

THE FRIDAY LETTER



This Week at The Wyche

Happy Friday to your all. This week has seen Red Class learning about germs from a badger (Catch it, Bin it, Kill it! - the germ, not the badger), Yellow class sail through a year and a day to the Land Where The Wild Things Are, Blue Class measuring, baking (and eating) cakes (in maths!), Orange class shivering in the land of Narnia, Green Class watching leopards by infra-red camera. Only at the Wyche.

Feedback Please

The link below will take you to an online form where we would like to capture your views and listen to your thoughts about how school feels for your child. Responses are anonymous and the more people who take part, the better quality feedback we will get. I hope you can take the time to fill out the survey, which will help us as we try to continually improve what we do at The Wyche. There is a languages drop-down button at the top. If your language is not there, please let us know.

[Click Here To Take The Survey](#)

Collective Worship Assemblies

In this first week back after Easter we are embracing our Christian value of **value**. This means thinking about what is really valuable in life and looking after it - friendships, relationships - family - faith. We considered how an empty treasure chest might be a disappointment to a pirate, but an empty tomb on Easter morning was untold riches for Christians, as it told them he had risen from the dead. Mrs Harrison gave a lovely assembly about the value of friends and friendship and seeing both sides of the story. Guard your relationships and keep them bright and shiny, just as you would gold or jewels. They are worth more and harder to replace.

Support for Parents - Children and Teens

There's no rule book for being a parent, but there are people who can help, whether it is bedtimes, worries, challenging behaviour, special educational needs or mental health advice you need, there's a course, adviser or charity there for you. Check out our page at <https://www.wyche.worcs.sch.uk/children-and-teens>.

[New Course: Understanding Your Teen](#)

Online Safety - Tik Tok

Tik Tok (age rating 13+) has overtaken You Tube as the sharing platform of choice and is very popular with young people, but is an app not especially designed to keep children safe. Have a look at our handy guide on p.4 and make sure that, if you Tik Tok, you and your family are Tik-Tok-ing safely.

We've had a great week back and a magic start to the summer term. Have a wonderful weekend and we will see you on Monday for for Wyche riches.

in continuing partnership.

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In school this week:



KS1 Plants

Following a really enjoyable visit to Webbs at Bransford, KS1 took delivery of a HUGE selection of beautiful plants. Each child received a gift to take home.

We are looking forward to hearing about where they have been planted!

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

Malvern Wyche C of E Primary School

Together We Soar



Attendance

It's genuinely great to see you all back this week! We've had great attendance so far and let's please keep it that way together. WE have a term packed with exciting and absorbing learning for yo so far and let's please keep it that way together. We have a term packed with exciting and absorbing learning for your children and it would be a shame to miss a second of it!

Music Lesson Invoices

We still have not received all payments for Autumn term's private music lessons. Can I ask for these outstanding payments to be settled as soon as possible. I will be sending out Spring terms invoices soon. 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

Afterschool clubs are due to start on Monday 15th. We have had a HUGE response for this terms clubs and have done our best to accommodate as many children as possible over the course of the term. Please let the office know of any alternative 'home time' arrangements if you will not be collecting your child at the published finish time E.G Walk home alone or Homegrown?

Sports Kit

We had a fantastic run of sporting success last term and are hoping to continue this with a number of events planned for this, Summer term. Could we ask that the last pieces of 'Wyche' sports kit be returned as soon as possible to enable the children to properly showcase and represent the school.

School Uniform / PE Kit

We have been lucky enough to see some sunshine this week (be it a small amount). Can I please encourage parents to ensure all uniform especially jumpers and cardigans be named - we have a huge amount of un-named jumpers/cardigans already in lost property! The sunshine also enables the children to have PE sessions outside - could you please ensure all children have suitable footwear to allow for this within their PE Kits.

Swimming

Blue class are due to begin there swimming sessions next Friday 19th April. Can we please encourage anyone who has not yet sent in consent forms and contributions to do so asap - without consent the children will not be able to go!

Plants For Sale

Thanks to the kindness of Webbs at Bransford the school will be selling a beautiful selection of plants, at pick up time, on the playground, next week. Donations will go toward school funds, suggested donation £3.

Term Dates 24/25

There have been multiple enquiries as to the term dates for next academic year 24/25. These date have to be confirmed/approved by our Governors, this will be done at the next meeting. Confirmed dates will be published 2weeks today.

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

George Checketts
Hattie Harte

Yellow Class

Lola Phillips
Luna Davies

Blue Class

Ollie Young
Jocelyn Hart

Orange Class

Tean Morgan
Jonah Vanes

Green Class

Riley Stimson
Herbie Hart

HOUSEPOINTS

Midsummer had a fabulous start to the Summer term, taking the top spot this week with a fabulous 53 housepoints! Everyone's a winner when we award points for **Safety, Trust, Respect, Inspiration, Value & Engagement**.

Together We Soar!

Strive the Eagle:
No spring chicken.



