

Newsletter 27 – Spring 2



Wistaston Academy
Primary and Nursery School
Together We Learn • Together We Achieve

This Week's Events

Date	School Events	International Events
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday		
Friday		
Advanced Notice:	Tuesday 24 th June 12.40pm – 3.00pm – Reception's Inspire Afternoon	
Polite Notice:	Please note the school office opens at 8.30am each morning and is manned until 4.30pm. Before and after these times, there will be no access to the Main Reception area.	

We are Brilliant Winners

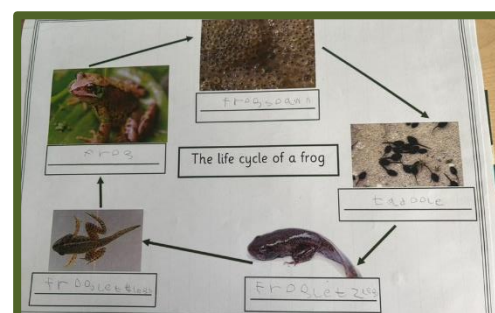
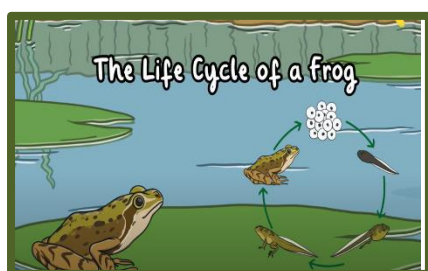
EYFS: Bella (RA), Jamie (RB)

KS1: Theo (1B), Declan (2A), Yoanna (2B)

KS2: Archie S(3A), Jenson (3B) Kaja (4B)

The Hubs

Continuing with this half-term's theme of journeys, the children in Hub 3 have been looking at the physical journey that a frog makes from frogspawn to adulthood. The children have completed life cycle diagrams in their literacy books, and have explored frogspawn-like textures in the outdoor Tuff Tray.



Nursery

This week in Nursery we have concluded our story 'Poo in the Zoo' and the children took one last visit to Hector Gloop's Museum of Poo! After making a new discovery the children were keen to visit Hector to learn all about dinosaurs. The children have enjoyed learning about all the different dinosaurs that lived many years ago.



Reception

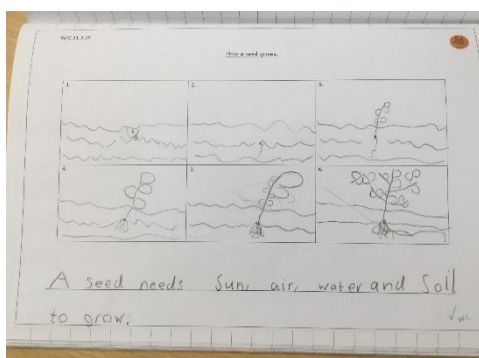
This week, the children have been busy outdoors, planting lots of different seeds in our greenhouse. We can't wait to watch them grow over the next half term.

We have also had a beach themed party, to celebrate the snail and the humpback whale's safe return to the docks. The children have enjoyed paddling their feet in the water, building sandcastles, playing outdoor games together, having donkey rides and creating bunting to decorate our outdoor area.



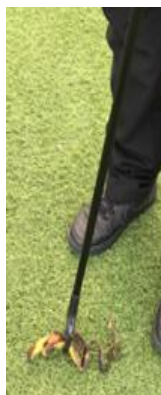
Year 1

This week we have been introduced to our new topic 'growing' for next half term. In teams, we labelled a plant life cycle with a plant's key parts and what it needs to grow. Then we drew a plant life cycle and wrote a sentence explaining what a plant needs to grow.



Year 2

In PSHE this week, we discussed our environment. We went on a walk around school and thought about areas we liked and if there were any problems in our school environment. We thought about how to solve the problems and used litter pickers outside to make our environment cleaner.



Year 3

This week in science we had lots of fun using iron fillings to investigate magnetic fields.



Year 4

This week, the children explored tenths represented as decimals. They played a game of snap, where they had to find matching pairs of pictorial and numerical representations of tenths.



Year 4 also had the pleasure of celebrating Eid with our wonderful Muslim community. We enjoyed trying lots of new foods and they were all delicious!



Year 5

We have been exploring three different types of mechanisms: pulleys, gears and levers. We were connecting the wheels together to see how the teeth of wheels interlink and move all of the components. We were using rulers, glue sticks and rubbers to see if we could lift objects and whether positions affected the movement. Finally, we used a pulley mechanism to pull different objects from top to bottom.



Year 6

This week, Year 6 have worked incredibly hard on story writing. We are so proud of their efforts and feel that they are their best pieces yet. Take a look at some examples below.

