



# Wensley Fold CE Primary Academy

*"Make Each Day Count"*

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**WENSLEY WEEKLY**  
**Thursday 12 March 2026**  
**Issue Number 23**

[www.wensleyfold.co.uk](http://www.wensleyfold.co.uk)

User Name: parent Password: parent

Dear Parent

## **SPRING BULBS**

As our spring bulbs are starting to grow please can you keep children off the grassed areas especially the bankings along the drive so everybody can enjoy the first signs of spring! Thank you.

## **EID**

We want to take this opportunity to wish our families Eid Mubarak and we hope you have a fantastic time celebrating with your families. Our school policy allows us to authorise **1 day** of religious observation for Eid celebrations. There is no need to report your child's absence on the day. We look forward to welcoming the children back in school after their Eid celebration.



## **EID COFFEE MORNING**

On Wednesday 25 March 2026 we will be having an Eid Coffee Morning in our SPACE building. The proceeds of the coffee morning will partly be donated to our charity Barnardo's, as well as contributing to beginning our Wensley Fold school fundraising target for our new outdoor project. It will start at 10:15am and the children can be collected from the office from 10:10am to come with an adult to purchase a treat and a drink at the coffee morning. Children will return to class at 10:40am but parents are welcome to stay and enjoy the coffee morning until 11:00am.

We will be providing some treats and cakes from school, but would immensely welcome any home-baked treats (sweet or savoury) as donations as well. These may be traditional treats, Eid treats or otherwise. If you are donating items, please ensure they can be easily held in your hand to move around the space building e.g. samosas or onion bhajis instead of something which would require a bowl or a spoon.

We are really excited to enjoy the morning with our families at the end of Ramadan and as an end of term treat to get together as a school family. Any children who have parents who are not able to attend can bring some money (£1 per item) and we will facilitate attending the coffee morning with a member of school staff during break time.

Please bring any donations to the school office in preparation for the coffee morning. Your support is very much appreciated.



### **WENSLEY FOLD WHOLE SCHOOL FUNDRAISING: CREATING AN OUTSTANDING OUTDOORS!**

We are excited to announce the launch of our new whole-school fundraising project to further enhance the school grounds, which our children enjoy throughout their time at Wensley Fold.

We are so blessed to have such beautiful grounds around our school and we want to develop opportunities for children to play and enjoy our grounds to their fullest at all times of the day. In the background, staff have been researching what could enhance our school grounds. Some of the events we organise through the next few years will fundraise for contributing to the purchase of equipment and resources for the outdoor areas.

### **PARENTS EVENING**

Parents' evening will take place on Thursday 26 March. Parents will be able to book appointments on line from 6.00pm on Tuesday 17 March by browsing to <https://wensleyfoldce.schoolcloud.co.uk/> and following the instructions. Appointment times will be strictly limited to 5mins long and teachers will be using timers to help keep to the schedule. Parents will as usual, receive a report prior to the meeting with details of current achievements. Year 6 children are invited to attend with their parents to discuss progress/SATS.

### **PRE-LOVED UNIFORM**

If you are interested in purchasing pre-loved uniform, please contact Mrs Khan or Ms Emam to arrange a viewing or to inquire about specific items.

All sales will make a real difference to our school nominated charity, Barnados.

Thank you for your support

## **CHEWING GUM**

A polite reminder again this week that chewing gum must not be brought/chewed in school. Thank you.

## **FASTING – RAMADHAN**

As mentioned in previous newsletters, children in Years 5 and 6 will be able to fast in school during Ramadhan, if they choose.

If your child would like to fast week commencing 09 March or for the remainder of Ramadan, please confirm via emailing [y.emam@wensleyfold.blackburn.sch.uk](mailto:y.emam@wensleyfold.blackburn.sch.uk) by 3pm tomorrow (Friday).

Please note it is important that we have final numbers by 3pm on the Friday before the week ahead because we are employing additional members of staff to come in to supervise the children. Thank you.

## **RAMADHAN FOOD APPEAL**

In the month of Ramadhan, a time of reflection, giving, and community, we invite our school family to join us in making a real difference to the lives of families struggling in Blackburn with Darwen. Ramadan is a time for charity and generosity, and we hope our school will take this opportunity to encourage students to embrace the spirit of giving by supporting Blackburn Foodbank's Ramadan Appeal. Every donation, no matter how small, will help ensure that no family in our community goes hungry during Ramadan and beyond.

