



Waycroft Academy Newsletter - 17th
January 2025

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A Message from the Headteacher



If I haven't seen you since the start of this term then a belated Happy New Year to you! Despite the cold, dark and icy conditions last week, our school attendance was 97.4%, which is fantastic! This week's attendance will have been lower, although most days have still been 95% or more (96.9% on Monday!). Below I have included an image of our attendance from the start of the year and you will notice that Monday mornings are generally lower than the rest of the week. Please can you make sure that:

- Your child is in school on time every day, including Mondays.
- If your child says they don't feel well and have no obvious symptoms, please send them in to school; you can always let us know that they have said they don't feel well and we will contact you if any symptoms develop.

Whilst we can all find it difficult to get going at the start of the week, it is highly unlikely that more children are genuinely poorly on Mondays! It is proven that children who have a higher attendance are much more likely to do well in their KS2 Sats and then GCSEs etc.

When I walked into the library yesterday lunchtime, I was amazed at the queue of children who wanted to take a book out. We are really trying to promote a love of reading/books even more this year through class novel time, assemblies, displays, Stockwood library visits etc and it has been great to see and hear children enjoying such a variety of books. Below

are some photos of books that Mrs Kelson ordered using the travelling book fayre rewards; thank you to everyone who purchased a book during one of the parents' evenings as it resulted in us getting these free for our school! The 'Little People, Big Dreams' series also helps support some of the assemblies that I have been focusing on aspirations/careers/jobs.

We know that a lot of our children love playing 'Roblox', which is one of the most popular games currently. Whilst this helps children with their creative development and IT skills, we know that some issues can arise from communications online amongst children and also from strangers. Below is a poster summarising what parents need to know and here is a link with a clear guide on how to make sure children enjoy using Roblox safely.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/esafety-news/parents-guide-to-roblox-and-how-your-kids-can-play-it-safely/>

It was great to see how much our Year 2 children enjoyed their trip to the SS Great Britain and I am sure that Years 3 and 5 are looking forward to their trips (We the Curious / Steam Museum) next week. We look forward to hearing about their experiences and sharing this, along with other work and successes throughout this term.

Finally, a huge thank you to our 'Friends of Waycroft', who paid for the Pantomime Aladdin, which the children absolutely loved watching on Monday

I hope everyone has a great weekend!

Mr Smith

Year	YTD Attendance									
	Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
1	92.5%	93.8%	93.9%	95.1%	92.9%	94.6%	93.8%	94.7%	93.2%	93.5%
2	93.4%	92.8%	95.1%	94.9%	95.4%	95.4%	95.8%	95.1%	95.1%	94.2%
3	94.6%	96.4%	96.0%	96.7%	94.9%	96.5%	95.7%	97.1%	95.2%	96.0%
4	92.7%	94.7%	94.6%	95.6%	94.9%	96.2%	95.9%	96.7%	94.9%	96.3%
5	92.6%	93.6%	94.9%	95.8%	94.8%	95.6%	94.7%	94.6%	91.8%	92.9%
6	94.6%	94.6%	96.1%	96.1%	97.4%	97.4%	97.2%	96.9%	96.8%	97.0%
Total	93.4%	94.3%	95.1%	95.7%	95.1%	96.0%	95.6%	95.9%	94.5%	95.0%

All National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to help an informed conversation about online safety with their children. Should they feel the need. This guide focuses on one of many games which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, facts and tips for each.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about ROBLOX

Roblox is one of the most popular video games on the market. By 2020, the game's makers were claiming that more than half of children in the USA play it. It's a 3D, sandbox, title. Roblox offers a huge amount of creative freedom; it lets players create their own gaming experiences with the Roblox Studio to build custom levels and games, which can then be shared with other players online. Roblox fosters creative thinking and enjoys a robust online community of fans.



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Roblox encourages players to communicate freely. Encouraging children to make such as screenshots, online creation, harassment, game and more. The in-game chat has some filters, but isn't perfect. Parents can set parental controls. Roblox has a reporting system for inappropriate behavior, but it's not perfect. Roblox has a reporting system for inappropriate behavior, but it's not perfect.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Roblox encourages players to communicate freely. Encouraging children to make such as screenshots, online creation, harassment, game and more. The in-game chat has some filters, but isn't perfect. Parents can set parental controls. Roblox has a reporting system for inappropriate behavior, but it's not perfect.

ONLINE DATERS

There are ones called 'Daters' on the Roblox game with the intention of finding someone to date online – and eventually meet in person. Such online dating is against the Roblox community guidelines, and this activity is against Roblox game worlds have even been reported with online dating specifically to Roblox.

IN-APP PURCHASES

Roblox is actually free to download and play, but does have some hidden costs. There are some hidden costs. Players are encouraged to make purchases in the game for avatars, buy and real money. The in-game currency, Roblox, is spent on cosmetic items in the game, and some private or VIP servers also have a cost.

PUBLIC SERVERS

Roblox has private or VIP servers which allow people to play exclusively with their friends. But this costs money. Most Roblox players will instead be on public servers. Public servers can have games which focus on all kinds of topics, from role-play to direct player interaction. Child games are not on public servers, will not be reported to Roblox.

ADVICE FOR PARENTS & CARERS

SET PARENTAL CONTROLS

Roblox games have several parental control options, which are explained well on the game's official website. It's essential to ensure the correct date is set for your child, as that allows Roblox to automatically apply the appropriate chat filters. The game also allows parents and carers to see monthly spending restrictions and monitor their child's account.

DISABLE PRIVATE MESSAGING

Roblox's private messaging function raises the risk of children being contacted by people they may not want to speak with – particularly those looking to bully, harass or scam. Roblox allows you to disable messages from anyone who hasn't been added as a friend on your child's account.

PRIVATE SERVERS

If your child has some genuine friends to play Roblox with, paying for a private or VIP server decreases the risk of meeting strangers. However, it's not necessarily the child's friend – it's the private server, if your child is talking to, it's important to talk with them regularly about who they are playing the game with.

