

# Wenlock's Weekly Round-Up

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



## KEY DATES

- Monday 10th March to Friday 14th March - Science Week, see poster for further information
- Monday 10th March - Year 4 Parent Camping Meeting, 3.45 - 4.45pm, see poster below
- Wednesday 12th March - Wenlock Coffee Morning from 9:00 to 10:15am
- Friday 28th March - Y3 and Y4 PE Enrichment Day, please remember to send children into school wearing their PE kits
- Monday 17th March - Thursday 20th March - Ramadan Awareness Week
- Thursday 20th March - IFTAR Event from 5.45 - 6.45pm, please sign up via Arbor Shop
- Friday 21st March - Comic Relief - please donate via this link: [Wenlock Comic Relief](#)
- Tuesday 25th March - Year 6 children to attend Chiltern Academy, Spring Musical - Frozen
- Wednesday 26th March to Friday 28th March - Year 5 residential trip - PGL
- Friday 28th March - Easter Disco (see poster for further details) book via Arbor
- Monday 31st March to Wednesday 2nd April - Year 6 residential trip - CYE
- Tuesday 1st April - Easter church service - 10am start. Year 4 parents are warmly invited to attend, St Mary's Church, Church Street, Luton LU1 3JF
- Wednesday 2nd April - Believe and Achieve awards, Y3 and Y4, 9.15 - 10.15am - invited families only
- Thursday 3rd April - Believe and Achieve awards, Y5 and Y6, 9.15 - 10.15am - invited families only
- Monday 7th April to Tuesday 22nd April - Easter holidays - school closed**
- Wednesday 23rd April - Children return to school

## WENLOCK CE ACADEMY PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE

We would like to get your input to improve the school experience for you and your child. This questionnaire is completely anonymous. Please go to: [Wenlock CE Academy Parent Questionnaire](#) if you have not already done so. The deadline to complete is the 1st April 2025.

## STUDYBUGS

To date, only 54% of Wenlock Parents have signed up to Studybugs. By Easter we would like the take up to be 75%. Please download the free Study Bugs app if you have not already done so.



## ATTENDANCE

Well done to Alpha who achieved the highest attendance for the last week 98.08%

The attendance for the whole school was 96.56%

Our School target is 97%





We are a Nut Free school for the safety of our children with nut allergies We would like to remind parents that most chocolate spread contains hazelnuts. Please can you remember to not put chocolate spread in the children's lunch boxes.

### Electrical Recycling



We have an electrical recycling collection bin in the reception area of the school. Please see the poster below regarding which items can be recycled.

### Uniform Exchange



Level Trust are always grateful for donations of pre-loved school uniform. There is a blue container in our school reception area which has details of uniform requested where items can be placed.  
Thank-you!

### Road Safety



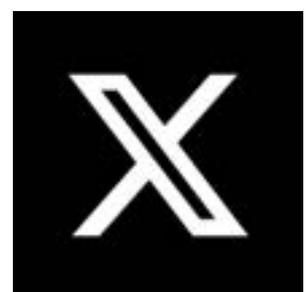
To keep children safe, please ensure that children are taught how to cross the road safely, especially outside school and where there is heavy traffic.  
A reminder that drivers must not stop on the yellow lines outside of the school.

### Snacks



Many thanks for sending your children in with fruit and vegetables for snack times and for remembering not to send your children in with nut related products.  
Grapes and cherry tomatoes should be sent cut into quarters length-ways to avoid choking.

**Don't forget to check our our facebook and X accounts for all the latest information from Team Wenlock!**



# PARENT INFORMATION

## PE TIMETABLE

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

## HOMEWORK GRIDS

Year 3, 4 and 5 homework grids for Spring term are live on the website and they can be found under Home Learning section. Year 6 homework has been sent home this week. This is due back to their class teacher on Tuesday.

## WENLOCK COFFEE MORNING



Start your day off right with a lovely cup of tea or coffee and a spoonful of great company.



We look forward to seeing you

### Date & Time

Wednesday, 22nd March  
9:00 am - 10:00 am

### Contact Us

Phone: 01682 730624

Location: Wenlock Academy  
Security Room



## Dinner Money

Please top up dinner money payments in advance of your child having school dinner.

The cost of school dinners is as follows:  
£2.75 per day or £13.75 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)

# YEAR 4 CAMPING EXPERIENCE

Friday 6th June 2024

Parent information evening on  
Monday 10th March - 3.45pm School  
Hall



On Monday 10th March we are holding an information evening regarding a school camping experience for Year 4 children. There will be an opportunity to discuss kit lists and a possible itinerary and pictures of the experience from last year along with an opportunity to ask any questions. The children will be camping for 1 night on the school grounds with all food and meals being provided by the school as part of the cost of the camping experience. The cost of the camp is £30 with the option to split the payment into 2 if you would prefer to do so. We look forward to seeing you on Monday!



# WENLOCK COFFEE MORNING



Start your day off right with a lovely cup of tea or coffee and a spoonful of great company.



We look forward to seeing you

## Date & Time

Wednesday 12th March  
9:00 am - 10:15 am

## Contact Us

Phone	01582 730624
Location	Wenlock Academy Serenity Room



## SCIENCE FAIR



See what everyone has been up to, take part in interactive Science displays, share your curiosity with your peers and adults.



## PARENT DROP INS

Share some fun experiments with your parents where they join you in your classroom!

## EXCITING EXPERIMENTS



Take part in loads of experiments throughout the week, exploring the theme: Change and Adapt.

# WENLOCK'S SCIENCE WEEK

MONDAY 10TH - FRIDAY 14TH MARCH 2025



## WHOLE SCHOOL INVESTIGATION

Join the whole school in a data collection investigation and share what information you have gathered from your class.

## SCIENCE WORKSHOPS



Explore pivotal people and moments in the ever changing landscape of science, engineering and technology.



## JOBS IN STEM

Meet some adults who work in jobs where Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths are key to their roles.

17th -  
20th  
March



### School Iftar

As a school, we will be supporting the community and provide a school Iftar. All families are welcome.  
Thursday 20th March  
5.45 - 6.45pm  
Book on Arbor

# RAMADAN AWARENESS WEEK

### Collective Worship

We will be taking part in collective worships about Ramadan, explaining what it is and why it is important as well as an assembly led by our R.E Ambassador.



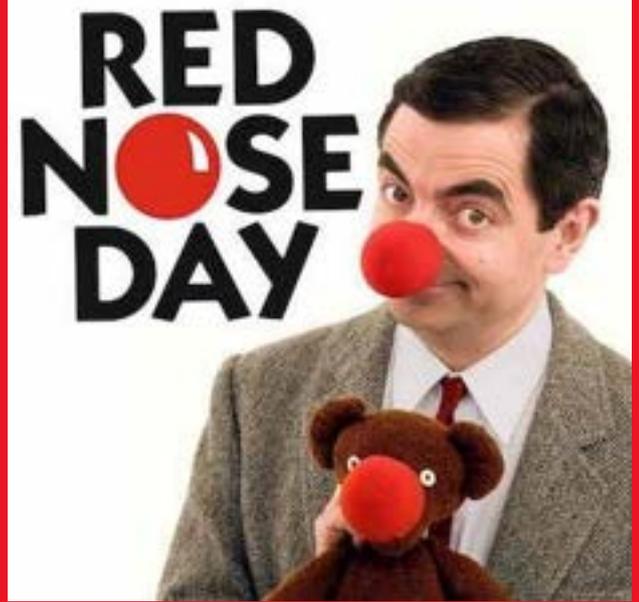
### Additional activities

Within our classes, we will be taking part in various activities such as discussions, word searches and arts and crafts.



# RED NOSE DAY 2025

COMIC RELIEF



Come to school dressed in your best 80s outfits OR wear something Red.

## JOIN NOW! 21ST MARCH



Wenlock CE  
Academy



Donate to our Just  
Giving Page below

We will also be holding a bake sale during break time and after school on Friday 21st March - we are grateful for any donations of cakes that you can share (please share ingredients for allergies - no nuts please)



# RED NOSE DAY

**Friday 21st March**

**Battered Fish & Chips  
Cheese & Tomato Wrap & Chips  
& Beans  
Jacket Potato  
Hot tomato Pasta  
With  
Special Red Nose Day**



ASPENS

HUMANS OF  
LUTON

# Don't bin them, recycle your old electricals

Anything with a plug, battery  
or cable can be recycled and  
turned into something new.

Bag up your electricals and  
bring them to your school.  
The school with the most  
electricals collected will  
have a chance to win a  
**cash prize!**

Scan or search 'Recycle Your Electricals'  
to find your local recycling points.



Together with

**Luton**



# EASTER DISCOS



*Ticket*  
**£3.50**

Featuring:

**FRIDAY 28TH MARCH 2025**

**YEARS 3 & 4 – 3.30 PM – 4.45PM**

**YEARS 5 & 6: 5.00 – 6.15PM**

All ticket prices include a drink and a bag of gelatin-free sweets

# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators USING TECHNOLOGY TO BOOST READING SKILLS

The way we engage with text has changed dramatically over the years. Whether reading captions on social media, instructions in a video game or an e-book on a digital device, technology plays a major role in modern literacy. While traditional books remain invaluable, digital tools can enhance reading skills by making text more accessible, interactive and engaging.

