



News and Events

Friday 24th February

Dear Parents/Carers,

Today in our Celebration Collective Worship we celebrated Elsie (Voyagers) for the value of thankfulness, Ollie (Discoverers) for the value of koinonia, Evan (Explorers) for the value of wisdom and Charlie (Shooting Stars) for the value of thankfulness.

Congratulations to them all.



Our Term 4 school Christian value focus is thankfulness. On Monday in collective worship, we thought about some of the ways we show our thankfulness already at school. We had quite a list:: saying thank you; grace before lunch; home-time prayer; celebration worship; recycling; Class Dojo; singing in worship; thank you letters; and those spiritual 'wow' moments when something makes you tingle. We decided we're going to look out for more thankfulness moments throughout the term.

In the Bible, Paul wrote a letter to the Thessalonians telling them to 'Give thanks whatever happens. That is what God wants for you in Christ Jesus.' We spoke about looking for the thing that was good and we could say thank you for even when we think we've had a bad day—something that as adults we decided can be a challenge! We think the child are much better at that than we are but we can learn from them.

Reminder

The library is open after school on Tuesday and Friday.



Important dates for your diary

- 1 Mar—World Book Day – see details in newsletter
- 9 Mar—Discoverers quarry trip
- 17 Mar—Artist in school visit
- 17 Mar—Red Nose Day—wear something red for £1 donation
- 22 Mar—Collaborative Schools music concert—selected Y5/6 pupil
- 24 Mar—Easter family bingo
- 27 Mar—Acorn KS1 multi-skills festival
- 31 Mar—Easter service in Church 9:30am

Attendance

Highest attendance:

Discoverers 100%

Lost learning: 47.5 hours



@WestAshtonCofE



[West Ashton C of E Primary School | Facebook](#)

We are on Facebook! Please like our page.



After a term full of nasty bugs and colds, seeing 44 children receive 100% attendance for Term 3 certificates was incredible. Additionally, a further 5 children received attendance stickers for over 98% attendance. We want all children to understand the value of good attendance and to strive to have this through developing or maintaining healthy attendance habits which, when learnt young, will stand them in good stead for the rest of their school career and working life, maximising achievement and gaining the greatest benefit from education. This is why we are once again celebrating.



News from the classes:

Shooting Stars: We have been learning about the seasons. We are nearly in spring. We have drawn and painted spring pictures. In maths, we have been ordering the days of the week. Rhiannon

Explorers: This week Year 2 wrote a story about being in the clouds. In English we read *The Great Explorer* and made predictions about what we thought might happen. Some of us predicted the story wouldn't end very happily but we found out that the boy found his dad. In science we had to match animal adults to their offspring, we learnt that this means babies. In art we had to make a human alphabet by making letters with our bodies. Fynn and Luca

Discoverers: In Maths this week we have been learning about fractions, looking at unit and non-unit fraction. Year 4s have also been ordering and comparing mixed numbers. During English, we have started to read 'Roman Diary The Journal of Iliona'. We have explored what life might have been like for a gladiator and gained an understanding of the gladiator battles. This will help us with our writing over the next few weeks. In French we have been learning to say some different vegetables in French. Lawson and Brie

Voyagers: This week we have been writing a news broadcast on an incident in our new book *The War of the Worlds*. We then performed them in front of the rest of the class as drama. In maths, both year groups have been learning about decimals and fractions. In RE, we have been thinking about sacrifices and what we would do for the things and people who are important to us. We are exploring different expressive drawing techniques in art and in science have started to learn about different types of forces. Mr G told us about his experiences in the Amazon as we are learning about rainforests in geography. Abigail and Thalia



There is an exciting Lego competition for Red Nose Day—details towards the end of the newsletter

