

Wensum Junior School

Newsletter – February/March 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

Spring Term 24 – 26th February 24 – 27th March 24 (inclusive)

Easter Holidays – 28th March 24 – 12th April 24 (inclusive)

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

**6th May – Bank holiday

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

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

September 2023							October 2023							November 2023							December 2023						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31
							30	31																			

January 2024							February 2024							March 2024							April 2024						
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29	30	31					26	27	28	29				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					

May 2024							June 2024							July 2024							August 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30	31	

Important Dates Continued:

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

MARCH 24:

- World Book Day – 7th – Dress up as Dalmatians!
- Science Week – 11th to 15th
- Parents evening – Monday 25th and Tuesday 26th March
- Last day of term – Wednesday 27th March

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 – Thursday 20th June
- Reserve Sports Days – Friday 21st June

APRIL 24:

- Return to School – Monday 15th April

JULY 24

- Reports being sent home – Friday 5th July
- Meet your new teacher day – Friday 12th July
- New Y3 Transition Day – Friday 12th July
- Y6 Leavers Assembly – Friday 19th July – details tbc

MAY 24:

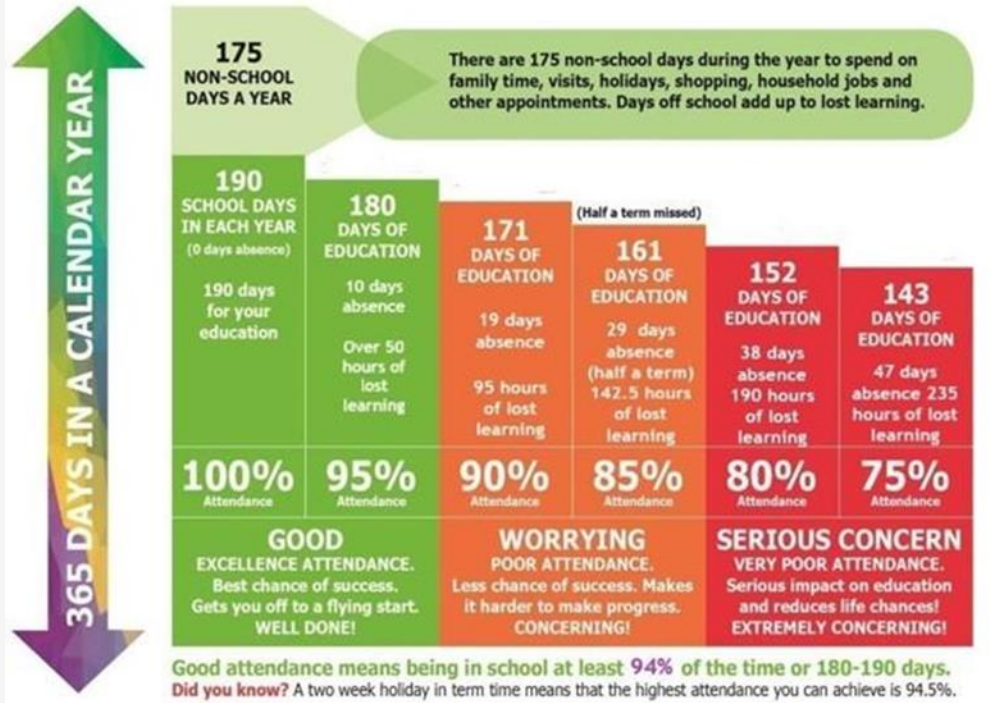
- Y6 Sats week Monday 13th to Thursday 17 May
- Sit and See – Friday 24th May. Parents to come in and look at their child's work.



Attendance

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

Don't miss out on the education you deserve.



