



Wrockwardine Wood C of E Junior School

'Wrockers' Weekly

'Love, Laugh and Learn'

This Half Terms Value — Friendship

Friday 26th May 2023

End of term

It has been a wonderful half term with all of the children working incredibly hard. We have been able to start using our school field and complete lots more outdoor activities due to the beautiful sunshine at the end of the term. Children have been exploring History and Geography this half term have learnt lots of exciting facts that I'm sure they would love to share with you at home.

Next half term we will all be focusing on music and we are very excited about the Music Heroes band coming in and delivering our own private gig to the children to launch this.

We hope that you have a lovely week with your families and enjoy this glorious weather, while it lasts! We look forward to seeing you all **back in school** on **Monday 5th June** at normal time.



Dates for your Diary

Mon 19th June

Sports Day Years 5 and 6—am. Parents welcome

Sports Week

Monday 19th June – Friday 23rd June

Tues 20th June

Sports Day Years 3 and 4—am. Parents welcome

Achievement Award	TA Award	Star of the Week		Headteacher Award
Tommy N	Callum B	Tommy W	5H	Danny C
Freddie C	Robbie E	Rueben H	5S	
Henry L		Ruby R	5/6P	
Ava S		Tiana B	6J	
Grace R		Mitchell C	6S	
Seren L				

Achievement Award	TA Award	Star of the Week		Headteacher Award
Jasleen P	Himani L	Lucy J	3B	Evie H
Oscar C		Eliza D	3W	
Elsie L		Xavi W	3/4G	
Max S		Enzo B	4B	
Arthur R		Pedro W	4C	
Darcy J				

Sporting Superstars



S has made us all really proud with her trampolining achievements. This was her first competition representing her club (Gravitate Trampoline Club) at the Power GTC Invitational Comp, and she placed 2nd in her category. Well done you are a star!



L competed in a street dance competition at Alton Towers and her dance group won 2nd place. What an amazing achievement well done we are all really proud of you.

Blists Hill Trip!



Because of our Victorian topic, year 6S went to Blists Hill to learn more interesting facts and find out what life was like in Victorian times. We had so much fun and absolutely loved our trip.

We learnt how pills used to be made and why candles were important. We also found out that in Victorian days to numb your teeth, they used powdered cocaine.

They had sweet shops and lots of different gifts we could buy in the bakery, chemists and doctors after we changed our money into pennies and farthings! We also made our own multi-coloured candles by taking part in a candle dipping workshop. We loved the adventure playground too! Overall, it was a great day!

Attendance

Thank you for your efforts in getting your children to school last week, despite all the nasty bugs about; our attendance was 95.8%. Well done to the two new classes at the top of our attendance league this week. 4C with 97.7% who top lower school, and 5H who are leading upper phase with 96.5%.



Miss Spencer



Today we said goodbye to Mrs Spencer who joined us in September as a Teaching Assistant in Year 5. Mrs Spencer leaves to take up a position elsewhere and we thank her for her time with us and wish her well for her future career. Good luck!

ONLINE SAFETY

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

Snapchat is a photo- and video-sharing app which also allows users to chat with friends via text or audio. Users can share images and videos with specific friends, or through a 'story' (documenting the previous 24 hours) visible to their entire friend list. Snapchat usage rose during the pandemic, with many young people utilising it to connect with their peers. The app continues to develop features to engage an even larger audience and emulate current trends, rivalling platforms such as TikTok and Instagram.

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

Even if your child only connects on the app with people they know, they may still receive friend requests from strangers. Snapchat's links with apps such as Wink and Hoop have increased this possibility. Accepting a request means that children are then disclosing personal information through the Story, SnapMap and Spotlight features. This could allow predators to gain their trust for sinister purposes.

EXCESSIVE USE

There are many features that are attractive to users and keep them excited about the app. Snap streaks encourage users to send snaps daily, Spotlight Challenges give users to the chance to obtain money and online fame, and the Spotlight feature's scroll of videos makes it easy for children to spend hours watching content.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some videos and posts on Snapchat are not suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's Discover function lets users swipe through snippets of news stories and trending articles that often include adult content. There is currently no way to turn off this feature.

