



Newsletter Friday 19th November 2021



House Point Totals
Week Commencing: 8th November 2021

	277		238
	280		237

Message from Mrs Grainger

What a wonderful week this has been! Throughout the school we have focussed on the first of our Arts Theme weeks. This has included dance workshops, brass musical demonstrations, art workshops and drama skills. We have ended the week with a whole school assembly, where we have showcased our experiences. Creative subjects are crucial to a well-rounded education and children and staff have thoroughly enjoyed their involvement in this. Please talk to your children about what they have been doing and maybe even what they remember seeing the other children share.

Planning is underway for the children's Christmas Fair on Friday 3rd December. Thank you for the offers of help we have received so far, there is still time should you have a little time to spare.

We are holding 2 non-uniform days in preparation these are:

- Monday 22nd November – donations of chocolate/sweets
- Monday 29th November – donations of bottles (non-alcoholic!)

We are currently adjusting our plans for Christmas plays and shows to accommodate limited audiences. I will write to you next week with the final arrangements.

Success at school starts with attendance!

As a school we appreciate and have sympathy for families that have been unable to book holidays over the last couple of years due to financial or travel restrictions. We understand that time spent with family is important and can offer a wealth of new experiences. Unfortunately, following the disruption of Covid, the Government has stated that all children are expected to attend school as normal and holidays cannot be authorised during term time. There are exceptional cases that may lead to an absence being authorised which are detailed in our 'Attendance Policy'. This policy can be found on our school website.

It is also important to note that there are 175 non-school days a year – that's 175 days to spend on family time, holidays, fun and everything else! Given that we remain in a pandemic it has been fabulous to see how many children are in school and on time every day of the week. Attendance for this half-term currently stands at 93.3%. If your child is not in school, please let us know the reason by phone and/or MyEd as usual before 9.30am. Thank you.

The Changing Weather

With the cold weather fast approaching please can you ensure that your child brings a coat to school every day. It is beginning to get colder and it will be time to get out the hats, scarves and gloves again! Please also make sure that you label all items, including water bottles that belong to your child. Thank you!

curriculum

What has your child been learning about in class this week?

Years 1 & 2

This week has been a fabulous week in Years 1 & 2! It has been our 'Arts' week and we have been focussing on dance and drama. We had a super dance workshop based around 'The Lion King' which we used to show off in our Friday collective worship. We learned a dance, actions and a song. During the week, we made masks to wear during our performance. We learned about how performances are put together with all the people who are involved, like; actors, make-up artists, directors, stage hands etc. The children thoroughly enjoyed their week of dance and drama activities.

Years 3 & 4

We have had such a great week this week in Years 3 & 4. It has been lovely to see the children get so enthused over Art week. We have done a real variety of art and DT.

The children have learned all about an Italian artist called Guiseppe Arcimboldo from the 16th century. They loved making art from fruit and vegetables with Mrs Cadman and creating their own portraits and sketches.

We also designed our own model of the human digestive system and learned how to work collaboratively in a group of 4 or 5. These models have been labelled with explanation paragraphs.

It was also a fun day when we learned how to research, design and make our own pizzas. Perhaps the best part was cooking them in class and then eating them!

We also did painting in RE and managed to keep our daily walk to Lapland going - moving through France and Belgium. What a week!

Years 5 & 6

In our Arts Week, Years 5&6 have focussed on music. Probably the highlight of the week was when Year 6 took part in a concert in a concert in Lichfield Cathedral. Pupil behaviour was excellent as they rehearsed, attended choral evensong and then performed in the evening. This will be a day they will remember for a long time. We were very proud of them all.



Other activities during the week for all of Years 5 & 6 have included composing sound stories with Mrs Cadman and journeys through Alchemy Island with Mrs Miles; listening to a live performance on a euphonium from Mark Glover; creating music on computers using Scratch with Mrs Mullen; listening and appraising with Mrs Dennis; exploring rhythm grids with Mrs Baines and considering their personal music choices with Mrs Swallow. We have covered all areas of the KS2 music curriculum, have maintained our reading of The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe and our theme work as well as continuing our daily sponsored walk towards Lapland! What a lot we have packed into one week!

PTFA Halloween Rock Painting Competition

Well done to Freya and Ffion for their amazing Halloween Rocks – they were both so good we couldn't pick a winner between them so they both won! Well done!



Girls Football Club

Whittington FC is the largest youth football club in the area and is proud to be a FA approved Wildcats centre. Wildcats is for girls aged 5-11 years old and is focused on fun, friendly activities to introduce girls to football. No experience is necessary! We aim for girls to make new friends and have some fun whilst enjoying playing football.

All sessions are run by FA Licensed Coaches and are Thursdays, 5pm-6pm at King Edward VI Sports Centre. Places can only be booked in advance via the FA website (check out our Facebook page for the link!) We currently have sessions available to book up to 16th December 2021.

First session is free then £3 per session thereafter. Players will need trainers or astro football boots (please no studs!), shin pads, suitable clothing and a drink at each session.

Spectators are welcome in the designated areas!

Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/wfcwildcats or contact Claire via WhatsApp (07957414822) or email whittingtonwildcats@outlook.com

Dates for the Autumn Term 2021

Tuesday 30 th November 2021	Years R – 6 Peter Pan Pantomime Lichfield Garrick
Thursday 2 nd December 2021	Whole School Flu Vaccination
Friday 3 rd December 2021	Christmas Fair
Friday 10 th December 2021	Christmas Jumper Day
Tuesday 14 th December 2021	KS1 Nativity 9.30am
Wednesday 15 th December 2021	KS2 Christmas Performance 9.30am/2pm
Wednesday 15 th December 2021	Children’s Christmas Dinner
Thursday 16 th December 2021	Nursery & Reception Nativity 9.30am
Friday 17 th December 2021	School breaks up at the end of the day for the Christmas holiday

