

Headteacher's message



Dear Parents and Carers,
What an incredible last week of term we have had. It has been Christmas! Thank you to all of those who were able to come and see the KS2 concerts on Wednesday. The children really raised the roof with their performances, even though for some of them it was the first time they had performed in front of such a large audience. Well done to everyone who performed and a huge thanks to the staff that work so hard to put on these events.

Councillor Paul Davis

We had a special visitor this week as Councillor Davis, one of our local councillors and a former pupil (when the school was Park Junior) came for a visit. The children were able to give eloquent responses to his questions and demonstrated their beautiful learning behaviour as the councillor walked around. As part of the visit, we discussed our fundraising to improve our outdoor provision for the children and he and his colleague Councillor Cook have very kindly agreed to each donate £1000 from their PRIDE funding making another £2000 to add to our playground fund. How amazing!



Wellies!

The children may have mentioned that next term we are aiming to have the field open even more at lunchtime, including during wet weather. If you could provide a cheap pair of wellies that the children can keep at school, that would be very helpful.

Christmas disco

Huge thanks to the PTA for putting on our Christmas discos this week. We really appreciate these extra events for the children to have fun together.

Holiday wishes

All that remains is for me to wish you the very best holiday, full of fun and relaxation. Merry Christmas to those celebrating and a Happy New Year to all. We look forward to seeing you all back in school on the 7th January.

Important dates for your diary

| Date | Event |
|------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 06.01.2025 | Teacher training day |
| 07.01.2025 | Children return to school |
| 07.01.2025 | KS2 Bouldering outreach |
| 09.01.2025 | KS2 Archery |
| 15.01.2025 | Y6 SATs parents meeting 9am or 2:30pm or 5pm |
| 15.01.2025 | Family learning 1:15-3:15pm |
| 17.01.2025 | Non uniform day £1 for charity |
| 14.02.2025 | Break up for half term 3:15pm |
| 22.01.2025 | Family learning 1:15-3:15pm |
| 29.01.2025 | Family learning 1:15-3:15pm |
| 04.02.2025 | Swimming gala at HLC 1:30 – 3:00pm |
| 05.02.2025 | Family learning 1:15-3:15pm |
| 06.02.2025 | Y2 Great Fire of London workshop |
| 11.02.2025 | Y5 Visit to the Space Centre |
| 12.02.2025 | Y5 Indoor Kwik Cricket |
| 12.02.2025 | Family learning 1:15-3:15pm |
| 14.02.2025 | Break up for half term |
| 24.02.2025 | Children return to school |

Tapestry

While we have taken the step to remove messaging from Class Dojo, we are aware that Nursery and Wrekin Giants use the message system to reassure parents that their children have settled into nursery and share important reminders. Class Dojo will still be used to share all of the exciting activities we do as a group and share general messages, and we would still love your engagement on there.

From January, Nursery and Wrekin Giants staff will continue share these more personal information with you but on Tapestry. Tapestry already has some wonderful, personalized observations from this term showcasing the learning and activities children access at nursery and can be liked and commented on by parents/carers. Parents/Carers can also add your own notes about things you have done. To ensure you get these notes for your child please make sure your account has been activated. If you have not yet activated your Tapestry account, emails have been sent this week and may also go to your spam folder so please keep an eye out. If you are having any issues with activating your account, please contact the office who will pass on the information to Miss Barnett.

Reindeer Run final total!

We are absolutely over the moon to announce that the money from the Reindeer Run has been collected and we made an incredible £2650.56! Thank you so much to you, your families and of course the children for raising that amount of money. As soon as we are back after the holiday, the children will be involved in voting for the items they would like us to purchase first.

Thank you to the Wrekin View community.

Our mission is to provide a warm, welcoming, and safe learning environment that fosters the development of every pupil.
Our vision is to cultivate an environment where every pupil becomes a happy, successful, and curious communicator.






Email: wrekinview@lct.education
Telephone: 01952 388088
Website: <https://wrekinview.lct.education/>



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This Week's Attendance




| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Whole School | 94.2% |
| Wrekin Giants | 64% |
| Nursery | 77% |
| Rec S | 88% |
| Rec J | 91% |
| Lang Class  | 100% |
| 1GP | 90% |
| 1C  | 97% |
| 2JS  | 97% |
| 2CL | 93% |
| 3A | 94% |
| 3P | 91% |
| 4KH | 92% |
| 4S | 92% |
| 5W  | 98% |
| 5J  | 99% |
| 6C | 93% |
| 6H | 95% |

ATTENDANCE UPDATE

There have been a few illnesses that meant children could not attend around school this week which has impacted our overall percentage. Hopefully with the two-week break you will all have time to rest and re-charge your batteries.

I was delighted to write out 98 certificates for 100% attendance this term as this is the most we have ever given at the end of the Autumn Term.

Have a wonderful holiday.

