

THE FRIDAY LETTER



This Week at The Wyche

So much has happened in terms of enrichment and deep curriculum experiences this week that I can't get anywhere near the classroom for telling you about the other stuff. Red and Green Class went to All Saint's Wood (what a great name!) to plant trees in our new nature area, Red and Yellow class went to Webbs at Bransford for an immersive experience about planting, growing and nurseries (with gratitude to the parents who made this possible), and Blue and Orange hosted a superb presentation about World War Two involving humour, drama and music. Such a rich and engaging educational offer requires hats off to the tremendous teachers and TAs of The Wyche.

Collective Worship Assemblies

This week we reflected on Jesus' special meal with his friends which Christians call "The Last Supper", and reflected on how birthdays, Christmas, weddings, christenings and funerals all involve people coming together for a meal to remember, and that at this time of year Christians are thinking about the gospel account of Jesus' death and resurrection. We also were **inspired** (to tears, for me) by the story of Derek Redmond's grace and bravery when he finished his 400 metre 1992 Olympic race despite suffering an injury, with the loving support of his father.

Support for Parents - Special Educational Needs

Many of our children have Special Educational Needs of one kind or another. As well as the support we offer in school there is also a great deal of support outside of school, from local groups and helplines, to charities and support networks. Please find below a link to a list of parent and carer support which we hope may offer advice, guidance and celebration for families where special educational needs or disabilities are a part of their everyday life.

<https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/council-services/childrens-services/send-local-offer/support-send-children-young-people-and-their/support-groups-parents-and-carers>

Online Safety - Online Pressures

Social media posts are driven by "likes". This pressure can be difficult to manage for young children and our handy guide on page 4 helps you to support your child as they navigate the fickle world of online approval. Don't forget, children below 13 years of age should not have a social media account.

It's the last week of term next week (hasn't it gone quickly?) and we look forward to seeing you in open classrooms, if you have not already attended an event, as we come together to celebrate the children's significant achievements.

Together we soar!

in continuing partnership.

Mr Murphy.

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In school this week:



Woodland Visit!

Both Red and Green Class enjoyed a visit to All Saints Wood where they helped the Malvern Hills Trust team to plant some new shrubs as part of their re-generation of the area. We will be keeping an eye on the progress over the coming months!



“They will soar on wings like eagles.” Isaiah 40:31

Malvern Wyche C of E Primary School

Together We Soar



Attendance

Our attendance has now reached 94.9%, and is therefore falling. As we approach the end of term we are getting requests for term time holidays but I continue to urge families to support daily attendance - every minute of education counts - it is a children's legal right - school really matters, and our children have missed a lot of learning through school closures during the Covid pandemic. We work hard to ensure children reach their full potential, but we need them here to make the difference. Let's work together as a community to get children to school every day they are healthy enough to be here. Thank you.

Easter Arrangements

This week our Easter celebrations began with **Blue** and **Orange** putting on a beautiful end of topic presentation for parents. The other class session dates and times (for next week) are as follows: **Red Wednesday 20th March 3pm**, **Yellow Monday 18th March 3pm**, **Green Thursday 21st March 2.45pm**. The children are busy preparing for these sessions, we are looking forward to your visit!

Hair Ties / Bows / Hairbands

Can we please remind parents that the children's hair accessories should be plain and ideally of school colours. We are seeing some very pretty hair decorations recently, however they are not in-line with our uniform policy - Many Thanks.

Music Lesson Invoices

We still have not received all payments for last term's private music lessons. Can I ask for these outstanding payments to be settled as soon as possible. I will be sending out this term's invoices soon after half term. If you are having any difficulties with this please do not hesitate to contact the office otherwise payments can be made in cash or cheque made payable to Worcestershire County Council. Many Thanks.

After School Clubs

Please look out for the Summer Term Club sign up form, which will be published soon after our return from Easter. As always, places in the clubs are on a 'first come - first served' basis so please sign your children up promptly to avoid disappointment. Clubs are run, voluntarily, by the teachers, who give up their own time to run them and we are delighted to be able to offer such a wide range of activities throughout the year.

Sports Kit

We are having a fabulous run of sporting success at the moment and are extremely proud of all our participants. Could we ask that all 'Wyche' sports kit is returned - we have a number of up-coming fixtures and need all the kits to be available. Please return to Mrs Baylis or alternatively the school office.

Non Uniform Day!

We invite all children to wear their own clothes on the last day of term - Friday 22nd March, suggested voluntary donation £1. Many Thanks

By living and learning together through our Christian values of *Safety, Trust, Respect, Inspiration, Value, & Engagement*, with God's help, we will support each other to "soar", lifting hearts and broadening horizons, so that by giving our best today, the world may be better tomorrow.

Stars of the Week

It is always a delight to award a Star of the Week award to a child who has demonstrated the STRIVE values in classwork. This week's award-winning superstars are:

Red class

Hattie Harte

Arlo Smith

Yellow Class

Flora Burrows

Luna Davies

Blue Class

Wren Oldfield

Juniper Calvert

Orange Class

Oliver Swatridge

Lily May Davies

Green Class

Tom Cardiff

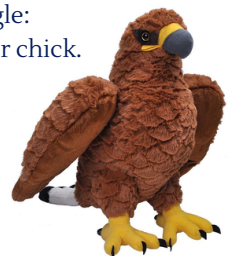
Sophia Crozier

HOUSEPOINTS

Perseverance took the title again this week with a fabulous 94 housepoints. Everyone's a winner when we award points for **Safety, Trust, Respect, Inspiration, Value & Engagement.**

Together We Soar!

