



# Primary Newsletter

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## WELCOME

Welcome to 2022! For those who celebrated during this season I hope that you had lots of joy and happiness, with opportunities to see family and friends.

2022 has started with continued global challenges, and here at Wolsey Hall we remain dedicated to providing quality education to students across the globe. With traditional education still disrupted in many countries, and the quality of mainstream education being affected by continuing Covid difficulties, we are very proud to be able to provide a consistent and reliable homeschooling education to our families and students.

Wolsey Hall Primary have several exciting initiatives for 2022 and we look forward to sharing them with you over the coming year, as they are implemented. We know that many of our students are still affected by Covid restrictions in their countries, so please be safe and look after each other.

Best wishes,  
Christine Armstrong, Head of Primary



# NEW COURSES LAUNCHING THIS MONTH

We are delighted to invite students to join our two new Primary courses launching in January.

Our new Lower Primary Art and Design homeschooling course covers the Year 1 and Year 2 requirements of the Cambridge Assessment International Curriculum.

This course is designed to introduce young learners to a stimulating artistic experience, and to equip them with the skills needed to explore their personal artistic journey.

Young children will be shown different starting points and techniques alongside being given confidence in their own creative abilities. Child-friendly themes and ideas will be used as a stimulus. Storytelling will also form a core part of the course.



Our new Primary Phonics course follows a systematic approach to teaching children synthetic phonics. It teaches children to hear, identify and use different sounds that distinguish one word from another in the English language.

Phonics involves pairing the 44 sounds of spoken English with individual letters or groups of letters. Understanding phonics will help children to read unknown words and to know which letters to use when they are writing words.

You can discover more about both of our new courses on [our website](#).

# MERCHANDISE NOW AVAILABLE

We are delighted to announce our new webshop is now open to buy Wolsey Hall branded hoodies, T-shirts and caps.

Our merchandise is not only fantastic quality, but is also a way to feel a greater part of our school community.

There are various children's sizes available for Primary age, as well as adult sizing for Secondary students. Initially we are stocking limited colours, but we may introduce more colours and items if our students request it.

You can access the [online store](#) now to place your order. Shipping and taxes are calculated at the checkout and vary depending on the country to be shipped to. Please note our merchandise is handled by a third-party supplier so all deliveries and returns will be arranged between yourselves and them.

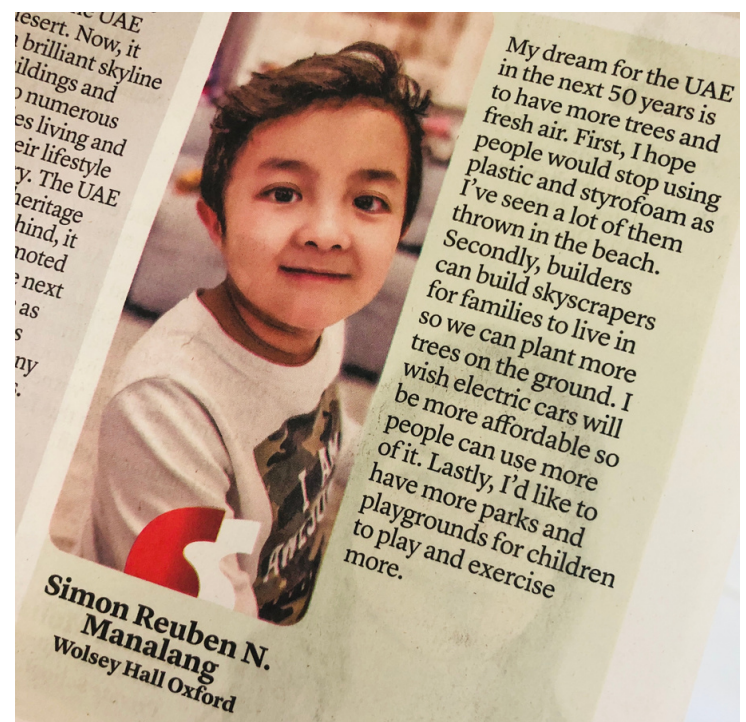


# SPOTLIGHT ON...

Ten-year-old Wolsey Hall student Simon recently appeared in the national newspaper, *Khaleej Times*, as part of the UAE's 50th celebrations. Simon was asked to write about his vision for the UAE for the next 50 years and you can read what he wrote in the photo opposite.

Well done Simon - we love your vision and achievement!

If your child has achieved something new, why not share it with us? They might feature in our newsletter or on our Primary Community site. Email [Danielle Hilton](mailto:Danielle.Hilton@wolseyhall.com) with your brief details and a photo.



## PRIMARY CHOIR PERFORMS FIRST SONG

The Primary Homeschooling Choir has just performed its first song 'You've Got A Friend In Me' and you can watch this on our [YouTube channel](#).

A big 'well done!' goes to the following students who took the time to rehearse and learn the song, before filming themselves for their group performance:

- Adira (USA)
- Frankie (UAE)
- Jan (Brazil)
- Judy and Yamin (Saudi Arabia)
- Marcus (Philippines)
- Ekkanut (Thailand)
- Jonathan and Joanna (India)
- Alexander (South Africa)



The choir is suitable for Primary children of all ages and singing abilities. There are virtual choir rehearsals and an opportunity to see other students from Wolsey Hall.

If your child is interested in joining, please email our Choir Leader [Maria Parfitt](mailto:Maria.Parfitt@wolseyhall.com).


**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:

Ayaan, age 6, UAE	Liora, age 7, India
Azaria, age 6, The Bahamas	Luke, age 8, Kuwait
Eva Elena, age 8, Spain	Mikaylin, age 7, South Africa
Frankie, age 6, UAE	Marcus Ervin, age 8, Thailand
Gregor, age 6, Oman	Neil, age 7, India
Hafsa, age 7, Saudi Arabia	Owen, age 7, India
Jason, age 6, Ghana	Yusha, age 8, UK
Kiana, age 7, Sierra Leone	Zoe, age 8, UAE
Leanie, age 7, UAE	Zainab, age 8, Saudi Arabia
Louis, age 6, Ecuador	Bara Zgard, age 8, Indonesia
Luka, age 8, Romania	Abdullah, age 8, Singapore
Matthew, age 7, Slovakia	Giselle, age 9, Mauritius
Milena, age 7, UAE	Heinrich, age 9, South Africa
Nawwarah, age 6, Saudi Arabia	Leo, age 9, UAE
Nina, age 7, Spain	Gabriela, age 9, Brazil
Sophia, age 7, UAE	Jordann, age 9, Malaysia
Thanakorn, age 7, Thailand	Yousuf, age 9, Mozambique
Alexandre, age 8, Brazil	Ava-Marie Nalukui, age 9, Zambia
Alya, age 7, Canada	Omid, age 9, UAE
Angelina, age 7, Ecuador	Jide, age 9, USA
Gabriel, age 8, France	Nava Adrianti, age 10, Indonesia
Hassan Henry, age 8, Malaysia	Ashwin Aydan, age 9, Malaysia
Israel-Blu, age 7, UK	Artur, age 9, Ukraine
Carmen, age 10, Ireland	Mia, age 9, UAE
Anna, age 10, France	Alexia Christine, age 10, Mauritius
Anna, age 9, UK	Thanyarat, age 10, Thailand
Sveva, age 9, Malta	Isaac, age 11, UK
Aarna, age 9, Malaysia	Olivia, age 11, South Africa
Yahya, age 10, UAE	Ruben, age 11, UAE
Mrinalini, age 10, India	Ruben, age 10, Indonesia
Rancie, age 10, Saudi Arabia	Zaahid, age 12, UAE
Josh, age 10, Ireland	Lucy, age 10, UK
Maia, age 10, Romania	Maxwell, age 11, UK
Stefan, age 10, Spain	Ritwik, age 12, India
Sampriti, age 11, India	Charis Pearl, age 12, Philippines
	Pieter, age 11, South Africa

# JANUARY CLUB THEMES

Our new club challenges for January are well underway and we encourage all Primary students to join in.

**Art:** Learn to draw a shark by watching the tutorial from Art Leader Rachael.

**Creative Writing:** Looking out of a favourite window in your home, can you write a creative description of what you can see?

**Cookery:** Can you make a tart, sweet or savoury, for your family to enjoy?

**LEGO®:** Build a treasure chest but start by watching LEGO® leader Emilie's video for inspiration.

**Nature:** Create a crown, tiara or hat from natural materials that you find.

If your child is joining in with the Art or LEGO® club themes this month, why not come along to our next Show & Tell sessions? They're a great way for your child to share what they have made, explain how they did it and meet other Primary level students.

