



# Wenlock's Weekly Round Up

'With God's love, we are lights for the world'

This Terms Value is:

**COMPASSION**

Friday 10th November 2023

## Key dates

WB 13th Nov

Class teacher drop in sessions for report feedback (more details below)

Anti-Bullying Week

Maths Week

Monday 13th November  
Thursday 16th November

Wear odd socks for Anti—Bullying week

Year 4 Aurora Class Swimming Lesson

Year 3 Trip to Celtic Harmony

Friday 17th November  
Monday 20th November  
Thursday 23rd November

Children in Need—see below for details

Parental Mental Health Awareness Workshop—Family Room 9am—10.30 am

Year 4 Aurora Class Swimming Lesson

Year 3 & 4 Cinema Trip (more details to follow)

Thursday 30th November  
Wednesday 6th December  
Thursday 7th December  
Friday 8th December  
Tuesday 12th December

Year 4 Aurora Class Swimming Lesson

Choir singing at Luton Airport (more details to follow)

Year 4 Aurora Final Swimming Lesson

Christmas Fair

Girls football league

Y3 Nativity in Church. Y3 families are invited to attend St Mary's @ 10am

Wednesday 13th December

Christmas jumper day (we love homemade )

Christmas dinner day (look out for an email next week)

Thursday 14th December  
Friday 15th December  
Friday 15th December  
Tuesday 19th December  
Wednesday 3rd January  
Thursday 4th January  
Thursday 4th January

Y3 & 4 Believe and Achieve awards (invited families only) 9:15 am

Y5 & 6 Believe and Achieve awards (invited families only) 9:15 am

Wenlock Winter Wonderland Fair Hosted by Year 5—all invited

Last day of Autumn term

Inset Day—School closed

Start of Spring Term—Children return

Year 4 Alina Swimming Lesson

Parent Drop in sessions with class teachers (15:30—16:30).

Teacher/Class	Day
Alpha - Miss Jackson	Monday 13th November 2023
Alina - Mr Clark	Monday 13th November 2023
Lunar - Miss Mills	Monday 13th November 2023
Solar - Mrs Ayres/Mrs Khatun	Thursday 16th November 2023
Aquarium - Miss Anderson/Mr Ahmed	Monday 13th November 2023
Arboreal - Miss Oliver /Mr Ahmed	Tuesday 14th November
Aviary - Mr DiMarco	Monday 13th (4.30pm only to assist those with siblings in another class) & Tuesday 14th November.

Your mini-reports will be with you today; these are a snapshot of your child's learning for the first part of the Autumn term. Please drop in with your class teacher if you would like to discuss this further. Teachers love talking about your children, so please come see them. If this time is inconvenient, speak to the office, and they will arrange a different meeting for you.

# PARENT INFORMATION

## PE Days

Year group	PE Day	PE Day
Year 3 - Alpha	Tuesday	Friday
Year 3 - Omega	Tuesday	Thursday
Year 3 - Genesis	Tuesday	Thursday
Year 4 - Aurora	Tuesday	Thursday
Year 4 - Alina	Tuesday	Thursday
Year 4 - Vesper	Tuesday	Thursday
Year 5 - Lunar	Monday	Wednesday
Year 5 - Solar	Wednesday	Friday
Year 5 - Stellar	Wednesday	Thursday
Year 6 - Aviary	Wednesday	Friday
Year 6 - Arboreal	Monday	Wednesday
Year 6 - Aquarium	Wednesday	Thursday

## Uniform

We have a large number of uniform items in lost property that have no names on. Because of this we have been unable to reunite these items with their owner.

**Please ensure that your child's name is written on all uniform and also coats.**

Also, we kindly ask that you regularly check to see if your child has mistakenly take home uniform that belongs to another child.

Thank you

## Christmas Shoebox Appeal

The school are taking donated items for the Samaritan's Purse 'Operation Christmas Child' Project.

A leaflet with details of this was sent out to parents this week.

Any donations for this should be given to class teachers.

Support for this project would be very much appreciated.

Thank you

## Dinner money

Please top up dinner money payments in advance of your child having school dinner. The cost for school dinner is as follows: £2.40 per day or £12.00 per week.

If you have a query relating to dinner money payment, you can contact the finance team on [schooldinner@wenlockacademy.co.uk](mailto:schooldinner@wenlockacademy.co.uk)

## Attendance

Well done to Aurora who achieved the highest attendance last week at 99.17%

The attendance for the whole school was  
95.16%

Our School target is 97%

## Request for games

If anyone has any games (board games or similar) that are no longer needed, please would you consider donating them to the school? They will need to be complete and in their boxes. Our Family Worker, Miss Warren will be happy to make use of them in the family room. Please drop them off with her or at reception.

Thank you.

