



## News and Events

Friday 26th May

Dear Parents/Carers,

Today in our Celebration Collective Worship we once again celebrated wisdom. Everyone was thanked for showing wisdom this week—Arthur in Explorers, Cole in Shooting Stars, Lois in Discoverers and Lilly-Mae in Voyagers.

Congratulations to them all.



Our Pentecost Experience Day was a huge success and the feedback from the volunteers who helped deliver it was wonderful. Not only did they thoroughly enjoy the activities but they were so complimentary about our wonderful children. The children have been awarded a role model dojo—these are worth 3 points. There was a big cheer when we told them!



We also congratulated James who brought his winners medal in to show us. Last weekend he played in a football cup final and beat the opposition 4-2.



### Reminder

The library is open after school on Tuesday and Friday.



### Important dates for your diary

Please see the page of dates in this newsletter.

### Attendance

Highest attendance:

Voyagers 98.5%

Lost learning: 125 hours



@WestAshtonCofE



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

We are on Facebook! Please like our page..



Come and see our Pentecost Experience Day art show at 3pm on Thursday 8th and Friday 9th June in the hall.



## Looking ahead to Term 6.

5 June—Road safety talks and activities for Y1, 3 & 6

8/9 June—Pentecost Experience Day display in the hall after school

12/13 June—Bikeability for Y6

14 June—Class photos

19 June—Doughnuts for Dads

22 June—KS1 Dance Festival (see ParentMail sent this week)

25 June—Trowbridge Youth Parliament Heroes and Villains 2km run and stall. Please come along and support our Parliamentarians. See poster on the notice board.

26 June—Y5 visit to Clarendon

26 June—Rags 2 Riches collection

30 June— Acorn Appeal non-school uniform day

30 June—FOWAS summer fayre

3 July—Y5 visit to John of Gaunt

4 July—Y6 transition day to secondary schools

5 July—Y6 attend leavers service at Salisbury Cathedral

6 July—Active Trowbridge morning (all children in PE kit)

7 July—Y6 Junior Good Citizen event

10 July—Wessex Water visiting all classes

11 July—Sports Day and school picnic

13 July—Whole school trip (details early T6)

14 July—FOWAS Leavers/End of Year disco

19 July—Summer Reading Challenge launched in school by the Library Service

21 July—Leavers service at St John's

21 July—Term ends 1.10pm EYFS—Y5. Y6 leavers picnic 1pm-2pm



## Acorn Y3/4 athletics festival

Children from Discoverers class represented West Ashton at the event and were coached in athletics skills before practising and then setting a PB.

Mrs O said the children represented the school so well and definitely shone like stars. They seemed to really enjoy themselves.



### **News from the classes:**

**Shooting Stars:** We made a princess story with musical instruments and have been using our phonics knowledge to write sentences. In maths, we made shapes with lollipop sticks.

**Explorers:** In Explorers we wrote a story about a boy who was scared of a ball pit. Our stories are fantastic. In math we have been learning about halves, quarters and thirds. We have also made some salt dough surprises for our summer fete stall. We really enjoyed going to church for Pentecost. Fynn and Luca

**Discoverers:** In maths we have been continued to learn about time in analogue and digital, Year 3s have also been looking at days, months and years. We are very proud of our completed non-chronological reports that we have completed in our English lessons, all about Street Cats and Mesopotamian Blue Cats. On Wednesday we spent the afternoon in the Church to learn about Pentecost. We heard what it was and did a few creative activities. Brie and James

**Voyagers:** This week Voyagers have been writing their ecosystem stories. We used our chosen ecosystem, like we did for our reports, but this time we had to write a fiction story. We had to choose the storyline and develop the characters. In maths, Y6 have been finishing their theme park plan. They have had to decide what marketing advertisements and pricing structure they should use. Y5 have been learning about negative numbers in sea level, temperature and by counting forwards and backwards. In humanities we have learnt about the Mayan gods and their significance. Thalia, Abigail & Isabel

I am hoping the sun continues to shine and that everyone can enjoy a few days of beautiful weather over the latest Bank Holiday weekend.

See you on Monday 5th June ready for Term 6.

Best wishes,

Alex Blake-Thwaite



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about INFLUENCERS

In today's digital age, social media influencers play an increasingly significant role in shaping the opinions, interests and behaviours of our children. While many of these individuals can have a positive effect, influencer culture can also present certain risks – such as encouraging consumerism, affecting self-esteem and blurring trustworthiness. To help ensure a safe online environment for young people, it's vital to maintain open communication, set sensible boundaries, promote a healthy self-image and teach digital media literacy. Our guide delves deeper into all of these.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### HEIGHTENED CONSUMERISM

A major way that influencers make money is through brand partnerships and sponsored content. As a result, children who follow them may be exposed to a steady stream of advertising; this can lead to materialistic attitudes, unrealistic expectations and an increased desire to have the latest products. Many influencers have built huge brand empires around their large, impressionable following.

