



NEWSLETTER

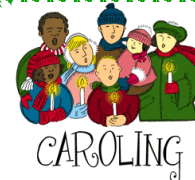
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Merry Christmas message from the Headteacher



It has been a busy term, and we are all looking forward to Christmas.

Educational Visits and visitors to school and of course our residential to Edmond Hall have provided real, hands on experiences for the children. They have been learning new knowledge and skills across all areas of the curriculum. The Eatwell project gave children the opportunity to taste new foods and learn about different food groups. They have also learned about Diwali, the children made Diva lamps and joined in with dance workshops. Farm on wheels, Nativity plays and a visit to Church helped us celebrate the Christmas festivities. Through stories children have been developing their oral language and vocabulary which has helped them to write their own stories. Some children have attended competitive sporting events.

The highlights for me were the amazing Christmas productions with fantastic acting, singing and dancing. It was wonderful to see the confidence of children and the smiles from parents. The choir also joined some local pensioners and sang at their Christmas lunch, they were delighted. These events enrich the curriculum and are a joy to share!

Our whole staff team would like to wish you all a very special Christmas and a happy New Year.

Celebrating Success



This week the 'Best Attendance Cup' goes to **Wrens** with **97.93%** attendance

Well done and thank you parents for ensuring your child attends school everyday.

Swifts	97.24%
Swallows	94.00%
Robins	91.85%
Chicks 2	86.67%
Chicks 1	85.91%

Christmas Raffle

Thank you for helping school and nursery to raise £235 towards our Christmas activities.

We still have prizes that need to be collected. Please bring your ticket to the school office in the new year.



Important Reminders

To report your child's absence call the school office on 01952 387860 before 8:50am. Should you require to collect your child early from school for an appointment could you please bring an appointment card or letter into the school office when collecting.



In order to keep your child safe if we have not been notified in advance of any change in collection arrangements we will not allow your child to leave without contacting you first.



When dropping off and collecting children we ask parents to park with consideration for local residents, other road users and most importantly for children's safety. We ask parents not to access the school car park when collecting or dropping off children at anytime. Parking is available at Oakengates Leisure Centre.



Children should not use the adventure playground before or after school. If parents allow children to go on the equipment they do so at their own risk.



A reminder that adults and children must dismount from all wheeled vehicles at the school gate, so that everyone remains safe. Scooters and bikes can be left in the racks provided.



Dates for your diary

Date	Event
22 Dec	Last Day Autumn Term
8 Jan	PD Day
9 Jan	First Day of Spring Term
10 Jan	KS1 (Y1 & Y2) Kwik Cricket
11 Jan	Raising Awareness of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) parent workshops
10 –11 Jan	Nursery (The Nest) inductions
16 Jan	Y1 Robins & Wrens) 'Toys in time' workshop
24 Jan	KS1 (Y1 & Y2) Tennis Festival
6 Feb	KS1 (Y1 & Y2) Dance Festival
12-16 Feb	Half term



Family Learning

The next family learning session for Reception children and their parents is called '**Family Year Planner.**'

This course commences on **Thursday 11 January**, 1-3pm and will run for 5 weeks.

Encourage your child to help set family plans and goals and celebrate achievements together throughout the year.

All resources provided, there will be free refreshments and a free Creche available on request.

Please click on the link to register <https://www.learntelford.ac.uk/PublicSites/CreateFromCourse/7933046>

Please contact the admin office for any support with registering



School Closure

In case of severe weather conditions or closure due to unforeseen circumstances, please check the news feed on our school website at

<https://www.wrockwardinewoodinfant.org.uk/>

Please click on the snowline news item where you will find information about any closure. There is also a link to the Telford & Wrekin snowline which will inform you of school closures.

<http://apps.telford.gov.uk/snowline>



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

YOUTUBE

YouTube is a video-sharing social media platform that allows billions of people around the world to watch, share and upload their own videos with a vast range of content – including sport, entertainment, education and lots more. It's a superb space for people to consume content that they're interested in. As a result, this astronomically popular platform has had a huge social impact: influencing online culture on a global scale and creating new celebrities.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate material. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as messaging other users directly. Connecting with strangers online, of course, can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, to cyberbullying and even to encountering online predators.

SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but can also lead to binge-watching and the risk of screen addiction, especially if 'auto-play' is activated. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

HIGH VISIBILITY

Content creators can also be put at risk – especially young ones who try to make their online presence as visible as possible. Creating and uploading content exposes children to potential harassment and toxicity from the comments section, along with the possibility of direct messaging from strangers. Videos posted publicly can be watched by anyone in the world.

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends, challenges and memes that are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may harm children through either catching or copying. The painful 'salt and ice challenge', which can cause injuries very quickly, is just one of many such examples.

SNEAKY SCAMMERS

Popular YouTube channels regularly have scammers posing as a well-known influencer in the comments section, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubeers by adopting their names and profile images, and sometimes offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users are not who they claim to be.

Advice for Parents & Carers

APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate content (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence and sexual situations) to underage viewers. To prevent your child from changing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that your child uses to access YouTube.

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TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows you to monitor what your child is watching, uploading and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives you an oversight of how your child is using sites like YouTube and helps you ensure they are only accessing appropriate content.

CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that your child is subscribed to can be hidden. If your child is only uploading videos that are protected as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.

CHECK OTHER PLATFORMS

Influential content creators usually have other social media accounts which they encourage their fans to follow. Having an open discussion about this with your child makes it easier to find out how else they might be following a particular creator online. It also opens up avenues for you to check out that creator's other channels to see what type of content your child is being exposed to.

MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them children. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course, and react to content differently. You may want to keep an eye on how your child interacts with content on YouTube – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand the types of videos they are interested in.

LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases: users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch, for example. If you're not comfortable with your child purchasing content online, limit their access to your bank cards and online payment methods. Many parents have discovered to their cost that a child happily devouring a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!

Meet Our Expert

Clare Gwynn (A.K.A. Lunewolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2016, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunewolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday