

# Wildmoor Heath Newsletter

ISSUE 4 – DECEMBER 2023

## Heading towards Christmas

December has arrived, with shorter days and colder weather. The question on everyone's mind is, will there be snow this Christmas? The children are looking forward to Christmas performances and Christmas lunches to celebrate the end of such a long autumn term. The excitement and anticipation of the children is infectious as they rehearse their lines, songs, and dances for their upcoming performances. Amidst all the preparations, the teachers also have their hands full with end of term assessments, but they are equally excited for the well-deserved break to spend time with their loved ones. Being in a primary school during the run-up to Christmas is such a magical, albeit exhausting, time.

Earlier in the week, the office team sent out information regarding the performances and ticket availability. As there are a significant number of children performing and limited space in the hall, we cannot allow entry to anyone without a ticket. Initially, each family will be issued with two tickets. However, if additional tickets are available, they can be requested. Please refer to the communication sent out by the office team. We appreciate your patience while we finalise the arrangements.



As the temperature drops, we want to ensure that the children can still spend time outdoors. Please remind your children to dress accordingly with warm winter coats, hats, gloves and scarves. Navy joggers and a navy hoodie would be perfect for PE lessons. Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Vincent



## This issue:

**Headteacher's Message**

PAGE 01

**Other News & Key Dates**

PAGE 02

**School News**

PAGE 03, 04 & 05

**Meet the Team**

PAGE 06 & 07

**Safeguarding & Contact Us**

PAGE 08

**December Wellbeing Challenge**

PAGE 09



## runPudsey Update

Thank you to everyone who sponsored the children for our runPudsey 1km challenge. We were impressed by the children's enthusiasm and eagerness to participate. So many children just wanted to keep running further than the 1km - which was brilliant! In addition, we raised an astonishing amount for Children in Need.

Thank you to Mr & Mrs Rich for organising it.



**£2756.80**

What an amazing result!  
**THANK YOU** for your generosity.



## Parent Focus Group Can you help?

Could you spare half an hour once a term?

We would like to set up a **small focus group of parents** who would be willing to complete school surveys to give constructive advice or suggestions on what we can improve in school.

Please contact the school office ([reception@wildmoorheath.org.uk](mailto:reception@wildmoorheath.org.uk)) if you would be interested.

## Key Dates

**DECEMBER 2023**

**Friday 1st December 1.30pm &**

**Friday 5th January 9.30am**

Open Day for

2024 Reception Parents

**Wednesday 6th December:**

Reception, Y1, Y2 Christmas Lunch  
(wear Christmas jumpers)

**Wednesday 6th December**

Y2 & Y5 Fire Safety Talk

**Thursday 7th December:**

Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6 Christmas Lunch  
(wear Christmas jumpers)

**Friday 8th December:**

Christmas Magic Show & Discos

**Monday 11th December 9.15am**

iRock Concert

**Tuesday 12th December 9.30am**

Reception, Y1 Nativity (tickets only)

**Wednesday 13th December 2pm**

Y2 to Y6 Christmas Performance  
(Grandparents only with tickets)

**Thursday 14th Dec 9.30am / 2pm**

Y2 to Y6 Christmas Performance  
(tickets only)

**Friday 15th Dec 3.15pm**

Autumn term ends

**Tuesday 2nd January**

INSET Day - school closed

**Wednesday 3rd January 8.40am**

Spring term starts - school open



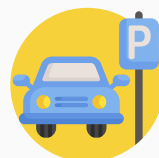




## Staff Car Park and Gates - Safeguarding Concerns

We kindly ask that all parents (especially those using Beehive) refrain from using the staff car park, as it is designated for **staff use only**. There have been a number instances where parents have used the staff car park in an unsafe manner, putting children's safety at risk. This is particularly concerning as children walk through the car park at the beginning and end of the day.

In addition, if you are dropping off or picking up children from Beehive, please support us by **closing the pedestrian gate** when you enter or leave the school to ensure the safety of all children on the school site.



## Parking Safely

Can I also request that if you are driving to or from school, please ensure that you **park legally and safely**. We have received complaints from several neighbours who have had their driveways blocked by parents, who then argue when asked to move their vehicles. **Traffic wardens** have been made aware of the situation and will be patrolling the area outside the school.

Remember, you should never park on the mini-roundabout or use the school gate area for a quick drop-off. This is dangerous for both your child and others entering the premises. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

## Spring Term Clubs



We are starting to look ahead at clubs for the Spring. Please look out for our club poster during the last week of term.

Please can we also remind parents to **settle any outstanding club payments for this term** on MCAS as we will be unable to offer a place in Spring Term clubs unless the balance is cleared.

If you are having any problems making the payment on MCAS, cash can be accepted by the school office.



## Remembrance

We would like to say an enormous thank you to our school community for their incredible support in creating our Remembrance display. We were so impressed with the poppies that you made and the time you all gave to creating these pieces of art! We were delighted that every child in the school community painted a poppy, meaning all were represented in this whole school project to remember those who have lost their lives but also as a symbol for peace.