SEXTING

Sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature makes it easy for young people (teens in particular) to share explicit images on impulse. While these pictures do disappear – and the sender is notified if it has been screenshotted first – users have found alternative methods to save images, such as taking pictures with a separate device.

DAMAGE TO CONFIDENCE

Snapchat's filters and lenses are a popular way for users to enhance their 'selfie game'. Although many are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beauty' filters on photos can set unrealistic body image expectations and create feelings of inadequacy. Comparing themselves unfavourably against other Snapchat users could threaten a child's confidence or sense of self-worth.

VISIBLE LOCATION

My Places lets users check in and search for popular spots nearby – such as restaurants, parks or shopping centres – and recommend them to their friends. The potential issue with a young person consistently checking into locations on Snapchat is that it allows other users in their friends list (even people they have only ever met online) to see where they currently are and where they regularly go.

Advice for Parents & Carers

TURN OFF QUICK ADD

The Quick Add function helps people find each other on the app. This function works based on mutual friends or whether someone's number is in your child's contacts list. Explain to your child that this feature could potentially make their profile visible to strangers. We recommend that your child turns off Quick Add, which can be done in the settings (accessed via the cog icon).

CHAT ABOUT CONTENT

Talk to your child about what is and isn't wise to share on Snapchat (e.g. don't post explicit images or videos, or display identifiable details like their school uniform). Remind them that once something is online, the creator loses control over where it might end up – and who with. Additionally, Snapchat's 'Spotlight' feature has a #challenge like TikTok's: it's vital that your child understands the potentially harmful consequences of taking part in these challenges.

CHOOSE GOOD CONNECTIONS

Snapchat has recently announced that it is rolling out a new safety feature: users will receive notifications reminding them of the importance of maintaining connections with people they actually know well, as opposed to strangers. This 'Friend Check Up' encourages users to delete connections with users they rarely communicate with, to maintain their online safety and privacy.

KEEP ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Profiles are private by default, but children may make them public to gain more followers. Your child can send Snaps directly to friends, but Stories are visible to everyone they have added, unless they change the settings. If they use SnapMaps, their location is visible unless 'Ghost Mode' is enabled (again via settings). It's prudent to emphasise the importance of not adding people they don't know in real life. This is particularly important with the addition of My Places, which allows other Snapchatters to see the places your child regularly visits and checks in. Additionally, it's important to be cautious about Shared Stories as this allows people who are not on your contact list access to the post.

TALK ABOUT SEXTING

It may feel like an awkward conversation (and one that young people can be reluctant to have) but it is important to talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting. Discuss the legal implications of sending, receiving or sharing explicit images, as well as the possible emotional impact. Emphasise that your child should never feel pressured into sexting – and that if they receive unwanted explicit images, they should tell a trusted adult straight away.

BE READY TO BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger does connect with your child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending explicit images to them, your child can select the three dots on that person's profile and choose report or block. There are options to state why they are reporting that user (annoying or malicious messages, spam, or masquerading as someone else, for example).



SHROPSHIRE BEAM - MAY HALF TERM WORKSHOPS 2023

Date/Time	Workshop
Tuesday 30th May - 11:30am	Mindfulness Moments (All Ages)
Tuesday 30th May - 3pm	Emotions Skill Builders (Secondary School Ages KS3 & KS4)
Thursday 1st June - 11:30am	Understanding Emotions (Primary School Ages KS1 & KS2)
Thursday 1st June - 3pm	Creative Writing (Secondary School Ages KS3 & KS4)
Saturday 3rd June - 1pm	Arts & Crafts (All Ages)

Our workshops are run on a drop-in basis, and are held at our Wellington base: 9 Market Square, TF1 1BP. Our workshops are first-come, first-serve; therefore, please arrive promptly if you wish to join. Our workshops over May half term will last approximately 1 hour.



Please note: to use any of our services, including our workshops, you must be registered with us. You can register beforehand at www.childrenssociety.org.uk/beamshropshire or you can register with us when you turn up!

@shropshirebeam - www.childrenssociety.org.uk/beamshropshire