

# Wheelwright Lane News

6th February 2023



## Headteacher Message

It has been a frosty start to the school week, but the children are already starting to spot early signs of spring breaking through. Our wonderful extensive school grounds are peppered with early snowdrops, crocuses and daffodils. This is a sure sign that spring is around the corner.

## Miss Rutherford's quote of the week!

We have continued our assembly theme of British Values this week. Each week we are exploring the 4 British values and thinking about how we demonstrate these in our school. Last week we explored Rule of Law and this week we have focused on Democracy. The children have been finding out about the right to vote, to peaceful protests and to respect the differing views of others. In our school we have our School Council. Each member of the School Council are elected by their class members using a voting system. Our School Council then form the 'voice' of our school. This week the children are going to be making some decisions around lunchtime activities as voted by the pupils.

Did you know that in 1918 the Representation of the people act gave women the right to vote?

*"Your vote is your voice, be heard" – Unknown.*



This week is Children's Mental Health Week and is ran by the charity Place2Be. The charity raises awareness around children's mental health and this year's theme is all about

connecting. Taking important time out to connect with your child is an important way to develop, build and model healthy relationships and friendships. In school we will be using the Let's Connect theme as part of our children's mental health week. We look forward to sharing our activities in next week's newsletter. Please do visit the Children's Mental Health Week website by clicking on the link. We have also attached some top tips along with our newsletter this week.

[Children's Mental Health Week \(childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk\)](https://childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk)

## Reception maths workshop

We will be hosting a parents workshop this week which is a great opportunity to find out how you can support your child with their early mathematical development. At Wheelwright Lane we have adopted the mastery approach to mathematics. Mrs Harris will be hosting this event in the reception classroom and we encourage all our reception families to attend this informative meeting. There are two workshops, an early and later (3:15 and 6:00pm). There have been many changes to the way that maths is now taught in schools and, even if you have older pupils in our school, we recommend you do attend.

## Attendance Updates

**ATTENDANCE  
MATTERS.  
ALL DAY, EVERY DAY**

Please see our additional autumn end of term attendance newsletter. This provides further details regarding our attendance figures for the autumn term

Remember school opens at 8:45am and lessons start at 8:55am

Our school attendance target is 96%

This week our attendance was 97%. **FANTASTIC!**

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### Class Attendance

Reception	93%
Year 1	95%
Year 2	99%
Year 3	98%
Year 4	96%
Year 5	97%
Year 6	96%

Well done to year 2 who achieved the highest attendance this week and won our class attendance trophy. Well done also to year 3,4,5,6 who achieved our attendance target of above 96%.

### Learning at Wheelwright Lane last week.



#### Year 1

Super work this week in year 1 from Mimi and Theo. They have shown resilience in their DT learning and produced some super house constructions.



#### Year 2

Amal and Chloe have been super writers this week in English. They have been showing determination to write for longer periods and adding extra detail in their writing.



#### Year 3

Well done to Harleen and Kacey who have work incredibly hard in their swimming. They have shown amazing resilience and determination. We are very proud!



#### Year 4

Well done Sam for showing so much determination this term. You are such a great role model to others! Mia has demonstrated bravery in class this week by having a go at answering tricky questions. Keep the super learning behaviours.

#### Year 5

Ruby and Eliot Mae have demonstrated collaborative skills this week. Ruby has worked really well during DT to make vegetable patties and support others and Eliot Mae has been brave and tried out new vocabulary in her writing.



#### Year 6

Year 6 boys have worked collaboratively this week. Well done Tade, Reggie and Zac for your team work in completing your geography project around climate change.



### Learning Behaviours Assembly

A special shout out to the children who received one of our new learning behaviour certificates in assembly last Friday.

Year 1	Ethan	Mimi
Year 2	Chloe	Amaal
Year 3	Harleen	Kacey
Year 4	Sam	Mia
Year 5	Ruby	Eliot Mae
Year 6	Tade, Zac	Reggie

## **Diary Dates to Remember!**

w.c 9.1.2023	Afterschool Multi skills Yrs 4,5,6 begin again  Keyboard/Guitar lessons begin again  Year 6 Booster Classes begin again (except for Mrs Haughey's group). <b>individual children/parents will be contacted as groups may have changed</b>
7 <sup>th</sup> February	EYFS Maths workshop Reception Parents
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Last day of term
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Children return to school

Best Wishes

*Miss Rutherford*

Headteacher.