MONITOR SPENDING

If they don't understand they're using real money, it's easy for children to accidentally spend a sizable amount on the game. Using parental controls to place limits on their spending will help reduce any overly impulsive purchases. Tracking both the Roblox account and your payment account also makes it harder for your child to spend money anonymously.

DEALING WITH STRANGERS

At some point in their development, your child will need to learn how to deal with strangers online. Show them how to block and report any users who are upsetting them or asking uncomfortable questions. Talking to a stranger online, even if you think it's unlikely, is a possibility to talk with them and what they should never tell a stranger online, and help them understand how to communicate with strangers.

Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (BA, MA, PhD) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry for over 20 years, providing expertise with most consoles, games and gaming guides. She is the author of the book 'Gaming: A Parent's Guide' and has worked on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.







Safeguarding / Health and Safety



Children with Phones

We strongly recommend that all children's phones have suitable restrictions in place, especially to ensure:

- that they have to get permission to download any Apps.
- they have restricted access to the internet

Below are some links to some relevant instructions for apple or Android phones.

<https://support.apple.com/en-om/guide/iphone/iph223f61318/18.0/ios/18.0>

<https://support.google.com/googleplay/answer/1075738?hl=en-GB>

Quite a lot of our staff also recommend Google Family Link which is an App

<https://families.google/familylink/>

If any parents are concerned that they don't have restrictions in place and want help or advice with this then please either speak to Mr Randall (our E-Safety Leader) or book an appointment with our office to see him.

Attendance



Week commencing - 06/01/2025

Whole school attendance - 97.3%

EYFS/KS1 class with highest attendance - Pinta 100%

KS2 class with highest attendance - SSGB 100%

Week commencing - 13/01/2025

Whole school attendance - 96.2%

EYFS/KS1 class with highest attendance - Pinta 99.1%

KS2 class with highest attendance - Endeavour 97.8%

Penalty Notices

- If a child has at least 10 (10 or more) sessions of unauthorised absence in 10 school weeks, their parent/carer(s) may receive a penalty notice (a morning or afternoon is one session; a whole school day is two sessions.)
- The first time a penalty is issued within a three-year rolling period, it is £80 (per parent/carer, per child) payable within 21 days, rising to £160 if paid between 22 and 28 days. (If the fine is not paid, the parent/carer may be prosecuted for the child's unauthorised absence.
- The second time a penalty notice is issued to the same parent/carer for the same child the amount will be £160 per parent/carer, per child (if paid within 28 days). There is no reduction in the amount if the penalty is paid early. (Again, if the fine is not paid, the parent/carer may be prosecuted.)

- Fines per parent/carer will be capped to two fines within any 3-year period. Once this limit has been reached, a prosecution will be considered. Prosecution may result in fines of up to £2,500 per parent/carer, per child.

School attendance: Is your child missing out?

	In a week means missing ...	Over a year means missing...	Over the seven years of primary school means missing...
100% attendance	No days	No weeks	No learning at all!
90% attendance	Half a day	Almost four weeks	Over four terms
80% attendance	One day	Over seven weeks	One school year and two terms
70% attendance	One and a half days	Eleven weeks	More than two years
60% attendance	Two days	Over fifteen weeks	Two years and four terms
50% attendance	Two and a half days	Almost twenty weeks	Three and a half years

SEND and Mental Health



Special Educational Needs & Disabilities

Bristol Parent Carers offer a range of **free** support sessions designed to support parents and carers of children with SEND. It's easy to book just visit <https://bit.ly/Getbookednow> to secure your place!

Free support sessions



Join us for free information and support sessions covering a variety of topics both in person and online. Or pop along to a peers support session (children welcome!) to find hints and tips on how best to support your family. No diagnosis is needed to access these sessions.

<p>Personal Independent Payments (PIP)</p> <p>WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS AND DISABILITY LAW SERVICE</p>	<p>Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)</p> <p>WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS AND THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR FASD</p>
<p>Family voices: Connecting with Education, health and social care.</p>	<p>Personal Independent Payments (PIP)</p> <p>WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS AND DISABILITY LAW SERVICE</p>
<p>Peer Support Sessions</p> <p>Greenway Centre Inns Court Fishponds Old Library</p>	<p>School Coffee Mornings</p>

Dont miss out!

For more info visit: www.bit.ly/Getbookednow

Have Your Say!



Join our engagement sessions!
This is the chance for to share your views and help shape and improve Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) services in Bristol.
No diagnosis is needed to access these sessions.

<p>YOUNG ADULTS TRANSITION SERVICE (YATS)</p>	<p>CHILDCARE AND FUNDING FOR CHILDREN WITH SEND</p>
<p>(MELSA)-MEDIATING LEARNING SUPPORT APPROACH: TRAINING FOR PARENTS.</p>	<p>EDUCATION, HEALTH AND CARE PLAN (EHCP), COMMUNICATIONS</p>

Dont miss out, book your place now!

For more info visit: www.bit.ly/Getbookednow

EYFS



Admiral

Happy New Year! Everyone came back happy to see their friends again. Our 6 new friends who have joined us this term are settling in well. We've been making the most of the snow and hard frosts - finding huge ice blocks in our pots and pans in the mud kitchen, making marks in the snow and riding our bikes over the hard frosts to hear the sounds our tyres made.

Mary-Rose Pre-School

We have had a lovely start to 2025, all of the children came back really well, and we have enjoyed welcoming some new friends into our class too. We have started the term learning about The Gingerbread man, and have enjoyed a range of activities, including sequencing the story, role playing in our bakery and also making yummy Gingerbread Men.

Reception

This week in Reception, the children loved exploring the classic tale *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*. From discovering the perfect porridge to testing out chairs and beds with construction materials, the story sparked imaginative play and lively discussions about making choices and respecting others' belongings. The children enjoyed role-playing as Goldilocks and the bear family, bringing the story to life with enthusiasm and giggles. It was a wonderful way to inspire creativity, teamwork, and storytelling skills! In Maths we have

been making number bonds to 5. We made number bonds to 5 with a range of resources and practised writing numbers together on big paper. In English, the children were fantastic at writing instructions to make porridge.