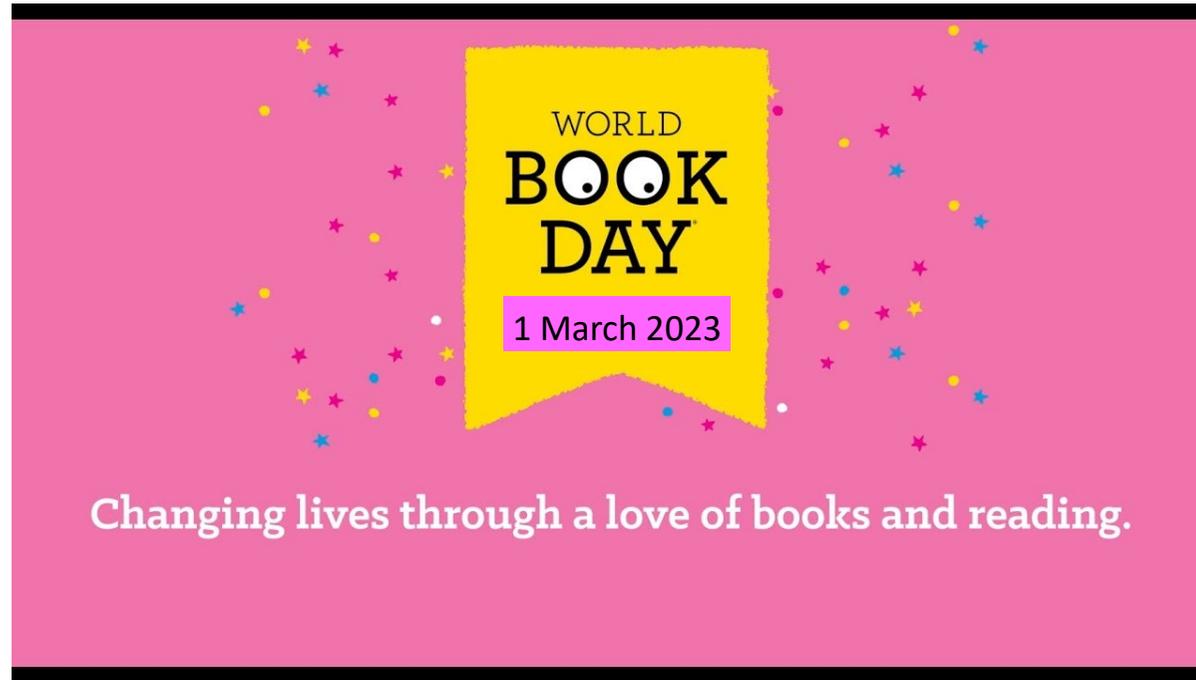
Finally, welcome back to Term 4. I have no doubt before we know it we will be in St John's for our Easter Service. There are lots of things happening between now and then and I know the staff are very much looking forward to World Book Day, not least because we can wear our pjs. Mrs Brown and I might well have a thick coat on over the top when we stand at the bottom of the drive!

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

Alex Blake-Thwaite





We will be celebrating World Book Day on Wednesday 1st March

Trowbridge Library are coming in to launch the day with a special assembly. We want to celebrate how wonderful it is to snuggle up with a book, whether with family, a friend or on our own and so we have decided we would love everyone to come to school in their pjs, dressing gowns and to bring their slippers/ slipper socks. We will adjust break times to suit the clothing.

We are going to all enjoy the same book and then have activities to complete inspired by the book.

Don't forget that every good snuggle involves a teddy bear, so please encourage your child to bring one with them. The staff definitely won't forget theirs!

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

SPOTIFY

Spotify is a digital music, podcast and video service which gives users access to millions of songs and other content from creators all over the world. Since launching in 2008, Spotify has revolutionised the way music is listened to: it now offers the ability to manage and share more than 100 million tracks and five million podcast series, plus personalised recommendations, new release updates and the option to create collaborative playlists. As of February 2023, it is the world's most popular audio streaming subscription service with 489 million users globally.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EXPLICIT LYRICS

As per Spotify's terms and conditions, people need to be at least 13 to use it. That said, the platform doesn't censor lyrics unless instructed to do so in the settings – so it's worth noting that young teenagers could still be exposed to age-inappropriate songs which contain explicit references to sexual behaviour, violence, discriminatory language and swearing.

GROOMING TACTICS

Although Spotify doesn't come with dedicated chat functionality, concerns were raised in January 2023 after reports of an 11-year-old girl being coerced into sharing explicit pictures of herself on the platform. The case highlighted predators' tactics of sharing empty playlists with other users: their messages were being exchanged undetected through edited song titles and descriptions, bypassing security measures.

OVERSHARING

Spotify provides a perfect way to play music, with the ability to connect to another device, such as a Bluetooth speaker or an in-car stereo. While this is a useful feature, it's also easy to forget your surroundings and inadvertently play content which isn't appropriate for all listeners (especially those under the age of 18), potentially causing alarm or distress.



AGE-INAPPROPRIATE PODCASTS

Spotify's podcast community has grown exponentially and it's become a popular base for millions of users to listen to shows, stories, interviews and more – with content covering an array of topics. This includes some material which isn't suitable for minors, including audio which is obviously adult-themed, but can be just as easily accessed as everything else.

ACCESS TO SPOTIFY LIVE

If your child has a Spotify account, they'll also be able to access the platform's audio-only chat service: Spotify Live. While it's a separate stand-alone app, Spotify Live allows people to listen to live discussions on the main Spotify platform and, more notably, lets users enter virtual rooms to chat with other users, opening up direct conversations with strangers and individuals who might not necessarily be there for the right reasons.

