



Primary Newsletter



WELCOME

Dear students, parents and families,

Welcome to all of our new families who have joined Wolsey Hall during the last few months, ready to begin studying over the next year.

Our Wolsey Hall community continues to thrive, and we hope our students are enjoying participating in these free activities. Through our community (details can be found on the Primary Community course on Canvas) students have access to:

- Our virtual library
- Competitions
- Clubs with monthly challenges: Art, Cookery, Nature, LEGO®, Books, Creative Writing and Photography
- Monthly online meet-ups with club leaders for Art, Book and LEGO® club
- Chess club

This newsletter celebrates all of our students and is filled with fun things to do at home, as well as providing tips and advice. We hope you enjoy reading it.

Best wishes,
Christine Armstrong, Head of Primary
christine.armstrong@wolseyhalloxford.org.uk



UPPER PRIMARY ENGLISH TEACHING VIDEOS

In response to parent requests, we have added a number of videos to our Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 English courses. The courses already contain a wealth of resources within them including videos, web links, printables, and subscriptions to aid and support learning and understanding.

However, we want to support the teaching of key concepts in English to help both our students and parents. We have added over 130 Wolsey Hall videos to these courses over the last few weeks to support the learning.

We will continue to add videos to our courses in the coming months, starting with the core subjects of maths and English.



YEARS 5 AND 6 SKILLS FOR LIFE



It's here! Our final [Primary Skills For Life](#) courses for Years 5 and 6 are now available for enrolment.

The courses cover mindfulness, as well as the qualities needed to be healthy, happy and active participants in society. Students develop their emotional agility so they can better understand, accept and work through difficult emotions. They also learn about the wider world, developing their citizenship skills to encourage them to care for their world and to reach their own full potential.



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:

Katrina, age 9, Armenia
 Coco and Hermione, ages 9 and 8, Australia
 Georgia, age 11, Bahrain
 Thandiwe Tatenda, age 12, Botswana
 Amaya and Noah, ages 7 and 10, France
 Reyansh and Vihaan, ages 10 and 8, India
 Sean, age 10, Indonesia
 Carmen, age 11, Ireland
 Noah, age 9, Japan
 Azizi, age 8, Malaysia
 Edgar, age 7, Romania
 Olivia, age 9, UK
 Joshua, age 9, UK
 Sophie, age 10, USA
 Ahmed, age 9, UAE
 Micah & Sasha, ages 9 and 10, Netherlands
 Seth, age 8, Mozambique
 Helena, age 11, Namibia
 Mateo, age 5, Mexico
 Thurston, age 11, Malta
 Yi Sze, age 9, Malaysia
 Nelia, age 9, Latvia
 Jolan, age 10, Kenya
 Hanan, age 6, Japan
 Jayden, age 7, UAE
 Benjamin, age 11, Tanzania
 Richard, age 12, Switzerland
 Sofija, age 8, Spain
 Sam, age 11, South Africa
 Ishaan, age 7, Singapore
 Ayesha, age 10, Saudi Arabia
 Zev, age 10, Romania
 Alex, age 10, Portugal

Tabina, age 6, Indonesia
 Aditya, age 8, India
 Jay, age 8, France
 Lia, age 7, Ecuador
 Phanes, age 11, China
 Dylan, age 11, Cambodia
 Bastian, age 6, Chile
 Mudar, age 9, India
 Kiana, age 10, Indonesia
 Daniel, age 8, Kenya
 Lalaka, age 11, Malaysia
 Sasha, age 9, Mauritius
 Angelina, age 10, New Zealand
 Micaiah-Joel, age 8, Oman
 Felix Daniel, age 5, Philippines
 Zoe, age 8, Qatar
 Medeea, age 8, Romania
 Aleesya, age 10, Saudi Arabia
 Aleesya, age 7, Singapore
 Raffaella, age 10, South Africa
 Isaac, age 10, Spain
 Jun Ye, age 10, Thailand
 Riaz, age 9, Turkey
 Kingsley, age 10, UK
 Maya, age 6, Italy
 Georgia, age 11, Bahrain
 Nissi, age 5, India
 Abigail, age 9, Malaysia
 Ayesha, age 7, Pakistan
 Karim, age 10, Romania
 Aaira, age 7, Saudi Arabia
 Sarah, age 7, Sudan
 Pann, age 7, Thailand
 Adam, age 6, Turkey
 Mykirl, age 11, UK
 Muhammad, age 9, Nigeria
 Rachel, age 9, Kenya

SEPTEMBER CLUB CHALLENGES

If your child is new to Wolsey Hall you may not have discovered our Primary Community yet. There is lots to explore!

We have a range of clubs, each with different monthly themes, to challenge our students. To join in, they simply need to visit the Primary Community website and the club page they are interested in. All instructions can be found there.

September themes

Art: Draw King Tutankhamun and design him some Egyptian jewellery.

Books: Bookworms meet this month to discuss their book "The Last Bear". Budding Bookworms have a new book to read.

Cookery: A tasty sweet treat to try this month - doughnut muffins!

Creative Writing: Can you design your own animal and write a short description of it?

LEGO®: Develop your Science skills this month by learning about the Water Cycle.

Nature: Create your own daily weather report with our easily constructed cardboard weather 'gauge'.

Photography: Find some objects to create a letter or series of letters and then capture them with your camera.

New Chess training sessions

We are excited to introduce new Chess club training sessions for beginners. Our club leader Javaan will hold the first session on Wednesday 28 September via Zoom. There are two times you can choose from - 10am or 4pm (UK time).

There's no need to register, just visit the Chess club page in the Community for details on joining the Zoom.

Javaan will explain the basics of Chess and offer tips for playing!