KS1



Year 1

Year 1 have enjoyed beginning lots of new units of work this term. We began our new History unit by exploring lots of different objects from the past 100 years. We were amazed at the size of the Gameboy Advance and how toys were made out of lots of different materials. We were very confused by some of the artefacts and what they were used for, but this also made us more interested in learning about things from before we were born.

In art we have been looking at printing. We used our hands in one piece of work and various objects in the other to explore what patterns/shapes we can make while printing. We also looked at the season of winter in our Science lesson before we begin our unit on animals.

We discussed the weather during winter and looked at the thermometer to see the temperature. Luckily most of us have been bringing in hats and gloves as it was -2 one day!

Year 2

Here are some photos from our SSGB trip. The children had a tour of the boat learning about the different people who travelled on it. They were able to use pen and ink like the Victorians. The children played Victorian games, dress up and learnt about the different inventions during the Victorian era. We were super impressed with the children's behaviour, they represented our school perfectly!

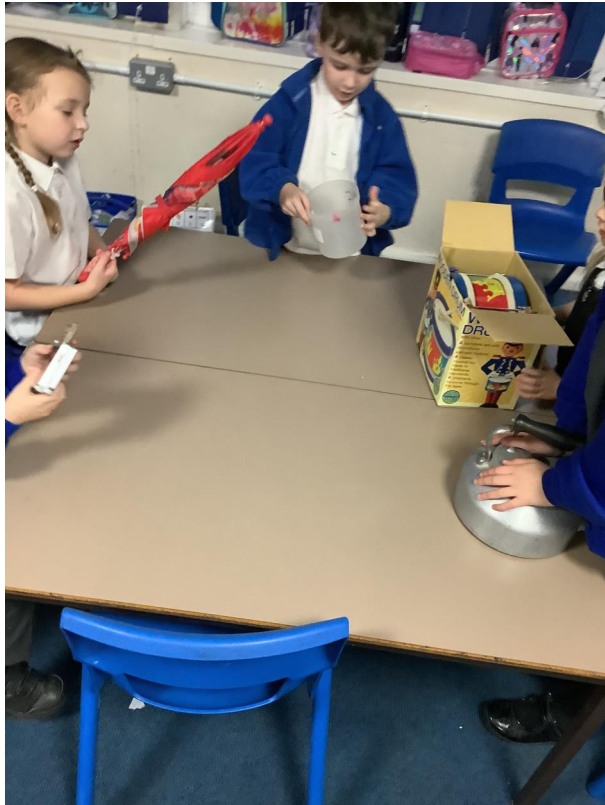




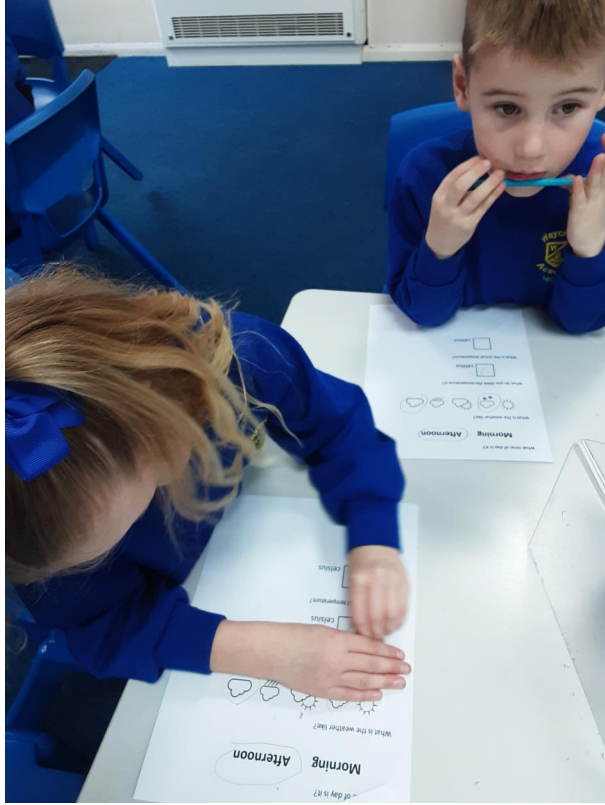
















LKS2

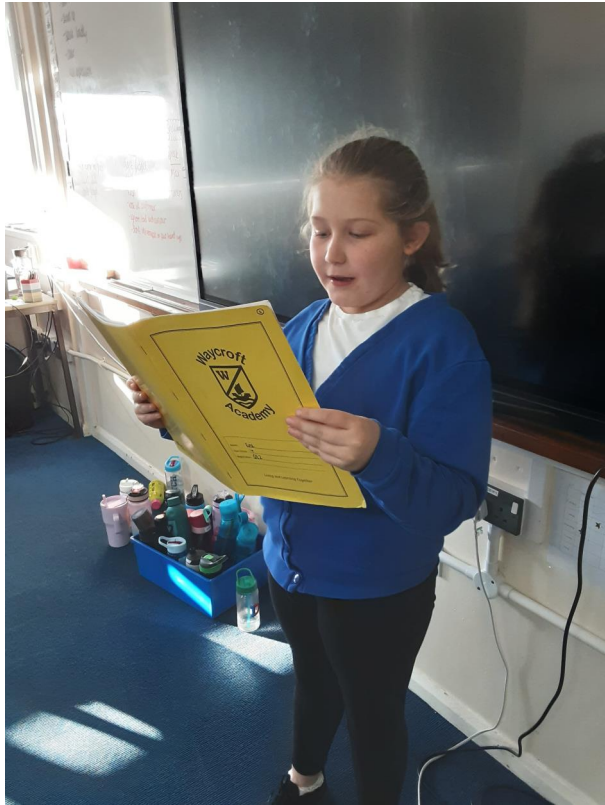


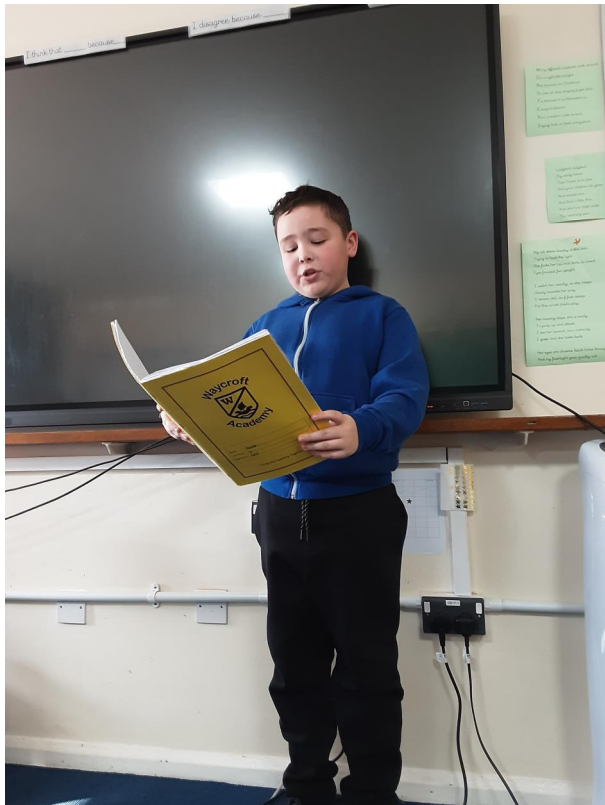
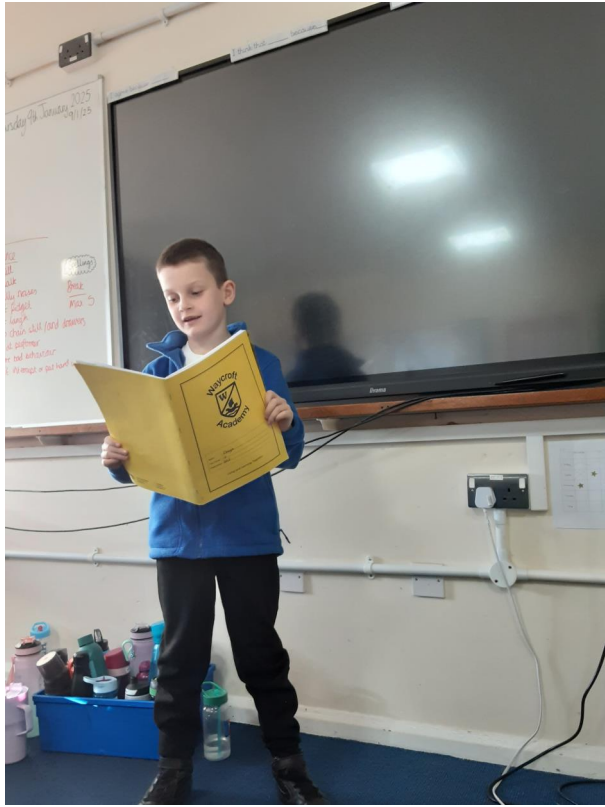
Year 3

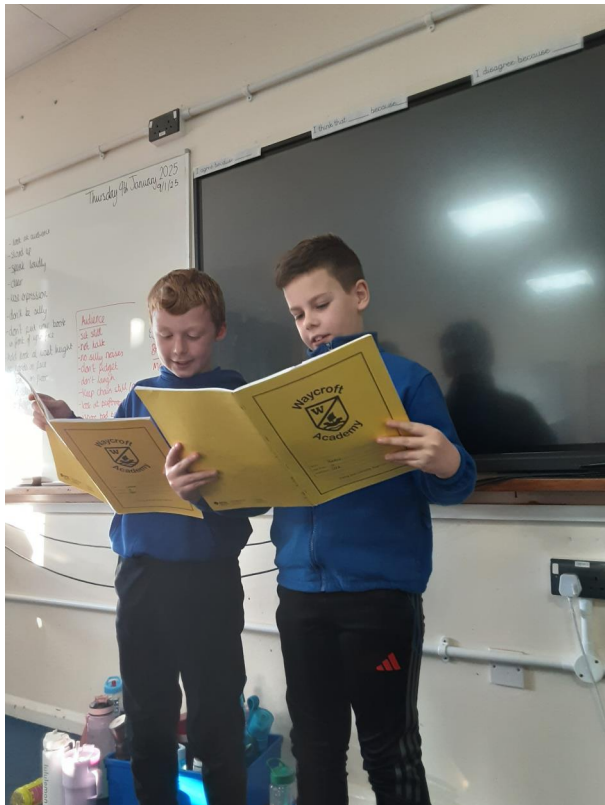
Year 3 have made a fantastic start to 2025! In PE, they have been receiving gymnastics coaching from Bristol Sports Foundation. Miss Mansyah (the gymnastics coach) commented that she was impressed with the core strength of the year group, which allowed them to perform handstands and rolls effectively. In geography, they revised the countries of the United Kingdom and the regions and waterways in England. All of the children identified that they live in the South West of England and we are close to the River Avon. In maths, they have been building on their multiplication and division knowledge and they are beginning to multiply and divide 2-digit numbers.