We would also like to say a big thank you to the following people:

- Mrs Vaughan for organising the crochet pattern and for making a huge number of lovely poppies that went on display.
- Mr Jackson for his incredible art and craft skills in creating the final piece.
- Mrs Moruzzi for adding lots of tealights to the poppy pebbles for our fireworks display, which created a stream of light to the plaque listing former students who fell in WWI.
- Mrs Lovenberry for her incredible photography skills and capturing the display for us so beautifully.



Michael and Morven (Year 6 Head Boy and Head Girl) represented the school brilliantly by laying the wreath at St. John's Church this year. They were amazing role models for the school.

It was also lovely to see so many Wildmoor pupils in their Cubs, Brownies, Rainbows and Beavers uniforms carrying the flags as part of the ceremony.





## PTA Project Update: The Haven

The PTA have made such an impressive and swift start to the Haven (outdoor area) renovation project. Thank you to **Izabela Kurzydlo and her Hall Hunter team** for removing the dilapidated trim trail; to **Zoë Jokiel and her HP team** of volunteers, who spent just one day clearing out the rubbish, de-weeding, cutting back and filling holes, managing to fill two large skips of waste! Thank you to **Zoë and Ben Jokiel and the small team of parents** who spent their Sunday morning adding new padlocks, connecting drainpipes and water butts and moving unwanted items out of the area. Thank you to **Peter Jackson (and Alfie and Archer)** for fixing the willow screening around the perimeter on a cold Saturday morning! The school are so lucky to have such dedicated and supportive parents - we really appreciate everything you are doing to create such an amazing learning space for the children.

Now the site has been cleared and the boundary screens have been replaced, stage 2 of the project will be underway. We will be purchasing a potting shed and looking at what the children can plant and grow, as well as setting up Forest School activity areas, such as a mud kitchen. Watch this space!







# Meet the Team!

This month, find out more about **the team in Year 4!**

## Year 4



### Hello, I'm Mrs Rich!

My journey into the world of teaching began 16 years ago, and it's been an incredible adventure ever since. Born and raised in the picturesque surroundings of Hertfordshire, I ventured south to Southampton for my university studies in Marketing. My professional journey commenced in the bustling city of London, where I honed my marketing skills in a dynamic agency. However, my heart was always drawn to the world of sports and education. During weekends, I found myself not only immersed in the corporate world but also on sports fields, coaching and inspiring young minds. The joy of teaching children led me to pursue a PGCE at St. Mary's Twickenham, a decision that marked a significant turning point in my career. Embracing my love for an active lifestyle, I've always been involved in sports such as netball and running. I play competitively for a netball team and I have run the London Marathon twice. My passion for movement and holistic well-being also led me to become a yoga teacher, establishing my own company, "Your Peak Yoga." Through this venture, I've had the privilege of helping individuals discover the transformative power of yoga. I also love to sing and I play the saxophone 😊 Currently, I serve as the Year 4 class teacher at Wildmoor Heath, working with a fabulous team; Mr Jackson, Mrs Guy and Mrs Foxley! I also take on the role of PE Lead. It's a position that perfectly aligns with my belief in the importance of physical education in a child's development. Having two children of my own attend wonderful Wildmoor, I understand the significance of creating a nurturing and stimulating environment for young learners. I'm grateful for the opportunity to contribute to the growth and development of young minds at Wildmoor Heath.





# Meet the Team!

## Mr Jackson:

Hi! So it's our turn to share a bit about ourselves. I'm a Teaching Assistant at Wildmoor Heath School, where I have the privilege of working with the fantastic students in Year 4 and amazing teachers Mrs Rich and Mrs Guy. This is my 4th year in this role but my connection to the school runs even deeper as my two boys also attend Wildmoor Heath, making every day a family affair. Previous to this, I ran the wrap around care at the school and other schools across Wokingham, Reading and surrounds. Outside the classroom, my passions revolve around the great outdoors. I'm an avid rugby fan and have been lucky enough to coach 100's of children some of which are still at the school and some who have recently left. On weekends (and during holidays), you'll often find me by a local river, lake or canal with a fishing rod in hand, enjoying the tranquility and excitement that fishing brings. I take great joy in making things, whether it's crafting engaging teaching aids or creating fun activities for the students or more likely props for school productions or displays. I hope I bring a blend of passion, creativity, and a love for learning to my role as a Teaching Assistant at Wildmoor Heath School. Every day is an opportunity to inspire and be inspired, and I feel fortunate to contribute to the growth and development of the incredible students at our school.



## Mrs Guy:

Hi everyone, I'm in my second year at Wildmoor Heath, and have been teaching since 2008. I studied Psychology at Royal Holloway and after a year as a teaching assistant decided to pursue teaching so went on to complete my PGCE at Roehampton. I have since had children of my own, who are now primary school age and therefore useful sounding boards for lesson ideas! I especially enjoy teaching Geography and Science, because I love nature and practical 'hands on' lessons. I teach on three days in years 4, 5, and 1. I thoroughly enjoy the variety it brings, with no two days ever the same! It is great to see the progression between the year groups and how the children mature during their time at Wildmoor Heath. Each cohort has its unique personality and I feel fortunate to be given the opportunity to share these classes with their teachers. I am also extremely lucky to work with 3 wonderful teams, who are equally fantastic, and no I can't pick a favourite (although maybe year 4 this week?!) I enjoy the outdoors and especially going for walks in Swinley Forest with my family and golden retriever Eric, (a real life 'Marley and Me'). Other hobbies include baking, cakes especially, and anything Harry Potter (I'm a bit of a superfan). I like to unwind by going to watch live music and I'm currently attempting (struggling) to learn the electric guitar.





