

Wirksworth Junior School Newsletter- November 24



Another month has flown by. We hope you have had a lovely half term, and the monthly newsletter will remind you what a busy month we had in October.

We are Creative.



Our harvest festival was another show stopper. Thank you for everyone who came along to support the event and your generous donations. I hope you were impressed by the singing. The children had put a lot of hard work into learning the song words and actions and again a huge thanks to Mrs Wilks for supporting us in her Wednesday weekly sing practise. Mrs Wilks will be back next half term to help us prepare for the Y5/6 Christmas service.

We are Curious.

Y5/6 have been out in the grounds with Mr Wisner taking part in their forest schools. This month, George from the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust came along to support the children, where they got to plant lots of acorns and a few tree saplings. This is a great opportunity to support children's climate anxiety and take active steps to improve the planet we live in.



We are Caring.

Last month, 23 of our year 5/6 children underwent play leader training. The training has allowed them to build up skills and ideas on how to lead other children in structured play activities. We eagerly await our new rota of leaders and to see their great skills at work, supporting one another on the playground.



We make every moment count.

What a great afternoon out, at the cross-country event at Anthony Gell.

The children all worked hard to run the 2 or 3 laps of the field. A big thanks goes out to the Gell staff and the parents that supported the event. This event has inspired the running club that will be running on Tuesday after school until 4:15pm. If you would like your child to attend, please contact the school office to check there is still spaces.



Tri Golf. Well done to the four children who attended the Tri Golf finals. We got first place! After 5 games there was only 1 point difference and they kept their cool and played with precision and concentration to win overall.

This is a fabulous achievement and a real team effort.

Plans for Armistice Day.

As part of the Armistice Day celebrations the children will be making some stain glass window artwork which will be taken to Ecclesbourne Valley railway. This train will take the poppies and wreaths made from across the Steeple Grange line into Derby for the East Midlands Railway celebrations.

On Monday 11th November, you and your child have been invited to wave off the train from Ecclesbourne Valley railway as we have done two years ago. This year unfortunately it will not be a steam train, but if you would like to attend, and wave off the train into Derby please gather with your child at the railway for

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around 8:40am for the train to depart at 8:45am. Please note all children that attend must be accompanied by an adult.

If your child does not want to attend, they must walk up to school for the normal time, where staff will be waiting as normal.

E-safety – As part of keeping the children safe online we have procured Traci Good, ivengers guru who has won many awards on this area. Over the year, she led some free online and possibly face to face sessions for you. The next dates to pop in your diary are:

- **27th November 7-8pm. (the link is below)**

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 382 328 121 274

Passcode: ZzeTxW

- **And Thursday 16th January 2025. (Possibly face to face- time and date to be confirmed)**

Although these events are free, the school is paying alongside the cluster of Gell schools to offer you these events for free. We encourage you to attend as technology is always changing and these sessions allowing not only skilling yourself on the new apps, but opportunities to ask questions relevant to your circumstances. If you would like to see a previous sessions [please follow the link](#).

You can also find other relevant information about E-safety on this page by [clicking here](#).

Wrap around Care- subsidised for the next two years.

As you are aware, Premier Education have been running our Wrap Around Care provision from 7:30-9:00 and 3:30 to 6pm every day. We have been very lucky to secure funding from Derbyshire County Council to be able to support the venture to help with the set-up costs in the first two years. This will mean the club will continue for at least two years. To sign your child/children up please follow the link www.premier-education.com

Academic year 2024-25
Wraparound Care for Wirksworth Junior School
Before & After school care every day the school is open to children.
Bundles of fun for your children to take part in!

Trustpilot
★★★★★

Premier Education

Premier Education are honoured to be able to provide the wraparound care at your school.

Our aim is to deliver a top quality, Ofsted registered provision, with a range of stimulating activities in a safe, secure and fun environment, providing an outstanding service for busy parents.

Parents can relax knowing their children are in safe hands as all staff have experience working with primary school children, have been DBS checked, and hold Emergency First Aid and Safeguarding certificates.

Wraparound care sessions are open to children from Reception to Year 6, with no deposit or registration fee required. Healthy snacks are provided, with specific dietary requirements also being catered for.

15% discount for siblings

Wirksworth Junior School 2024-25

Before School Booking Options:
07:30 - 09:00 - £2.50 per session

After School Booking Options:
15:30 - 17:00 - £7.50 per session
16:30 - 18:00 - £11.50 per session

Please ensure your child is booked prior to attending the session.

Book now at:
www.premier-education.com

Contact us at:
01433 864444
01433 864444

Ofsted registration number: 3881336

Premier Education

Democracy – School council members elected.

I am pleased to announce we have elected our seven school council members. The children will be meeting very soon in the new half term to discuss how they would like to run the school, as well as helping to improve our child led policies such as E-safety, antibullying and attendance.

Antibullying week in school is coming up on 11-15th November

This week the children will have lots of opportunities to learn what bullying is, what to do if this is happening to them or what to do if they are worried about someone else. Mrs Davies will also be working with her team of mental health ambassadors to lead an assembly as well updating the child friendly antibullying policy. The children will be completing surveys where they do not feel safe around school and as we do annually, we would like to hear your say on the policy and antibullying in the school. I have attached the policy for you to have a read and I would encourage you to complete the 5 minutes survey to have your say and share your thoughts. <https://forms.office.com/e/RpQ4gaq1mW>

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Attendance matters

Attendance for the whole school in October was **95.88%** which is slightly below the school targets of 96%. Please remember that if your child arrives after the register that this will be recorded as a late which is an unauthorised absence. The new rules state if your child has more than 10 unauthorised absences in a 10-week period we must report this to Derbyshire County Council for monitoring period. If you need support to get your child in on time, please contact your child's class teacher so we can support you.

Please also note any requests for term time leave should be made on the school holiday request form available from the school office and handed in at least 4 school weeks before the first date of the requested absence whenever possible. You must have received written authorisation before your child can be absent from school.

Parent/carers may be issued with a penalty notice fine or prosecution should leave of 5 days or more be taken which is not authorised by the Headteacher, or where repeated incidents of leave in term time for less than 5 days occur or where the unauthorised absence contributes to wider poor attendance that meets the legal threshold. Absence deemed for the reason of unauthorised leave in term time will be marked in the register with the Attendance code G.

You may be issued with a Penalty Notice should leave be taken which is not authorised. If unpaid this could lead to prosecution under section 444(1) of The Education Act 1996.

Pupil spot.



Well done to Esme who has won second place in her gymnastics competition. You can see her opposite with her medal, certificate and broomstick props.

Important Dates

- Wednesday 6th November - Bikeability for Auton Class
- Friday 8th November - Bikeability for Radcliffe Class
- Monday 11th November to Friday 15th November – Antbullying week
- Monday 11th November – Remembrance Celebrations at Ecclesbourne Railway 8:40am
- Tuesday 19th November - Radcliffe class assembly.
- Tuesday 19th November – Bikability offsite for Auton
- Friday 22nd November – Bikeability offsite for Radcliffe
- Friday 29th November – Open morning in school
- Wednesday 11th December – School Christmas Dinner
- Thursday 12th December – Singing around the Christmas Tree
- Wednesday 18th December – Y3/4 Christmas Panto
- Friday 20th December – Y5/6 Christmas Service

Wirksworth Junior School, Wash Green, Wirksworth, Derbyshire, DE4 4FD

Tel/Fax: (01629) 822457

Email: office@wirksworth-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Isabel Webb

Chair: Wilma Hyde

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