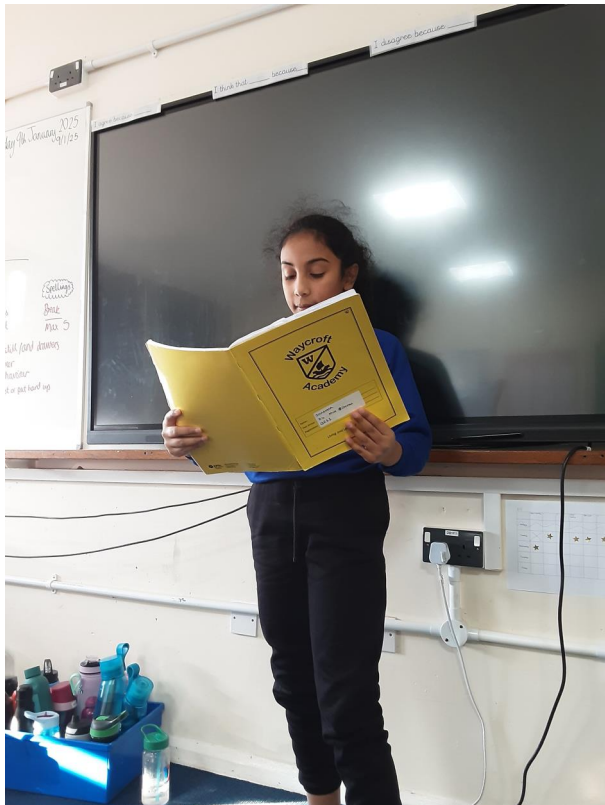
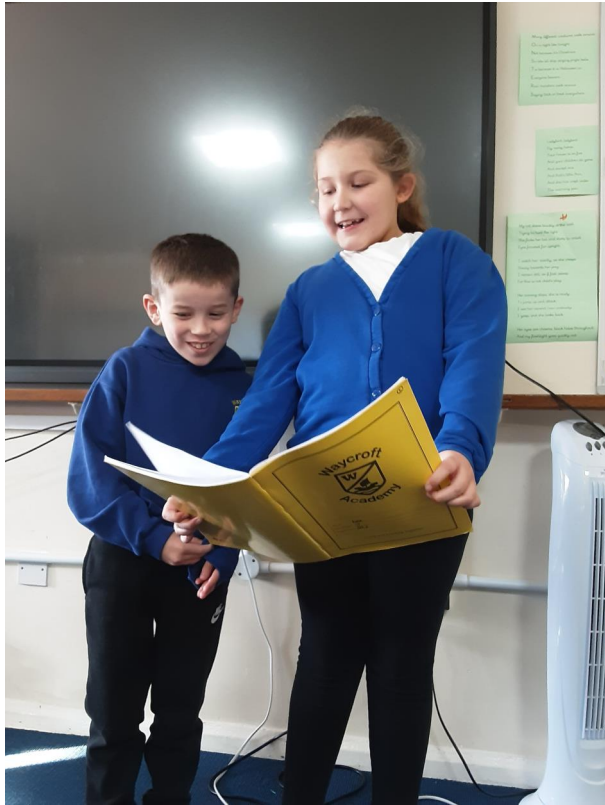
Year 4

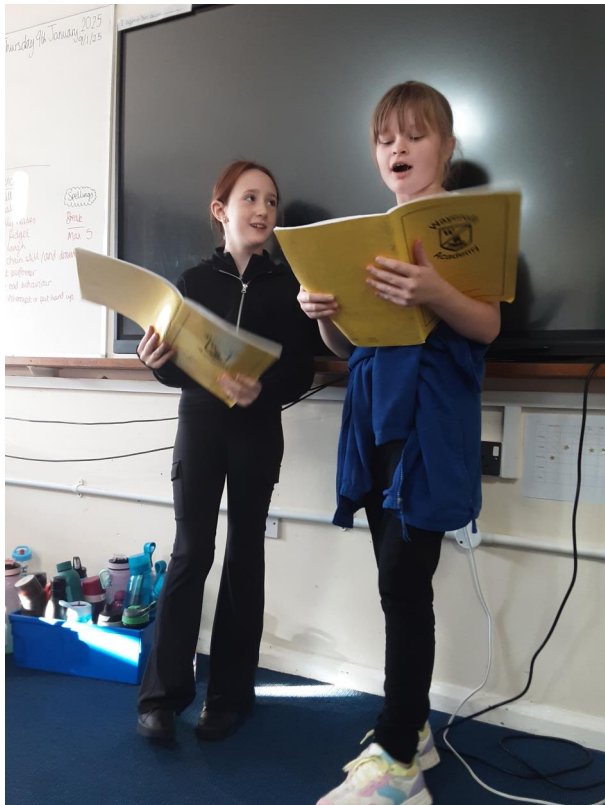
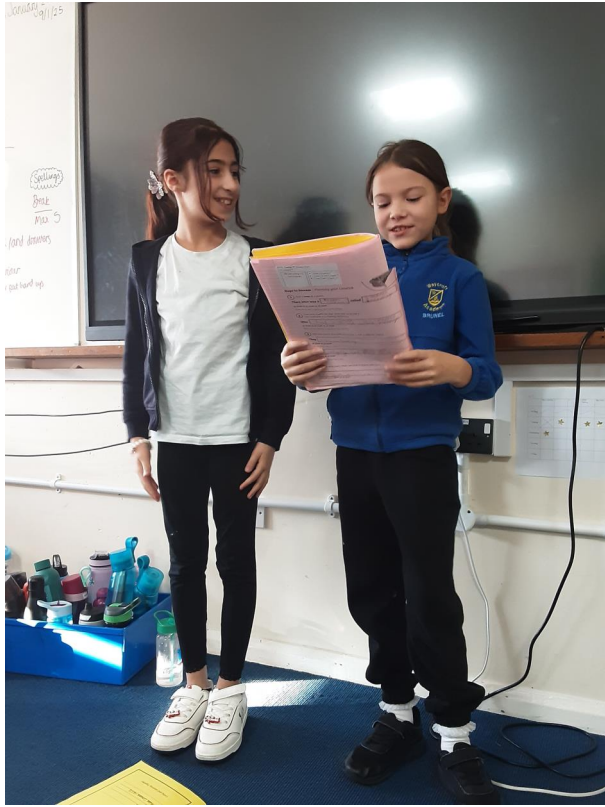
Year 4 have had a fantastic start back to school. They have been continuing to learn about multiplying and dividing and are enjoying practising their times tables. Last week, they wrote individual limericks and clerihews, which they then performed together, creating their own mini poetry slam!