Tuesday 10th April
Perry Jackson Creative writing with character description

As the morning birds chirped, Percy was thrilled to hear that he was going on a trip with his two favourite people: Mum and Grover. On the first hour, the sun shone a beautiful yellowish gold over the horizon. But then, the darkest of clouds began to form overhead blocking out all of the sunlight, distracted by the change of weather, Percy's mum was paying attention, ran over a pothole and the car started to jolt uncontrollably. As they came to a stop at the side of the road, but that would be their greatest mistake. In the distance, a conspiracy of

dimly lit was staring out of his large skull. It was a Minotaur. The Minotaur was full of rage and had successfully tracked down Percy. Before he could yell out to his mum and Grover about the danger, the Minotaur came out and stomped the ground with anger looking right at its next target: Below their feet, the earth vibrated, and the foul fiend charged towards them. Percy's mum realised what had happened and shouldered Grover for protection, but she knew she couldn't keep up with the running. Full of worry, she knew she had failed, because Percy was about to be the Minotaur's next victim. Hopeless and desperate, she worried about her son's future...

Monday 10th April
Perry Jackson Creative writing

I never would have thought today would be so traumatic. It started like any other Saturday, getting ready for the night. Even he said, "I'm not going to pick up my best mate." Grover was laughing and arguing to the night, which was an old joke. The Minotaur began to move. We didn't think anything of it until heavy rain started to pour on the windowscreens. Then, at that moment, the car's headlight got out, trying to get signal to call somebody. Thunder rumbled above, and flashes of lightning streaked across the cloudy black sky. Howling winds tore through the gabled branches of trees. From the distance, I saw two glowing, tiny red eyes, staring deep into my soul. I gulped loudly, and slowly pointed to what was a large, beastly creature, reading thought for us. As time, everything changed.

Art News

Focus on Year 6

We are delighted that as a school we have been asked to create a flower mural on the walls of the toilets of a local café: "Big Mugs"! They have suggested a floral style inspired by the Dutch still-life artist Rachel Ruysch (1664 – 1750). We are mixing Realism with spray painting and will work into our piece with acrylic brushwork and posca pens. It is hard to see the finished result yet, but our beginnings give a little hint of what is to come. So far, we are enjoying blending our colours with spray paints!



PE News

Y4 Swimming



All children from 4A will be going swimming after Easter as part of the compulsory national PE curriculum. **The sessions will begin on the afternoon of Tuesday 29th April and will finish on Tuesday 3rd June 2025.**

The children will be travelling, by mini bus, to the Crewe Lifestyle Centre, accompanied by members of the Year 4 team. Your child will need to bring in their swimming costume/shorts and a towel. If your child forgets their kit, we will contact you during the morning to try to arrange for their kit to be dropped off.

Children are not allowed to wear any jewellery in the pool, so all must be removed before they enter. Please ensure that all earrings are removed before children come to school, if the children cannot remove the earrings themselves. In addition, long hair must be tied up.

If your child has a medical condition which prevents them from swimming, they will require a signed doctor's note; otherwise they will be expected to swim. If your child has a one-off medical condition on one of their swimming sessions, then please speak directly to their class teacher, or send in a signed note. We will not accept the children's reasons for why they are missing swimming, without confirmation from an adult.

Clubs

Clubs will restart on Monday 28th April 2025, more information will follow after Easter.

Picture News

Every week in assembly we share the Picture News image and question with the children. This resource helps children to learn about the world around us, whilst linking to British Values and supporting pupil's personal development.

We hope this enables you to have an interesting conversation at home with your child.



In the news this week

English football club, Manchester United, has announced plans to build the biggest stadium in the UK. The new stadium will cost around £2 billion, seat 100,000 spectators and will also be used for many other things, including concerts. It is thought the new development will be built close to the club's existing stadium, Old Trafford. Once it's ready, the current Old Trafford stadium may be demolished.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > What is the closest football stadium to where you live? Is it ever used for things other than football?
- > Do you enjoy watching football or other sports? Have you ever been to a game in a stadium or perhaps visited one? Ask someone at home to share their experience.
- > Share your thoughts on the new stadium. Do you think it is a good idea?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss



