



Wenlock's Weekly Round Up

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

Friday 24th November 2023



This Terms Value is:

COMPASSION

Key dates

Thursday 30th November	Year 4 Aurora Class Swimming Lesson
Friday 1st December	Non Uniform Day—Please see poster below for more details
	Future Games Activity Day—Years 5 & 6
	Book Fair—3.30 to 4.00pm
Monday 4th December	Future Games Activity Day—Years 3 & 4
	Book Fair—3.30 to 4.00 pm
Tuesday 5th December	Flu immunisations
	Book Fair—3.30 to 4.00pm
Wednesday 6th December	Choir singing at Luton Airport
Thursday 7th December	Year 4 Aurora Final Swimming Lesson
	Year 6 visit to QES—Panto
Friday 8th December	Non Uniform Day—Donations of Chocolate bars/boxes for Winter Wonderland
Tuesday 12th December	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
Thursday 14th December	Y3 & 4 Believe and Achieve awards (invited families only) 9:15 am
Friday 15th December	Y5 & 6 Believe and Achieve awards (invited families only) 9:15 am
	Wenlock Winter Wonderland Fair 3.45—5.00 Hosted by Year 5—all invited
Tuesday 19th December	Last day of Autumn term
Wednesday 3rd January	Inset Day—School closed
Thursday 4th January	Start of Spring Term—Children return
Thursday 4th January	Year 4 Alina Swimming Lesson

Dear families,

I hope this week's round-up finds you well. I am writing to let you know that it was much sadness that Miss Konstantinidou will be leaving us at the end of this term. I am sure you will join us in wishing her success in the future, and we hope she will come back and visit us often. She has been a fantastic SENDco for the last year, and I am sure that the families and children she has worked closely with will miss her. To cover for her absence, Mrs Houghton, who is currently with us as a consultant SENDco, will work with us for two days a week whilst Miss Nye will also join the pastoral team as assistant SENDco for two days a week.

We are currently advertising for a new Assistant Head Teacher responsible for Pastoral and Inclusion. We hope to let you know the outcome of our interview process by the end of the term. Once again, I'd like to thank Miss Konstantinidou for everything she has done for the school.

Ms Olivia Burke
Head Teacher

Attendance

Well done to Genesis who achieved the highest attendance
last week at 98.89%

The attendance for the whole school was 94.74%

Our School target is 97%

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

Genesis Class News

We are pleased to share with you that Miss Jilani is expecting her first baby, which is due near the end of the Spring Term. This means that she will be temporarily leaving us during the Spring Term to begin her maternity leave. This will coincide with the return of Mrs Clarke, who will be returning from maternity leave on 29th January 2024. We are excited to share with you that Mrs Clarke will take over the teaching of Genesis class when Miss Jilani finishes. There will be a period of transition and handover for Genesis which will ensure a smooth transition.

The Big Ambition

There is a national campaign called 'The Big Ambition' from the Children's Commission.

Children and Parents are asked to click on the link to complete a survey.

www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition

Further resources are on their website.

Emailing the School Office

Please can we remind families that when emailing the school or leaving a message on the answer phone 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

Christmas Dinner

Please see below the exciting menu for Christmas dinner which will be on Wednesday 13th December.

Please remember to book your child's option by using the link below whether it be a school dinner or bringing in their own packed lunch.

<https://forms.gle/GQ9tDutY3P4Yhsnc7>

Children's Flu Vaccination

Please remember to fill in the consent form that you will have been sent in order for your child to receive the flu vaccine. The deadline is Friday 1st December

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

Year 6 Homework Catch up

It has been noticed that some children are struggling to bring their homework in. On Wednesdays, at lunch time, I will be hosting a homework club to help those children catch up from 12.30 to 13.00.

From Mr Di Marco
Year 6 Teacher

Children in Need Update

Following the recent fundraising activities for Children in Need, the money collected has been added up and we are pleased to tell you that £296.22 has been raised!!

This is wonderful and will be sent to this worthwhile charity.

Thank you for all your support and to Mr Di Marco, Miss Yorke and the School Council for all their hard work.



Non-School Uniform Day Friday 1st December 2023 Mystery Bottle

In preparation for our Winter Wonderland, we are having a non-school uniform day fundraiser.