Mon 15th April: Private Guitar/Ukelele Lessons
Private Brass Lessons
Dance Club Afterschool until 4.15pm
Computing Club Afterschool until 4.15pm
KS1 Sports Skills Afterschool until 4.15pm (Group 1 only)

Tues 16th April:

Weds 17th April: Private Woodwind Lessons
Private Piano Lessons
Private Drum Lessons
Blue Class FAME

Thurs 18th April: Multi-Games Club Afterschool until 4.30pm

Friday 19th April: Drawing Club Afterschool until 4.15pm
Film Society Afterschool until 4.15pm
Blue Class 1st Swim



Messy Church Logo Copyright Bible Reading Fellowship© 1998 - 2011

MESSY CHURCH 2024
APRIL MESSY CHURCH WILL TAKE PLACE AT
ST ANDREWS CHURCH ON THURSDAY 18TH APRIL
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

- Blue Class Swimming Sessions begin on Friday 19th April
- Year 6 SATs week Monday 13th May - Friday 17th May
- Year 6 Enterprise Friday 24th May 2.30pm
- Sports Day - Friday 7th June
- School Summer Fayre - Thursday 4th July 6pm - 7.30pm
- KS2 Performances Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th July 6pm
- Year 6 Leavers Assembly Friday 19th July 9.15am



Orange Class

This week Orange class have introduced their new term topic: 'Design and Make Savoury Scones'. To get inspiration for this they enjoyed a tasting day where the whole class sampled scones with strawberry jam clotted cream! Nom-nom-nom!



Worcestershire Spring School Games

A small team of our year 5 and 6 girls represented West Worcestershire at the School Spring Games. The girls had a fantastic time taking part in a variety of different activities.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION

13+

(certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

TikTok is a free social media platform that lets users create, share and watch short videos ranging anywhere from 15 seconds to 10 minutes in duration. The app gained notoriety for its viral dances, trends and celebrity cameos and can be a creative, fun platform for teens to enjoy. Now available in 75 languages, it has more than a billion active users worldwide (as of spring 2022) and is most popular with the under-16 age bracket. In fact, a 2022 Ofcom report found TikTok to be the most-used social media platform for posting content, particularly among young people aged 12 to 17.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While TikTok's "Following" feed only displays videos from users someone follows, "For You" is a stream of clips based on their previously watched content. Most videos on a child's "For You" feed will therefore be light-hearted and amusing, but it could potentially surface something unsuitable. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or inappropriate content, but the sheer volume of uploads mean they aren't manually monitored and vetted.

18

CENSORED

DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

Due to TikTok's immense popularity, some young people have unfortunately been influenced by videos challenging them to perform harmful, criminal or even deadly acts. One extreme example was the 'blackout' trend, which encouraged users to hold their breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. It led to two families filing lawsuits against TikTok over the tragic deaths of their children.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With around 1.1 billion users globally, the potential for contact from strangers on TikTok is high – especially as accounts created by over-16s (or youngsters using a false date of birth) are set to public by default. This not only means that someone's profile is visible to everyone else on the app; it also lets their videos be suggested to others and enables anyone to comment on them or download them.

IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase emojis in the app. These emojis are then sent as rewards (retaining their monetary value) to other users for videos they've created. Coin bundles range from £9.99 to an eye-watering £99; TikTok's policy is that they can't be bought by under-18s, but it's possible to bypass this with a fake birthdate.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

TikTok can be addictive, especially for young people: compulsive repeated use can interfere with sleep patterns and be a distraction from other activities. The platform recently introduced default usage time limits of 60 and 100 minutes for new members under 18 (in the UK, children with TikTok average 102 minutes per day on the app), but these restrictions can easily be removed in the settings.

TIKTOK NOW

Introduced in late 2022, the 'TikTok Now' feature lets users post a daily video or photo at the exact same time as their friends. Users receive a synchronised notification at a random time of day, giving them three minutes to take a video or real-time photo. This addition can not only be a distraction to young people but could lead to them inadvertently sharing private content such as their location.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account with their child's and control their settings remotely. Parents can then, for example, turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content); set screen time limits; and manage their child's ability to send messages (and to whom). Children can't alter these settings without parental approval.

MAKE ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Although under-16s will have their TikTok account set to private by default, bypassing this setting is relatively easy. However, parents have the ability to manually set their child's account to private – meaning that their videos won't be visible to strangers and they won't be able to exchange messages with people who aren't on their friends list.

LIMIT IN-APP SPENDING

If your child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can alter the settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We'd recommend that you enable this feature, as it's quite easy for a young person – without realising what they're doing – to spend a significant amount of real money buying TikTok coins so they can unlock more features of the app.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If your child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's crucial to talk about the potential risks in this type of app. For example, ensure they understand not to share any identifying personal information – and that they realise they could be exposed to inappropriate content. Thinking critically about what they see on TikTok can help children become generally more social media savvy.

READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child might be spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something inappropriate or upsetting that they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the possible signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as are failing to complete homework or regularly not eating meals.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



NOS
National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday