



WHISTON WILLIS
PRIMARY ACADEMY
WADE DEACON TRUST



Reception Class Newsletter

09.01.2026

News

What a fantastic first week back after the Christmas break. Children have adapted back into school routines and continue to amaze us with their dedication to learning.

Phonics

Children have settled well into their new phonic groups and new books should have been sent home if your child is up to reading. Please continue to support your child's phonic journey by recapping on sounds and reading little and often with your child at home. Any questions with regards to supporting your child's reading journey, please speak to a member of the Reception Team.

Literacy

We have been reading *The Magic Paintbrush* in Literacy. Children have enjoyed painting their own items for the poor and have been sorting useful and non-useful items. Children have written in the role as Shen and also labelled the beast who helps free her. They have been exploring who the characters are, where the story is set and what happens in the beginning middle and end.

Maths

This week in maths children have been enhancing their subitising skills. Children have been "taking a picture" with their eyes and using counters to copy and create dot patterns. Children use vocabulary and spot number patterns within these dot patterns, e.g. 2 at the top, 2 at the bottom.

Other

In PE children have begun their gymnastics unit. This week the children enjoyed a rainforest themed lesson which taught them various shapes e.g tuck, pike, straddle, star, straight. Can your child remember any of these shapes? Our PE day is still a Monday so please ensure children are wearing PE kits on this day.

Our PSHE Jigsaw lessons are focusing on 'Dreams and Goals' and children have been learning all about challenges and persevering with a goal, even if it is difficult. We encourage our children to attempt tricky things first before we step in and help them. Please encourage your children to zip up their own coats as a goal we set in school.

We have also introduced the artist Andy Goldsworthy this week and have explored some of his sculptures made from natural resources. We look forward to creating art work inspired by Andy Goldsworthy in the coming weeks.

Reminders

Can we ask that no items from home are brought into school please as they may get lost or damaged.

Please remember **snack is £1 a week**. This can be paid weekly or termly. Speak to a member of the reception team if you have any questions.

Thank you for your continued support

Mrs Halsall

Miss Chiocchi