

WELTON ST MARY'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND

PRIMARY ACADEMY



May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Whilst this has been a short term, we have achieved so much!

Earlier this week I was showing a prospective parent around school. It was a delight to walk into classrooms and see so many different learning opportunities. There was a whole class clarinet lesson taking place, a sculpture workshop, children learning the songs for the Year 5/6 production of Shrek and Year 3 and 4 in their final rehearsal for their Olympic journey. The school was buzzing with excitement and great learning opportunities.

We recognise the importance of 'experiences' for all the children as part of our curriculum and as a way of bringing learning to life.

Year 2 children have been finding out about exotic creatures, thoroughly enjoying a workshop with Zoolab. There was excitement (and bravery) when handling the animals. The children had the opportunity to meet a tarantula, a frog, a Giant African snail, a cockroach and a snake.



You may have seen our Year 3 children undertaking some fieldwork around Welton constructing their own sketch map of the village. They were on a mission to explore the village and question why it has been designed in the way that it has. They considered ways to make the area safer, reduce congestion and increase access to make Welton a more inclusive community.

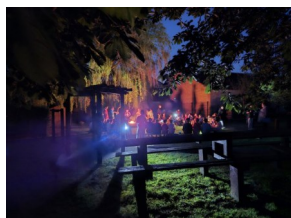


Our Year 4 children had an amazing trip to Horncastle and Skegness to carry out some fieldwork. They looked at the similarities and differences between the facilities in both locations and were confident in asking the public some questions to help them with their studies.

Our Year 4 children have also had a great workshop led by Lush, applying their science knowledge to a real life situation – making bath bombs. Not only did the children have a great time, our school smelled incredible!



Year 6 had an incredible time sleeping in our school grounds. They pitched tents, built shelters, toasted marshmallows on a campfire and spent time socialising after a busy week of SATS.



Year 5 have also had their over night stay in the school grounds. They have taken part in outdoor learning activities and some geography fieldwork.



Our Year 3/4 performance was exceptional. What an amazing history lesson about the Olympic Games the children provided to their audiences. The children took us on a journey through time. They took us from ancient Greece to the modern day. It was full of facts and delivered in a very entertaining way. A massive thank you to our Year 3/4 staff team who wrote the script.

We cannot provide all these opportunities if it wasn't for the generosity of time given by our staff. THANK YOU to all our staff for their dedication and commitment so that all our children are able to thrive.

Best wishes
Mrs N Gough

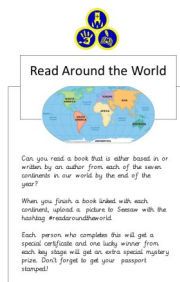


Read Around the World

It has been a joy to see the children expand their love of books by exploring new authors and themes that they otherwise might not have chosen to read. Deadline to submit completed passports will be July 12th 2024.

Back in September we challenged our students to read one book that is either based in or written by an author from each of the seven continents. Each child should have a reading passport, once the book is finished they simply upload a picture to Seesaw with the hashtag #readaroundtheworld and take their passport to the class teacher to receive a stamp for that continent. Once all seven continents are stamped hand this in to the class teacher to complete the challenge.

Each person who completes the challenge will get a special certificate and one lucky winner from each key stage will get an extra special mystery prize. If your child still wants to take part then there is still time, they have until the end of the school year.



Reminder about school uniform

Children are expected to wear black shoes during the school day. Trainers are only to be worn at lunchtimes when on the field and for PE.

Our school PE kit is Navy blue shorts, white or navy T-shirt with the school logo (or plain), plimsolls for indoor and trainers for outdoor PE, plain navy jogging bottoms.

Crossing Patrol on Ryland Road

Exciting news... We are delighted to welcome our new crossing patrol on Ryland Road helping to make the walk to and from school safer for all our children and families. Please do cross with Fiona rather than further up the road. If your child walk to school on their own, please also encourage them to walk to Fiona before crossing the road.

The importance of wearing a cycle helmet

Year 5 had a very hard-hitting but very informative cycle helmet workshop. The egg and it's helmet proved just how vital wearing a helmet is.