### THE SOFT SELL

Some influencers aren't always transparent about the motivations behind their posts, blurring the lines between genuine recommendations and paid-for promotions – and young people sometimes find it difficult to distinguish authentic content from advertising. Many major social platforms have taken steps to make sponsored content and ads easier to identify, but it remains an area of concern.

### PRIVACY CONCERNS

Inspired by their favourite influencers, children may start sharing more of their own lives online – which could reveal personal information or details about their daily routine. This openness can put them at risk of cyberbullying or even predatory behaviour. This is exacerbated by live streaming, which gives young people no time to consider the potential consequences of saying too much.

### UNDERMINING SELF-ESTEEM

Many influencers share images and videos of themselves and their activities, which are often painstakingly curated and edited to present an idealised version of their life. Children who follow these influencers may develop distorted expectations about body image and the concept of beauty, which can potentially lead to negative self-esteem and even mental health issues.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### KEEP TALKING

Chat to your child about the content they consume on social media and the influencers that they like; encourage them to think critically about what they see and hear online, and listen to any concerns they might have. Maintaining this line of open, honest communication can help your child to make informed decisions about which individuals they follow and what content they engage with.

### SUPPORT A HEALTHY SELF-IMAGE

Reinforce your child's awareness that real life isn't usually as picture perfect as it may appear on social media – and how some content (particularly that of influencers) is often curated, staged or edited to look more glamorous. If possible, highlight examples of other influencers who share authentic, relatable material which acknowledges their imperfections and struggles as well.

### SET SOME BOUNDARIES

Agree age-appropriate boundaries for your child's social media use, including time limits and privacy settings (the two major operating systems on mobile devices, Android and iOS, have these controls baked in). Try to keep an eye on your child's online activity and discuss it regularly with them – including reminding them of the potential risks that can arise from following influencers.

### PROMOTE MEDIA LITERACY

Talk to your child about the concepts of sponsored content, advertising and potential influencer bias. Teach them to critically evaluate the information they're presented with online and to consider the possible reasons behind content creation. This can help young people develop the skills to make healthier decisions about the influencers they choose to follow and the content they consume.

## Meet Our Expert

A former director of digital learning and currently a deputy headmaster and DSL, Brendan O'Keefe's experience and expertise gives him a clear insight into how modern digital systems impact the experience of children, staff and parents – and which strategies help to ensure that the online world remains a useful educational tool rather than a minefield of risks.



## National Online Safety Update



ACORN EDUCATION  
TRUST PRESENTS:

# TOUR D'ACORN 2023

## SPONSORED BIKE RIDE

129KM IN DISTANCE  
VISITING ALL 17 SCHOOLS



**8th JULY 2023, GRAND DEPART FROM  
CLARENDON SCHOOL**

PLEASE SUPPORT US BY SPONSORING THE TEAM.  
ALL DONATIONS GO DIRECTLY TO PROJECTS  
BENEFITING OUR STUDENTS.

JUST GIVING:  
[HTTPS://WWW.JUSTGIVING.COM/CROWDFUNDING/  
TOURDACORN2023?UTM\\_TERM=WM755G2YK](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/tourdacorn2023?utm_term=WM755G2YK)

OR SCAN  
Q.R. CODE



## Half-term at a glance

### at Trowbridge Library

Have fun for free at Trowbridge Library this half-term! As well as these sessions, you can have a go at our mini-beast trail and design a mini-beast of your own, available at any time during opening hours.

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May 11 am Story Time



Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2.30 – 4 pm Lego Club\*



Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June 9.30 – 11 am Lego Club\*

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 10 – 11am Lost Words Poem Activity\*  
2 pm Baby and Toddler Rhyme Time

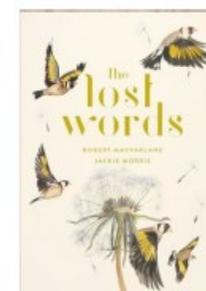
Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 11 am Story Time  
2.30 – 4 pm Lego Club\*



\*Please book in advance at the Library Counter or on 01225 716700

## Lost Words

### Creative Writing Workshop at Trowbridge Library



Join us for wonderful creative writing & craft session based on this inspirational book by Robert Macfarlane

On Friday 2 June  
10 – 11am

Limited Spaces so advanced booking is required.

