We are still limiting visitors into school but we of course then all go home to our friends and families thus making this very difficult to contain.

If your child is unwell, they must stay at home and if they have any COVID symptoms or test positive with a lateral flow test they must get a PCR test and self-isolate until the result is known. Please continue to let school know the result and where a positive PCR is logged, we will text parents of that class to let them know.

FOR SECONDARY AGED PUPILS - please ensure you read the very important letter about lateral flow testing that has been emailed home to everyone in Years 7 and above.



We are pleased that holiday club can continue this half term and it is well attended again!

As the nights draw in and Halloween/bonfire start, please take extra care when out and about.

On this picture one child is dressed in a dark coat and one in a bright coat - it is really frightening.

It has still been a fantastic half term. With everything going on in the world, the children of WFS are an absolute credit to their families. They really manage so well and take everything in their stride. We have had many new pupils start with us and they have all settled extremely well, and it feels like they've always been with us – we are very proud of you all. Well done all the pupils and staff at WFS for everything this half term.

And finally, a Molly update! Unfortunately, Molly will have to have her corn surgically removed during half term and then have time to recover. She is missing school very much and the children are missing her, because they are always asking about her. I think she is quite bored being at home!



# Covid-19 Vaccinations for pupils aged 12-15.

We have emailed all Parents of children aged 12-15 years last week, a letter from Hereford & Worcester NHS Team who will be vaccinating the relevant aged children in school (if they haven't already been vaccinated and if Parents give consent). We are expecting the Team to come in to school on 12<sup>th</sup> November, as soon as we have consent forms, we will send them home.

## Class 12S

Pupils in Class 12S have been exploring how to take a more active role in their own EHCP meetings and learning more about what an EHCP is.

Pupils have been busy creating a PowerPoint about themselves to present at their next Annual Review.











#### Class 13B

Class 13B have been undergoing Postal Operative work experience where each student takes it in turn to complete this role for the whole week. So, to finish off this amazing half term Lucy has been the chosen one for such a popular activity. Lucy collected mail from the school office and successfully delivered it to the pigeon holes in the staff room. Lucy knew why there were reflective stripes on the Postal bag and high vis jacket... Lucy said "you can see the bright colours". Staff agreed and explained postal workers deliver post most mornings, and late afternoon and evenings, and these times could be dark in certain seasons... super work Lucy!!



#### **OAK Class**







OAK Class enjoyed making Incey Wincey Spiders using playdough and pipe cleaners, practising their fine motor and counting skills.



#### Class 10H





Well done 10H, the students have been perfecting their vacuuming skills by practising using our Henry! I don't think the floor in the food room has ever been so clean. Don't forget to encourage your children to practise their vacuuming skills at home, they are expecting you to ask for help! Please forward any action shots to the form tutor.



#### **MAPLE Class**

During our wellbeing lesson this week, MAPLE Class have been decorating their own Halloween biscuits. We did good turn taking and good waiting for our turn. They were very yummy!











#### **ASH Class**

This week ASH Class have enjoyed learning about Diwali in preparation for our assembly next week, they tried on traditional clothing, made candle holders out of clay and took part in a Diwali celebratory dance.













# **HOLLY Class**

HOLLY Class had a wonderful time joining FIR class for their big circus performance to celebrate the end of our topic. The pupils all joined in brilliantly, dressed up and performed for their friends. Well done to Holly Class for a fantastic first half term!









# **ACORNS - Reception**

In ACORNS – Reception Class this week, we have been carving pumpkins and exploring sensory trays related to Halloween this week and making spooky potions and drinks.











## **BEECH Class**



This week BEECH Class have been working on developing their skills using patterns in number rhymes, developing their role play and functional play skills and enjoyed each other's company and joining in play with their peers. They also enjoyed their swimming session too.



















# **CHERRY Class**

CHERRY Class had a really lovely PE lesson to celebrate the end of half term exploring lots of different activities.











## **ROWAN Class**



ROWAN Class have been continuing their work on sculptures, trying to do as much as they can on their own, as well as learning to work together to build group and even whole class pieces. We had to wait and take turns, as well as accepting that we couldn't move or change someone else's part of the sculpture, which was difficult at times ...we persevered and made great progress at working as a team. The class have also worked together in small groups, to make junk robots. We are looking forwards to joining Poplar Class for a Robot Party. We will show off our robots and tell friends how we made them from recycled materials, before joining in robot dancing and having a celebration snack.













#### **RUSSELL HOUSE News**

Students and Staff at Russell House have enjoyed a Halloween Party this week - we played Halloween bingo, and lots of other party games. Mackenzie was student of the week for joining in with activities and creating a new game for all the children well done Mac











# **Morrisons - Good to Grow**



FREE gardening equipment for our school!!!!

For every £10 you spend (in store or online) at Morrisons, you'll get a Grow Token to help our school get everything they need to get growing. Download the My Morrisons app today to start collecting Grow Tokens and choose Wyre Forest School to donate them to.

We will be able to exchange their Grow Tokens for FREE gardening equipment to get kids growing.

NOVEMBER 2021	
8	Year 1 hearing tests in school
11, 12 & 15	Relevant Sixth Form Students – NCS, Phase 1 (Boundless Outdoors)
12	<ul> <li>Covid Vaccine offered to students aged 12 -15.</li> </ul>
	Anti-Bullying Week
	Early Years start of World Nursery Rhyme Week
15	Year 1 hearing tests in school
16, 18 & 19	Relevant Sixth Form Students - NCS, Phase 2 (in school)
17	6th Form Coffee Morning
22 - 26	Relevant Sixth Form Students – NCS, Phase 3 (in school)
23	Orthoptic visit for Reception Age children.
26	School Photos

Please note, some of these event dates and details may change.

Please remember to keep the school office updated with any change of address, contact details etc, thank you.

Have a lovely half term! See you back at 8.45am on Monday 1st November!!