



Newsletter Friday 4th February 2022

www.wfs.worcs.sch.uk office@wfs.worcs.sch.uk

Information for Parents



We were due to have face to face Parents Evening on 16th February, but due to the high levels of cases in school and in the Wyre Forest area generally, we have been advised to do this virtually. Class Teachers will contact you and arrange a convenient time/date to hold a parent meeting either by zoom or telephone. As long as we can ensure all parents have had a meeting by 18th February, we can be relatively flexible. Please remember that staff have families and elderly relatives to look after too so the meeting will be at a reasonable time.

We are very keen to find out your views of 'Parent/Teacher Meetings' at WFS. Please could you spend 5 minutes completing this survey so we can ascertain your views and make any necessary changes. Please click on the link.

<https://forms.office.com/r/p8xVJGW2Qg>

On the 16th February we were due to have our Life Beyond School Event. The last time we were able to do this person was February 2020 and it was absolutely brilliant. Mrs Thompson is working hard with all the external providers to produce a video to help parents to make some informed decisions about life after WFS. I really hope next year we can do this in person.

Please note, we are only allowed to supply Lateral Flow Tests to our Secondary aged pupils and above i.e., those in Years 7 – 14 only.

School Uniform Update: School Uniform can now ONLY be ordered through the School Trends Website <https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/> and no longer via the School Finance Office.

Leavers this week; We have said "Goodbye and Good Luck" to two long standing members of staff this week, Julie in Finance and Zena who has worked with all of our sixth form classes. We wish you both the very best in your new positions!

The menu for week commencing 7th February will be Week 3.



Friends of Wyre Forest School



We are holding the AGM for the Friends of Wyre Forest School on Wednesday March 2nd at 9.30, at Russell House, please wear a face mask and everyone is welcome to attend. If you would like to join our friendly bunch, please see the letter at the end of the Newsletter as we would really like to welcome new members to join our Team.

Vaccination Information

Covid Vaccination – Phase 2, 12 – 15 Year Olds.

We have been advised by The Vaccination Team that they will be in school on Tuesday 8th February 2022, to give the second dose of the Covid vaccination for pupils aged 12-15, who have had their first dose. This is also now been opened to all children aged between 12-15 years, who didn't receive the first dose of this vaccine (this may be due to not being in the age bracket at the time) and now wish to consent. **An email has been sent to all relevant Parents with a letter and a link to consent to the vaccine. The link to give consent expires on 5th February 2022** Please ensure you complete the form before this date, thank you.

Year 9 DTP/MEN ACWY Vaccination

The Vaccination Team will be in school on Wednesday March 2nd to deliver this vaccine to all Year 9's. They are no longer sending out paper copies of consent forms, all Year 9 Parents will be emailed the letter (after 8th February) with the link to click on to give / not give consent. The link will expire on Friday 25th February, so please respond before that date. **Please click on the link even if you DO NOT give consent, thank you.**

OAK Class

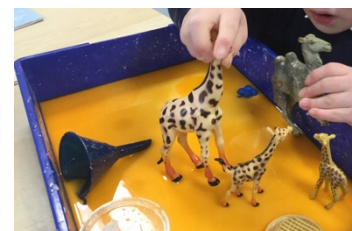
Oak Class have continued to explore their topic of weather, making and placing rain gauges in Forest School and flying kites. We have also enjoyed making Chinese lanterns to celebrate the Lunar New Year.



ELM Class

As part of our 'My favourite book' topic we have been sharing the story of 'Giraffes can't dance'.

The children have been engaging in a variety of activities all based around this book. We have had a giraffe sensory tray, been ordering events in the book and answering questions about the story. The children have enjoyed creating textured pictures and had a fabulous music session all based on the story. Great work ELM class!



MAPLE Class



MAPLE class have been working hard on letter formation this week. The children used flour and play dough to practice writing their names.



12K

In ILS, Class 12K chose to make sweet and sour noodles for Chinese New Year.

The supermarket had sold out of fortune cookies so we made our own fortune messages with sugared doughnuts. The students practised using chopsticks and listened to Chinese music whilst they were cooking.



Other Sixth Form News:



Dancing Leaves - A new Creative enterprise in the Sixth Form have been making Valentines cards and gifts this term, such a clay hanging hearts and material flower brooches.

We will be running a pop-up shop on Friday 11th January in the Atrium at breaktime.

Items can be brought by students and staff. Prices from 20p-50p – more information will be given next week.

HOLLY Class

This week HOLLY Class have loved celebrating Chinese New Year, we have been busy making Chinese decorations, role playing the 12 animals and even attempted eating with chopsticks. Gung hey fat choy!