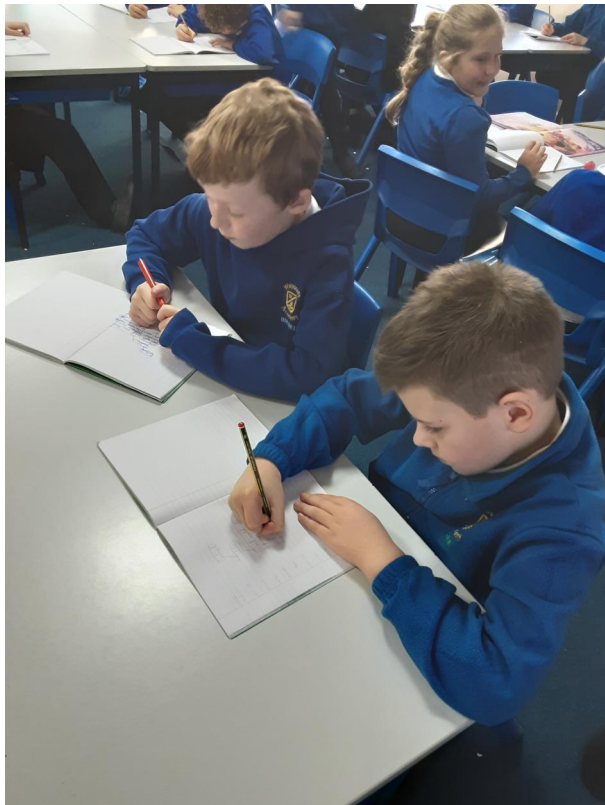


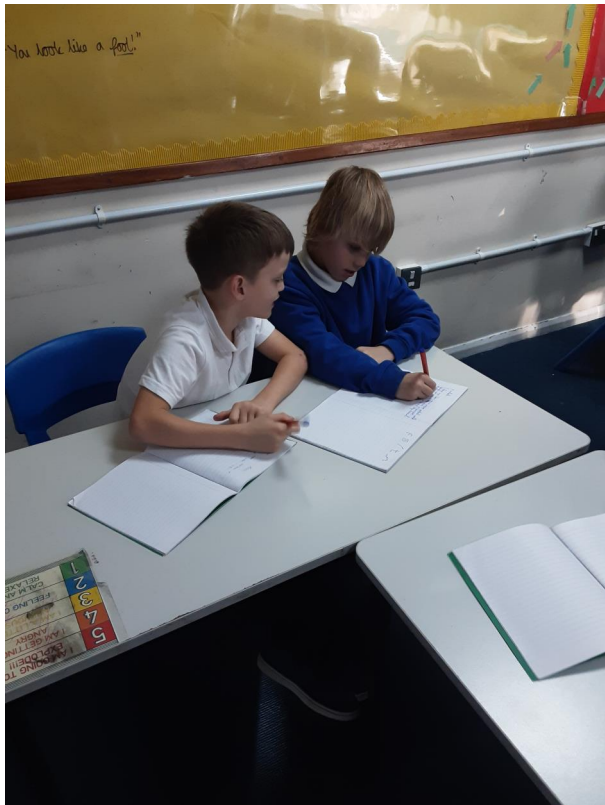
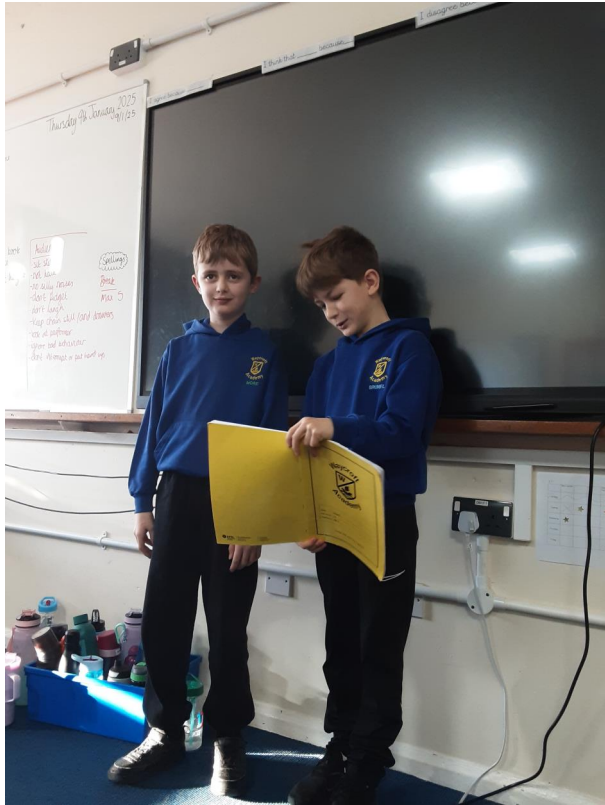






























UKS2



Year 5

Year 5 have had a great start to the new year! Our Second World War topic has really caught the children's interest. Thank you to both Hudson and Noah who brought in some war medals from their ancestors' involvement in the war. If you have anything else at home from World War 2 it would be great to see! In addition, the children have been super resilient all week working on some very tricky long multiplication questions in Maths. Well done Year 5! Don't forget next week is our school trip the steam museum! Don't forget to dress up like an evacuee or someone from the 1940s and make your gas mask

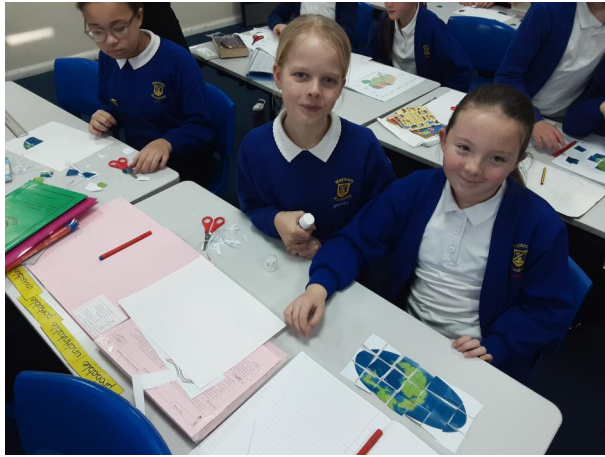
Year 6

In English, the children have fully immersed themselves in researching and writing newspaper articles on the recent forest fires in Los Angeles. This project has not only helped with their writing skills but also sparked interesting discussions about current events and the importance of environmental awareness.