There are 5 items in particular that are in need: tinned tomatoes, tinned fruit, tinned chickpeas, tinned fish and dried red lentils.

Money can also be donated by scanning the QR code on the poster emailed out to parents on Tuesday.

## **BOOK FAIR**

We are fortunate to have the book fair for a week, where you can use the £1 book voucher. Please see opening times:

|                                  |                                    |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Wednesday 11th March             | 3.15pm – 4.15pm                    |
| Thursday 12th March              | 8.15am – 8.40am<br>3.15pm – 4.15pm |
| Friday 13th March                | 8.15am – 8.40am<br>3.15pm – 4.15pm |
| Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> March    | 8.15am – 8.40am<br>3.15pm – 4.15pm |
| Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March   | 8.15am – 8.40am<br>3.15pm – 4.15pm |
| Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March | 8.15am – 8.40am                    |

## **WORLD BOOK DAY COMPETITIONS**

Please see competitions below. The closing date for all competitions is Friday 13 March.

## **LOST PROPERTY**

Please call all lost property from last term, be claimed by the end of the week. Any unclaimed property (including glasses), will be donated to charity. Thank you.

## **DT WEEK – YEARS 1-5**

All children in Years 1-5 will be designing, making and evaluating a number of different products as part of their Design & Technology starting next Monday 16 March. As previously, we are requesting a donation of £1 towards the cost of materials. Please pay your child's class teacher as soon as possible. Thank you.

## **YEAR 2 DT**

Please can children bring small cardboard boxes – cereal box or smaller, for their DT next week.

Children will get 1 Golden ticket per box! Thank you.

## **YEAR 5 DT**

As part of Year 5's DT, children will have the opportunity to taste a variety of biscuits: Nice, Wafers, Gingernuts, Custard Creams, Bourbon Biscuits, Oaties, Rich Tea and Cookies.

Please inform your child's class teacher regarding any allergens. Thank you.

## **YEAR 1 EUREKA**

As part of their topic on Science this term, Year 1 will be visiting Eureka Children's Museum in Halifax on Thursday 7 May, where they will have fun learning about the human body and how the organs & senses work. Children should wear their school uniform and **will not be back in school until 3.45pm.** A packed lunch will be provided by school; however children may bring a packed lunch from home if they wish in a named carrier bag, but please indicate clearly on the consent page on ParentPay. The cost of this trip will be £25. Please pay on ParentPay by Friday 1 May. Thank you.

## **YEAR 2 TOWNELEY HALL**

As part of their topic on House & Homes and also their topic on Animal Habitats Year 2 will be visiting Towneley Hall on Monday 20 April. Children should wear their school uniform. A packed lunch will be provided by school; however children may bring a packed lunch from home if they wish in a named carrier bag, but please indicate clearly on the consent page on ParentPay. The cost of the trip is £14. Please log on to ParentPay for further details and complete the consent and payment by Friday 10 April. Thank you

## **YEAR 6 ACTIVITIES WEEK AND HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT**

Year 6 Activities Week will be taking place week beginning Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June. Following the success of last year, this year the week will involve a range of fun trips, activities, a school sleepover and pizza night.

Activities during the week will include visiting The Anderton Centre for the day to take part in a range of outdoor adventurous activities plus a day trip to Gulliver's Theme Park. Other activities during the week include ten-pin bowling, ice-skating and a visit to the cinema.

We will also be having a Year 6 Leavers Pizza and Prom Night later in the year.

The cost for the week and the Year 6 leavers party is £150.

We have also been very fortunate to have secured a tour for each of our Y6 classes to visit the Houses of Parliament. This tour includes an opportunity to meet our MP for Blackburn, Mr Adnan Hussain. This will take place on 2 separate weeks in the last week of June or the first week in July.

This is an exciting opportunity for the children to travel to London by train, take the underground, visit the Houses of Parliament, take a trip around some of the sights including Buckingham Palace, followed by a boat trip down the Thames!

The cost of this trip is £40 which has been subsidised by the Houses of Parliament.

