

News and Events

Friday 5th May

Dear Parents/Carers,

Today in our Celebration Collective Worship we celebrated Maks (Voyagers) for the value of wisdom, Josie (Discoverers) for the value of koinonia, Ava (Explorers) for the value of wisdom and Wilson (Shooting Stars) for the value of koinonia.

Congratulations to them all.

We also welcomed Mrs Little to the team in our first Collective Worship of the week. She is the new Shooting Stars teacher.



Explorers and Discoverers preparing to sing the National Anthem with all the children who took part in the Kings and Queens Parade today.

BBC Points West filmed it!

Reminder

The library is open after school on Tuesday and Friday.



Important dates for your diary

8 May—Bank Holiday

9-12 May KS2 SATs

22 May—Y3/4 Acorn Athletics Festival

24 May—Pentecost Day Experience

26 May—End of Term 5

Attendance

Highest attendance:

Discoverers 99.38%

Lost learning: 42.5 hours



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Our focus school Christian value this term is friendship. The dictionary definition of friendship is 'a friendly relationship or the state of being friends' but we particularly like the description in 1 Thessalonians 5:11 which says friendship is to 'encourage one another and build each other up'.

Last week, I asked the children about what friendship at West Ashton looked like and so many said that it was about treating others as you would want to be treated. I thought this was a wonderful way to view friendship and think it most definitely demonstrates what we see as adults when we watch the children playing and chatting together at break and lunchtime.

Today, Explorers and Discoverers went to join the Trowbridge Coronation Parade and children were paired up usually with someone from the other class. The chatter and excitement was wonderful to witness as new friendships grew and existing ones flourished. You may see us on BBC Points West at 6:30pm.



News from the classes:

Shooting Stars: We have been learning about the King's Coronation. We made our own castle using the Podley. We have been counting up to 20. Rhiannon

Explorers: We liked the parade today with the music and the drums. We waved our flags a lot. We are happy Mrs Meehan is teaching us again. Fynn and Luca

Discoverers: We had an assembly about how we can help ourselves control our bad feelings like anxiety from MIND. In English, we are planning a description of a scene from Varjac Paw when he comes across a helicopter. In maths we have been working with money—either counting pence and pounds or estimating. Today we headed out with Year 1 and 2 to march in a procession for the King's Coronation. We made crowns and had a lovely time. Lawson and Brie

Voyagers: This week Year 6 learnt about 3D shapes and their nets and have been having a final practice for SATs next week. Year 5 were learning about symmetry and decimals. We have been planning a fact file for a non-chronological report about an ecosystem of our choice. This is inspired by our class book, The Incredible Eco-Systems of Planet Earth. During science, we learnt about life cycles of animals such as frogs and butterflies. We have also learnt this week about the Maya and the pyramids they built. Thalia, Abigail and Isabel

Pentecost Experience Day—this is during the school day and each class will be going over to St John's and listening to the story of Pentecost and taking part on some art activities. A display for families will follow. Date tbc.

Sports Day news—the plan is to start at 10:00am. Weather permitting, we will have a picnic lunch and families are welcome to join us. After this, you can take your child home although school will remain open as normal.

News about the whole school trip will be sent out in Term 6.

I hope you have another lovely Bank Holiday weekend.

Best wishes,

Alex Blake-Thwaite



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- ✓ The option to get notifications to your phone as soon as new content becomes available – so you can stay up-to-date with the latest online crazes (and risks);
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At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many devices which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

10 top tips for safely using SMARTWATCHES

Kids love gadgets, and smartwatches – available to buy from as little as £20 online – make a tempting gift. As with any type of mobile technology, though, smartwatches can pose risks to children unless they're used safely. Receiving unwanted calls, cyber-stalking and distracting a young person when they're crossing the road are all known risks associated with smartwatches. However, these devices can bring plenty of benefits for children and parents alike – so let's examine the pros and cons of smartwatches.

AVOID CHEAP OPTIONS

A quick search online yields a torrent of cheap smartwatches for kids, costing as little as £20. It's wise to avoid this bargain basement tech: It tends to deliver a poor experience with inferior battery life, and it's hard to have faith in the software's safety. There have been cases of smartwatches being hacked to track or contact children; stick to known brands who have a reputation to protect.

CONTROL CALLING

Many smartwatches have the facility to make or take calls. As with a phone, you may want to restrict who your child can call – or be called by. On Apple Watches, you can set trusted contacts who are allowed to ring your child, while other watches' controls vary hugely. Some need to connect to a linked phone for calls, so you may be able to block unknown contacts via that device instead.

BEWARE HIDDEN COSTS

For a smartwatch to allow calls independently (that is, without being connected to a phone via Bluetooth), it will need its own mobile data plan. This might take the form of a tiny SIM card that you slot into the watch – or an eSIM, where the physical card is replaced by software settings. Either way, this will incur an additional monthly cost that you'll need to factor into any buying decision.

ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Apple Watches aren't cheap, but they do offer superb safety features – allowing parents to control calls, messages and emails on the device, as well as a location tracking system that can send alerts if kids wander beyond pre-set boundaries. Their SOS function enables children to contact emergency services instantly if they're in trouble, which simultaneously also alerts parents and carers.

MAKE THEM COOL FOR SCHOOL

Some schools have banned smartwatches, as pupils have been using them as substitute phones. If your child's school does permit them, some devices can be set to prevent distractions in class. For example, Apple's Schooltime feature turns their watches into ordinary time-keeping devices during school hours. The display changes in this mode, showing teachers that it isn't being used for other purposes.