## 1 CHOOSING THE RIGHT TYPE OF TEXT

Before integrating technology, consider the type of text that a child engages with. If they need help on occasion, digital reading pens can assist by scanning and reciting words or sentences. These tools are especially useful for students with reading difficulties, and can even be used in exams if they're part of their routine learning process. Proper training and practice are required, but they can be a great help when tackling printed text.

## 2 READING ON SCREEN

Many devices now allow users to customise text for better readability. Adjusting font type, size and background colour can significantly enhance comprehension. For many readers, white text on a black background is the easiest to see, whereas other styles – such as dyslexia-friendly fonts – are designed to help those who are struggling. Teaching children how to personalise text settings on their devices empowers them to read more comfortably and with greater confidence.

## 3 ACCESSIBILITY TOOLS

Most modern devices include built-in tools designed to support readers. These features can be found in Settings under Accessibility and may include text-to-speech, speech-to-text and screen magnification functions. Enabling these tools can make digital reading more user friendly, especially for children with learning difficulties or visual impairments, who might have an easier time with spoken language than the written word, or who might simply require a closer look at the text.

## 4 INTERACTIVE READING PROGRAMMES

Many digital reading devices, such as Kindle and other e-readers, offer features like word highlighting, adjustable text speed and built-in dictionaries. These tools help learners to break down complex words and phrases while maintaining an appropriate reading pace. Some programmes even allow users to track their progress, making reading a more structured and motivating experience.

## 5 VIDEO GAMES AND READING SKILLS

Many video games require players to read instructions, character dialogues and mission objectives, making them an unexpected but effective literacy tool. Games that involve storytelling, puzzles or problem-solving often include large amounts of text – encouraging children to read these texts aloud or discuss them can improve their comprehension and vocabulary in a fun, engaging way.

## 6 SUBTITLES AND CLOSED CAPTIONS

Watching videos with subtitles or closed captions is an effective way to enhance reading skills. As children watch their favourite shows or online videos, they can follow along with the text, gaining a better understanding of how written words sound when spoken aloud. This is particularly beneficial for reluctant readers, as it exposes them to words in a familiar, engaging context. Repeatedly watching content with subtitles reinforces word recognition and comprehension.

## 7 USING AUDIOBOOKS

Audiobooks are an excellent way to develop listening and reading skills simultaneously. Children can follow along with the text while listening to a narrator, reinforcing word recognition and fluency. For struggling readers, listening to an audiobook before attempting to read the text independently can boost their confidence and comprehension.

## 9 TEXT-TO-VOICE TECHNOLOGY

Text-to-voice software reads digital text aloud, making it easier for learners to follow along. Most smartphones, tablets and computers come with this function built in. When enabled, users can highlight a passage or sentence and press Play to hear it read aloud. This tool is particularly helpful for auditory learners and those who struggle with decoding written words.

## 8 VOICE-TO-TEXT FOR WRITING AND READING

Voice-to-text tools allow users to dictate words, which are then transcribed into text. This feature helps children see the connection between spoken and written language. By using text-to-voice to have their dictated words read back to them, learners can identify mistakes and improve their reading and writing skills simultaneously.

## 10 SOCIAL MEDIA AND PARENTAL CONTROLS

While social media provides opportunities for reading, most platforms have age restrictions of 13–16 years old, making parental guidance essential. Many social media videos include captions and comments that can encourage reading. However, it's important to use the platform's parental controls (such as time limits and content filters) to create a safe and educational online environment for children. Encouraging responsible social media use can ensure a balanced and productive approach to digital literacy.

## Meet Our Expert

Catrina Lowri is a qualified special needs teacher and experienced SENCO. She recently launched her own site, *Neuroteachers*, which offers a library of short, 'how-to' and explanation videos for educators. Catrina also writes and delivers online training and events for multi-academy trusts, businesses, schools and training organisations.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

# JUSTICE

HOME SCHOOL VALUES

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

## TALK TOGETHER about Justice

**Justice** means more than making things 'fair'. In order for people to live together well in a just community, it is important to have rules or laws that everybody sticks to. Imagine if there were no rules for people driving cars on the road!

As a family you may want to talk about:

- why it is important to have rules and laws
- rules or laws that you don't think are **just** (or fair)
- family rules that you think are important

## THINK TOGETHER Words of Wisdom

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."  
Martin Luther King Jr



## READ TOGETHER The Story of Jonah



Some folk always seem to be arguing or moaning and groaning. Sometimes they moan about the weather, sometimes they moan about their family, and sometimes they just moan. In fact, they are so busy moaning about EVERYTHING that they forget to be thankful for ANYTHING.