The total cost of for all of the above opportunities is £190.

Payment for this has been set up together on Parent Pay and you are able to pay this in full or in small instalments to allow you to spread the cost out.

## **DENTAL SURVEY – 5 YEARS OLD**

On behalf of the Office for Health Improvement, Blackburn with Darwen Council have commissioned the dental epidemiology team from the University of Lancashire to carry out a dental survey on Wednesday 15 April. The team will be looking at teeth of children who are aged 5 years old on the day of the visit.

This is an opt-in survey and children selected by the dental team have been notified by email. Please complete the consent form and return to the school office, if you would like your child to participate.

## **PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP**

Come along to our Parent and Toddler group every Thursday at 8.45am-9.45am in the school hall. A chance to meet other parents and have a fun time with your little ones.

We will have the following activities next half-term:

|        |   |                         |
|--------|---|-------------------------|
| 19 Mar | - | Eyes, Nose, Belly, Toes |
| 26 Mar | - | On the Farm             |

## **100 BOOKS READING CHALLENGE**

If you would like to sign up for the 100 books reading challenge, registration forms are available from Mr Desai in the school library after school. Please note the library is open to specific year groups on certain days from 3.15pm - 3.30pm



|           |   |                                   |
|-----------|---|-----------------------------------|
| Monday    | – | Reception classes and/or siblings |
| Tuesday   | – | Years 1 and 2                     |
| Wednesday | – | <b>CLOSED</b>                     |
| Thursday  | – | Years 3 and 4                     |
| Friday    | – | Years 5 and 6                     |

## **SCHOOL CLUB PERFORMANCES**

Please note the Street Dance Club will be doing a performance for parents / carers **TOMORROW**, Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March. Please ensure you arrive at the office for 3.40pm, ready for the performance at **3.45pm**. **We cannot let anyone in once the performance has started.**

**DRAMA CLUB** - Please note that unfortunately the drama club will not be doing a performance next week during their last club.

## **SCHOOL CLUBS AND CHILDREN'S UNIVERSITY PASSPORTS**

Please note all school clubs finish next week (week ending Friday 20 March). If your child is a member of Blackburn Children's University please make sure their passport is handed in by Monday 23 March. Please post the passport in the blue CU box at the school office. Please note all passports will be returned before the end of term, so please do look out for them. No responsibility will be held by the school once they have been returned.

## **BLACKBURN CU FEBRUARY HALF TERM HOLIDAY CHALLENGES**

Please note all CU passports have now been returned to children who have handed them in for the CU holiday challenges. Please ensure you look out for this if you handed it in for your child as no responsibility will be held by the school now they have been returned.

## **CU SCIENCE ACTIVITY – YEARS 3 – 6**

If you have signed your child up to this activity please remember it is taking place this weekend. Please check your confirmation email for all the details. Please contact Sara Burton on 07805929965 (please leave a message if there is no answer) if you have any questions.

## **EASTER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES**

Details of the Easter holiday activities and family trips have been sent out. There was:

- A letter about the Easter holiday activities available with Blackburn Children's University. Activities are for children in Years 1 – 6. They do not have to be a

member of Children's University to attend, however if they are a member they can collect stamps in their passport for attending! Sign up is available now on ParentPay. Places are offered on a first come first serve basis and will be available until THIS Monday 16 March if there are still places.

- A letter about two family outings – Gulliver's World, Warrington and a trip on the train to Bolton. Please note the Bolton trip is full. If you would like your family to attend the trip to Gulliver's World please complete this interest form - <https://bit.ly/FormGullivers26>. Further details will then be sent out about payment.

If you have registered for the family trip to Bolton, please look out for a message with further details. This will be sent by 5pm tonight.

### **WOMEN'S ONLY FITNESS CLASSES**

Please see the letter (<https://bit.ly/LetterApril26FitnessWF>) with details about some more women's only fitness classes at Wensley Fold Primary Academy starting straight after the holidays on Monday 13 April. Register your interest via this link: <https://bit.ly/WomensFitnessApril26WF>.