Agents of Positive Change

Our most recent class collective worship focusing on being 'agents of positive change' was all about the rainforests and the impact of deforestation on habitats and our world. It was a powerful and thought-provoking collective worship about the difference we can make even though we are thousands of miles away from the Amazon Rainforest. If we could all make a small change, what a big difference it would make. The advice from our Year 3 children is:

- Many trees are cut down for paper. We can recycle our paper to reduce this and we can buy recycled toilet paper!
- We can reduce, reuse and recycle wooden furniture and only buy from sustainable forests.
- We can support charities which are protecting the rainforests. At Christmas, Kangaroo Class adopted an orangutan in a Rainforest in Borneo. The money we sent will help save endangered animals like these.
- We can plant trees in our communities to replace the ones that have been lost.
- Buying foods from sustainable sources can help prevent forests being cut down for farmland. Look out for these symbols on foods
- One of the biggest reasons for deforestation is palm oil. Try to avoid buying products with palm oil
- Try to eat local foods that are in season. That way, less crops will be grown and flown all the way over the world.
- And something we can all do is spread the word! Many people don't know how important rainforests are and what we can do to help.

Our Year 3 children would love to hear about any changes you have made to help look after, and save, our planet. Please let us know by emailing enquiries@welton-st-marys.lincs.sch.uk

School Friends

A big thank you to our School Friends who have supported all our recent events. They provided refreshments throughout the day on Sports Day and before the Year 3 /4 performance. Their big event of the year, Summer Fayre, is getting closer. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on 28th June.

Summer Fayre

School Friends are really excited to announce the date of their Summer Fayre – **Friday 28th June 3.30-6pm.**

We will have our traditional fayre games, as well as a few new games to look out for. Food and drinks vans, bouncy castles and our Year 6s will also be having some stalls for the start of the event, so make sure you check them out.

We need your help to make our Summer Fayre the best yet...please donate items for the below, if you are able to, thank you.

This year the Bottle Game will be returning and we need bottles donated – **these could be bottles of shower gel, beer, tomato ketchup, juice...anything that comes in a bottle!** We are also bringing back our brilliant Rainbow Raffle – **FS – Red, Year 1 – Orange, Year 2 – Yellow, Year 3 – Green, Year 4 – Blue, Year 5 – Purple, Year 6 – Pink.**

Please see the attached poster for some ideas of donations. Any help you are able to give is really appreciated.

Donations can be handed to class teachers or to the school office between 3rd-21st June.



RAINBOW Raffle Donations NEEDED!

Please donate non-perishable items for the hampers:

 FS - RED	 YR 1 - ORANGE	 YR 2 - YELLOW
 YR 3 - GREEN	 YR 4 - BLUE	 YR 5 - PURPLE
 YR 6 - PINK	Please send your donations to the office or teacher: 3-21 JUNE	

The Rainbow Raffle will be drawn at the Summer Fayre on 28 June.

School Friends of Welton St Mary's Church of England Primary Academy | Registered charity 5006646



Sports Day

We had a great day of sports. All the children participated, showed resilience, perseverance and there were lots of smiles. We received so many amazing comments from parents and grandparents about the day. It means so much to our staff and children when we know that you have all had a great time too.

Congratulations to Cathedral who won lower school sports day and Stonebow the winner of Upper school sports day!



Moving up day

On 3rd July your children will find out who their class teacher will be for next year. They will also work with the children who will be in their class. It is normal practice for us to mix classes at the end of Foundation Stage, Year 2 and Year 4. This year we will be also mixing the Year 5 classes as they move into Year 6. It is a great opportunity for children to mix with up to 60 children during their time at our school, getting to know, and work with, different children. This is not only great for developing character and social skills but also great preparation for their move to secondary school. Careful consideration is taken into creating classes; these will be shared with the children on 3rd July.



Electronic Student Update Form - RM Parent Portal

Over the next few weeks, you will be invited to access your child's information via RM Parent Portal. We will send you a link via email which will direct you to a website where you will be asked to input your child's date of birth, this will then allow you to create an account and log into the site. Invites will be sent to both adults where appropriate, including separated families.