Jonah was just like that! He moaned all the time. So when God asked him to go to Ninevah and tell the people there that he was angry about their stealing, lying, fighting and their wicked ways, of course Jonah moaned and groaned. "Not Ninevah, please! Anywhere but Ninevah! We have never got on with that nasty bunch. Please Lord, send someone else." And just in case God asked him again Jonah, quick as his legs could carry him, ran to the dock and asked the captain of the nearest boat to take him to the furthest place from Ninevah. The nearest boat was the Jolly Dragon and her captain was called Wise Captain Silas. The Jolly Dragon set sail on a calm sea under a clear blue sky but within a day found herself caught up in a fierce and frightening storm. Captain Silas knew immediately that something was not right. He went to find his passenger, who, surprise, surprise, was below deck moaning to one of the sailors. "It's my fault," groaned Jonah. "Throw me into the sea and the storm will blow over." Wise Captain Silas knew Jonah was right and so to save his ship and all the crew, gave orders to toss Jonah overboard that minute. A huge fish saw Jonah sinking slowly to the bottom of the sea, and he opened his great mouth wide, and swallowed him whole!

Jonah had only just enough time to recover from the shock when he found himself shooting through the air and onto a beach very near to Ninevah. The great fish had spat him out and swum away.

Even Jonah knew now that there was no way out. He picked himself up, shook

off the seaweed and walked slowly into the centre of the city. There he did what God had told him at the start and explained to the people of Ninevah that God was sad about their unjust behaviour and how he wanted them to change their ways. To Jonah's amazement, that's exactly what they did.

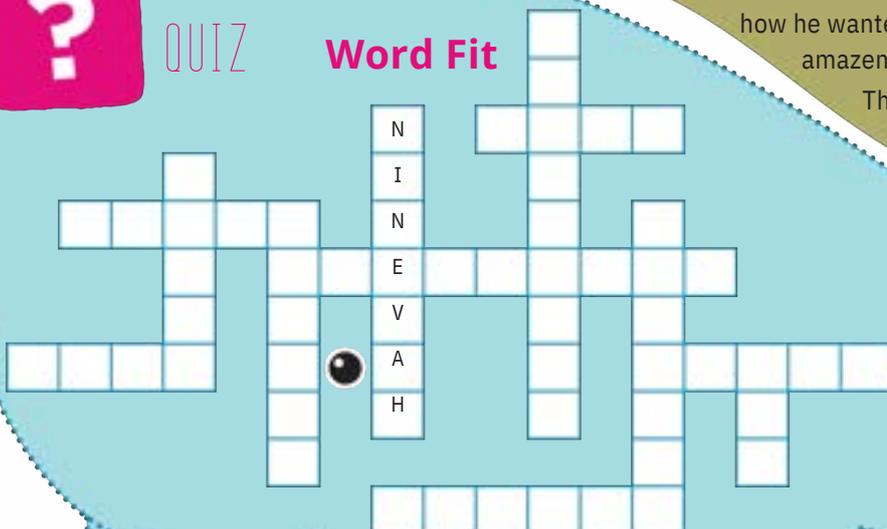
They fasted, they prayed for God's forgiveness and even thanked him for sending Jonah.

Bible story based on Book of Jonah



## QUIZ

### Word Fit



- ANGRY
- CALM
- FISH
- GROANED
- JONAH
- GOD
- PRAYED
- STORM
- MOANER
- OVERBOARD
- SWALLOWED



### Lady Justice

Lady Justice is one of the most famous landmarks in London. It is a bronze statue that stands on the domed roof of the Old Bailey. This building houses the central criminal courts where people who are accused of breaking the law are tried by a judge and jury to find out if they are 'guilty' and should be punished or 'not guilty' and can go free.



Lady Justice was designed to be a symbol of justice: in her left hand she carries the scales of truth and fairness and in her right hand a double edged sword representing the power of reason and justice.



New laws are passed every year by the government. Ask each member of the family to think of a law which they think the government should pass. Talk about your ideas and how your new law would make a difference.



### FASCINATING FACTS

#### The World Village

If the world was a village, with 100 people living in it:

- 61 people would come from Asia, 13 from Africa, 13 from the Americas, 12 from Europe and 1 from Australasia
  - 26 of the people would be under 15 and just 8 of them over 64
  - half of the people would speak one of just 8 languages – and the most common language would be Chinese
  - 82 village people have access to safe drinking water
  - 17 people would not be able to read or write
  - 53 villagers would have less than £1.30 a day to live on
  - there would be 18 cars, 15 computers, 61 mobile phones
- Talk with your family about ...
- what you find surprising about these statistics
  - what we take for granted in our lives that many people live without
  - what you think is unjust
  - what you think could be done to make the world a more just place for everyone

\* Taken from 2012 statistics inspired by © If the World Were a Village by David J. Smith, 1990.



### HOME-SCHOOL CHALLENGE



#### Design a weighing machine

Before electronic weighing machines were invented, scales often had two pans that were balanced when each held an equal weight.

Design and make a simple balance from junk materials that can weigh small objects.

