

THE WREN



February 2025

Your school's favourite newspaper



Welcome back to our February edition of *The Wren*. All the latest news brought to you by the Reporter Team of Wren Park Primary!

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

Children's Mental Health Week 2025 was all about **"Know Yourself, Grow Yourself."** This means learning more about who you are and how to take care of your feelings so you can grow and feel good about yourself.



During the week, there was a live lesson with Picture News, where we learned about understanding their emotions and how this helps them in everyday life. In classrooms there were fun activities to help us explore our feelings, such as:

Zones of Regulation – This helps children understand their emotions by putting them into different color zones. Catastrophe Scale – This helps children decide how "big" a problem really is and how to deal with it.

By knowing our feelings and learning ways to handle them, we can all grow stronger and feel happier!

"It's brilliant to see that so many children know how to look after their mental health, from going outside, getting lots of sleep and laughing with their friends!"

Miss Rhoades, PSHE & Mental Health Lead.

VERY VALENTINE

Valentine's Day is celebrated every year on 14th February.

The day gets its name from a famous saint. Many people believe that he was a priest from Rome in the third century AD. Emperor Claudius II had banned marriage because he thought married men were bad soldiers. Valentine felt this was unfair, so he broke the rules and arranged marriages in secret.

KUNG HEI FAT CHOI!

Happy Chinese New Year to you all! Chinese New Year is a special festival that marks the start of a new year in China. It is also called the Spring Festival and lasts for 15 days. Each year is named after one of 12 animals in the Chinese zodiac. 2025 will be the Year of the Snake!

People celebrate by:

- Watching fireworks and dragon dances
- Giving red envelopes with money for good luck
- Eating special foods like dumplings and noodles
- Decorating with red lanterns for happiness

The festival ends with the Lantern Festival and making wishes for a great year ahead!

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/chinesenewyear/chinesenewyear.aspx>

SAFER INTERNET DAY

Safer Internet Day, Tuesday 11th February, was all about learning how to stay safe and kind online!

This year's theme is **"Too good to be true"**, keeping yourself and others safe from scams online. We learnt how to spot a scam and how to respond and report it. At Wren Park we always learn to keep personal information private, how to be kind when chatting online and what to do if something online makes us feel upset. We remind ourselves to use our code, **'Zip it, Block it, Flag it'** if we ever feel unsafe online.

By using the internet safely, we can make it fun and friendly for everyone!

"The children were brilliant in sharing experiences of their activities online and they showed insight and awareness of how to keep safe," Mr Buckley, E-Safety Lead



THE WREN'S NEST

This half term has been filled with exciting learning experiences! Children have been working hard on reading and writing, enjoying a variety of stories, including traditional tales. One of their favourite was *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*. They explored how Baby Bear might have felt and had fun retelling the story in our own words.

The children also learned about Chinese New Year and discovered that 2025 is the year of the snake. To celebrate, they created colourful lanterns and even practiced using chopsticks. One of the highlights was a dragon dance, where the children moved as if we were part of a real street parade!



It has been a fantastic half term, and the Wren's Nest can't wait for more learning adventures ahead!

SUPERHEROES & WONDER WOMEN

Year 2 pupils have been diving into the world of superheroes. In history, they learned about real-life role models, including Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole. These incredible people helped others and changed the world with their bravery and kindness.

In English, they read *Traction Man*, a fun story about an action figure on exciting adventures! This book sparked their imaginations and got them thinking about what makes a hero.

To celebrate the end of their topic, Year 2 had a special Superhero Day on Wednesday, 12th February. Children dressed up as their favorite heroes and took part in fun activities to show their super skills!



WONDERFUL WEATHER

This half term, Year 1 have been learning about the United Kingdom, its four countries and their capital cities. The children have been very interested in our great British weather, observing rainfall and recording how much water was collected.

In Design Technology, they have also constructed windmills, making safe structures and sails that turn in the wind.

Well done Year 1!



"I liked making the windmill because we got to build it ourselves," Arlo, 1R.

ROTTEN ROMANS!

Year 3 pupils have been on an exciting journey back in time to learn all about the Romans!

They explored who the Romans were, where they lived, and how they built a powerful empire. They have also completed some beautiful mosaic art work, learnt about Boudicca and discussed what the Romans did for us.

In English, they have designed their own Roman Gladiators, written their own stories and written factfiles about what a gladiator is. They also enjoyed reading the book 'Escape to Pompeii' and doing some descriptive writing.