An app is available on both Apple and Android devices. RM Parent Portal will ensure we have the most accurate data for your child. We will roll this out a year group at a time.

RM Parent Portal will allow you to:

- Check and amend any personal information
- View up to date attendance data
- Ensure medical information is current
- Grant or Deny parental consents
- Receive reports electronically.

This year all school reports will be sent electronically via RM Parent Portal in our aim to be more environmentally sustainable. Parentmail will continue to be used for all emails, forms and payments.

If you amend any personal information via RM Parent Portal the school office will receive a notification to acknowledge the change. Once this information has been accepted your changes will be visible on our system. Please be patient as we roll out this new system.

Due to GDPR / Data Protection we will be sending out a separate form via Parentmail for you to update your preferred contact list allowing you to rank who we call in an emergency.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact the school office on 01673 860339 or email enquiries@welton-st-marys.lincs.sch.uk

Toys Wanted

Foundation Stage would love to receive any donations of small world play e.g. Playmobil. If anyone has anything to donate, please drop them in at the main reception desk.

Lincolnshire Show Absence

Whilst some parents may choose to take their children to the Lincolnshire Show this year, their absence will be unauthorised.

School Bikes

Please do not allow any child to ride any of the school bikes if they have been left out at the end of the school day. They may still be on the playground but they should not be used.



Dates for the diary

The summer term is always a very busy one at our school. We will keep you updated, if any dates need to be changed.

Friday 24th May - Term 5 ends

Monday 3rd June – Term 6 starts

Wednesday 5th June – Year 6 at Church schools Festival

Friday 7th June - Pentecost Service from 2:45pm

Thursday 13th June - Open the Book leading Collective worship- parents, carers, grandparents and younger siblings are welcome to join us.

Friday 14th June - Crocodile class is leading Collective Worship. Families of children in Ladybird class are welcome to join us.

Friday 21st June - Ladybird class is leading Collective Worship. Families of children in Ladybird class are welcome to join us.

Friday 21st June - Y2 and 3 Awful Auntie Trip

Thursday 27th June - Open the Book leading Collective worship- parents, carers, grandparents and younger siblings are welcome to join us.

Thursday 27th June - Y4 Mayan Workshop

Friday 28th June – Summer Fayre

Friday 28th June - Ant class is leading Collective Worship. Families of children in Ant class are welcome to join us.

w/c 3rd July – Annual reports will be sent home

Tuesday 2nd and Wednesday 3rd July - William Farr Transition Days for Year 6 children who are attending William Farr in September 2024

Tuesday 2nd July and Wednesday 3rd July – Children joining our Foundation Stage in September will be in school

Wednesday 3rd July - Our school moving up day all our children will spend time with their new class and teacher

Thursday 4th and Friday 5th July - Circus Skills

Friday 5th July - Penguin class is leading Collective Worship. Families of children in Penguin class are welcome to join us.

Friday 5th July - Y1 Multi Sports (Morning)

Wednesday 10th July - De Aston Transition Days for Year 6 children who are attending De Aston in September

Thursday 11th July - Open the Book leading Collective worship- parents, carers, grandparents and younger siblings are welcome to join us.

Friday 12th July – School Disco (Summer Disco at William Farr School)

Monday, 15th, Tuesday 16th, Wednesday 17th July 18:30 - Summer Production with Years 5 and 6. The rest of the school will be watching the production during the school day.

Friday 15th July - Y6 Leavers Service at St Mary's Church

Friday 19th July 9.10am - Leavers' Assembly. This is to celebrate our amazing Year 6 children and wish them well on the next step of their education journey. Parents, carers, grandparents of Year 6 children are welcome to join us. We are hoping to hold the assembly outside so please bring a chair.

Friday 19th July – Last day of term



School Friends of Welton St Mary's
Church of England Primary Academy
INVITES YOU TO THEIR

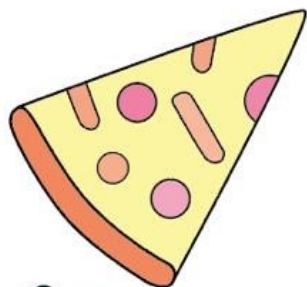


SUMMER FAYRE

FRIDAY

28 JUNE

3.30-6pm



EVERYONE WELCOME!