Miss Stephenson



2024—2025 term dates

| | | |
|-----------------|------------|------------|
| Christmas Break | 23/12/2024 | 06/01/2024 |
| Spring 1 | 07/01/2025 | 14/02/2025 |
| Half Term | 17/02/2025 | 21/02/2025 |
| Spring 2 | 24/02/2025 | 11/04/2025 |
| Easter Break | 14/04/2025 | 25/04/2025 |
| Summer 1 | 28/04/2025 | 23/05/2025 |
| Half Term | 26/05/2025 | 30/05/2025 |
| Summer 2 | 02/06/2025 | 18/07/2025 |

Celebrating Success



The teachers choose a pupil who they feel has done something special in the week for this award. This could be academic or for behaviour and conduct linked to our values of happy, successful, curious communicators.

| Class | Pupil | Reason |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| WG | Arlo | For great counting, being kind and listening |
| N | Louie | For being amazing at listening |
| RJ | Scarlett | For working hard on her smart sitting and good listening |
| RS | Eva | For making new friends and being a great role model |
| 1C | Olivia | For making positive behaviour choices |
| 1GP | Katy | For explaining her learning in a way that helps her friends |
| 2JS | Aiden | For being ready and prepared for lessons |
| 2CL | Ember | For being a happy, kind and helpful member of the class |
| Language class | Oscar | For being a superstar and graduating from Language Class |
| 3P | Drake | For showing a great enthusiasm for learning |
| 3A | Rouven & Ashaan | For demonstrating their great knowledge on Stone Age Day |
| 4KH | Ezra | For his amazing performance in the Christmas production |
| 4S | David | For working hard this week in all lessons |
| 5J | Theo-Ray | For being a positive influence on the class by being a good role model. |
| 5W | Derrick | Taking pride in his work and always showing the Wrekin View Way |
| 6C | Alia | For being successful at ice-skating and being a good role model |
| 6H | Dominka | For always trying her best in every area of the curriculum. |

Readers of the week

Our readers of the week have been working hard on their reading in school and at home.

Lang Cl Barbara
 1C Olivia
 1GP Chukwuemeka
 2JS Leona
 2CL Mehmet
 3A Rai
 3P Edie Edie
 4KH Harper
 4S Ann
 5J Farhan
 5W Aafiyah
 6C Izzy
 6H Jakob

Parent information



Telford & Wrekin Cooperative Council
Protect, care and invest to create a better borough

CHRISTMAS
Holiday
ACTIVITIES

Monday 23 December 2024 to Sunday 5 January 2025

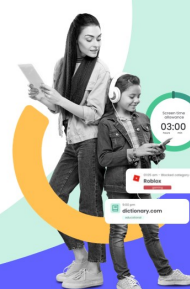
£2
ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE

tw LEISURE
RICOH
Imagine. change.

on selected activities only

Qustodio

The all-in-one parental control and screen time solution



This week we have discovered a free tool that you can use to monitor your child's

screen time and usage. Really handy for the holidays when children have access to more technology. There is a paid version on here, but the free version is very good and would suit your needs.

<https://www.qustodio.com/en/>

There is a brilliant programme of activities for families this holiday.

Please check the link at https://indd.adobe.com/view/b093fbeb-3d6f-4d29-bf39-dc99d723f8df?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=

and book on to attend.

Happy Healthy Active Holidays Winter Activities are live!!

Winter HHAH activities are live now!!!
Check out the booking system at hhah.telford.gov.uk to see the fantastic activities that Telford and Wrekin have running over the Christmas period. Spaces are filling fast so get booking. If you require any support with your booking please

Help with Childcare Costs

There's financial support available for eligible working parents to help with the costs of childcare. You can claim up to £2,000 tax-free childcare for children up to the age of 11.

This can be used to help cover nursery fees or the cost of childcare in the school holidays and wraparound care including before and after school clubs.

The saving can only be made when using formal Ofsted registered childcare providers. Further information about the support available can be found at <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

Primary School Admissions



The deadline for primary school admissions is fast approaching.

You should apply for your child's school place now if they were born between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021.

Please apply via - <https://www.telford.gov.uk/info/20026/school-admissions/3247/applying-for-a-school-place>

Applications close on Wednesday 15 January 2025. Have a question? You can get in touch via email: admissions@telford.gov.uk

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SAFETY ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Currently, children are growing up in an immediate and throwaway culture when it comes to content that's consumed online. So much material is now deliberately created to be shorter in nature – and may often contain hidden elements such as advertising, or extreme political and cultural views. With complex algorithms built to keep people on their phones and engaging with social media content, it's becoming increasingly difficult to reduce time spent on these platforms.