We would like you to support us by donating £1 and a full bottle of:

- **Bubble bath**
- **Still or fizzy drink (ice tea/cola)**
- **Adult drink (any drinks containing alcohol MUST go to the office!)**
- **Sweets**
- **Oil**
- **Paint**
- **...or something that comes in a bottle**



You only need to donate 1 bottle per child if you are able.

Look forward to seeing you on Friday 15th December 2023 for our Winter Wonderland!



Wednesday 13th December

Turkey Christmas Lunch

Roast Turkey with Sticky Chipolata,
Roasties, Christmas Vegetable
Medley & Gravy

or

**Roasted Vegetable, Cranberry &
Cheese Puff Pastry**

with Roasties, Christmas
Vegetable Medley & Gravy
And

Christmas Pudding Rice Krispie Ball

or

White Chocolate Snowball Cookie

**FOOD
FESTIVAL**

By Aspens

Online Safety Update

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

SMART TVs

Smart TVs connect to the internet without the need for a set-top box or streaming device, letting users access a range of features through the TV set itself: from on-demand content apps like BBC iPlayer to streaming services such as Netflix, as well as connecting to smartphones and other wireless devices. Most new televisions are internet-enabled – so whether you're thinking of upgrading your home viewing system or buying an additional TV for your child's room, it's now even more important to consider the online safety aspects.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

From Netflix to Disney+ to Prime Video, there is a plethora of streaming services available. While these services offer content catering for younger viewers, they also provide material for more mature audiences. If you don't have parental controls set up on your accounts, your child could find themselves being exposed to shows and movies with adult themes, strong language and violence.

CENSORED

INCREASED SCREEN TIME

The array of content available through smart TVs could lead to your child spending excessive amounts of time in front of the screen. Not only can prolonged screen time distract from important activities such as schoolwork or exercise, but experts have also warned that endless hours in front of the box can lead to health problems including obesity, poor sleeping patterns and depression.

REMOTE-CONTROL RETAIL

Like many online devices, smart TVs facilitate digital purchases: buying a new app or the latest season of a favourite show, for example. If your child has access to a bank card and isn't restricted by spending controls on the system, they could run up a sizeable bill through a smart TV fairly quickly – especially if they're not quite old enough to fully appreciate the value of money.

UNCONVINCING SECURITY

As Internet of Things (IoT) devices, smart TVs can be uniquely vulnerable to attack. Experts warn that internet-enabled TVs tend not to support high-level security software, so you won't always be able to download strong antivirus programmes like you would on a phone or computer. Being targeted by hackers could be deeply upsetting for your child, as well as putting their personal data at risk.

A SILENT SPY?

Some smart TVs already collect data on users' viewing habits and then display targeted advertising based on that personal information – while there have also been reports of internet-enabled TVs (and the apps installed on them) being used to 'eavesdrop' on owners. In models with a built-in microphone (for voice activation), third parties could potentially listen in on someone's home life.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

Many smart TVs can be used for web browsing, social media and live streaming – all of which could allow unknown users to contact your child (or vice versa). If your child engages with these functions of the TV, a stranger could potentially discover their contact information and potentially then use it to obtain even more sensitive personal details, such as your home address.

Advice for Parents & Carers

MAKE IT A FAMILY THING

Family TV time is a great way to model the responsible enjoyment of technology – showing your child how to use the smart TV safely for when they're old enough to watch it independently. You could also take this opportunity to establish some healthy TV boundaries, such as time limits on their daily viewing or how to make sure they're only watching content that's appropriate for their age.

SET UP PARENTAL CONTROLS

It's likely that your smart TV has built-in parental controls, which not only let you filter out age-inappropriate shows, movies and games but can also restrict in-app purchasing, so your child can't accidentally spend money through the device. When you've enabled these safeguards, have an open conversation with your child about the reasons, helping them to understand the potential risks.

CREATE CHILD PROFILES

Much like with smartphones and tablets, apps can be downloaded onto smart TVs: from free content platforms such as BBC iPlayer to paid-for services like Prime Video. Most of these apps allow you to create a separate account for your child which has different settings to your own – suggesting more child-friendly material and reducing the possibility of them viewing explicit content.

CONSIDER THE LOCATION

If you're concerned about the online safety hazards that a smart TV might pose to your child, you could consider where in your home you put the device. The safest option would be to place the smart TV in a shared family space – so that an adult is usually nearby and able to supervise while your child's watching it – rather than in the relative privacy of a bedroom.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



NOS
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



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

- **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

- **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



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