

Wensum Junior School

Newsletter – April/May 2024

Please see the links below to find out more information about our school:

www.wensumjunior.co.uk

www.facebook.com/people/Wensum-Junior/100091397707725/



Headteacher: Mrs Corrina Peachment

part of



Ambition - Collaboration - Responsibility

Important Dates

Summer term 24 – 15th April 24 – 24th May 24 (inclusive)

May half term – 27th May 24 – 31st May 24 (inclusive)

Summer Term 24 – 3rd June 24 – 19th July 24 (inclusive)

| September 2023 | | | | | | |
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| October 2023 | | | | | | |
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| November 2023 | | | | | | |
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| December 2023 | | | | | | |
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| January 2024 | | | | | | |
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| February 2024 | | | | | | |
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| March 2024 | | | | | | |
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| April 2024 | | | | | | |
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| May 2024 | | | | | | |
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| June 2024 | | | | | | |
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| July 2024 | | | | | | |
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| August 2024 | | | | | | |
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Important Dates Continued:

Add these to your calendar to ensure you don't miss anything!

MAY 24:

- Y6 Sats week Monday 13th to Thursday 17th May
- Sit and See – Friday 24th May. Parents to come in and look at their child's work.

JUNE 24

- Y6 Leavers/Class Photos- Monday 3rd June
- EAT Sports Day – Friday 7th June – information will be sent home for those children involved
- Sports Day – Friday 14th June - Y3/4 morning : Y5/6 Afternoon with a family picnic lunch 12- 1pm
- Y3/4 Trip to West Stow – Wednesday 19th June
- New Y3 Intake Evening – Tuesday 25th June
- Reserve Sports Days – Friday 21st June

JULY 24

- Reports being sent home – Monday 15th July
- Meet your new teacher day – Friday 12th July
- New Y3 Transition Day – Friday 12th July
- Y6 Leavers Assembly – Friday 19th July – details tbc

Please note a change of date to the New Yr3 Intake Evening



Attendance

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

Don't miss out on the education you deserve.



| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Our school attendance target | 96% |
| Our attendance for March 2024 | 94.8% (was 93.89% in February) |
| Unauthorised absence in March 2024 | 0.86% (was 0.9% in February) |
| Minutes late in March 2024 | 1686 (was 966 in February) |

Class Attendance results for March 2024

- 3G – 95.44% (was 94.35% in February)
- 3/4A – 91.47% (was 92.46% in February)
- 4H – 93.8% (was 89.88% in February)
- 5P – 95.14% (was 97.12% in February)
- 5W – 97.48% - Above Target. Well done! (was 98.05% in February)
- 6C – 95.58% (was 93.91% in February)
- 6SH – 95.89% (was 92.88% in February)

Well done to classes 6SH and 5W, who have both won the Attendance Breakfast Award this month.

What has been happening in school?

Stars of the week ★



Reading Certificate awards

If your child has been reading 3 times a week and their reading record has been signed, they will receive a house point. If this is done every week, for a half term, your child will receive a reading certificate!

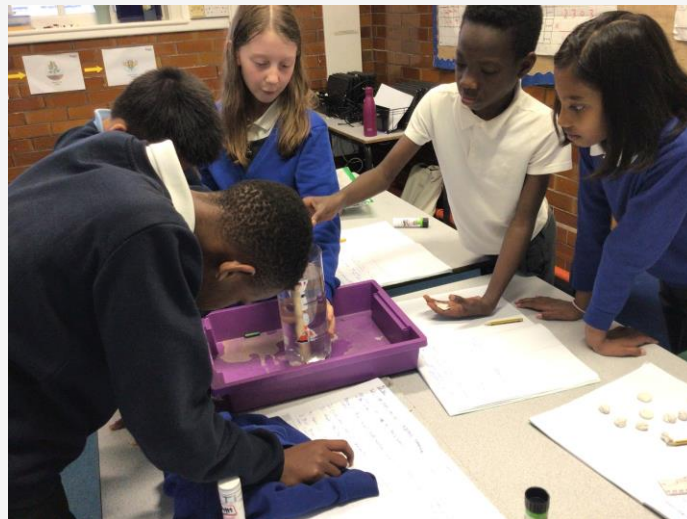
Well done to all those children who received a reading certificate last half term.

What has been happening in school?

Year 5 have been learning about unbalanced forces in Science.

We found out about water resistance and how some objects are streamlined to make them less water resistant. We had fun in groups carrying out a test to discover how to make pieces of modelling clay more water resistant by changing their shape.

We had to be really careful to ensure that all our pieces of modelling clay weighed the same, and that the water was at the same level, to ensure that it was a fair test.



6C enjoying a PE lesson in the sun!



What has been happening in school?

Class 3G have been learning about money this week. We had great fun today learning how to add together different amounts. We used the pretend money to create two different parts on the part whole model for our partner to work out the whole. We checked our partners answer and then swapped roles.



3/4A are learning about plant reproduction in science. We dissected a lily to look at all the important parts. We are testing the importance of light, water and air using three different experiments that we have set up. We have even put celery in a cup of bright red water to explore how water travels in a plant stem. Ask us about our experiments to find out more!



What has been happening in school? Maths Times Table Championship

Maths Times Table Championship

On Thursday 30th April, 6 children were chosen to go to the EAT Times Tables Challenge at Poplars school in Lowestoft. We were also joined by other EAT schools. All children were put into their groups and sent off to do their challenges.

There were 3 activities for each group. The children did some orienteering outside the school using maps and multiplications to work out codes. There was also an escape room where children had to work out calculations to get a key to complete a puzzle. The final activity was a times table quick fire round on laptops. The afternoon was rounded off by each school going to the stage to answer quick fire multiplication questions.

Our children worked so hard throughout the day and were a credit to Wensum! Well done everyone!



What has been happening in school? – Football Tournament

Year 5/6 participated in another football match at The Nest, competing with another school.

Please join us in congratulating our Year 5/6 football team for their fantastic participation in their last tournament of the school year. They were so close to lifting the trophy (they drew with another team, but were beaten on the total number of goals scored!). Our team didn't let it get us down – They are stronger than ever and are ready for the next round! Well done children!



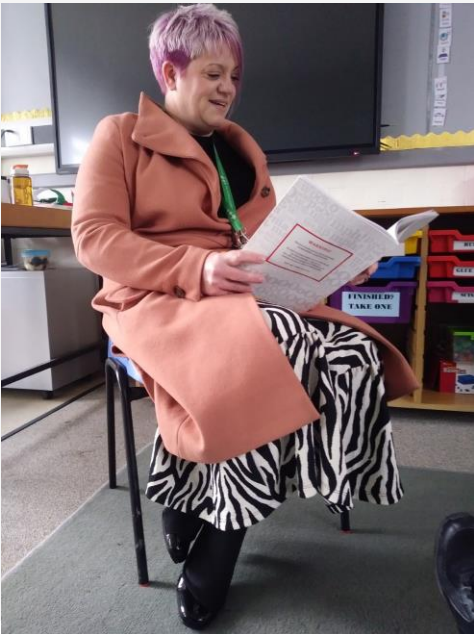
What has been happening in school?

These are our children that run and organise lunchtime activities for school. They work so hard making sure other children have a great time during lunchtimes so we wanted to give them a treat! They enjoyed their time in Forest school on Friday. 🍃 🍁



What has been happening in school?

The Hive – Mrs Peachment read a story to some of our children. The book was called “The book with no pictures” by B J Novak. The children loved that Mrs Peachment did what the book says, lots of silly voices for example and it inspired them to write their own version.



CSF Holiday club



COMMUNITY
SPORTS
FOUNDATION

We have spaces available to book for Half Term Holiday Club with CSF staff. This is being held at Wensum Junior School and is running on Wednesday 29th and Thursday 30th May.

Please refer to form sent via email to book your child in. The spaces are limited to 20 per day.

Look out for a video from the last holiday club! Coming via Facebook soon.

News

Staffing updates:

Mr Hubery is no longer working with us at Wensum.

We wish him well for his future.

I would like to reassure parents and children in Year 6, that they will continue to be well supported for their SATS next week and for their remaining time at Wensum.

New Uniform

We are introducing a white shirt and school tie to the uniform for our Year 5 and 6 children. This will be the uniform required from September. We are letting parents know this in plenty of time before they start to buy new items for the new school year.