1 REDUCE DOOMSCROLLING

It's concerning how common for young people to spend hours 'doomscrolling': trawling through social media and aimlessly viewing every post they see, many of which might make them feel sad or anxious. Social media can be useful for keeping in touch with friends and family, as well as staying up to date on current events. However, it's important to use it with a clear purpose, instead of endlessly scrolling through content, which could lead to young people accidentally discovering harmful material.

2 TALK ABOUT THE CONTENT

It's important to keep apprised of the kind of content that a young person is being exposed to. Discussing what they're watching online can help you understand why they're using social media in the first place. Furthermore, ensure that children are aware of hidden content, such as advertising of a product – and that they know how to spot that the creator is being paid to talk about it.

3 FIND POSITIVE ASPECTS

Despite all the concerns, there's plenty of wholesome content on social media. It's worth spending time with children to help them find something suitable and enjoyable. Perhaps you'll even discover a joint interest, and you can enjoy the content alongside the child. As part of this, you should also point out why certain things shouldn't be given attention, explaining why it isn't suitable and why it's been created in the first place.

4 REDUCE SCREENTIME

Young people can sometimes be unaware of the exact amount of time they spend looking at social media. Smart phones don't just have the capacity to monitor screentime; they also record how much time is spent on each app. Consider setting targets to reduce this and support children to meet these goals, gradually reducing the amount of time spent on different apps.

5 FILL THE VOID

Monitoring and reducing screentime can create a lot of free time to fill, and young people can even face withdrawal symptoms when made to step away from their phones. To mitigate this, consider what offline activities you could introduce the child to, and what they would enjoy. This can ensure that young users will permanently cut down on their screentime, rather than temporarily doing so while they know it's being monitored.

6 REDUCE NOTIFICATIONS

One way in which social media platforms keep people coming back is through notifications. The algorithms behind these apps track people's daily habits, including the times of the day where they're most likely to engage with the platform. This data is then used to deliver specifically timed notifications to draw them back in. To avoid young users being exposed to this tactic, simply turn off notifications for the app in their phone's settings.

7 LIVE IN THE REAL WORLD

Overexposure to social media can distort someone's perception of the real world – from body norms to social conventions. This filtered environment can make it hard for young people to distinguish reality from online content, which is now becoming even more difficult with the rise of AI. To mitigate this concern, take time to teach young people how to discern truth from fiction, both on and off social media.

8 DIGITAL DETOX

Encouraging young people to take a 'digital detox', from even just a couple of the apps that they use, can result in an overall reduction of screentime and less exposure to potentially harmful content. Alternatively, rather than avoiding the app entirely, encourage children to take a 'digital detox' from content creators and influencers, and instead, keep in touch with friends and family – which is generally a far healthier use of these platforms.

9 MODEL GOOD BEHAVIOUR

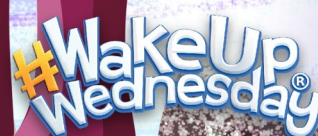
Consider the habits that you're demonstrating to your children. How much time do you spend on your phone? How much do you 'doomscroll'? Comparing your own usage with the child's could put things into perspective for them – or if it turns out that you're also overusing social media, it can turn screentime reduction into a joint mission, which you and the child can work on together.

10 BE CLEAR ON THE "WHY"

Research shows that young people can become addicted to social media. There are many schools that are moving towards being 'phone free' due to the negative impacts of using social media and phones continuously. It's important to explain to young people why managing screentime is important. Set out the benefits and ensure they have all the relevant information, so it's not just seen as a punishment.

Meet Our Expert

John Inslay is a senior leader in a Birmingham secondary school and has vast experience in leading schools over the past 15 years – including the development of computing curriculums across primary and secondary schools, writing e-safety policies and supporting schools with computing and e-safety advice.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/top-tips-for-safety-on-social-media>

We love our Learning



In nursery this week, the children have been getting into the festive spirit by building their very own Christmas trees out of Lego blocks! It's been wonderful to see their creativity and problem-solving skills shine as they carefully constructed their colourful masterpieces. Each tree is unique, and the children have loved sharing their designs with friends.



Wrekin Giants had a Polar Express role play day on the last day of term! How wonderful to see them enjoying their hot chocolate and a train ride.



Year 2 have been getting creative this week with Christmas cards and crafts.



Reception have had a visit from Santa!



And Santa also popped up again at the KS1 disco!



Look at these amazing cards!

KS2 put on two great performances for parents this week, and the icing on the cake was performing for our family and friends at All Saints Church. It was a wonderful afternoon.



We love our Learning



Year 3 had their Stone Age Day this week. During the day, children looked at the different artefacts found in the Stone Age and Iron Age. They were able to try out some of the Stone Age tools.

Children had a go at:

- making butter
- grinding wheat to make flour
- using twigs to weave the structure of a house
- using foam blocks to make Skara Brae
- using Stone Age methods to make smoke (fire)
- building tents and recreating small settlements

Children had a very busy but informative and fun day which was enjoyed by everyone!

