



Wookey Weekly News *Friday 13th March 2020*



Stars of the Week

Stars of the week this week are: Lucas and Riley (Rowan Class), Eboni and Flick (Oak Class), Beth and Gracie (Willow Class) and Kaedee (Chestnut Class). They will have their celebration with Mr Marsh next week.

Composting at School

As a follow on from our visit to Carymoor Environmental Centre we were visited by their director last week for a very productive staff meeting where we planned out the next steps for our curriculum.

At Wookey we are committed to continuing to develop a curriculum which is led by our four core values of Respect, Engagement, Activity and Independence and by the interests and aspirations of our children.

We are therefore very excited to begin our journey to 'Eco-School' status, a nationally recognised programme which is, "pupil-led, involving hands-on learning that gets the whole school and the wider community involved in exciting environmental projects."

The director of Carymoor was impressed with what we are doing already and our various initiatives will help us move through Bronze and Silver to Green Flag status. The children are so passionate about this that I am sure that it will be them taking control of developments to our curriculum rather than the staff!

We are going to focus on our first formal step towards Bronze level as an Eco-School from Monday. We will be separating food waste at lunchtimes into waste that can be used for compost and waste which cannot. Compostable waste will be stored and then used in our school garden this year.

Today we have also received a delivery of 2 tonnes of compost from Carymoor, which is currently being added to the raised beds in our school garden, ready for some serious planting to begin next week!

**We raised £731 at
the Mouse Racing
Event last week.
Thank you for your
support!**

MOUSE RACING
Saturday 7th March
7.30 START (DOORS OPEN 7PM)
WOOKEY CHURCH HALL

Coronavirus

The Department of Education (DfE) has launched a new helpline for schools to answer education-related questions about COVID-19 (Coronavirus). The helpline is open on 0800 046 8687 from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, and is available to staff, parents and young people. Alternatively, you can email DfE.coronavirus@education.gov.uk

When, as seems likely, the virus arrives in our community please be reassured that the school will follow the advice of Public Health England in relation to our response to the outbreak at that time.

We have been advised that should a case be confirmed anywhere in the country, Public Health England will contact all those who have come into close contact with the individual concerned and give specific advice of what action to take.

As of today, there are no known positive COVID-19 cases in our community or local area. If your child, you or your close family are tested positive for COVID-19, please let us know at school as soon as possible tel: 01749 673650 or email SCH.423@educ.somerset.gov.uk. This will help us to keep up to date with the situation as it evolves.

Government advice is reviewed daily and updated regularly. For the latest information, advice and guidance, check out <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>. The Government advises that the best way to protect yourself and others from the virus and stop it spreading is to practise good hygiene habits. If you need to cough or sneeze catch it with a tissue, bin it and kill it by washing your hands thoroughly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or using an alcohol-based hand sanitiser.

At Wookey we have increased our focus on ensuring the children maintain the highest standards of personal hygiene and hand washing throughout the day. As the situation develops locally over the coming weeks we will keep you informed using our usual methods (website, twitter, Seesaw etc.)

We are also planning as best we can to ensure that the education of our pupils is able to continue should we be asked to close in the coming weeks. If this happens we plan to use Seesaw as the primary method of remotely teaching and providing learning activities for our children. Please therefore make sure that you have signed up for Seesaw and are able to access it from home on laptops, PCs or tablets as well as through mobile devices. <http://app.seesaw.me>

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Yesterday, the Government updated its advice to all.

To support the delay of the spread of the virus, the Department for Health and Social Care has asked anyone who shows certain symptoms to stay at home for 7 days, regardless of whether they have travelled to affected areas. This means people should stay at home and avoid all but essential contact with others for 7 days from the point of displaying mild symptoms, to slow the spread of infection.

The symptoms are:

- *A high temperature (37.8 degrees and above)*
- *A new, continuous cough*

Current advice remains in place: no education or children's social care setting should close in response to a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 case unless advised to do so by Public Health England.

The Chief Medical Officer has advised that the impact of closing schools on both children's education and on the workforce will be substantial, but the benefit to public health may not be. Decisions on future advice to schools will be taken based on the latest and best scientific evidence, which at this stage suggests children are a lower risk group.