Ring 01225 716700 for more information

Children 8 and under must be supervised at all times.

Half Term  
**Lego Club**  
at Trowbridge Library



**3 small sessions**

**Must be booked in advance with a library card**  
(Cards are FREE just need parent's proof of address)  
**Just one booking per child please**

**TUES 30 May – 2:30- 4pm**  
**THURS 1 June – 9:30- 11am**  
**SAT 3 June – 2:30- 4pm**

This activity is for children and teens old enough to play with Lego safely.  
All Lego must stay in the roped off area and everyone has to help tidy 😊.

**For further questions please contact**  
**Trowbridge Library or on 01225 716700**

**All children 8 and under must be accompanied by an adult**



**Mini Museum Open Day**  
**Somerset Earth Science Centre**

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May 11am-3.30pm**

**Come and see our fascinating collection of Mendip Rocks, Minerals and Fossils**

**Bring in your own fossils and rocks for identification by experts**

**Fossil & Mineral displays**

**Get creative with our fossil arts and crafts**

**Bring a picnic or sit by the lake with tea and cake**

**Fossils and dig kits available to purchase**

**Light refreshments available, onsite parking next to Wainwright Quarry**

**Somerset Earth Science Centre, Moons Hill Quarry**  
**Stoke St Michael, BA3 5JU.**

**[www.earthsciencecentre.org.uk](http://www.earthsciencecentre.org.uk)**



Reg Charity No: 1122738

01749 840156

Have you signed up yet?



# SUMMER SCHOOL

## 2023 !!



**YEAR 5**

21<sup>ST</sup> - 23<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST

**YEAR 6**

24<sup>TH</sup> - 25<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST

SCAN ME



TO BOOK



The John of Gaunt School  
A Community Academy

**Year 6 Week**  
7th - 11th August  
**Year 5 Week**  
14th - 18th August  
9:30am - 2:30pm

Pre-book for one week only open to  
YR6 attending from September  
2023 and Y5 from 2024

# John of Gaunt Summer School 2023



Year 6  
Week

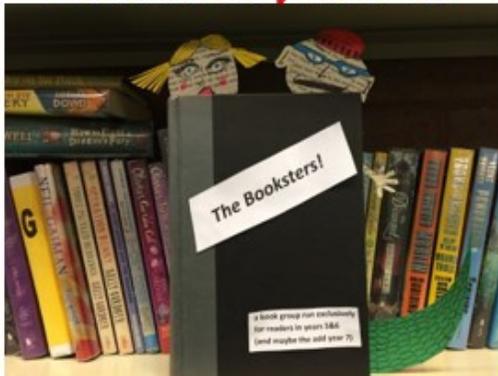


Year 5  
Week



# ***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**

# WILTSHIRE 3 PEAKS CHALLENGE



**RUN, WALK OR JOG  
10KM OR HALF MARATHON  
10AM, SATURDAY 17TH JUNE**

Sign up for an awesome challenge with your friends, family or colleagues, and take big steps towards supporting vulnerable young people.

Oare, Pewsey Vale, Wiltshire

Individual Entry - £10 (10k) or £20 (Half Marathon)

Family Entry - £35 (10k) or £70 (Half Marathon)

Plus fundraising to support local young people

To find out more, scan the QR code or visit:

[youthadventuretrust.org.uk/wiltshire-3-peaks-challenge](http://youthadventuretrust.org.uk/wiltshire-3-peaks-challenge)



## **TROWBRIDGE UNDER 9S MIXED CRICKET**

**SOFTBALL CRICKET FOR SCHOOL YEARS 3 & 4**

Fun cricket coaching to create a lifelong love of the game.

Beginners are encouraged to attend.

Dynamos Cricket format of the programme being delivered.

Pairs Cricket, lots of goes.

Off field refreshments available on the day.

TROWBRIDGE CRICKET CLUB, LOWER COURT,  
TIMBRELL STREET, TROWBRIDGE, WILTSHIRE, BA14 8QD

**NEW TO  
CRICKET?**

**SEEN CHANCE TO  
SHINE IN YOUR  
SCHOOL**

**COME AND HAVE  
A GO - FREE  
TRIAL SESSIONS**

**TROWBRIDGE CC**

**TUESDAY  
EVENINGS - 6PM  
TO 8PM -  
STARTING 25<sup>th</sup>  
APRIL - FOR  
MORE  
INFORMATION  
CONTACT**

**ALI GODDARD**

Wiltshire Cricket Limited

[ali.goddard@wiltshirecricket.co.uk](mailto:ali.goddard@wiltshirecricket.co.uk)

Mobile: 07786 361222