### **EASTER CRAFTS AT BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN LIBRARIES**

The libraries will be putting on an Easter craft where children can decorate a bug hotel. Remember if your child is a member of Blackburn Children's University and they attend please pick up a slip and hand it into school together with your child's CU passport after the holidays so they can collect a stamp. Tickets for these sessions will be available from the relevant library 2 weeks before the activity. The dates are:

- Wednesday 1 April, 2.30pm at Cherry Tree Library
- Tuesday 7 April, 2.30pm at Mill Hill Library
- Wednesday 8 April, 2.30pm at Blackburn Library

### **CHILDREN'S LITERATURE FESTIVALS BOOK AWARDS 2026**

If you have signed your child up we are looking for children do a short recording of them reading a page of their book they have been given. Please send these to Sara Burton via WhatsApp on 07805929965 or email [s.burton@wensleyfold.blackburn.sch.uk](mailto:s.burton@wensleyfold.blackburn.sch.uk). Please note these videos will be shared with the Children's Literature Festivals across their network and also on Blackburn CU's social media pages.

Please do remember to return the book, together with the review as soon as your child has finished it. This ensures we can have books available for other children. Also your child can be sent more books to review too if they want to. We will swap books as quickly as we can, but please note this may take 2 or 3 days once a book is returned. All books must be returned directly to the school office.

## WAKE UP WEDNESDAY

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com).

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about STREAMING SERVICES

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Streaming services are platforms that allow users to watch cartoons, documentaries and movies online immediately (often referred to as SVoD: streaming videos on demand). Ofcom reported that children and young adults prefer streaming services to traditional TV. With two-thirds of UK households subscribing to at least one streaming service, parents must understand how to manage screen time, set age restrictions and ensure safe viewing.

### COSTLY

Subscription services can be costly. As the main source of entertainment, most households have at least one streaming platform, and each platform has its own monthly subscription fee. Services are charging more for ad-free viewing, and better quality and resolution; however, there is a cheaper option with adverts. Due to price increases, Netflix and Disney+ reported a sharp increase in users subscribing to their ad-supported tier in 2025.

### NEXT EPISODE

### ILLEGAL STREAMING

Sharing passwords or using modified Fire Sticks to access streaming content without permission is illegal. Most streaming services have now put measures in place to detect account sharing. When account sharing is identified, platforms will offer an opportunity to pay for an added member or will ask the user to verify who they are.

### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Most streaming platforms allow users to set up a profile for each family member, with the option of putting specific restrictions in place. These include adding a profile lock or PIN, controlling autoplay of previews and next episodes, and limiting content based on age ratings. Nonetheless, these restrictions aren't foolproof. Content which is rated as suitable for an age group may still include themes, language, or images which children and families find inappropriate.

### EXCESSIVE SCREEN TIME

Excessive screen time contributes to sedentary behaviour and can negatively impact physical and mental health. Ofcom found that 4- to 15-year-olds averaged 2.5 hours per day across all video-sharing platforms, not including gaming. The vast range of content available, combined with features such as autoplay, makes it easy for children to watch for extended periods of time.

### BINGE WATCHING

Features such as autoplay make it easy for viewers – especially young people – to continue watching episodes without a break. This can foster unhealthy and addictive patterns, such as consuming a vast amount of content in one sitting. With binge watching come a lack of social interaction, lack of physical exercise, and often late nights and sleep disruptions which impact their mental and physical wellbeing.

### HARMEFUL STEREOTYPES

Many platforms track viewing habits, time consumed, and preferences, and generate recommendations to encourage your child to keep watching. This results in your child being in a 'loop' whereby they think the 'recommended' shows would be something they would enjoy rather than thinking critically for themselves. This can shape their beliefs, values, and understanding of the world from a young age without even realising it.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### SET UP INDIVIDUAL PROFILES AND ADD PINS

Almost all streaming services allow users to set up individual profiles where each family member can have age restrictions put in place for the content they can view. Adult profiles can be protected through the use of PIN. Keep this private. Use the options of putting specific restrictions in place such as controlling autoplay of previews and next episodes, and limiting content based on age ratings.

### MONITOR AND TALK OFTEN

Discuss with your child what they are watching, find out which programmes are trending, and watch them yourself. Have a little look at their watch history to check the content of what they're watching. Some platforms have been known to recommend or autoplay older or graphic content after a child's movie has been played. While some tv shows or movies may have a suitable age rating, your child may still find the content scary, or it may explore themes you don't want to explore with your child yet.