Our school attendance target	96%
Our attendance for February 2024	93.89%
Unauthorised absence in February 2024	0.9%
Minutes late in January 2024	966

Class Attendance results for February 2024

- 3G – 94.35% (was 95.4% in January)
- 3/4A – 92.46% (was 92.17% in January)
- 4H – 89.88% (was 96.08% in January)
- 5P – 97.12% - Above Target. Well done! (was 97.02% in January)
- 5W – 98.05% - Above Target. Well done! (was 97.4% in January)
- 6C – 93.91% (was 87.66% in January)
- 6SH – 92.88% (was 93.9% in January)

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



What has been happening in school? – Year 3 Roman Day

The children have been extremely busy, enjoying a great deal of fun and exciting activities to help them with their learning.

Roman Day - Year 3 and 4 have had a visit from Julius – a Roman soldier this half term. This was very exciting and the children really enjoyed the day. Have a look at what each class thought of the day, along with some of the pictures taken of the children!

How 3G felt about the day...

We were very excited this morning, from our classroom we could see the Roman pacing around his camp on the field. Some of us felt a little bit nervous at first but when we met him, we realised he wasn't scary at all.

Julius didn't know some of our modern-day items were such as Velcro on shoes and he even stole Rafals gloves! We shared with Julius all the knowledge that we knew already about the Romans, and he taught us the Latin names for all the Roman soldier equipment, and we even got to try it all on.

After brektime we spent an hour living the life of a Roman in Julius' camp, we wrote on beeswax tablets, ground flour to make bread, polished our armour, washed with oil, used catapults and even played some Roman games. It was very interesting to learn about what they would do in the Roman camps, but it was also very tiring.

We had a fire and then ate some Roman food, this looked like porridge but tasted horrible, most of us didn't like it. A few children said they would eat it again, but Stanley seemed to enjoy it most.

In the afternoon we had some Roman army training on the playground using Roman shields. We learnt to march in time using the Latin words for left and right (sin and dex). Then we had a competition between the classes to see who could work together the best and have the best protection in a cluster with our shields as the teachers attacked and the other children threw balls at us, this was very fun, and we won against all the other classes!

Quotes from 4H

Arya: "I learnt that right and left in Latin is *Dex* and *Sin*."

Colby: "I'd never want to be a Roman because life is full of danger and the days are so hard! I wouldn't want to be a Celt either because they were used as slaves!"

Jordi: "The Romans used olive oil to clean themselves. When they scaped the oil off their skin, women used it as moisturiser!"

Katy: "They used wax tablets to send messages. It was so hard to write on because it was cold."

Belle: "A Testudo formation – or tortoise shell – was a type of shield wall used in battles."

Yara: "They used a spinning thing [quern-stone] for making flour. It was hard work turning it."

Hussein: "They entertained themselves with games like Noughts and Crosses; it wasn't as good as today's games. On-screen games are far more fun!"

Shaun: "The Romans came here for tin, copper, silver and gold."

Jordi: "The Romans came to Britain to grow crops because the ground was nice and moist."



Please visit the school's website and Facebook pages to find out more information.

What has been happening in school? – Parliament Day

The children have been extremely busy, enjoying a great deal of fun and exciting activities to help them with their learning.

Pupil Parliament Day –

On Tuesday 19th March, Hussain and Felicity travelled to and met children from other schools in Our Trust to take part in Pupil Parliament day.

They had to debate to the question, “Are rules enough to be a good citizen?.” And give reasons why they thought rules are good enough. They did excellent during their debate and had strong answers! Here is the piece by BBC Radio Suffolk that was recorded at the Trust Pupil Parliament Day yesterday.

You can listen here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p0hf5n2c> - go to 3hrs 20min 45sec. Many of the children are featured from across the schools.

There is also a piece online: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-suffolk-68609093>.

Thankyou to Felicity and Hussain for representing Wensum so well.



What has been happening in school? – Year 5 The Greeks

The children have been extremely busy, enjoying a great deal of fun and exciting activities to help them with their learning.

Greek day - Year 5 concluded their Ancient civilisation learning with a visit from a real Ancient Greek! They explored what life would have been like for men, women and children in Ancient Greece, took part in taste testing different foods, danced and dressed as they would have back in Ancient Greek times. They had an amazing day listening to stories and learning new things.



