



Wirksworth Junior School Newsletter- September 2026

Welcome back everyone. In school, there has been a real buzz. Lots of hard-working children smiling and enjoying themselves. Below are a few things they have been getting up to over the past four weeks.

We are Creative.



This month, we have been out and about showcasing our creativity in the local community. Firstly, at Anthony Gell School, we proudly displayed our beautiful butterfly artwork as part of the Cluster Art Exhibition. If you did not have the opportunity to visit the exhibition, the photograph shows the fabulous piece of art created by our talented children. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to

Mrs Poyser from the infant school for planning and helping to organise this fantastic event.

Our second contribution to the Wirksworth Festival of Arts took place at the National Stone Centre, where over a third of the school performed in a vibrant and exciting showcase. The children played music on instruments made from recycled materials and performed a dance using foil props. They were absolutely amazing and represented the school brilliantly. We would also like to thank Angus McLeod and Debbie Dancer for giving their time to come into school and provide free workshops, helping the children prepare for these memorable performances.



Well-done to all the children involved for demonstrating such enthusiasm, creativity and confidence throughout these events.

We are Curious.

All the class have started looking at their big question.



- Year 3: How is there freedom in the arts?
- Year 4: What is the purpose of the arts?
- Year 5/6: Why have buildings and structure become a significant part of civilisation? (History)

Please ask what they have been learning and what their views are.

Creative. Curious. Caring. We make every moment count

We are Caring.

Over this half term the children have been getting their SMILERS award in assemblies with Mrs Cooke. SMILERS stands for Stay connected, Move, Interest, Look, Eat well, Rest, Support so the children are chosen for any of these areas which they have stood out in that week. SMILERS is a school-home partnership so there are loads of things you can do at home as a family too

For more information: <https://www.schoolsnet.derbyshire.gov.uk/childrens-support-services/smilers/smilers.aspx>. During assemblies each week we celebrate a child from the class who are showing these seven areas of wellbeing.

After a fantastic school election, we have recruited six new school councillors from across the school. **Our new councillors** are Hayden, Isla, William, Eve, Iyla and Elizabeth. Congratulations to them all. We would also like to thank and congratulate every child who applied and took part; they were all amazing.



We Make Every Moment Count.

This week marks the final week of Bikeability training for our Year 6 children as they continue to develop the skills and confidence needed to ride safely on the roads.

Mr Brooks has been incredibly impressed with the group, commenting on how hard they have all worked throughout the programme. The children have shown great determination, motivating and encouraging one another every step of the way. It has been wonderful to see them demonstrating such care, respect and support for each other while developing these important life skills.

Reminder we are a Peanut Free School

Thanks everyone for supporting us to become a nut free school. The children have been superstars in making sure we don't share food with others and checking there is no peanuts in what they are eating. Thanks again.

Facebook and Instagram

This week we posted our first social media post. If you wish to follow us and share what we have been up to with other friends and family, follow us on.

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61593941945732>

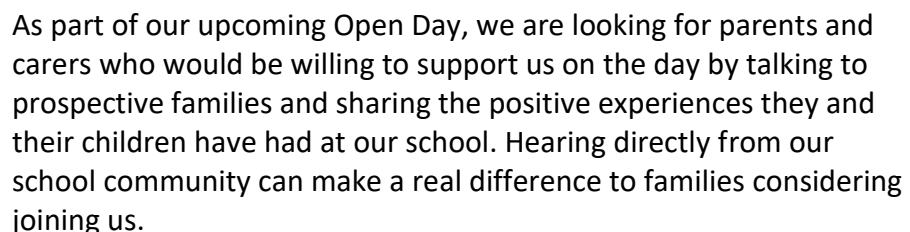




Promote TT Rockstar Club.

Parents Evening

Could you help us by sharing your thoughts about our school?



Thank you for your continued support. We are incredibly proud of our school, and your contribution could help others see what makes it such a special place to learn and grow.

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Breakfast Club

From September have been offering a breakfast club run by Mrs Herbert. This starts from 7:45am every morning. The children get to have a breakfast and play games, craft activities or complete their homework if they wish. To book on please go to ParentPay and contact the school office on 01629 822457.

We also offer an after-school club, run by Superstar Sports, from the end of the school day until 5pm, Monday to Thursday. Oleg and Abbie lead the sessions, including enrichment activities until 4:30pm such as dance, dodgeball, football and soft archery. To book a place, please visit [South Yorkshire - Super Star Sport](#).

Attendance Figures

A monthly feature in our newsletter is recording our attendance records for each class. Our school target of 96%. Last month we were pleased to say we had a whole school attendance of 96.3% which is amazing and we thank you for supporting us to get the children into school.



Our next area to develop is arriving in school on time. The school gates open at 8:40am with the register being taken at 8:55am. Children arriving from 9:10am will class as unauthorised and 10 unauthorised absences may result in a penalty notice issued from DCC.

If you are struggling to get your child into school on time, please talk to your child's class teacher who can make a referral to our Attendance Officer Becci Davies who can offer strategies and routines to help get your child in school on time and improve their overall attendance.

Important Dates

Tuesday 20th and Thursday 22nd October (4-6:30pm)	Parents evening
Thursday 22nd October	Harvest festival at St Mary's 9:30pm – All welcome
Friday 23 rd November	TT Rockstars dress as rock stars day

Reminder of INSET days 2016-2017

INSET days for the next school year will be as follows:

- Friday 23rd October
- Monday 22nd February
- Monday 7th June
- Monday 26th July

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