Strive the Eagle:
Trainee Easter chick.



WHAT'S ON ?

- Mon 18th March:** Yellow Class - Open Classroom 3pm
- Tues 19th March:** Football Playoffs @ Dyson Perrins (3pm collection from Dyson Perrins)
- Weds 20th March:** Tennis Tournament @ Manor Park (3pm Collection from Manor Park Tennis Centre)
Red Class - Open Classroom 3pm
- Thurs 21st March:** Green Class Open Classroom 2.45pm
Football & Netball Competitions Afterschool 3.40pm - 5.15pm
(At The Chase)
- Friday 22nd March:** Non Uniform Day - Whole School
Orange Class 10th Swim
End of Spring Term



Messy Church 2024
 March Messy Church will take place at
 St Andrews Church on Thursday 21st March
 Note – temporary change of venue
 3.30 pm for 4.00 pm start
 We will be serving food!
 Looking forward to seeing you.

Dates for your Diary

- End Of Term Friday 22nd March - Non Uniform Day!
- Summer Term Begins Monday 8th April
- Bromsgrove Spring Games (Girls Athletics) Friday 12th April
- Blue Class Swimming Sessions begin on Friday 19th April
- Year 6 Leavers Assembly Friday 19th July

This Weeks Class Trips!

It has been an incredibly busy week in school with ALL classes going out on trips and visits. The children have had a fantastic time at Webbs of Bransford, The Tudor House Museum and Malvern College Science Workshop.



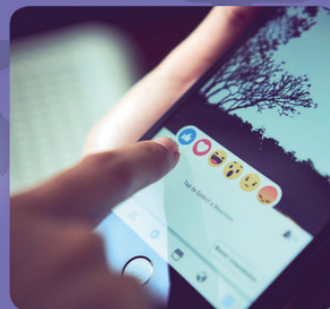
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'Likes' are a simple way for users to show that they like a post on social media. This could be anything from photos and videos to status updates and comments. The feature is widely used on several social media platforms and is extremely popular on Instagram and Facebook. It is often used by children to measure the success of their social media post and gauge opinion. However, it can also bring a number of social pressures, particularly if users start to question their own levels of popularity.



What parents need to know about SOCIAL PRESSURES LINKED TO 'LIKES'



DAMAGING TO SELF-ESTEEM

Your child may use likes to measure their own self-worth, with more likes instilling a greater level of confidence and acceptance amongst their friends and peers. However, children who only receive a small number may in turn feel a sense of rejection or isolation and could potentially suffer from low self-esteem issues, impacting them in other aspects of their life such as at school or in social settings.



UNREAL VIEW OF THE WORLD

Your child may follow celebrities or other popular individuals on social media who receive millions of likes. Not everything on social media is a true reflection of the world and your child may feel pressured into behaving in a similar way in real life or posting similar material in order to feel popular and achieve a similar level of self-worth.



AN ADDICTIVE FEATURE

Like features encourage children to stay online for longer. In doing so, your child is likely to engage with app's for longer periods than they otherwise would have wanted, checking their phone more frequently, including at night when they should be asleep. This could contribute towards screen addiction which can cause sleep deprivation and consequently a lack of focus during the next day at school.



COMPETITIVE CULTURE

Children will often compare the number of likes they receive for their post against their friends or followers, possibly evoking emotions of jealousy or resentment. In a bid to increase their own status and receive more likes, this could lead to a competitive culture in which children try to better one another, potentially leading to them engaging in more and more riskier activities.



Safety Tips For Parents



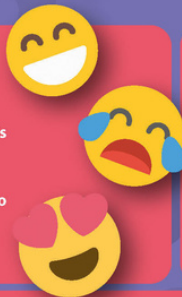
FOLLOW OR BEFRIEND YOUR CHILD ONLINE

Using the same social media sites as your child and connecting with them online will allow you to keep an eye on what their interests are and who may be influencing them. Following their likes will help you build a picture of what your child is being exposed to and what they find interesting.



MONITOR MENTAL HEALTH

If your child does post on social media, it is important to monitor their feelings and emotions, supporting them and encouraging them to talk to you about what they may be experiencing. Explain to them that not everything online is real and that life is not dictated by how many likes a post may or may not get.



ENCOURAGE HOBBIES OR OTHER ACTIVITIES

Try to help reduce your child's screen time and need for social media through encouraging them to do other things such as a sport or hobby or simply playing with friends outdoors. Supporting them to take up other activities that they enjoy can also help build self-esteem and increase their own confidence.



DISCUSS THE REAL WORLD

Talk to your child about online perceptions and about what they feel is and isn't important in their life. Try to establish an open and honest conversation and speak about what they feel is acceptable to post online and if they feel pressure to conform.



HELP TO BUILD YOUR CHILD'S SELF-ESTEEM

Try to help build your child's self-esteem through positivity and praise and listening to them if they are struggling with the way they look or feel. Talk to them about the positive aspect of their personality and help them understand that looks aren't everything. Try not to criticise or blame your child which could compound any negative thoughts they are already feeling.

Meet our expert

Pete Badh is a writer with over 10+ years in research and analysis. Working within a specialist area for West Yorkshire Police, Pete has contributed work which has been pivotal in successfully winning high profile cases in court as well as writing as a subject matter expert for industry handbooks.