*Be Kind, Be Safe, Be Fair*

# LET'S CONNECT



## TIPS FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

Dear parents and carers,

6 - 12 February 2023 is **Children's Mental Health Week**. The week is run by children's mental health charity Place2Be to raise awareness of the importance of children and young people's mental health. This year's theme is **Let's Connect**.

### WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

**Let's Connect** is about making meaningful connections, and for Children's Mental Health Week 2023, Place2Be is encouraging people to connect with others in healthy, rewarding and meaningful ways.

As parents and carers, you are an important role model to your child. How you connect with friends and family will influence your child, and how they develop their own friendships and relationships. For example, how you greet people and maintain friendships, but also how you forgive people or say sorry when you need to.

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Here are a few simple ways you can connect with your child and help them to make meaningful connections.

#### 1. Connect with your child in everyday ways

Moments of connection (and re-connection) are really important in child-caregiver relationships. For example, when you pick them up from school, or come in from work, try to give them your full attention and see if this helps you feel better connected as you hug, talk, smile and hear about their day. Watching your child play and joining in is really important to them – so put your phone away and have a bit of fun – being playful is good for adults, too!

With your older child, you may find times such as car journeys a good time to talk, or to re-connect by playing music you both like. It is important to be accessible to a teenager when they need to talk. You may have to be there 'on their terms' and be ready to listen.

#### 2. Talk to your child about important connections

This could include talking about family members, friends, neighbours, childminders, people in the local community and others in your faith group (if you have one). Remember it's ok to talk about people they miss, for example, family members who live in a different country or people who have died.

Children learn a lot from their parents about how to express their feelings, including the joy that comes with feeling connected to others and the sadness that comes with missing others.

#### 3. Talk to your child about their friends

As children become teenagers, their friendship groups become increasingly important to them. Be open to hearing about their friendships and try to listen without judgement.

Ask them about their life in real life and online. You may not think online friends are 'real friends', but your child may feel differently. Losing friends, feeling left out or being bullied is very painful and your child needs to know you will support them through these difficult times.

#### 4. Connect by taking an interest in your child's world

As adults we can sometimes be dismissive of the things that our children and teenagers are interested in, e.g. their music, fashion, what they watch etc. If you do take an interest in these things, however, you may feel better connected to your child and the important things in their world. This can lead to other conversations about other things in their lives that matter to them.

#### 5. Find time to connect as a family

Family life can become busy and stressful, so it's important to find some time where you connect together. This could include simple things like cooking, watching a film, playing a game, going to the park or even doing the family shop together.

#### 6. Try to resolve conflict and re-connect after arguments

Arguments and moments of disconnection are bound to happen in families - between your children, between yourself and your children and between yourself and your partner, if you have one. It is important that children learn how to disagree in appropriate ways, how to say sorry and how to make amends when they have done something wrong. They will learn a lot about how to do these things from you - so try to model the behaviour you want to see in your children. Talk to them about how to re-connect with friends after arguments including what they can do to help repair relationships.

### Video activities from Place2Be

**Puzzle Pieces** – aimed at 4-7 year olds, this activity is presented by CBBC's Art Ninja, Ricky Martin, and will show children how we are all connected. Why not take part as a family? [childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/puzzlepieces](https://childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/puzzlepieces)

**Connecting Paperchains** – developed by Place2Be's Art Room team for 7-11 year olds, this activity helps children think about the people, things and activities they feel connected to. [childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/paperchains](https://childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/paperchains)

**Exchanging Postcards** – developed by Place2Be's Art Room team for 11-14 year olds, this activity encourages young people to explore what connection means to them. [childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/postcards](https://childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/postcards)

### Looking for free practical advice to help you support your child?

Parenting Smart, Place2Be's site for parents and carers, is full of expert advice and tips on supporting primary-age children, and managing their behaviour. [parentingsmart.org.uk](https://parentingsmart.org.uk)

**Let your child know that if they are worried about something, they should always talk to an adult they trust. It could be you, someone in your family, a teacher or someone else in their school.**

If you're worried about your child's mental health you can talk to your GP or someone at your child's school.

You can also find a list of organisations that provide support and advice on our website: [place2be.org.uk/help](https://place2be.org.uk/help)