BE MINDFUL OF BEDTIME

Many smartwatches offer sleep tracking, which some (usually older) children use to justify wearing them to bed. However, that also presents a temptation to message friends or check social media late at night, even if their phone is downstairs. Unless there's a valid reason not to, you could encourage your child to remove the watch in the evenings and ensure the charger stays in a different room.

TRACK ITS LOCATION

Both Apple and Android devices have apps which allow you to track a smartwatch's location. They can also initiate an audio alert – avoiding those cushion-hurling panics when a treasured device can't be found at home. If you're planning to track your child's location via their watch, make them aware of that in advance. You could even make it a condition of them getting the watch in the first place.

THINK 'SAFETY FIRST'

Smartwatches are often worth hundreds of pounds, which can make young people wearing one a target for thieves. Advise your child to keep the watch hidden in public (when possible) and not to resist if muggers demand their watch. If you manage to track a stolen device, pass that information to the police: location data isn't always accurate, so you could end up wrongly accusing someone.

STORE MEDICAL INFO

Devices including the Samsung Galaxy Watch and Apple Watch can store the owner's medical details (such as their blood group and any pre-existing medical conditions), potentially giving emergency services access to vital information in a crisis. These devices also have 'hard fall' detection, which sends a text message to selected contacts along with a map showing the wearer's location.

USE THEM AS MOTIVATION

If you're worried your child's spending too much time slumped on the sofa staring at screens, smartwatches are great fitness trackers and can be a powerful incentive to get moving. Some devices will alert the wearer if they've been inactive for a long time and encourage them to do some exercise. Many watches also have the user's daily step count and measure other health metrics.

Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the Sunday Times, Which? PC Pro and Computeractive. He's appeared regularly on technology panels on television and radio, including on BBC Newsnight, Radio 5 Live and the ITV News at Ten. He has two children and writes regularly about internet safety issues.



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**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

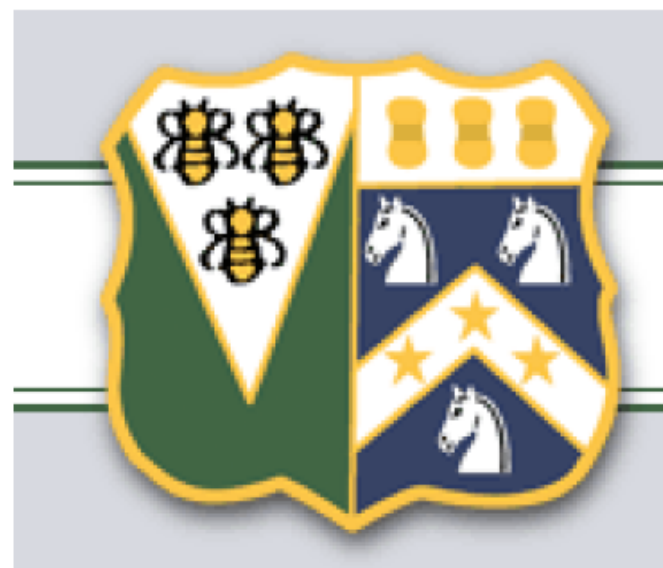
Individual Entry - £10 (10k) or £20 (Half Marathon)

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



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.

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EVENINGS - 6PM
TO 8PM -
STARTING 25th
APRIL - FOR
MORE
INFORMATION
CONTACT**

ALI GODDARD

Wiltshire Cricket Limited

ali.goddard@wiltshirecricket.co.uk

Mobile: 07786 361222



Trowbridge Youth Parliament presents...

HEROES AND VILLAINS 2K FUN RUN

Trowbridge
Park



Fancy
Dress

Whether you run, jog or walk, join us in Trowbridge Park for a family-friendly 2K Fun Run, raising money for local charity Julian House.

Even if you're not signing up for the Fun Run, come along and explore a wide range of activities including...

Inflatables | Stalls | Refreshments | Games

10am-1pm
(9.45am warm up)



25th June



To take part you **MUST** register!
Scan here to sign up for **FREE**.

Tickets are free but donations to Julian House are welcome.
For more information visit: www.julianhouse.org.uk



Julian House is a registered charity (No. 1183793) and a company limited by guarantee in England & Wales (No. 01781802). Registered provider of social housing (No. 64348). Registered address: 11 Kears Road, Upper Bristol Road, BA1 7LJ, BA1 3AD.

West Ashton and our Trowbridge Youth parliament representatives will be running a stall at this event. Please note the date and come along and enjoy the games and the run.



active trowbridge



ACTIVE KIDS CAMP

WWW.ACTIVETROWBRIDGE.CO.UK

WEEK DAYS 30TH MAY - 2ND JUNE 2023- JOHN OF GAUNT
STANDARD DAY 9AM - 3PM £19.80 EXTENDED DAY 8AM - 4PM £24.60
CHILDCARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED EXCLUDES BANK HOLIDAYS



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GIRLS FOOTBALL JUNE 2023

2ND JUNE 2023
JOHN OF GAUNT

9AM - 3PM
STANDARD DAY
£19.80
9AM - 4PM
EXTENDED DAY
£24.60



5 - 14 YEARS

KIT: TRAINERS,
SHINPADS, PACKED
LUNCH, WATER
BOTTLE

CHILDCARE
VOUCHERS
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MAY/JUNE HALF TERM

30TH MAY - 1ST
JUNE
JOHN OF GAUNT

9AM - 3PM STANDARD
DAY £19.80
9AM - 4PM
EXTENDED DAY £24.60



5 - 14 YEARS

KIT: TRAINERS,
SHINPADS, PACKED
LUNCH, WATER
BOTTLE

CHILDCARE VOUCHERS
ACCEPTED



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Discover
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