



# Primary Newsletter

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## Welcome

Welcome to the next edition of the Wolsey Hall Primary newsletter. It has been a busy month since our first issue, and it has been lovely to receive emails from parents around the world sharing how much they enjoyed the newsletter and suggesting content to include in future editions. It is always a joy to connect with our families; you are welcome to email me with your feedback and comments any time.

We have some fantastic updates and information to share with you in this edition and hope you enjoy reading our newsletter and staying connected.

Best wishes,  
Christine Armstrong,  
Head of Primary





## What's New

### NEW FRENCH COURSE

Our Primary French homeschooling course covers the French requirements of the Key Stage 2 English National Curriculum over the course of 4 years.

Primary Level French is a fun, interactive course, which allows our students to not only learn a new language, but also to learn about the French culture. Everyone will normally start on Level 1 in order to ensure that they become confident, well-rounded linguists. If the student can already speak and understand some French, there is the possibility to start with the Level 2 course.

Learning another language gives children a new perspective on the world. It develops a deeper understanding their own cultures and those of others. It extends their knowledge of how language works, and it helps them to develop communication skills, including the key skills of speaking and listening.

If you are interested in joining our French course, please contact your Student Progress Manager.



## Questioning and Thinking Time

Effective questioning can really help your child think more deeply about their learning. Adults often use closed questions which can be answered with one word. Asking open questions helps us to learn more about our child's thinking and encourages them to think more about their reasoning.

### Open Ended Questions and Prompts

- Tell me about...
- Why do you think..?
- How did you..?
- What happened when..?
- What else can you do with..?
- What would happen if..?
- How might you use..?
- I wonder if..?

Thinking time for children is incredibly important. When we ask a question, we are keen to receive an answer, and silence can seem like our child does not understand or does not know the answer. It is human nature to jump in with a different question or provide the answer when this happens. Try waiting seven seconds or so when you ask a question. This provides time for your child to process what you are asking, think it through, and form a reply. If after this time your child is still unsure, try asking the question again in a different way, or provide a clue to the answer you are looking for.

HELLO!

## Student Shoutouts

Each month we say 'HELLO' to some of our Primary students around the world. Keep working hard and making us, your family and yourself proud. This month we are saying hello to:

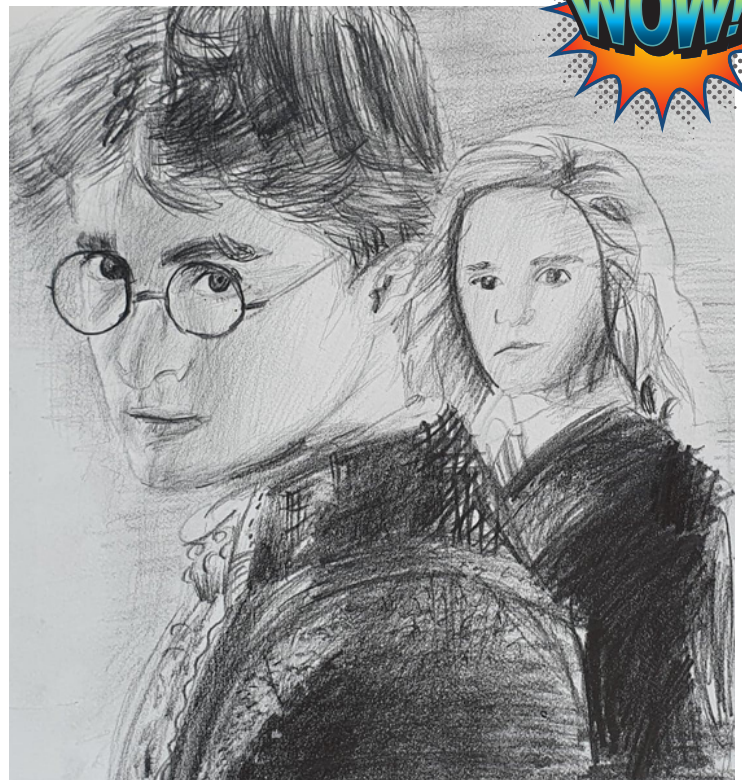
Aadam, age 6, UAE  
 Basel, age 5, Saudia Arabia  
 Cemile, age 6, Turkey  
 Copper, age 5, Philippines  
 Elias, age 6, Romania  
 Florence, age 6, Spain  
 Giovanni, age 6, Germany  
 Giulio, age 5, UK  
 Julia, age 5, Brazil  
 Kabir, age 6, India  
 Kiev, age 6, Qatar  
 Lillian, age 6, UAE  
 Malaika, age 6, UK  
 Milagros ("Mili"), age 6, USA  
 Mzwandile, age 7, Botswana  
 Robert, age 6, Russia  
 Yusuf, age 6, UK  
 AlReem, age 7, Oman  
 Asija, age 7, Serbia  
 Christina, age 6, Thailand  
 Emilio, age 7, Ecuador  
 Isabella, age 7, UK  
 Mariam, age 7, New Zealand  
 Putu, age 7, Indonesia  
 Zoe, age 8, UK

