

Wraxall's School News



Inspiring – Nurturing – Achieving

It has been lovely to see the enthusiasm of the children over the last fortnight. As we settle back into school it has been great to hear their suggestions and ideas for what they would like to do to make our special school even better. I have had requests from the children to hold stalls and have more fayres organized by the children in school, children offering to lead lunch clubs including Sienna's 'hairdressing club' (I promise there will be no scissors, razors or hair dye involved!!) The Year 6s have been fantastic in helping to run the second hand book stalls and the allotment farm shop after school. We are hoping we will have more fruit and vegetables to harvest soon.

I met with the pupil governing body (KS2) this week and we discussed some of our school's Christmas plans. The children are in agreement that they would like Reception and Year 1/2 to lead a Christmas Nativity this year, while they organize a special 'Carols by Candlelight' concert with readings, poems, etc. This is a great opportunity for our creative and well organized KS2s at Wraxall to show all that they can do. They are firmly in charge of the running of this show and have already made a few suggestions including having candles and lanterns and holding the event in the Church grounds in the dark. I agree with them that they definitely have the skills and talent to produce a very special event, with Miss Hutchings overseeing their plans. They were particularly eager for our younger children to have a go at acting earlier in their school lives and said they wanted them to perform the Nativity but that the Year 5/6s wanted to have the chance to watch it during the school day because they thought the infants would be brilliant actors – something I don't doubt for a moment having seen them playing together at break and lunch times. More information will follow about this later in the year.

I want to take this opportunity to say a HUGE thanks to the FWSA. I attended their AGM earlier this week and it was great to talk about all their lovely events and plans for the year ahead and only further confirmed to me how lucky we are to have such a great group of parents, who work tirelessly to support the school. They are amazing!

Have a lovely weekend,

Amy Townsend

Dates for October 2022

Monday 3rd October - 'Open the Book' Drama for the whole school – Monday morning

Wednesday 5th October - Road Safety Talk with local Police - Afternoon – Whole School

Wednesday 12th October - Year 5 & 6 Cross Country at BGS – Morning

Wb. Monday 17th October – Compassion Week

Monday 17th October – Parents Evening 3.30pm-6pm

Tuesday 18th October – Harvest Festival at All Saint's – Afternoon - Whole School

Wednesday 19th October - Year 5 & 6 Small Schools Football at BGS (am), KS1 multi-skills (pm)

Thursday 20th October - Parents Evening 3.30pm – 6pm

Friday 21st October - End of Term 1 - Non school uniform day



Star of the Week

Reception - Whole Class

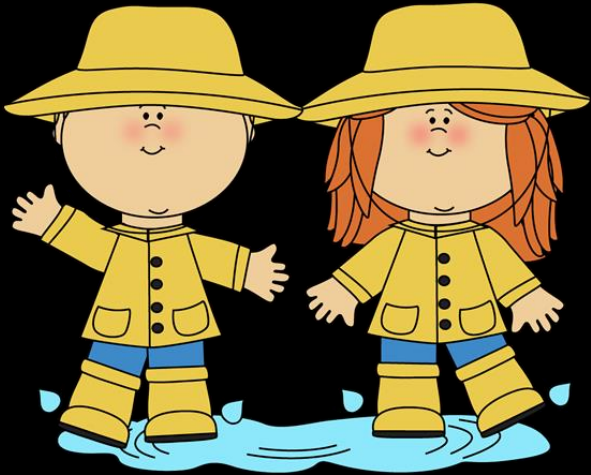
Year 1 & 2 - Celeste

Year 3 & 4 - Sophie & Levi

Year 5/6 - Jemima



Go puddle jumping



WAYS TO HELP THE WORLD

Take a shorter shower to
save water



Holiday Bookings

A quick reminder if you are thinking about
booking a holiday this year.

As a school our attendance is carefully
monitored by our Education Welfare Officer.

If your child has a total of 10 or more
sessions (10 half days) of unauthorised
absences they are likely to receive a fixed
penalty notice from the Local Authority.
The school does NOT receive the penalty
notices or any financial benefit from
referring penalty notices. The money is paid
to the Local Authority and NOT the school.

Maple Class Requests

To continue to develop our learning
provision we are requesting donations of ...

Plastic measuring jugs

China Mugs/cups, saucers, plates for the
children to play with.

Compassion Week

This year, we are holding a Compassion Week at Wraxall. As part of this week we will be holding different events to demonstrate compassion. These include Harvest donations for the Food Bank, compassion messages around the local villages, artwork for the local care homes, water saving workshops with Wessex Water and compassion fayre stalls. The children have already been really proactive in coming forwards with ideas for this week.



What have we been learning in class this fortnight?



Maple Class have been...

Exploring the lovely book 'I am Henry Finch' about thoughts.