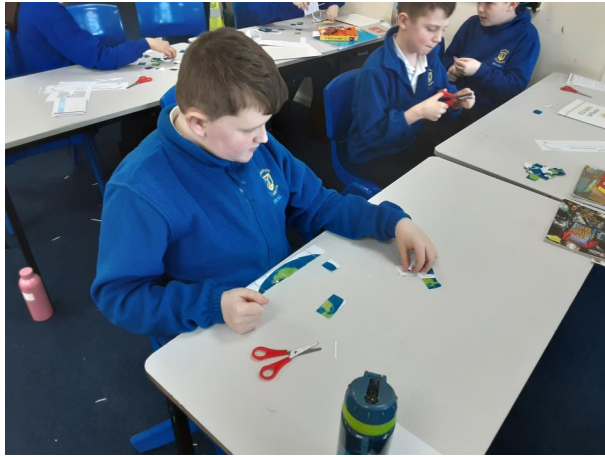
In maths, the children have been learning about the new concepts of ratio and proportion. The children have been learning how to apply these concepts to solve real-world

problems. .In science, we have embarked on an exciting exploration of the theory of evolution and inherited characteristics. This topic has engaged the children's attention, and they are excited to learn more. During our whole class reading sessions, we have also connected this scientific learning with relevant texts that deepen their understanding.



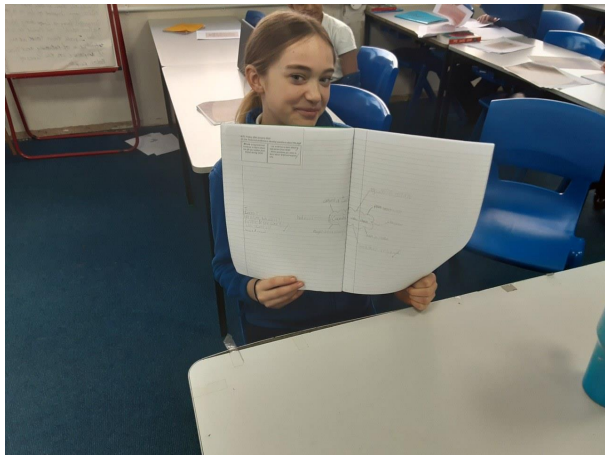
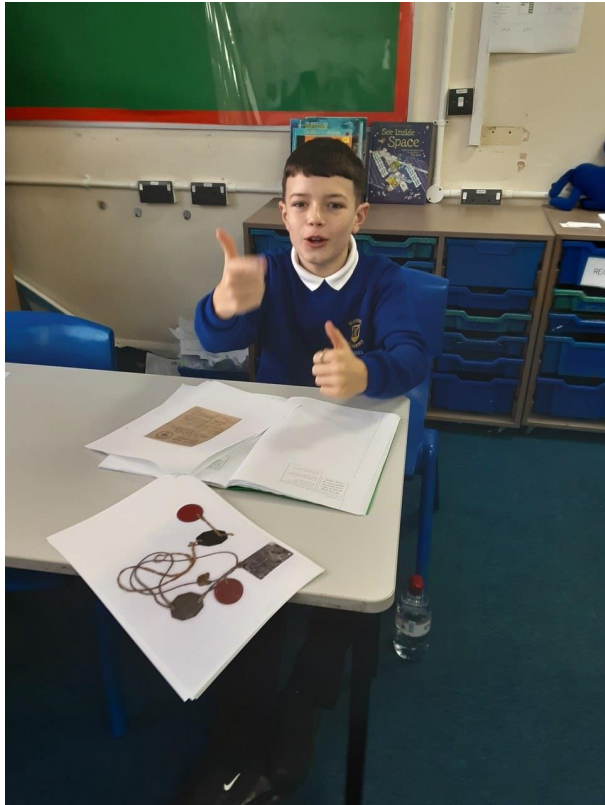














Save the Dates for Term 3 and 4



Tuesday 21st January - Year 5 trip to STEAM museum

Tuesday 21st January - Year 3 trip to We the Curious

Thursday 13th March - Year 4 Swimming to commence (more information to follow)

Inset Dates 2024/2025

Monday 6th January 2025

Monday 24th February 2025

Friday 4th July 2025

Monday 7th July 2025

Payment Reminders



Year 2 camp - If you have not paid the deposit or spoken to the office, we have not included your child numbers. The suggested payment plan is £25 due 29th November 2024, £25 due 31st January 2025, £25 due 28th February 2025 with final balance of £25 due by 30th April 2025.

Year 2 camp Pupil Premium - If you have not paid the deposit or spoken to the office, we have not included your child numbers. The suggested payment plan is £10 due 29th November 2024, £10 due 31st January 2025, £10 due 28th February 2025 with final balance of £10 due by 30th April 2025.

Year 4 Swimming - £24 due 28th February 2025.

Year 6 Simonsbath camp - £50 deposit due 25th October 2024. With the suggested payment plan of £90 due 31st December 2024, £90 due 28th February 2025, £90 due 25th April 2025 with final balance of £89.58 due by 30th May 2025.

Year 6 Simonsbath camp Pupil Premium - £50 deposit due 25th October 2024. With the suggested payment plan of £40 due 31st December 2024, £40 due 28th February 2025, £40 due 25th April 2025 with final balance of £34.79 due by 30th May 2025.