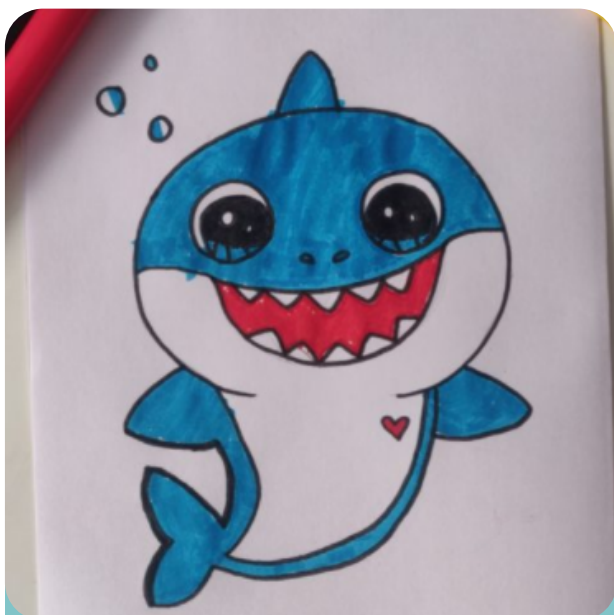
## Art Club

Show & Tell: Friday 28th January – 9am and 4pm (UK time).

## LEGO® Club

Show & Tell: Sunday 30th January – 9am and 4pm (UK time).

*You can find the Zoom details by visiting our Primary Community site. The January password can be found in your child's 'Primary Community Course' on Canvas.*



Akkshara, aged 5 from India, has drawn this shark for Art Club.



James, age 5 from Dubai, has built himself a treasure chest for LEGO® club.

# CHALLENGE OF THE MONTH

When a new year begins, we often look to the future and make New Year's resolutions. These are promises we make to ourselves and others to do something differently that year.

Your challenge this month is to make your own New Year's resolutions and try your best to stick to the promises you make. Can you think of New Year's resolutions to:

- **Improve your body** - this could be getting more exercise, starting a new sport, working on your hygiene, eating more healthy food or getting enough sleep.
- **Improve your mind** – you could learn a new subject, read plenty of books, do lots of puzzles, learn from your mistakes and not give up when the learning is hard.
- **Help others** – you could try volunteering, helping your friends or a neighbour, joining a charity or helping the environment.

These are just a few examples to choose from. Good luck, and we hope you stick to your chosen New Year's resolutions!

*Christine Armstrong*  
*Head of Primary*

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## RESOURCE CORNER

[National Geographic Kids](#) provides relevant and inspirational information in a child-friendly format, and their website is a great place to start.

Nat Geo Kids has lots of fun games, interesting videos, puzzles and cool photos to make the world feel like a more accessible, exciting place. Why not take a look for yourself?

*Wolsey Hall is not affiliated to this site in any way.*





## EMOTIONS AND GOOD MENTAL HEALTH FOR CHILDREN

Children experience all sorts of emotions as part of growing up – fear, disappointment, sadness, anxiety, anger, joy, hope and so on. When children cope with big emotions or calm themselves down in difficult or emotional situations, they're likely to feel good about themselves.

Here are some ways you can help your child learn to manage emotions:

- Talk about emotions with your child and encourage them to recognise and label their emotions. You can also let your child know that it's natural to have all sorts of feelings. For example, 'It looks like you're really frustrated that your toy won't work. I can understand that.'
- Role-model a positive outlook for your child – for example, 'Running all the way around the track looks hard but I think I can do it if I take it slow and steady', or 'I'm disappointed that my cake didn't cook properly but that's OK – I'll try it again another time.'

- Support your child when something is bothering them. For example, if your child is having trouble with friends, you could give them plenty of hugs and reassure them that you're there for them.
- Help your child learn to manage small worries so they don't become big problems. You can do this by gently encouraging your child to do things they're anxious about instead of avoiding scary situations. For example, 'Have you thought about trying out for the school choir this year? You really enjoy singing.'

This text is from [Raising Children](#).

For our youngest students, the Lower Primary [Skills for Life course](#) in Years 1 and 2, provides lots of opportunities to learn more about emotions, wellbeing and mindfulness.



# PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Our current competition is called 'My Beautiful Surroundings'. Students should take a photo that represents something they love about the place where they live. It could be a sunset, animal, event, activity, landscape etc.

Please just send in one photo.

The closing date for entries is **Monday 31st January**.

Our judging panel will select a winner and runner-up each for Lower Primary and Upper Primary, who will receive a prize from our new merchandise store.

To enter, please email your photo entry, along with your full name, age and country of residence.



## COMMUNITY SUPPORT

We have Wolsey Hall students in 120 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.



Our chess club can be found on the Community site and is open to students aged 5 and older. It is an opportunity for you to meet other Wolsey Hall students and play chess together.