Advice for Parents & Carers

SWAP TO SPOTIFY KIDS

If you're concerned about what your child might hear while streaming music, Spotify Kids is a separate, ad-free service specifically designed for children aged 13 and under. It allows younger users to enjoy human-curated, child-friendly content (such as music and audiobooks) and is available to users with a Spotify Premium Family subscription – meaning that parents can view and manage the content their child listens to.

TALK ABOUT THE RISKS

As with any platform, it's good practice to talk to your child about what they should be aware of when using Spotify. For instance, it's important they're aware never to share any personal information with strangers, and what they should do if they're exposed to inappropriate content. Encourage them to think critically about what they see and hear so that they feel comfortable raising any concerns with you.

CENSOR EXPLICIT CONTENT

Regardless of what type of account your child uses to access Spotify, there is an option to turn off explicit content in the settings – greying out all songs marked with an 'E' tag. If your child has their own individual account, it's easier for them to turn it back on – whereas with a family plan, you're in control and your child can't alter the setting without knowing the password.



KEEP AN EYE OUT

If you're concerned that your child is spending too much time on Spotify or you've noticed they're being particularly secretive about how they're using it, encourage them to talk about what they're listening to. It's always prudent to show an interest in their online habits from the outset – so you're confident they're using apps and services in the right way, for the right reasons, and they're not being drawn into anything they shouldn't be.



Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



Source: <https://newsroom.spotify.com/company-info/>, https://www.spotify.com/privacy/files/parental_guide.pdf, <https://www.spotify.com/us/live/>, <https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester/news/police-confirm-investigation-launched-after-26989035>

National Online Safety Update

FOWAS event

FRIENDS OF WEST ASHTON HOST:

Easter Family



B I N G O

FRIDAY 24TH MARCH 2023

6PM - 8PM

6 ROUNDS OF FAMILY FUN BINGO

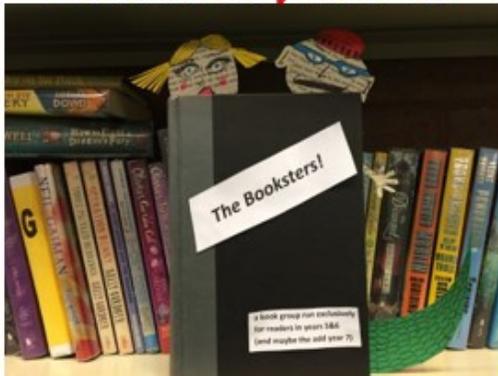
ALL WELCOME

TICKETS WILL BE SOLD BEFORE THE
EVENT

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

Trowbridge Library Booksters!

**Book group run exclusively
for readers in years 5 & 6**



One Thursday a month 4:00 – 4:30pm

**26 January
23 February
23 March
20 April
18 May
15 June
13 July
21 September
19 October
16 November
14 December**

**Drop-in session – Must book your FREE place
at Trowbridge Library or on 01225 716700**

**Voyagers—
Trowbridge library
book club**

THE LEGO GROUP & COMIC RELIEF ACTIVITY SHEET



FRIDAY 17 MARCH



Can you build something to make the people around you smile?

We're calling on kids up and down the country to get involved in a creative building challenge. Use your imagination to build or draw something that will make someone smile and have a positive impact on the world.



Check out what you have to do here:

[LEGO Build the Change | Comic Relief](#)

frome musical theatre company



An amateur production by arrangement with The Really Useful Group Ltd

THE NEXT GENERATION

SCHOOL of ROCK

THE MUSICAL

© TM 2016 RUG Ltd

BASED ON THE PARAMOUNT MOVIE WRITTEN BY MIKE WHITE

MUSIC BY

BOOK BY

LYRICS BY

ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER

JULIAN FELLOWES

GLENN SLATER

Tues 2nd - Sat 6th May 2023

EVENINGS: Tues - Sat at 7pm, ~~MATINEE: Sat at 2pm~~

TICKETS: Adults £18, U16 & OAP £16, Group Bookings (10+) £15



www.fromemtc.co.uk

Frome Memorial Theatre

01373 462795

BOX OFFICE: Mon to Sat, 9.30am - 1.00pm

www.fromememorialtheatre.org.uk

FAMILY HELP SURVEY



? Are you a parent or parent to be?

? Are you a young person who needs help and advice?

? Do you know how you can find out information on help available for you and your family?



We want to hear your views on family services and how you'd best like to access them. Please take this short survey and help us shape services for the future.

Web link:

survey.wiltshire.gov.uk/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=167422754798

Wiltshire Council