## Anti Bullying Week

We are encouraging children to wear odd socks to school on Monday 13th November for the start of Anti Bullying Week.

## Children In Need

Children are invited to wear Pyjamas or something spotty in return for a donation to Children in Need

(suggested donation £1)

We will also have a raffle taking place on Friday to win a hamper to boost our donation. We will send more details out next week.

## Emailing the School Office

Please can we remind families that when emailing the school or leaving a message on the answerphone that you give your child's full name and their class and/or their teacher.

If you do not provide these details, it will lead to delays in answering or forwarding your queries.

You can report your child's absence by calling 01582 730624 and pressing option 1 or via email on [attendance@wenlockacademy.co.uk](mailto:attendance@wenlockacademy.co.uk)

# Online Safety Update

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about



In October 2022, the enormously popular social media network Twitter was purchased by tech tycoon Elon Musk. That sparked a host of changes to the platform – not all which have been received positively by its fans. The alterations have continued with each passing month, many of them raising online safety concerns among the 530 million users of Twitter (now rebranded as simply X). With further adjustments reportedly in the pipeline, X has attracted more than its usual share of controversy and caution in recent times.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### A BLOCK ON BLOCKING

X has announced plans to remove its blocking feature. Previously, this stopped other users from viewing your profile or sending you direct messages, while also hiding their posts from your feed. Only this latter function will now remain. The decision has been criticised by some members, who feel that blocking (in its current form) protects them from X users who 'promote denial and hatred'.

#### LIMITED REPORTING FEATURES

X offers a premium membership, with some functionality (such as controlling who can view and reply to your posts) increasingly being made exclusive to those who pay the subscription fee. Several commentators have speculated that X could one day become an exclusively paid-for service, with access to accounts being revoked for anyone unwilling or unable to take out a subscription.

#### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Many of X's less age-appropriate posts can feature anything from extreme political views to pornography. While accounts marked as 18+ are restricted from non-members, it's still fairly easy to stumble across this material accidentally. X's new 'For You' page also shows content from accounts that a user *doesn't* already follow – meaning that almost anything could end up on a child's feed.

#### VERIFICATION FOR SALE

Historically, Twitter's moderators granted account verification: certifying someone as authentic by placing a blue tick next to their username. One of X's earliest changes was to place verification behind a paywall; this caused the number of celebrity impersonators to rise and left no way to distinguish, say, a legitimate influencer from a copycat fake account seeking to exploit other users.

### BLUE TICK SALE

## Advice for Parents & Carers

#### PROTECT PRIVACY

Unsavory characters may try to gain access to a young person's X account – either to view their posts and gather information on them, or to completely take control of it. To minimise risk, ensure the account has a strong password and enable the 'Protect Your Posts' feature (via the account settings), so that strangers can't view your child's posts without first being approved as a follower.

#### DON'T RISE TO THE BAIT

To gain more views and followers, some X users post deliberately inflammatory comments on sensitive topics such as race, sexual orientation and gender issues. Many young people could find this upsetting. Emphasise that, if your child encounters someone spreading hate on X, it's best not to give that person what they want: an argument. Ignore them, mute their account and move on.

#### STAY ALERT FOR IMPOSTERS

Make sure your child understands that X's blue ticks no longer guarantee the identity of anyone on the platform. While it might be exciting if a celebrity liked your child's post, it could just as easily be an imposter with malicious intentions. If your child's not 100% sure that an X user actually is who they claim to be, advise them to err on the side of caution and avoid interacting with that account.

#### ONLY FOLLOW TRUSTED ACCOUNTS

Using the 'Following' tab on X helps to ensure that the only content your child sees has come from accounts they've chosen to follow; this should reduce the chance of them inadvertently being exposed to harmful, violent or explicit content. Show your child how to report another user's account if, say, they're behaving inappropriately by spreading misinformation or offensive opinions.

#### BE READY TO TAKE ACTION

If your child suffers harassment on the platform or becomes the target of a hack, you could consider deactivating their account entirely. Recently, X's safety features have been criticised for allegedly failing to protect users' wellbeing – so if your child is being subjected to abusive messages or similar mistreatment on the platform, it might be prudent to remove them from X altogether.

### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRcon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. Always eager to test out the latest apps, games and online trends, he's also a parent who understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

This term we will be focussing in school on the value **COMPASSION**. We hope your family will find these ideas helpful as you explore the value and have fun together.

## TALK TOGETHER about Compassion

**Compassion** is about 'standing in someone else's shoes' when they are having a hard time. In other words, trying to understand how they might be feeling and doing our best to try to help.

Talk together about:

- how we can show **compassion** and kindness to one another at home
- recognising when friends at school need us to listen and act with **compassion**
- stories in the news demonstrating how strangers show **compassion** in times of natural disasters
- how nations show **compassion** to other nations at times of disaster or need by sending money or volunteers to help



## THINK TOGETHER Words of Wisdom

"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."