To help with this change, we will be supplying all children with their first tie, any further ties that are required can be purchased from the school office.

PE kits will be simplified and will be plain black tracksuit bottoms or PE shorts, a plain black hoodie and a plain, 'house' coloured T-shirt.

Emails - With immediate effect, should you have a query for the school office please use the following email address **reception@wensumjunior.org.uk** where Mrs Coe or Miss Jones will be able to deal with your query.

Well Done – Headteacher's Award

Maria – for being so helpful during lunchtimes.

Isreal, Taissa, Tryion, Layla-Jo – For showing excellent behaviour and independence during phonics lessons.



A very well done and huge congratulations to you all.

Support for Pupils and Parents



Are you a kinship carer?
A kinship carer is someone who is raising a relative's or friend's child.

Kinship Group for kinship carers in or around Norwich to come together.

We are a friendly group of kinship carers who meet once a month to help each other. We have an array of speakers coming to talk in 2024 so there is never a better time to join us. I am the group leader, Carole, and I look forward to speaking to new members.

CONTACT ME ON THE EMAIL BELOW and I will tell you all about the group. If you prefer a virtual meeting, we have started these recently and I can invite you to join us at Zoom.

We are free to join, and you are not committing yourself to anything by coming along, there will be a warm welcome, a cup of tea/coffee, and plenty of biscuits.

We do not allow children at the meetings due to our conversations' personal nature, but we look forward to getting the families together during the summer holidays.

We meet at The Vauxhall Centre, Johnson Place, Norwich NR2 2SA on the 3rd Monday of each month from 10.30 – Midday



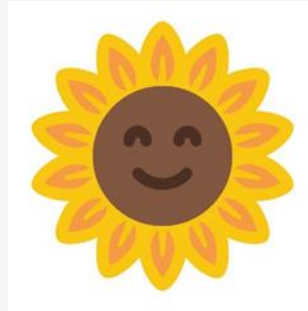
Interested to find out more?

Scan with your phone camera for more info

compass.kinship.org.uk
kinship.org.uk

norwichareakinshipcarer@outlook.com

Kinship is the working name for Grandparents Plus, which is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales under number 4454103 and registered as a charity under number 1093975



Growkids provides good quality, new or second-hand, clothing and equipment for babies and children (up to the age of 12 years), completely free of charge.

growkids@gatewayvineyard.church

We are pleased to share that Happy Smiles Club (John G Plummer & Associates Dental Surgeons) will be visiting Wensum on 18th June 2024 to take part in a whole school oral health assembly and free screening session.

If you would like your child to be signed up for the screening session, with an opportunity for a follow up appointment for treatment should a dental condition be detected; please return the consent form that has been sent home with your child by the 10th of June 2024.

Happy Smiles Club





UK Government

Help for Households

Get set to save on energy bills this winter

Go to gov.uk/saveenergy for more helpful tips

There are lots of things you can do to save money on your energy bills.

Make sure **your home is ready for the colder winter months** by ensuring your heating system is running efficiently:

- ✓ **Reduce your boiler flow temperature** and save up to £60 per year.
- ✓ **Bleeding your radiators** could make your home warmer and reduce your energy bills.
- ✓ **Get your boiler serviced** to help save you money on future costly repairs.

Follow our helpful tips on easy, effective ways to conserve energy in your household. These **small, easy actions** could add up to **big savings on your energy bills**:

- ✓ **Heat the rooms you're in** and turn down the radiators in unused rooms and you could save up to £50 per year.
- ✓ **Install an energy efficient showerhead** and save up to £40 per year.
- ✓ **Reduce your washing machine temperature** and save up to £20 per year.



Warm Home Discount

This winter around **3 million low-income households** will receive **£150 directly off their energy bills**.

For more information and to see if you are eligible, go on [GOV.UK](https://gov.uk) and search **Warm Home Discount**.

There is help for millions of households with the cost of living

With more than **40 schemes** to help with the cost of living, discover what **support is available** for you at gov.uk/helpforhouseholds

If you live in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland eligibility criteria may vary, and there may be different or additional help available.