Please bring your family & friends
Welton St Mary's Church of England
Primary Academy, LN2 3LA



**Traditional games, ice creams, pizzas, raffles,
bouncy castles, entertainment & more!**



CASH ONLY EVENT

Registered charity 1006646



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

ENCOURAGING HEALTHY FRIENDSHIPS

Navigating the complexities of childhood and adolescent friendships can be challenging – but with the right guidance, children and young people can cultivate meaningful, supportive relationships, some of which may last for many years. These top tips provide a comprehensive approach to fostering healthy friendships among children and young people. It's important to remember, however, that each child is different, and will require an individual approach to relationship support.

1 GRANT FRIENDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Encouraging children and young people to join extracurricular activities can foster healthy friendships by providing shared interests and common ground. Engaging in these pastimes offers a platform for interaction, sometimes alleviating the social pressure of knowing what to say, and helps children develop meaningful connections.

2 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

The children and young people in our lives see how we behave, the connections that we've made and the interactions between us and others. When we model healthy friendships, we set an example and help youngsters to understand what healthy friendships looks like and how to navigate them.

3 HELP THEM LOVE THEMSELVES

Healthy friendships aren't just about dynamics with other people. They're about our relationship with ourselves. For overall wellbeing, it's important for a child to have the space to build their self-esteem and a positive self-image, as these factors can have a notable influence on the friendships they form throughout life.

4 MONITOR SCREEN TIME

Too much screen time can affect some children's wellbeing in general, but it can specifically impact friendships if it results in fewer positive social interactions. In some cases, reducing screen time and encouraging children and young people to find ways to interact face-to-face can have positive results. It's also important to remember that young people can make positive friendships online, but they will require support to do this safely.

5 TEACH PROBLEM-SOLVING

Inevitably, friendships can run into problems. However, this is also an opportunity to support children and young people to work through any difficulties that may arise. It can be tempting to intervene and try to fix these issues for those involved, but helping them consider ways of resolving conflict or managing difficult situations for themselves can help them create stronger friendships.

6 EMPOWER THE CHILD

When we give children and young people the confidence to choose their friends, navigate interpersonal boundaries and consider how they want to interact with the different people around them, we empower them to take control of the friendships they have. When young people feel in control of these things, they're more likely to make positive choices and remain aware of the signs of a negative relationship.

7 TEACH EMPATHY

'Healthy friendships' doesn't always mean 'perfect'. Sometimes, disagreements can happen. When we teach children and young people to have empathy, we help them to see both sides of a relationship; to be mindful of the challenges a friend might be facing or whatever else might be going on. This can help children and young people to build stronger friendships.

8 BE OPEN TO QUESTIONS

Talking to young people about their friendships, who they spend time with and who they interact with can open the door to questions if they have concerns. Initially, these queries may be straightforward, but if we are receptive to discussion from the outset, young people are more likely to come to us for help when they are older as well.

9 UNDERSTAND BOUNDARIES

One of the keys to a healthy friendship is honouring boundaries. This can include anything from respecting personal space and belonging to acceptable language and behaviour. Understanding the importance of setting these limits and upholding those set by others can help children stay safe. If young people figure out their boundaries and feel comfortable enforcing them, they're more likely to call someone out if they go too far.

10 SPOT THE SIGNS

We can't always supervise young people: sometimes, we need to step back and give them some space. However, it's important to consider any indicators that they may be struggling in their friendships. Are they becoming increasingly irritable? Does their behaviour alter when they've been with their friends? Are they becoming withdrawn or reluctant to take part in certain activities? These could all be signs that they're finding things difficult, and we should remain alert to such changes.

Meet Our Expert

Becky Dawson is an experienced educator who has worked in primary and secondary schools for 20 years. She is a facilitator, consultant and coach working with young people and the adults who work with them, with a focus on developing understanding and skills around mental health, wellbeing and safeguarding.



#WakeUpWednesday

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