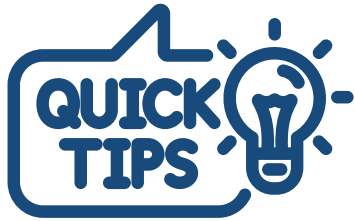
Caitlyn, age 10, UK  
 Sienna, age 10, Kuwait  
 Eva, age 10, Russia  
 Kymani, age 10, South Africa  
 Daniel, age 10, Thailand  
 Adem, age 10, Canada  
 Brendon, age 11, UAE  
 Imogen, age 11, Wales  
 Reyhana, age 11, Azerbaijan  
 Grace, age 11, UK  
 Lindsay, age 11, Malaysia  
 Kaue, age 11, Spain  
 Sultaan, age 11, New Zealand  
 Adwita, age 11, Ghana  
 Lucca, age 11, Ecuador  
 Alison, age 11, UK  
 Keegan, age 11, South Africa  
 Lincoln, age 11, Ecuador  
 Hannah, age 11, UAE  
 Arricah, age 10, Singapore  
 Chloe, age 11, UK  
 Hanan, age 10, Malaysia  
 Kyrillos, age 11, Cyprus  
 Varun, age 11, India

Hala, age 7, UAE  
 Sara, age 8, China  
 Yahya, age 7, Saudi Arabia  
 Ariel & Israel, age 8, USA  
 Jonathan, age 8, Zambia  
 Emilia, age 8, Switzerland  
 Jeremy & Robbie, age 8, Mauritius  
 Henry, age 8, UK  
 Yurema, age 8, Thailand  
 Katrina, age 8, Armenia  
 Spencer, age 9, Seychelles  
 Gwendolyn, age 8, UK  
 Emmelize, age 8, UAE  
 William, age 9, Ireland  
 Alivia, age 9, Turkey  
 Aden, age 9, Indonesia  
 Raiken, age 9, South Africa  
 Derrick, age 10, Malaysia  
 Vittorio, age 9, UK  
 Emily & Lorenzo, age 9, Italy  
 Savelii, age 10, Ukraine  
 Amaya, age 10, Saudi Arabia  
 Alandra, age 10, UAE  
 Matthew, age 10, UK  
 Dorotea, age 10, Israel

## Spotlight On... Roman

Roman is homeschooling in Cyprus and sent us his amazing fine art pictures. What a talent at just 8 years old! You can view his full gallery on the Student Website.





## Advice from Wolsey Hall parents

This month we would like to share some advice and tips from our Wolsey Hall parents. The feedback was collected during our recent Lower Primary survey, and we would love to share some of the responses with you. We hope to share some more words of encouragement from our parents in future newsletters too.

- Learn to know your child's interests, it really helps, and don't forget to enjoy your homeschool journey!
- Just trust yourself and your children and cherish this time together.
- Expect great things of your children and yourselves. This method of teaching will give your child strong foundations for learning and inspire a love of lifelong learning to come. It may seem hard work at times but the rewards and the learning taking place, are more than worth it.
- I would suggest that parents should not be afraid to change the daily tasks if you want to, as long as the outcome is the same.
- The schedule that works best for us is studying in the morning and again in the evening. We study around 4 hours a day, 6 days a week. I prepare lessons and extra material during the day when the kids play.
- Planning and patience are key!
- Be kind to yourself and to your kids. It might be overwhelming at first but it does get easier with time and you will enjoy it tremendously. When you feel your child is not progressing, take a look back at the first few lessons and you will be amazed. If you or your kids feel overwhelmed, contact your SPM and take a break. Even a few days makes a huge difference.
- An organised study area and pre-week review of the lessons make the week run much smoother. Flexibility toward the schedule, your child, and yourself is key to making it a pleasurable experience for everyone.
- Be prepared to take extra time and find more resources to help your child understand the lesson if they get stuck.
- Approach homeschooling as a unique and special opportunity to learn, explore and grow with your child. Don't try to replicate the hours and rigid timetables of real schools. Life is learning, and everything they do is an opportunity to learn, grow and develop.