ACORNS – Reception

In ACORNS Reception Class we have been continuing our learning all about colour, looking at the colour's orange and green. We also tried to make our own orange juice using a juicer, which was delicious and healthy; and then we tried some cantaloupe melon too, which was green on the outside and orange on the inside. As we have been exploring the colour green, our favourite task was using peas in our new marble run. We built lots of different constructions and enjoyed putting the peas down, squishing them and some of us even tasted some peas too.

Reminder: Acorns reception class are all wearing their favourite colour on Friday 11th February!!!
Let's see how colourful we can be!



ASH Class

This week ASH Class have been talking about keeping safe again, this time we have talked about the safe way to cross the road. We need to remember to "stop, look, listen and think." before we cross the road. We have also talked about the importance of brushing our teeth twice a day, morning and night. Ash classed enjoyed practising brushing teeth getting rid of all the sugar that had built up.



Class 10P

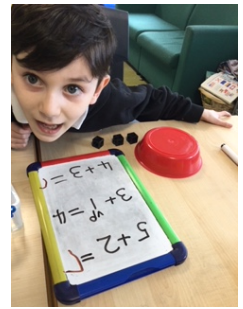
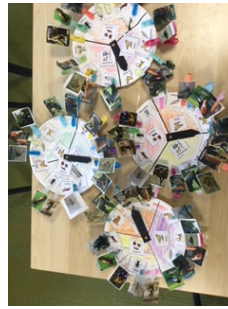
We have been learning about money in our maths lessons and Sam remembered his learning and brought in some very old money and money from different countries to show us. It was really interesting to see a halfpenny coin and a three pence coin. Well done Sam, you remembered your learning and we loved looking at the money.



ROWAN Class

In ROWAN Class we have been continuing our work on sorting animals by their features and enjoyed making a sorting spinner to help us to put mammals, insects and birds into the right groups. We used an alphabet board to help us to put jungle animals in alphabetical order and in maths we learnt a magic trick to add two numbers together!

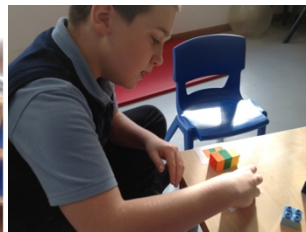
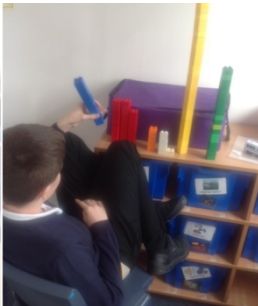
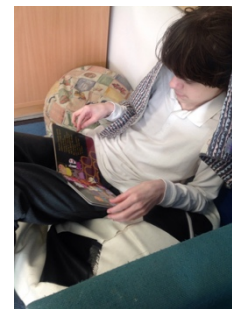
Our favourite activity was making an animation to show a safe route to school on a maze map, using zebra crossings and staying safely on the pavement. Well done Rowan class another busy week!



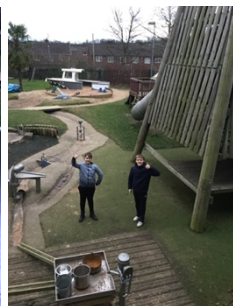
BEECH Class



This week BEECH class have been developing their play skills and making choices. We have been working on being independent. We also enjoyed "going on a bear hunt" at forest school.



RUSSELL HOUSE



This week we went to the Sycamore Centre and the students had lots of fun exploring. Here are the stars of each day for this week at Russell House



CHERRY Class



In Maths, we have been learning about money. To support this, children have to use money every day to buy their drinks, dinner and toast. The children have loved getting their money ready and whoever hands out the toast/dinner has to check that they have been given the correct amount. The price for a piece of toast on Friday was £1! Very expensive!!!

There has been some brilliant counting and recognising different coins - well done!

Also, Quinn spent Thursday cooking pancakes and creating a pancake party for his friends in CHERRY Class. He asked children if they wanted one, served them and then sat and ate his with his friends.



PINE CLASS

As part of our 'Weather' topic and our story of the week 'Thunder Cakes' PINE Class made their very own thunder biscuits. Decorating them with chocolate spread as our stormy sky and different coloured icing to be the lightening and clouds. Children showed a lot of interest in this activity (and adults), even trying to sneak in a cheeky taste of the chocolate spread and a biscuit....or 2....



FEBRUARY 2022

7	Start of Children's Mental Health Week
8	Safer Internet Day Covid Vaccinations for Age 12 -15 in school
9	
10	2pm— Early Years Stay and Play – Apologies, cancelled.
14	Fly2Help airport in school, post-14 pupils only
16	VIRTUAL - Parents Evening and Life Beyond School 3.30pm – 5.30pm
21	HALF TERM
22	HALF TERM
23	HALF TERM
24	HALF TERM
25	HALF TERM

CHILDRENS MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

7th – 13th February is Children's Mental Health week, there will be lots of activities around school supporting this....watch this space!