Key messages

- *if you have symptoms of coronavirus infection (COVID-19), however mild, stay at home and do not leave your house for 7 days from when your symptoms started.*
- *this action will help protect others in your community whilst you are infectious.*


- plan ahead and ask others for help to ensure that you can successfully stay at home.
- ask your employer, friends and family to help you to get the things you need to stay at home.
- stay at least 2 metres (about 3 steps) away from other people in your home whenever possible.
- sleep alone, if that is possible.
- wash your hands regularly for 20 seconds, each time using soap and water.
- stay away from vulnerable individuals such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions as much as possible.
- you do not need to call NHS111 to go into self-isolation. If your symptoms worsen during home isolation or are no better after 7 days contact NHS 111 online. If you have no internet access, you should call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999.

Who this guidance is for

This advice is intended for people with symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), including those with a diagnosis of coronavirus (COVID-19) infection, who must remain at home until they are well. In light of the above advice if your child develops symptoms please do not send them into school for at least 7 days from the first day.

So that we can ensure the safety of all our students please continue to contact us to report your child's absence, simply advising us that they are in self-isolation, on 01749 673650 or email SCH.423@educ.somerset.gov.uk

Farm and outdoor activity days at:



Holiday activity club – Easter holidays

Help look after the goats including the baby goats, learn about taking care of farm animals, nature walks, outdoor art and crafts, games

Dates: 8th April
Time: 8.30am – 3pm
Where: Wookey Farm, Wookey, BA5 1DT
Cost: £25
Ages: most suited to 5 – 9 year olds (although up to 12 years is fine)

Notes: Please bring welly boots, old clothes, waterproofs and a **PACKED LUNCH**
Places are limited!

Leaders: Tasha Isaac (Sarah's sister) is a forest school leader and has 20 years' experience working with children as an LSA and now as a forest school leader. Sarah is the owner of Wookey farm and has been goat farming for 10 years, after having been a music teacher for 10 years.

Location: Wookey Farm, Monks Ford, Wookey BA5 1DT – 01749 671859 / 07779 145441 Info: email info@wookeyfarm.com.

Booking form at: <http://www.wookeyfarm.com/on-the-farm/farm-and-outdoor-activity-days/>

Walking Bus Update

The popularity of our walking bus continues to grow and we have now had nearly half the school on it as passengers for at least one journey. In our celebration assembly we were able to present the first of our March badges to Daniel, Caleb and Tom, as they have already completed 10 journeys this month. Well done to them – more badges will be awarded next week.

BAKE SALE

THURSDAY 19TH MARCH
3.15PM - 3.30PM



Our environmental club children have organised a bake sale to raise funds to fix our school pond. The pond lining has been ripped for a while now, which unfortunately means the pond has drained and is no longer home to wildlife. We would love to get it back up and running again and are going to be baking cakes with cooking club next week to sell on Thursday afternoon.



Attendance

Our whole school attendance this week was 95.2%. This means that our attendance has been at least in line with the national average for the last three weeks. Let's hope that there is nothing on the horizon that might affect our attendance levels!

Well done to Oak Class for having the highest level of attendance for the third week in a row. Thank you for your support in ensuring all children attend school regularly.

Weekly Attendance Levels

Rowan Class 96.2%

Oak Class 99%

Willow Class 93.2%

Chestnut 88.7%

Attendance for the 2019/20
academic year currently
stands at 94.1%

Diary Dates until Easter

Monday 16th March – Netball Trip to Bath
Tuesday 17th March – Netball fixture @ Strode
Thursday 19th March – Bake Sale
Wednesday 25th March – Assembly with Rev. Guy
Monday 30th March – Netball fixture @ Strode
Thursday 3rd April – Easter Service @ St Matthew's
Church (9am)
Friday 3rd April – Easter Fun Event and Last day of term

Clubs next week

Monday	Key stage 2 Gym Club
Tuesday	Cross Country Club Homework Club
Wednesday	Cooking Club Environmental Club Netball Club
Thursday	Music Club

Netball Result

Our netball team took on Ashcott Primary School in their latest league fixture on Thursday this week. They were unlucky to come out on the wrong end of a 5-3 defeat after a closely contested game. Our next planned match is on Tuesday next week.

Safeguarding is everybody's business.

If you are worried about a child or young person who could be in danger, please contact:

- Children's Social Care on 0300 123 2224
- by email at childrens@somerset.gov.uk
- or the police

You can contact the police directly by dialling 101 and they will discuss with Children's Social Care what action should be taken. In an emergency always contact the police by dialling 999.