

Wirksworth Junior School Newsletter- April 2025



With World Book, meeting West End stars, and science competitions, it has been a fun-packed month.

We are Creative.



Another fantastic World Book Day as children got dressed up in their animal costumes and shared their favourite books. We started the day with a great assembly from Mrs Meehan talking about where people like to read and ended up with parents joining us for a book at the end of the day. A great way to celebrate reading in school.

To continue the celebrations for World Book Day, Embark invited the children to meet some West End stars. The children travelled down to Repton school on a coach and had a wonderful trip. They took part in singing, dancing, and an acting workshop. They had so much fun and really did Wirksworth Juniors proud!



We are Curious-



The past few weeks the Y5/6 have been working hard and learning about gears, ready to make their locomotive. The best ones who can move forward and backwards in a straight line and can climb a ramp will get the opportunity to take part in a regional primary engineering event in Derby.

Whilst on Monday, the children were invited to take part in the AGS Science competition to make an animal for an environment, explaining how it had been adapted to fit its environment. The Year 3/4 team were excellent at explaining and demonstrating their environment that had been worked on during the nurture sessions with Mrs Davies, Mrs Herbert, and Mrs Peach to gain first prize in the cluster science event. Well done, guys; you are scientists in the making.



We are Caring.

Below is a photograph of the eager team of volunteers from our community who came in on a sunny Sunday in March to help do a little gardening. They cleaned out the polytunnel, started the dead hedging, and extended the willow dome. We got lots done and made our environment that little bit tidier for the children to work in. Thank you to Darren from Wirksworth Mental Health Initiative, who helped to get this started. Due to the success, we are looking at running another Gardening/Wellbeing Day in the summer. If you would like to join



in follow the link. <https://www.wirksworthmhi.co.uk/news>

We make every moment count. Residential at Caythorpe Court



The Year 5 and 6 had a fantastic time at PGL Caythorpe Court. The children showed lots of perseverance, teamwork and respect towards others. We are very proud of them all and hope they have made some brilliant memories for years to come!

Special mention to Betsie - Betsie performed an amazing feat when she came first back in January's cross county race. She was then invited to the county finals in Sheffield, where, after lots of training at home with Mum, she

entered the event and came seventh out of 63 other children across the county. We are immensely proud of all her perseverance to keep practising running, the courage to attend the event on her own and come seventh. Well done, Betsie.

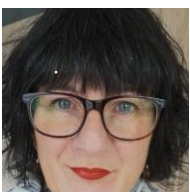
Attendance matters and policy update.

Attendance for the whole school in the month of March was **97.17%**, which is above our target of **96%**. Throughout Derbyshire County, we can compare where we are in relation to other schools' attendance and although we are 144 out of 352 schools for the academic year to date, for children with special needs, the ranking falls to 282. If you are struggling to get your child into school, please do talk to us. Mrs Davies the attendance officer, who will signpost or help create a good routine for the start of the school day or offer some bespoke 1:1 with your child.

Please note, although we try and support children to come into school, families that do not engage in this process of support offered maybe at risk of having a penalty notice issued which could result in a fine.

Reminder: Parents Evening days are in April

Remember that it is parents evening on **Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd April** which will be in school. Please let your class teacher know which session you would prefer.



Meet the Educational Psychologist

The recent sessions with the Educational Psychologist were very successful. We're pleased to announce that more appointments will be available next term. If you missed out this time, please look out for further information.

E-safety videos- keep your children safe online.

If you were unable to make the E-safety sessions with Traci Good last week she had recorded these to watch at the best times for you.

- Social Media, Apps, images and Monitoring <https://vimeo.com/1069966868?share=copy#t=0>
- Gaming and Parental Controls <https://vimeo.com/1069972999?share=c>

PTFA are after new members

Are you looking to make a real difference in your child's school experience? Do you have hidden talents waiting to be unleashed? Then join our Parent Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA)!

We're a friendly, enthusiastic group of parents and carers who work together to:

- Raise vital funds for school resources and activities.
- Organize fun and engaging events for the whole school community.
- Strengthen the bond between parents, teachers, and children.
- Have a blast while making a positive impact!

Whether you're a fundraising whiz, a creative genius, a social media superstar, or simply someone who wants to lend a hand, we need YOU!

Don't wait! If you are interested call the school where we can help you make, contact with them.

Let's work together to make our school an even better place!

Important Dates

Friday 4th April - Easter Service 9:30am at St Mary's Church

Tuesday 22nd April – First day of term

Tuesday 22nd April – Parents' Evening in school (refer to letter sent 31/03/2025)

Wednesday 23rd April – Parents' Evening in school (refer to letter sent 31/03/2025)

Wednesday 30th April – This Girl Can Event (more details to follow)

Monday 12th – Thursday 15th May – Y6 SATS week

Friday 16th May – Y6 celebration event (more details to follow)

INSET Days 2024/25:

Friday 27th June 2025

INSET DAYS 2025/26:

Thursday 4th September 2025

Friday 5th September. 2025

Friday 24th October 2025

Monday 23rd February 2026

Friday 26th June 2026

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