# Safeguarding and Child Protection

**Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as:**

1. Protecting children from maltreatment;
2. Preventing the impairment of children's mental and physical health or development;
3. Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care;
4. Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

At Wildmoor Heath School, **all staff maintain a culture of vigilance** and put the health and safety, learning progress and pastoral needs of our learners first. We have robust safeguarding procedures in place, including annual formal training for all staff.

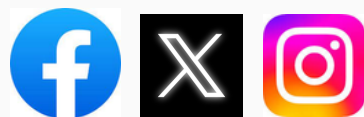
Wildmoor Heath have three trained DSLs who receive multi-agency training, attend ongoing formative sessions and represent the school at Child Protection meetings. Mrs Vincent is the Designated Safety Leader (DSL), supported by Mrs MacManus and Mrs Joseph as our Deputy Designated Safety Leaders (DDSLs).

Our Safeguarding Policy (latest September 2023) can be found on the school website (here) and/or a copy can be requested from the school office.

If you have any concerns whatsoever about a child, or something that you have witnessed inside or outside of school, please speak one of our safeguarding team.

## Contact Us:

**Contact Us:**



Wildmoor Heath School, Lower Broadmoor Road, Crowthorne RG45 7HD

**Tel:** 01344 772034

**E-mail:** [reception@wildmoorheath.org.uk](mailto:reception@wildmoorheath.org.uk)







# Wildmoor Heath December Wellbeing Challenge

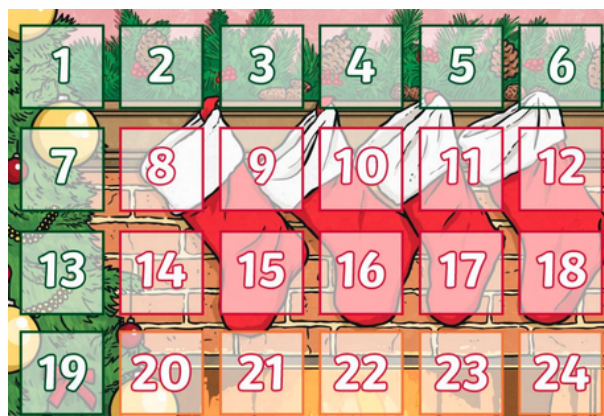


Emotional health and wellbeing is about how you're feeling and how well you are able to deal with day-to-day challenges. There are some simple steps that you can take in order to improve how you feel each day. They don't take up much time and they don't have to cost anything either.

They're known as the **Five Ways to Wellbeing** and they are:

**Take Notice, Connect, Keep Learning, Give to Others and Be Active.**

**Keep Learning** is about improving our self-esteem, keeping us connected and involved, and helping us adapt to change and find meaning in our lives. Learning is more than just formal education — it's about exploring new ideas, seeing opportunities, embracing new experiences and sharpening our skills. It means being curious and having an enquiring mind, in all areas of life. This month we would love the children (and families too!) to **'Keep Learning'** by exploring British Sign Language (BSL) through a fun advent calendar. Each day you will learn a new sign with a Christmas theme. Click on the picture below.

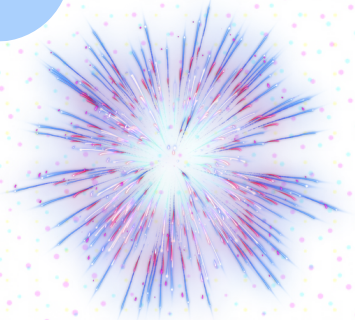


# PTA News



## PTA No Bang Fireworks

**£9,145.47 raised!**



Our amazing PTA organised our first No Bang Fireworks event earlier this month. They sold over 870 tickets to the event and sold hot dogs, sausage rolls and drinks, as well as candy floss and sweet bags, glowing swords and more. It was a brilliant event, and due to match funding and generous donations from local businesses, they raised a phenomenal **£9,145.47!** Thank you to **Zoë Jokiell, Amelia Field-Maziere and Kathryn Pierce** and the rest of the PTA for organising such a successful event and a massive THANK YOU to all the parents, children and staff who stayed to help run the event.

A special thank you to **Martin Horlock** for spending many hours in a small room making all the candy floss and to **Kaitlyn in Year 3** for her enthusiasm and hard work, staying on her stall throughout the whole event!

## Dates for the Diary

**Friday 1st December:** Crowthorne Late Night Shopping

**Friday 8th December:** Christmas Magic Show

We are looking for volunteers to help enhance our school's environment. Keep an eye out for upcoming volunteer days, hosted by the PTA. Carpenters, gardeners, decorators, and window cleaners are all welcome to join. If you're interested in supporting us, even for just an hour, please do get in touch with the PTA.