Bringing in photos to make a family tree. Miss Townsend really enjoyed hearing the children's enthusiasm when they shared some of their finished pieces!

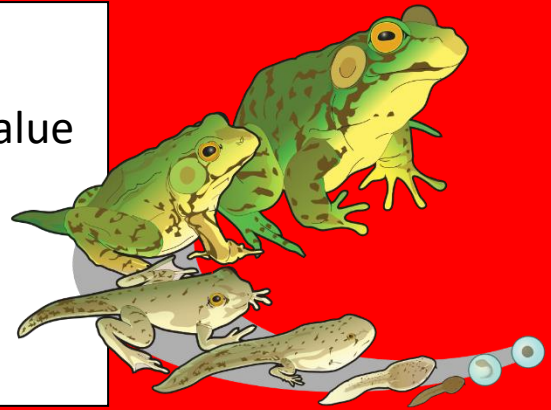
Learning the graphemes and phonemes - s a t p i n d

Willow Class have been...

Developing their understanding of place Value

Exploring and learning about life cycles of animals.

Identifying the continents and oceans.



Pine Class have been...

Exploring the book 'Starbird' in their English lessons.

Finding our 'What makes a balanced diet?'

Continuing their learning about 'Rivers' as part of their Geography curriculum and have discovered - What land forms rivers create.

Oak Class have been...

Exploring the book 'The Dam' in their English lessons.

Investigating 'Earth in Space' as part of their science curriculum

Researching the history of the 'Benin Kingdom'



Child Speak...

I really like Maths

Mimi - Maple Class



I have really enjoyed maths and art this week. I really like this school because it is joyful and friendly.

Lilia - Oak Class

I am really enjoying the football lessons. I like being in year 3 & 4.

Duke - Pine Class



New plants
in the playground

PE and Sport at Wraxall

We are fortunate to have Premier Sport with us again this year. Two of their trained sports coaches will take each class for one PE session a week. The children really enjoy these sessions and it provides them with a chance to really develop their physical literacy and skills in sport and movement. This term our focus for each class is Gymnastics.

Towards the end of term one, we will be taking runners from Oak class to compete in the North Somerset Schools Cross Country at BGS sports ground. This has become quite a tradition here at Wraxall and in past some of our individual runners have done exceedingly well. We are having extra running training on a Friday lunchtime to prepare.

Mr Leech has been busy training with our school Football team. They have been training after school on a Wednesday. We are hoping to take part in the North Somerset Schools tournament and also play matches against other schools during the year.

Finally, we are super excited to welcome Windmill class from St Marys to take part in our very own KS1 multi-skills competition during the last week of term. This will be the first of many (hopefully!!) sporting competitions between the two schools.

Premier Sport also provide a sporting activity every lunchtime for the children to take part in at lunchtime. The activities are varied and are usually at the request of the children and cater for the different age groups. Of course, each class does still take part in the daily mile. KS2 will run most days and KS1 on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday - all weather permitting of course.

If you are interested in after school club activities that are run most days by premier sport, then please do ask at the office.

Mrs Gritten - PE and Sport Lead

SAFEGUARDING & E- SAFETY

“Everyone is responsible for safeguarding”

Wraxall CofE Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our pupils. If you are a parent, child, volunteer or member of staff you should share any concern you may have about a child or an adult with either our

Designated Safeguarding Lead, Amy Townsend or the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead, Vicki Sheppard or the Safeguarding Governor, Hazel Mallett. If this is not possible or appropriate and you need to report a concern yourself the numbers below are the main contacts: If your concern is regarding the Headteacher you should contact Gary Lewis, CEO for Lighthouse Schools Partnership

Anyone can refer a safeguarding issue via the NSSCB website (North Somerset Safeguarding Children Board).

North Somerset Social Care 01275 888 808

Local Area Designated Officer (LADO) 01275 888211 (weekdays 8.45am-5pm or 4.30pm on Friday)

Emergency Duty Team 01454 615165 (outside office hours)

If you would like more information then please check out the school website for the LSP Safeguarding Policy and a Wraxall School Policy Summary.

CHURCH NEWS

Monthly Coffee Morning

We will be launching our monthly coffee morning next Monday 3rd October which will run every first Monday of the month in the Cross Tree Centre from 8.45am. Cake and refreshments will be provided and little ones are very welcome too! Contact Elize in the [Parish Office](#) for more information.

Harvest Appeal 2022

As we approach harvest time we will be thinking about how we can support those who are struggling to provide food for themselves or their family as the increases in the cost of living continues to put pressure on our finances.

We are asking that if you can, please join us in supporting the foodbank this Harvest as they begin their appeal to help local individuals and families in crisis by providing emergency food supplies sourced from donations gathered by schools, businesses and the general public.

