

Wray Common Primary School Newsletter



Inspiring Lifelong Learning

BUSINESS AS USUAL... THE SNOW DIDN'T STOP US!



LEARNING FROM 1ST HAND EXPERIENCE

Following on from last week's 'hands on' scientific investigation into how the heart works, led by Mr Williams, the children in Year 6 continued with their learning about the heart by performing a lamb's heart dissection for themselves with Mrs Shevel during their Science lesson this week. They were able to identify many of the parts of the heart and saw how each part is designed for its function. Mrs Shevel was incredibly proud of the children and says that they should be commended for their mature and inquisitive approach to the lesson.



IT'S ALL ABOUT PATTERN IN YEAR 4

Last half term Year 4 got to grips with pattern and print and produced some lovely 'poly prints' using polystyrene print blocks. They have now extended their pattern and print work into tie-dying patterns and later this term, will extend this pattern investigation into studying the art of Batik, a technique of wax-resist dyeing applied to whole cloth; a technique that originated in Indonesia. Watch this space for Year 4's Batik prints.



WORLD BOOK DAY

We kicked off World Book Day yesterday with a reading workshop for parents and carers, who were invited into school to find out how they can best support their children at home with their reading. Mrs Ellis delivered a very informative talk which was followed by a 'read with your child' session. Parents and carers gathered their children together to share books and stories with them and to put into practice what they had learnt at the workshop. Please read page 2 which highlights the main points of yesterday's presentation.



TOP TIPS FOR SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD'S READING

One of the most important things parents can do, beyond keeping kids healthy and safe, is to read with them. Those precious minutes spent reading with your child every day can have a huge impact on so many areas of their lives going much further and deeper than the pages in front of them.



Why should I spend at least 10 minutes a day reading with my child?

The more you read, the better you get at it and the more progress you make. Ask any Wray Common pupil what practice makes and they will tell you progress! The wonderful thing about progress in reading is the adventures you can take, the experiences you can have and the people you can meet... in a book!



Reading with your child has so many other benefits apart from the obvious skill of learning to read. It improves concentration. Developing the skill of being able to sit quietly and read has the knock on effect of being able to concentrate for longer periods of time within the classroom and in doing so, opens more opportunities for learning.

- Reading improves vocabulary
- Reading exercises the imagination
- Reading gives children information on a number of important subjects:
 - ⇒ Social issues
 - ⇒ Emotions
 - ⇒ Morals
 - ⇒ What is right and wrong
 - ⇒ Maths, Science, Literacy, History, Arts... the list is endless
- Reading will make your child more well-rounded and passionate about his/her interests.

So how can I get my child involved in reading?

- Find books that interest your child and are a good fit (reading level). It is surprising the number of children who need help in choosing a good book
- Read with your child
- Make reading fun
- Be a role model
- Where possible, develop a routine when you share reading together - creating a time of day you and your child can look forward to.



Wray Common Reading Expectations

Children should be reading regularly at home, ideally at least 10 minutes a day in KS1 and up to at least 30 mins a day by the end of KS2. They should be heard reading by an adult at home and notes and comments recorded in their home learning journals. Reading can include newspapers, comics, magazines, games rules....again an endless list. Children should also have a reading book which is brought home daily. This could be a school reading book, a book from home or a library book.

So how can Wray Common help you support your child's learning?

At the back of the Wray Common Home Learning Journals (**the yellow pages!**) you will find support to help you in developing your child's understanding of what they are reading. Please use the points listed there to guide you to asking the right sort of questions that will assist you in checking your child's understanding of what they are reading. They cover the reading skills required from Reception to Year 6. Mix it up a little and let your child use the questions to check how well you were listening!

Children's reading interests vary greatly. We have a wide variety of books in the classrooms and our school libraries. Visiting your local library will offer a great selection too. The following websites might provide some ideas as to where to start with suggested good books:

<https://www.goodreads.com/list/show/10719.50> Books Every Child Should Read

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books/100-best-books/>

<https://www.whsmith.co.uk/chart/books/childrens-02x09004>



CHILDREN'S DISCO

Wednesday 28th March
£2 entry fee- pay on the door
years R, 1 & 2 = 5:30-6:15pm
years 3, 4, 5, 6 = 6:30-7:15pm



£2 entry to include a drink and a packet of crisps.

The children must be brought to the school's entrance, then collected from the hall, exiting via yr 4 side door.

Please do not ask your children to wait outside for collection. Thank you!

Friends of Wray Common School
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WRAY COMMON'S FAMILY DAY ASSEMBLIES THURSDAY 8TH MARCH 2018

Reception and Year 1

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Assembly

9:30 a.m. - 9:50 a.m.

Walkabout with children and tea and coffee served in the Small Hall

Years 2, 3 and 4

9:30 a.m. - 9:50 a.m.

Walkabout with children and tea and coffee served in the Small Hall

10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Assembly

Years 5 and 6

10:30 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

Walkabout with children and tea and coffee served in the Small Hall

11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Assembly

All parents, carers and other family members are very welcome to attend this celebration. A 'walkabout' of the school is a great way to see what has been going on in class and you will be free to explore the school with your children.