*Aesop*



## READ TOGETHER...

### The good Samaritan

When someone asked Jesus the question, "Who is my neighbour?" he told a story that surprised everyone who heard it. The hero was from Samaria but those listening were mainly Jews. (Jews and Samaritans usually kept well away from each other.)

"A man set out on foot from Jerusalem to a town called Jericho", said Jesus. The crowd murmured and exchanged knowing glances. They knew this was a lonely, dangerous road, a favourite place for robbers to attack travellers. "As the man reached a rocky and desolate place, a gang of robbers leapt out and beat him. They took all that he had and left him bleeding and bruised. To the man's relief, he saw in the distance a priest from the temple. A priest is bound to help me, thought the man. He waited until the priest came a little closer and then called out, 'Thank goodness it is you. Please Sir, take me to safety.' But to his amazement the priest hurried past pretending not to see or hear him.

As the poor, injured man grew weaker and weaker in the burning midday sun, he once again heard footsteps. Looking up he saw a Levite, another of his own people. 'Please Sir, please help me', he called out. Surely this Levite would take pity on him, but to his horror the Levite just kept on walking.

The man had almost given up hope when he felt a gentle touch on his shoulder. A stranger, a Samaritan, had bent down beside him and was bandaging his wounds and giving him sips of water to drink. The Samaritan helped the man on to his own donkey and slowly, carefully took him all the way to an inn. There he paid the innkeeper to look after the man until he was well. The man never forgot the **compassion** and kindness of the Samaritan stranger."

"Who do you think was a good neighbour?" asked Jesus.

Bible story based on Luke 10:29-31



## QUIZ The Stranger on the road was kind....

Change one letter in the word to answer the next clue.

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| The traveller was attacked as he walked along the                 | ROAD |
| Watching from the rocks was a small creature like a frog          | ---- |
| The Samaritan ____ the innkeeper to look after the man            | ---- |
| The Samaritan acted with courage. He was ____                     | ---- |
| We sometimes talk about the ____ of friendship (rhymes with pond) | ---- |
| Wrap tightly with a bandage (rhymes with find)                    | ---- |
| The Samaritan in the story was                                    | ---- |



## FAMILY FOCUS

### Random Acts of Kindness

Kindness is often appreciated most when it is offered at unexpected times.

Choose one week this term for your family to have "a random acts of kindness" week, and do something kind for someone each day. Try to do it without telling people it was you!



[www.randomactsofkindness.org](http://www.randomactsofkindness.org)



## HOME-SCHOOL CHALLENGE



### Helping hands

As well as being kind and showing **compassion** in what we say, it is often what we *do* that other people remember.

Draw and cut out the shape of each person's hand in your family. Decorate it with all the random acts of kindness that they have shown. Mount the hands of each member of your family on some paper so they look fantastic and ready to be displayed.



## FASCINATING FACTS

What a difference **compassion** and kindness can make!

Numerous charities help people who have been hurt, are ill or suffer through lack of resources. Below are just 3:

- **World Vision** encourages individuals and groups to 'Sponsor a Child' in an area of the world where food, health and education cannot be taken for granted. For just 75 pence a day the life of a child, in for example Uganda or Bolivia, can be transformed by providing help to grow food, source clean water, improve health services and pay for education.

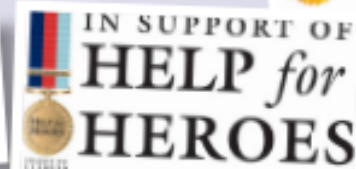
[www.worldvision.org.uk](http://www.worldvision.org.uk)

- **Help for Heroes** was set up after many British soldiers returned from war zones in Iraq and Afghanistan. By giving to this charity the public show their **compassion** for the soldiers and their families and recognise the service they gave on behalf of us all.

[www.helpforheroes.org.uk](http://www.helpforheroes.org.uk)

- **Help the Hospices.** Sometimes when people become very ill they go to a hospice which will provide them with care and **compassion**. Often hospices are maintained by donations from people who admire and value their service or who have had a relative who has been helped by the hospice.

[www.hospiceuk.org](http://www.hospiceuk.org)



## HALL OF FAME

### A famous bear with a spotty scarf



Pudsey Bear became a national mascot in 1985. He was designed by Joanna Ball and she named him after the small town in Yorkshire where she lived and went to school for many years, Pudsey.

When we see Pudsey Bear we immediately think of Children in Need. This charity has grown enormously since it began and raises millions of pounds every year. Thanks to people all over the country, children in the UK and across the world have come to know real kindness and **compassion**, made possible by generous donations to the charity. [www.bbc.co.uk/childreninneed](http://www.bbc.co.uk/childreninneed)