What has been happening in school?

SCIENCE WEEK

5P had a great time exploring 'reactions' in Science this week. We were asked questions such as, 'Can you 'grow' a rainbow?', 'Can you make raisins dance?' We looked at how heat can speed up reactions and also recapped our previous learning of liquids solids and gases. It was quite an explosive afternoon



For science week, 34A have been investigating light and shadow. To finish up, we used our knowledge of transparent, translucent and opaque materials to construct a puppet theatre and design our own puppets! Everyone got involved in the creation process and performed their story to the rest of the class which is a brilliant achievement.



Last week and this week, 4H have been busy investigating states of matter. We had fun with empty plastic bottles and balloons - activating prior knowledge of gases - then we explored melting and cooling, evaporating and condensing and the water cycle.



Well done to Abi C, Amalia, Parker and Matilda for their fantastic Science posters.

Clubs

This term the children have enjoyed Y5&6 Tag Rugby Club, Y3&4 Gymnastics Club and Y6 Gardening club. Here are some photos of the children enjoying Gardening club.



ART CLUB

Next term, we have lots of exciting clubs to apply for! These include Y3&4 Athletics, Y5&6 Rounders, Creative Writing, Art and French club. We also still have spaces for the Gardening club on Fridays. If you are interested, please refer to email sent out with more information.



News

Staffing updates:

We are really pleased to have welcomed Jamie-Lee Dunnell (previously Miss Milman) back to Wensum this week. She has really enjoyed her maternity leave but is equally as excited to come back to work. Mrs Dunnell will be joining the Teaching Assistant team in school.

Miss Jones and Mrs Coe will be continuing their job-share role in the school office.

We have been successful in appointing two new members of our Midday Supervisor team. A big welcome to Miss Smith and Mrs Hanner who will be starting with us after the Easter holidays.

A further congratulations to Mrs Butler-Dack who has been appointed as a TA and will be joining the team of adults over in our SRB. She will continue to work in the main school on a Wednesday lunchtime. The role of led MSA has been given to Mrs Hazzard.

Well Done – Headteacher's Award

Taissa and Tyrion – great progress in phonics

Zico – For being kind to a new pupil

3/4A - for showing a huge improvements in their behaviours for learning.



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



PTFA - NEWS



We have been very successful in securing a team of people who have agreed to support the school and become part of the PTFA (Parent, Teacher, Friend Association). Members have agreed to be on the committee or to join as volunteers. Jamie-Lee has been appointed as Chair-person, our Treasurer is Christine Kandjou and Charlotte Cox is our Secretary.

Their first fund raising event was the Easter Bake Sale and Easter Egg raffle.

Thank you to all the parents who have supported this event. Further details about future fund-raising activities will be shared.

Wensum Junior's SEN Forum

On Friday 9th February, Mrs Peachment met with a group of parents, all who have children with Special Educational Needs. Discussions were had around the future of a parent support group and what his might look like.

It has been agreed that our SEN Forum group will meet every 6 weeks. Some weeks, will be a general meeting to discuss parent needs, difficulties with behaviour etc. Other meetings will include a visitor to speak with parents on areas of concern or interest.

Everyone will be invited to join further meetings and the details of these will be shared with you.

The SEN forum group will be directed by parents and the support they require and will be very informal.



Dates and future meetings:

- Monday 22nd April - 9 am - 10 am
- 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. If you are unsure what your child should be wearing, please check the school's website or previous newsletters.

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.

Who do I need to speak to if I have Safeguarding concerns?

Designated Safeguarding Leads



Mrs Peachment
Headteacher



Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.
If something doesn't look or feel right, please
let us know

OR

Call CADS (Children's Advice and Duty Service)
on
0344 800 8020



Mr Hubery
Deputy
Headteacher



Miss Glen
Parent Support
Advisor



Miss Hart
SRB Lead
Teacher



Mrs Miller
After School Club
Lead

[Safeguarding and Child Protection – Wensum Junior School](#)