Community Notices



Bristol Family Hubs

Here is a link to Bristol Family Hubs team, who offer parenting courses for parents/carers with children ages 0 – 8 years. These courses are run by expert facilitators and Family Support Workers who are based at Children's Centres across the city and run on a rolling basis, throughout the year.

These parenting courses are FREE and are all universal – any parent/carer can attend.



FREE
9 Week
Group

Bristol Family Hubs

Circle of Security Parenting

A parenting group for parents of children aged 0 - 5 years old, run by qualified staff at your local Children's Centre.

This group is for adults only and creche spaces are subject to availability.
Creche spaces recommended for babies ages 6 months and over.

During this parent reflection group you will explore:

- Supporting your child's emotional needs
- Understanding your relationship with your child
- Helping your child manage their emotions
- Looking differently at your own mental wellbeing

**Hartcliffe Children's Centre
BS13 0JW
3rd February - 31st March
9.30 - 11.30am**

Register your interest here: www.bit.ly/BristolParentingGroups

If you would like further information then please call us on:
07721311497 or email: pssso@bristol.gov.uk
Once you have registered your interest, a member of the team will be in touch to find the best course for you (in person or virtual options available).



Bristol Parenting Groups

- Are you pregnant or a parent of a 0 - 8 year old?
- Would you like to add ideas and skills to your parenting toolbox?
- Would you like to develop more confidence in your parenting?
- Would you like to understand your child better?

Free groups for adults run by Bristol Children's Centres

Scan here to find out more and register your interest!



Your parenting toolbox:

Listening

Play

Praise

Nurture

Empathy

Connection

For more information please call: **07721 311 497**
or email: pssso@bristol.gov.uk

Once you have registered your interest via:
www.bit.ly/BristolParentingGroups we will be in touch to find the best group option for you.



FREE
4 Week
Group

Parenting Puzzle

A parenting group for parents of children aged 0 - 5 years old, run by qualified staff at your local Children's Centre. This group is for adults only.

Workshop 1: Understanding Children's Behaviour, Listening and Communicating, Praise and Encouragement

Workshop 2: Praise and Guidance vs. Criticism, Child-led Play and Positive Moments

Workshop 3: Boundaries and Parenting Styles, Time to Calm Down, Dealing with Stress and Conflict

Workshop 4: Choices and Consequences, Behaviour to Ignore, Putting the Puzzle Together, Looking after Ourselves

**Hartcliffe
Children's Centre
BS13 0JW**

**4th March - 25th
March
9.30 - 11.30am**

Register your interest here: www.bit.ly/BristolParentingGroups

If you would like further information or to register your interest directly then please call us on: **07721311497** or email: pssso@bristol.gov.uk
Once you have registered your interest, a member of the team will be in touch to find the best course location for you (in person or virtual options available).





FREE
4 Week
Group



Parenting Puzzle

A parenting group for parents of children aged 0 - 5 years old, run by qualified staff at your local Children's Centre. This group is for adults only.

Workshop 1: Understanding Children's Behaviour, Listening and Communicating, Praise and Encouragement

Workshop 2: Praise and Guidance vs. Criticism, Child-led Play and Positive Moments

Workshop 3: Boundaries and Parenting Styles, Time to Calm Down, Dealing with Stress and Conflict

Workshop 4: Choices and Consequences, Behaviour to Ignore, Putting the Puzzle Together, Looking after Ourselves

**Bedminster
Children's Centre
BS3 3BZ**

**21st January -
11th February
12.30 - 2.30pm**

Register your interest here: www.bit.ly/BristolParentingGroups

If you would like further information or to register your interest directly then please call us on: 07721311497 or email: pso@bristol.gov.uk
Once you have registered your interest, a member of the team will be in touch to find the best course location for you (in person or virtual options available).








FREE
5 Week
Group



Antenatal Welcome to the World

Suitable for parents at around 22 weeks of pregnancy onwards...

-  Understanding your baby and baby's brain development
-  Your future as parents and as a family
-  Your roots, traditions, hopes and fears for the future
-  Infant feeding and the practical tasks of caring for a new baby
-  Practical Skills - safer sleep, bath time and changing nappies

**Hartcliffe
Children's Centre
BS13 0JW**

**13th January -
10th February
1 - 3pm**

Register your interest here: www.bit.ly/BristolParentingGroups

If you would like further information then please call us on: 07721311497 or email: pso@bristol.gov.uk
Once you have registered your interest, a member of the team will be in touch to find the best course for you (in person or virtual options available).










FREE
5 Week
Group



Antenatal Welcome to the World

Suitable for parents at around 22 weeks of pregnancy onwards...

-  Understanding your baby and baby's brain development
-  Your future as parents and as a family
-  Your roots, traditions, hopes and fears for the future
-  Infant feeding and the practical tasks of caring for a new baby
-  Practical Skills - safer sleep, bath time and changing nappies

**Bedminster
Children's Centre
BS3 3BZ**

**24th February -
24th March
2 - 4pm**

Register your interest here: www.bit.ly/BristolParentingGroups

If you would like further information then please call us on:
07721311497 or email: psso@bristol.gov.uk
Once you have registered your interest, a member of the team will be in touch to find the best course for you (in person or virtual options available).



FREE
10 Week
Group



The Nurturing Programme

**A parenting group for parents of children aged 2 - 8 years old,
run by qualified staff at your local Children's Centre.
This group is for adults only.**

- Understanding why children behave as they do
- Recognising the feelings behind behaviour (ours and theirs)
- Exploring different approaches to discipline
- Finding ways to develop co-operation and self-discipline in children
- Learning the importance of looking after ourselves

**Hartcliffe
Children's Centre
BS13 0JW**

**16th January -
27th March
9.30 - 11.30am**

Register your interest here: www.bit.ly/BristolParentingGroups

If you would like further information then please call us on: 07721311497 or email: psso@bristol.gov.uk Once you have registered your interest, a member of the team will be in touch to find the best course for you (in person or virtual options available).



Contact Us



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