Be a **STAR** of your emotions

We all experience different emotions from time to time. In just one day, you may feel proud, excited, sad, anxious, nervous, and many other emotions.

Remember, all feelings are valid.

Shining a light on how you feel, particularly when you're feeling overwhelmed or anxious, can help you find coping strategies to support your emotional health and wellbeing.

STOP
Take a step back from whatever you're doing. How do your body and mind feel? Try putting your hands on your heart and belly, then quietly count to 10.

TAKE A BREATH
Practise a breathing activity. As you gently breathe in and out, trace one finger up and down the fingers of the other hand. How do you feel now?

AND
Continue to breathe deeply. Notice if any emotions come up; begin to label them. It's okay to not be okay! Try a sensory activity like push-ups, star jumps or using a calm down jar.

RELAX
When ready, share how you feel. Write it down, draw a picture, or talk with a trusted adult. This can help you find a way to resolve the situation. Then, do an activity to relax and let go!

To get started, follow the steps on the STAR model.

OPTIMUS EDUCATION
Part of Shaw Trust

Safer Internet Day

is on the 8th February. Pupils around the school will be taking part in activities and competitions. This year's theme is "All fun and games?" and will enable pupils to start thinking about how safe their games are, age appropriateness, and staying safe while online chatting. Parents are invited to a parent zone session in which you can ask any questions related to online safety.

A purple poster for Safer Internet Day. It features a grid of small white dots with a large white 'C' shape formed by the dots. In the center of the 'C' are icons of a laptop and a smartphone. The text is in white and yellow. The main title is 'All fun and games?' followed by 'Your guide to gaming'. Below that is the date 'Tuesday 8 February 2022' and the time 'Live: 4.30pm-5pm'. A yellow box contains the text 'CLICK HERE TO JOIN' and a link. Below that is a paragraph of text and another paragraph. At the bottom right is the 'parentzone' logo and the text 'Member Resource'.

All fun and games?

Your guide to gaming

Tuesday 8 February 2022

Live: 4.30pm-5pm

CLICK HERE TO JOIN

Or paste this link into your browser:
<https://youtu.be/4keZKmxIUSA>

How much is too much gaming? How can I tell if a game is suitable for my child? Are there any benefits to online gaming?

Join our live event for parents for the answer to these questions and much more.

Stream it on YouTube and join the chat to get involved. Want a question answered?
Email members@parentzone.org.uk

Member Resource
parentzone

Please remember to always keep the office updated with any change of contact details, either by phone on 01562 827785 or via email office@wfs.worcs.sch.uk Thank you.



Please will you join the Friends of Wyre Forest School?

The Friends of Wyre Forest School is a friendly group of parents, carers and school staff, who have created a charity to help fund the purchase of toys and equipment and days out for the pupils of Wyre Forest School.

In the past we have funded the purchase of:

- bicycles and bike equipment (helmets etc).
- An all weather gazebo for outdoor schooling
- Seed boxes for outdoor schooling
- An electronic till for the sixth form to use while learning life skills at Blossom Tree Cafe in Springfield Park.
- Christmas crackers for Christmas lunch
- Chocolate selection boxes for pupil Christmas presents

We have also provided gifts, cards and wrapping materials, and ourselves for some very successful Christmas, Mothers' and Fathers' Day events which gave our pupils the opportunity to choose, buy and wrap gifts in a safe environment - an experience so many of them have been unable to enjoy before. Staff are able to approach us with requests for items they need and days out via a Request Form.

Our main fundraisers have been a Christmas and a Summer Fair, with lots of activities such as Throw Wet Sponges at the Teachers and Go-karting.

We also fundraise via Bags to School, and are always looking at other ways to raise funds which are safe to do.

We struggled greatly throughout the lockdown, but hope we have come out the other side now, and are looking forward to welcoming new members as a matter of urgency, as the children of some of our committee members are going to be leaving WFS this summer. Without new members we will be forced to fold.

Everyone who is a parent or carer or a staff member is already a member of Friends of Wyre Forest School. What we need is people who are prepared to attend meetings and help out with our events - all this requires is a DBS check that the school will arrange and pay for.

If you can spare a few hours a term to help out with Friends of Wyre Forest School, you will make an enormous difference to the lives of our pupils, and they really deserve that. You will have fun, too!

Please show your interest by contacting Chloe Smith on chloejsmith@hotmail.co.uk , or via the school office. See you soon!