Scan to find out more

Discover the support available

Find out more at gov.uk/helpforhouseholds

- ✓ **Cost of Living Payments**
Households on certain means-tested benefits can get **Cost of Living Payments**. Those who are eligible for an automatic payment will be paid **£300 in Autumn 2023** and they could also get another payment of **£299 by Spring 2024**. **Pensioner households** will also receive **£300**, which will be paid as a top up to those eligible for the Winter Fuel Payment. Those on certain disability benefits were also paid the **Disability Cost of Living Payment** over the summer.

Childcare support is expanding

Parents can get affordable, high-quality childcare to ensure that children get a great start in life.

Support is already available through **Tax-Free Childcare**, which can be used to help pay for out-of-school clubs, as well as **15 or 30 hours of childcare*** for nurseries or childminders.

Parents on **Universal Credit** can also **claim back up to 85% of their childcare costs**, with eligible parents now also able to get **extra help with their costs upfront** when they move into work or increase their hours. Working parents on Universal Credit can now get more for their monthly childcare costs. This could be up to **£951 a month for 1 child**, or up to **£1,630 for 2 or more children**.

Visit childcarechoices.gov.uk to find out more about childcare support you could be eligible for now and in the future.

*Available in England only.

✓ Household costs

Many providers are offering **cheaper broadband and mobile phone packages** for people claiming certain benefits. Some deals are as low as **£10 per month**. The government-funded **Household Support Fund** can also help with the costs of essentials in England, and there's additional **financial support with Council Tax and Water bills**.

✓ Financial support

Those on a low income, out of work or unable to work, could be eligible for **Universal Credit to help with living costs**. People over the **State Pension Age** could get extra money through **Pension Credit**, even if they have savings or own their own home.

And from **April 2024**, the government is **increasing childcare and early education support for working parents in England** as part of the biggest expansion to childcare ever. Eligible **working parents with a 2-year-old** (who turns 2 before 31 March 2024) could get **15 hours a week** in the first phase of this expansion.

| From | APR 2024 | From | SEPT 2024 | From | SEPT 2025 |
|---|----------|---|-----------|---|-----------|
| For eligible working families in England Each parent earning less than £100,000/year | | | | | |
| • With a 2-year-old child | | • With a child between 9 and 23 months old | | • With a child between 9 and 23 months old | |
| • 15 hours of childcare or early education for 38 weeks | | • 15 hours of childcare or early education for 38 weeks | | • 30 hours of childcare or early education for 38 weeks | |
| • A total of 570 hours per year, that you can use flexibly with one or more childcare providers | | • A total of 570 hours per year, that you can use flexibly with one or more childcare providers | | • A total of 1,140 hours per year, that you can use flexibly with one or more childcare providers | |

Parentline

Parentline 07520 631590 is
our text service for parents
and carers to get in touch
about any parenting questions
or concerns.

Text: 07520 631590 (Parentline)



[Family Voice Norfolk
\(epromailer.com\)](mailto:epromailer.com)

[What is Dads Matter? - Norfolk
County Council](#)

[Health Advice & Support for
Children & Families
\(justonenorfolk.nhs.uk\)](http://justonenorfolk.nhs.uk)

Wensum Junior's SEN Forum

Thank you to the parents who attended the last SEN Forum Meeting.

We discussed future meetings and identified professionals we would like to invite to come and showcase their service with us and then be available for a question and answer session.

So far the suggestions have been:

ASD helping hands
Just one Norfolk
The Mental Health Team
SENDIASS
Family Voice
Dyslexia Outreach
Young Carers
The Early Intervention Team.

Look out for invitations for future sessions, which will be open to all parents who are interested in attending.



Dates and future meetings:

- Tuesday 11th June - 13.45-14.45
- Wednesday 17th July - 9am-10am

Polite Reminders



Parking:

Please do not park illegally on double yellow lines or outside the school on the yellow zigzags.

Please help us keep our school community safe!



Uniform

Please ensure your child is in the correct uniform every day, including PE days. PE uniform should be plain black joggers or shorts, plain black hoodie and the coloured t-shirt of your child's house group.

Please note that many children are bringing in lip gloss and lip balm. This is not part of the school uniform. If your child needs to apply lip balm during the day for medical reasons than please talk to your class teacher.

Toys and personal belongings in school

Please ensure your child does not bring any personal belongings into school. We do not want any child getting upset if their personal belongings get lost or broken.