Maths News

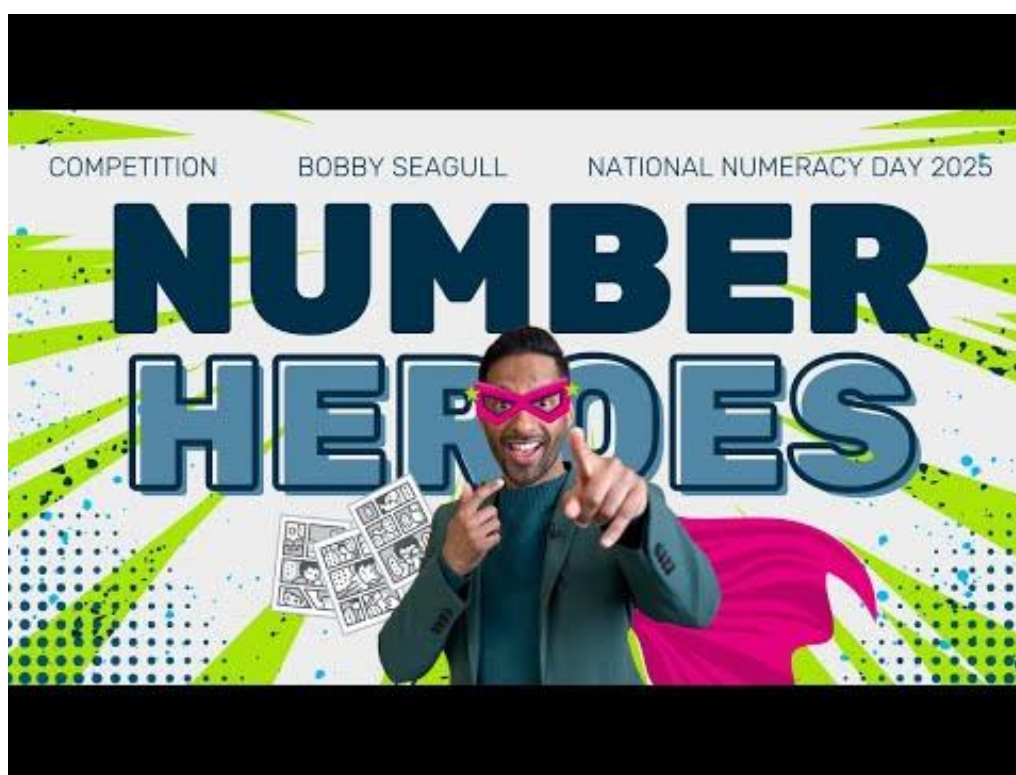
Fancy winning a **£50 gift voucher**!? Take part in the **Number Heroes competition**.

When you grow up, how will you use numbers in your life? Maybe you would love to be a firefighter, fashion designer, or footballer? Or do you see yourself as a scientist or a secret agent? Let your imagination run wild, and **create a picture of how you will use numbers in your dream job or hobby**.

You can draw, paint, collage, use a computer, or use any other way you'd like to create your picture!

Prize categories are for: EYFS, KS1, LKS2, UKS2 and SEND/EHCP

Give your picture to Mrs Martin by **2nd June**. Find out more: <https://youtu.be/imcKqcn4Gyw>



TTRS and Numbots


All children from Reception onwards will have access to an app called **Numbots**. If your child is in Year 2 and above, they will also have access to an app called **Times Table Rocks Stars (TTRS)**.

Logging on for just a few minutes each day will make a massive difference to their basic number/times tables skills.

Check out the dedicated TTRS website for parents to answer any questions

<https://ttrockstars.com/parents/>

TTRS game focus:



The image shows a game interface for 'TTRS Soundcheck'. On the left, a purple panel contains the 'TTRS' logo with wings, the title 'SOUNDCHECK', and the subtitle 'BEAT THE CLOCK'. Below this, a red banner reads 'ANSWER EACH QUESTION BEFORE THE TIMER RUNS OUT'. At the bottom of the purple panel, four game rules are listed with icons: a clock for '25 QUESTIONS, 6 SECONDS EACH', a question mark for '× QUESTIONS ONLY UP TO 12×12', a coin for '5 COINS PER CORRECT ANSWER', and a checkmark for 'UPDATES YOUR HEATMAP'. The background is a vibrant stage scene with a character with red hair playing a saxophone, surrounded by 'Rockstars' brand speakers, a drum set, and bright stage lights. A red banner in the top right corner says 'SINGLE PLAYER'. Decorative yellow lightning bolts and a red plus sign are scattered on the purple background.

TTRS

SOUNDCHECK
BEAT THE CLOCK

SINGLE PLAYER

ANSWER EACH QUESTION BEFORE THE TIMER RUNS OUT

- ⌚ 25 QUESTIONS, 6 SECONDS EACH
- ❓ × QUESTIONS ONLY UP TO 12×12
- 🪙 5 COINS PER CORRECT ANSWER
- ✅ UPDATES YOUR HEATMAP