### TALK ABOUT ALGORITHMS

Talk to your child about how streaming services track what they watch, and base adverts and recommended shows/movies on previous viewing. Encourage them to critically think about whether the recommendations are suitable and how they want to spend their time. Discuss stereotypes with your child and challenge them to think about what they watch and how this may influence their beliefs.

### SET TIME RESTRICTIONS

Many streaming services offer the opportunity to buy movies, or add additional features to your subscription such as sports channels, as well as play games. This can increase the amount of time young people spend sitting idly in front of the screen. Some platforms (e.g. Apple TV+) allow you to set screen time restrictions. If the streaming service doesn't allow you to set screen time limits, set a family rule and stick to it.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator, and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government, comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See full reference list on our website



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# **COMPETITIONS TO ENTER – WIN PRIZES!**

## **Competition 1**

**DESIGN YOUR VERY OWN World Book Day TOKEN to be entered into the National AND School Competition WIN A BOOK FROM THE BOOK FAIR**



Collect a competition form and instructions from the office.

**PRIZE: Win a book from the Book Fair – winners announced in the Tuesday Achievement Assembly on 17<sup>th</sup> March.**

**\*Entries will also be entered into the national competition.**

## **Competition 2**

**'Go All In - Read Anything – but Read Every Day'- Photo Competition**

Take a photo of you reading anything! At any part in the day! Anywhere!

What is your favourite thing to read? How many different things do you read in a day? Who do you read with? Have you a favourite thing to read at home?

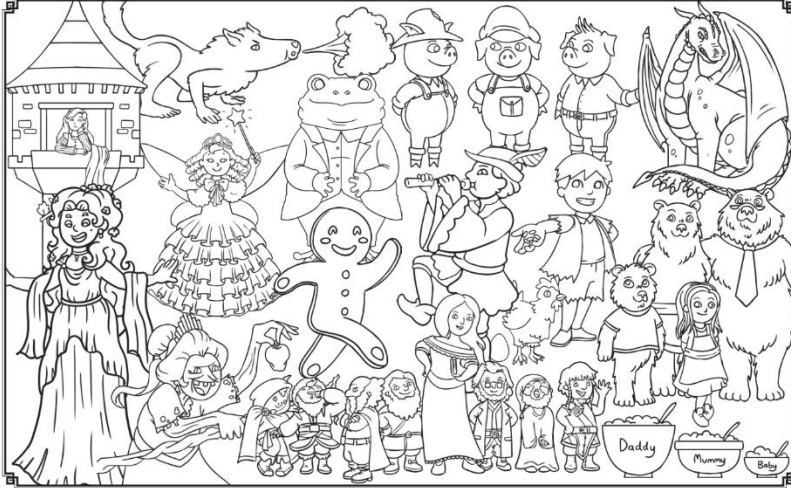
Email the photo into school or bring in the photo and hand in to Ms Emam by Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March morning.

**PRIZE: Win a book from the Book Fair – winners announced in the Tuesday Achievement Assembly on 17<sup>th</sup> March. Winning photos shared with the school if permission is given.**



## Competition 3

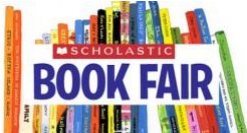
# READING MINDFULNESS COLOURING SHEET



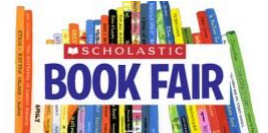
Colour in your favourite from a choice of 3 different colouring sheets linked to reading.

Collect a sheet of your choice from the office.

**PRIZE: Win a book from the Book Fair – winners announced in the Tuesday Achievement Assembly on 17<sup>th</sup> March.**



## Scholastic Book Fair –In the School HALL



- The Book Fair is coming to school for a week.
- You can choose and buy from a wide range of books suitable for different ages
- You can use your £1 book voucher to get £1 off the cost of a book so don't forget to bring it along.
- **REMEMBER:** You will get a free book voucher from school to use at any book shop. You can use the £1 voucher at our book fair to get £1 off any book with the voucher.
- Cash only please
- It is in the school hall – come in through the back door of the hall on the playground