If you would like to suggest a topic to cover, please email Christine Armstrong:  
[christine.armstrong@wolseyhalloxford.org.uk](mailto:christine.armstrong@wolseyhalloxford.org.uk)



# Competition!

Can your child produce a short video of themselves undertaking a science experiment?

If so, get entering our Science Competition to be in with the chance of winning a prize!

There are four categories to choose from so suitable for all ages, and prizes are worth £25 each. You can find full details and how to enter on the Student Community website but hurry as the closing date is **Friday 30 April!**



## Royal Academy Art Show

### TIME TO GET CREATIVE

We're inviting all students to enter an online art competition for the chance to have your art shown in the Royal Academy of Art's Young Artist Show!

Make sure your child selects 'Wolsey Hall' as the registered school when entering.

Full submission details are available on the Student Community website.

# World Book Day winners

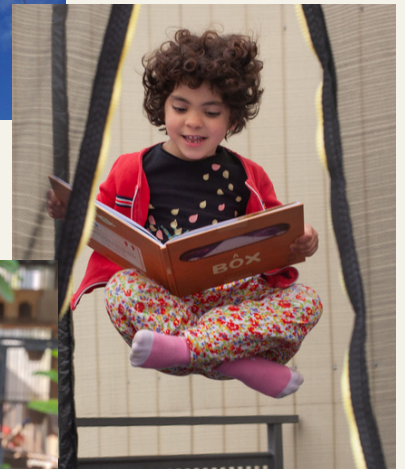


To celebrate World Book Day in March we invited students to submit photos of themselves reading a book in an unusual place.

We were inundated with many fabulous entries! Wolsey Hall students and staff voted on who the winners should be and we can announce they are:

- Kiev, age 5, Qatar
- Luna, age 9, Indonesia
- Matthew and Sebastian, age 11 and 13, Antigua
- Alice, age 14, Spain (*photographed her younger sister*)

It was wonderful to see so many entries from our Primary level students! We've included the winners in our newsletter but you can see all the entries on the Student Website.



## Staying with homeschooling after Covid

Oliver, who is in Year 8, has created a fantastic video explaining why he's sticking with homeschooling, even after Covid restrictions end. He and his younger brothers, who are studying at Primary level, are loving their homeschool experience!

You can watch Oliver's video on our [YouTube](#) channel.





## April Club Theme - World Citizen

This month's club theme is inspired by 12-year-old student Kate who has visited over 38 countries so far and attended six different schools. It got her thinking, 'Being a little bit of everything, who am I? Where do I belong? Where will I belong?'

We're inviting you to create a piece of work around this theme. You can find more details on the Community website.

## Community Support

We have Wolsey Hall students in over 100 countries. Are you making the most of our opportunities to connect with other homeschooling families worldwide?



Our [Primary Level Parents Facebook Group](#) is a private group to connect with other families, share ideas and information. Have you joined yet?



Our [YouTube channel](#) is full of videos from students and their families who are sharing advice and tips for successful homeschooling.



Whether you're a seasoned homeschooler or completely new, the [homeschooling tips](#) on our website aim to make life that bit easier.

## CLUBS FOR PRIMARY STUDENTS

We warmly encourage your child to participate in our Student Community which includes clubs with monthly themes. You'll find our competitions here too.

Clubs include:

- Art & Design
- Chess
- Cookery
- Creative Writing
- Digital Media
- Health & Fitness

We also have a Virtual Library which contains hundreds of fiction and non-fiction titles for your child to choose from. Borrowing books is completely free.

Access to these clubs can be found on the Student Community website.