RIVERS & RAINDROPS

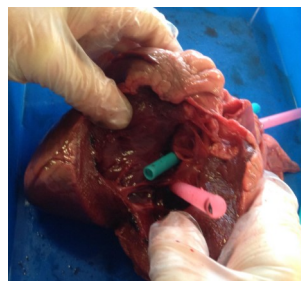
Year 4 children have been learning about rivers—their journey from source to mouth, and their importance in nature and human life. This linked to English, where they wrote *The Journey of a Raindrop*, imagining a raindrop's adventure through streams and rivers. They also had a workshop with Mr Austen from the *Environmental Agency*. He taught them about what to do when there is a flood, including: messages on phones, the police, flood barriers and much more! As well as flooding, Year 4 learnt about drought and how trees can help absorb lots of the flood water through their roots and taking in more nutrients to grow.



MEXICOCOA

Year 6 pupils have been busy exploring history and science this month! In history, they learned all about the Ancient Maya civilisation, discovering their impressive pyramids, farming techniques, religion and delicious love for chocolate! They even took part in a chocolate taste test and explored the journey of cocoa from bean to bar.

February is Heart Month, and as part of their Science lessons pupils dissected lamb hearts to understand the circulatory system. This helped them see how blood flows and keeps the body working. They also conducted an experiment to investigate blood flow in different vessels, learning how arteries and veins function in the body.



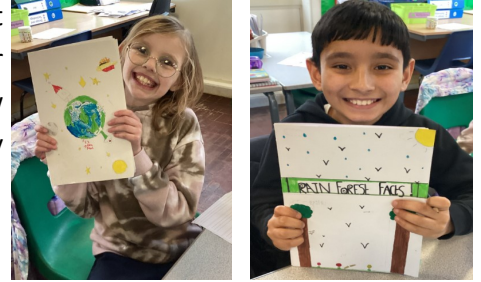
"The whole class were really well-behaved and safe using the blades," Amiyah, 6LH.

"It gave me a different perspective of the heart and how it works. It was really interesting," Henry, 6LH.

WONDERFUL WORLD

Year 5 children have had a great half term of learning! In Geography, they have been exploring our changing world, discovering how landscapes, weather, and human activity shape the environment. They even created an eco-dance in PE, using movement to highlight the importance of looking after our planet.

In English, children read *The Highwayman* poem, bringing it to life through diaries and letters. In Design Technology, they created pop-up books about a previously taught topic of their choice to show how much they could remember.



Amazing Year 5!

GOING FOR GOLD!



Excitement filled the air on Monday 10th February, as our winners of the golden ticket reading prize draw enjoyed a special cinema experience at Middleton Lodge Care Home!

These lucky golden ticket holders were rewarded for their fantastic efforts in reading more at home. They settled into comfy seats, munched on delicious popcorn, and enjoyed the fantastic film 'Ratatouille' as a treat for their dedication to reading. Mr Bull said that all the children enjoyed themselves and all that reading was definitely worth it!

A big congratulations to our winners!

Who will be next to grab a prize?



"I had a great time and it was really nice to be having a treat outside of school," Charlotte,





THE WRENS IMPRESS

On Saturday 18th January, our boy's football team were invited to Mickleover Football Club to be mascots for the day. It was also an opportunity to proudly display our new kit for Wren Park! The boys gave the players a high five before the game and were able to walk on to the pitch with their chosen player. During half time, they took penalties on the pitch with "Roary" the lion. Even Mr Finan was excited to give it a go! They all had an amazing day and an experience they won't forget.



"Well done boys. You were a credit to our school and your parents!" Mr Finan, Wren Park football coach.

MOOD MONSTER I SPY



RESPONSIBLE ROLE MODELS

Our older pupils of Wren Park have taken on exciting new roles this term to help and support others around school.



- **Y6 Prefects** lead by example, demonstrating all our school values. They look to celebrate kindness, respect and excellent behaviour.
- **Sports Leaders** organise fun activities and events to keep everyone active and healthy.
- **Peer Mediators** help promote kindness and ensure happy playtimes for everyone.
- **Reading Buddies** support younger children with their reading.
- **Wren Park Rangers** help us to make sensible choices around school.
- **Librarians** promote a love of reading and keep our library tidy!

As young ambassadors, these children are setting a great example and making our school an even better place!

What's FREE this half term....

- ◆ **St Valentine's Fair**
Derby Market Place, 13th-23rd February 2025
 - ◆ **Calke Abbey Fun Family Trail**
Self-guided trail, 15th February – 9th March (parking entry applies)
 - ◆ **Nature Heroes Trail**
Carsington Water, 15th – 23rd February 2025
 - ◆ **Crescent Crafts at the Buxton Crescent Experience**
Assembly Rooms, 22nd February 2025
 - ◆ **Fossil Making**
Derby Museum & Art Gallery, 20th February 2025
 - ◆ **Manor Park in Glossop**
Open year-round and offers free entry. Explore 60 acres of formal landscaping, a lake, woodland walks, a children's play area, and a miniature railway.
- For more ideas and information, follow the link:**
<https://www.visitderby.co.uk/ideas-and-inspiration/articles/february-half-term>