Both churches will be welcoming your donations of unopened, in date and undamaged tinned and dried food:

All Saints: Foodbank Dropbox in church porch 24/7

St Bartholomew's: Church: Please leave donations in the porch on Wednesday 28th September, Saturday 1st or Sunday 2nd October.

We will be celebrating Harvest in our church services on Sunday 2nd October:

10.00am Holy Communion, All Saints' Wraxall

6.00pm Holy Communion, St Bartholomew's Failand

Our annual Harvest Tea will be taking place on Sunday October 9th. Please let us know if you would like to join us by [email](#).

Sunny Saplings!

Our Resident toddler group, Sunny Saplings [is](#) running again this term with a new time slot of Friday Mornings 9.00am-11.00am in The Cross Tree Centre at Wraxall Church. Come along with little ones for snacks, drinks, activities and friendly chat. Contact Elize in the Parish Office for more information: wraxallwithfailandparish@gmail.com .

10 tips for parents and carers

HOW TO BE GREEN WITH YOUR TECH

Right now, humans aren't living sustainably: we're taking too many resources and not leaving the world in a fit state for future generations. Old tech products are a clear example: if we throw them away, the poisonous lead and mercury inside can get into the food chain through the soil. Recycling tech, though, has its own issues: it's often exported to countries where the law doesn't protect people from hazards. Whole villages (including children) sort through discarded devices to remove useful parts and substances like gold, silver and copper – often putting their health at risk. Finding ways to re-use tech is the greenest option.

So what can we do with those cupboards and drawers full of old phones and unwanted computers?
Reuse, recycle, donate or sell them!

1 DONATE THEM TO CHARITY

There are lots of charities that redistribute unwanted tech to worthy causes, either in the UK or in developing nations. If your old products are still working, this is a great option – as it means that new products don't have to be made. Search online for your nearest place that does this.

2 REMEMBER THE BATTERIES

Almost all batteries can be recycled – even the little 'button' ones from smaller gadgets. You could choose a box at home or school to keep used batteries in, and then take them to a designated place that collects them. Be very careful, though – button cells can be deadly if eaten by small children or pets.

3 USE YOUR ONLINE SAFETY KNOWLEDGE

If you're recycling, selling or repurposing any of your devices, make sure that all your personal data, private photos and so on have been deleted before the tech leaves your hands or is connected online.

4 REUSE THEM

Old smartphones can be used as webcams, security cameras, baby monitors or pet cams: there are apps that will configure them to do this. You can also turn an outdated phone into a TV remote control, an alarm clock that wakes you up with your favourite track, or a media centre you can take to places where you wouldn't risk your new phone.

5 TURN IT INTO SOMETHING NEW

Smartphones are more powerful than most older computers. If you have an unwanted android phone, it's quite easy to create a new computer – you could use an old TV as a monitor, meaning you just need a mouse and keyboard. There are also small devices you can buy which let you do the same with iPhones.

6 RETURN THEM

Return devices to the manufacturer or retailer you bought them from. Some manufacturers take responsibility for their products and accept them back, to refurbish and redistribute. If they don't, you could contact them and ask why: the more consumer pressure there is on shops and manufacturers, the more likely they are to act in a greener way.

7 SUPPORT SCIENCE

Let your old devices help modern research. Scientists currently investigating topics like far-off star systems, cancer treatment and earthquakes need enormous computing power. If your unwanted device is WiFi enabled, for example, you can connect it to a network so that it can boost scientists' research.

8 SELL THEM

This is also a green option as it means that fewer devices have to be produced. On top of that, you could also donate some of the money you make to an environmental charity.

9 RESEARCH DISPOSAL METHODS

If your device is beyond repair and no one wants it, get rid of it safely through a specialist tech disposal company. Check that your device won't be shipped off to another country for processing.

10 KEEP THINKING

There's no such thing as 'too many' ways to help our planet! If you come up with a better idea than ours, contact National Online Safety and tell us.

Meet Our Expert

Neil Atkin teaches scientific literacy through his non-profit organisation, Rubbish Science, which engages people in working together to live more sustainably and creatively uses waste to help address real-life problems. There are a range of environmental activities you may like to try on their website: www.rubbishscience.com.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

USEFUL LINKS: Places to donate old electrical items: www.recycleyourelectronics.org.uk/donate-electrical-goods | How to turn an old smartphone into a computer: www.makemake.com/tag/ways-to-turn-smartphone-into-pc
The rules about shops' responsibilities on tech: www.gov.uk/electrical-waste-producer-supplier-responsibilities | Two scientific research schemes which old devices can support: www.actionresearch.org/uk/get-involved-and
www.vodafone.co.uk/mobile/dreamlab | Find your local tech recycling centre: www.recyclenow.com



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