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Dunay, who is homeschooling in Namibia, recently competed at the United States Roller Hockey Championships (also known as State Wars).

Eleven-year-old Dunay was selected for the National Development Team of Namibia at the 2020 trials and was due to compete at the event last year, but due to Covid the teams weren't able to travel to the US.

Fortunately, she was again selected for the team at the 2021 trials and the teams have since trained hard to be able to compete at an international level.

Together with her 2012 team, she was able to secure a silver in their division and her girls minor division (in which her older sister Megan, a fellow Wolsey Hall student, played alongside her) competed brilliantly and won gold in this division.

Dunay started playing inline hockey about five years ago and continues to work hard and grow her skills as a player. The flexibility that homeschooling with Wolsey Hall offers has allowed her to really embrace both her studies and her sport.



WRITING A DIARY

Writing in a diary can be very calming. It's a great place to let out your thoughts and feelings; maybe your friend annoyed you today, or someone told you off. It's also fun to just write about what happened in your day, no matter how ordinary, and then you can look back at your entry in five, 10, or 20 years' time and compare how things have changed. Writing a diary is like keeping your own personal time capsule!

Choose your space for writing

Find a quiet place where you can think about your day without being disturbed and without others trying to look at what you are writing.

Pick a journal or notebook

Your diary is a precious item that belongs just to you. Have fun choosing a notebook that you really like.

Schedule a time to write

Choose a time of day to write in your diary. It might be just before bedtime while the day is fresh in your mind.

Enjoy writing down your thoughts and feelings

A diary can be used for anything. You might write down some things you have done, or how you are feeling about something at the moment. You might decide to add doodles. You can put anything you want to in YOUR diary. Don't forget to add the date so you can look back in the future.

Have fun!

Keeping a diary is fun. It is not school work and there is no pressure to spell all your words correctly or show off your best writing. It is just for you so make it fun and enjoyable.



LIFE SKILLS CORNER

There may come a time (if not already) when you need to wear a tie or help someone to wear a tie.

It is always useful to know how to wear a tie. If you or a member of your family has a tie, why not use it and have a go at following the instructions to learn how to wear a tie correctly? There are a few different methods you can use, but this is the most common method of wearing a tie.

For a video demonstration check out this clip on [YouTube](#).

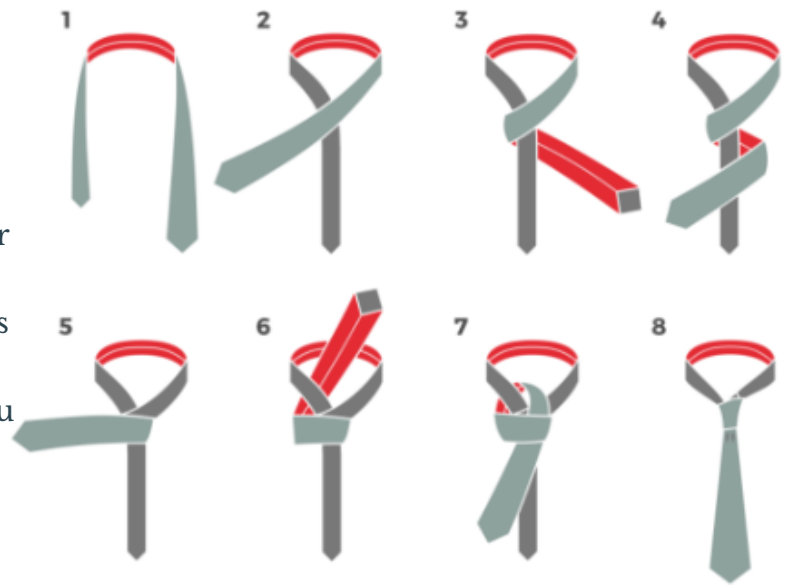


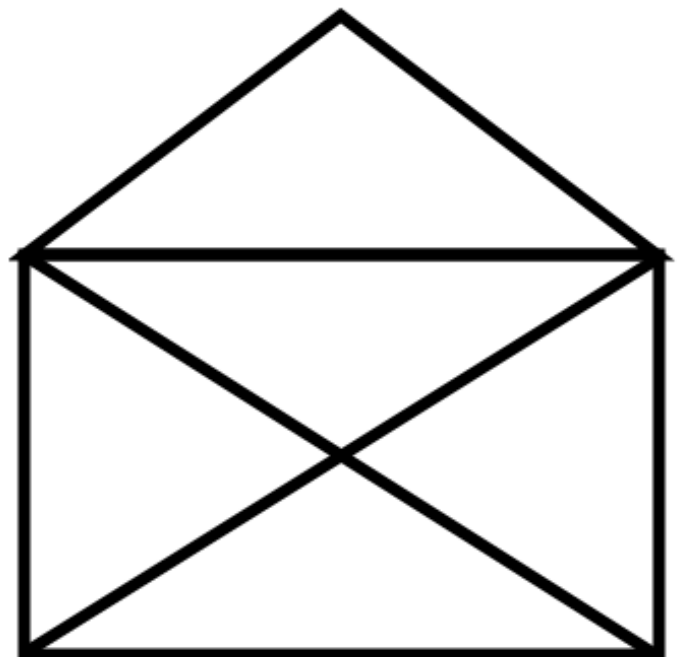
Image from www.bubibubi.eu

CHALLENGE OF THE MONTH

Can you draw the house/envelope opposite without taking your pen or pencil off the paper? You are not allowed to go back over a line you have drawn!

You can try as many times as you want to. Grab paper and a pen/pencil and see if you can solve this challenge.

If you want to know how to solve this challenge [here is one way](#) you can do it.



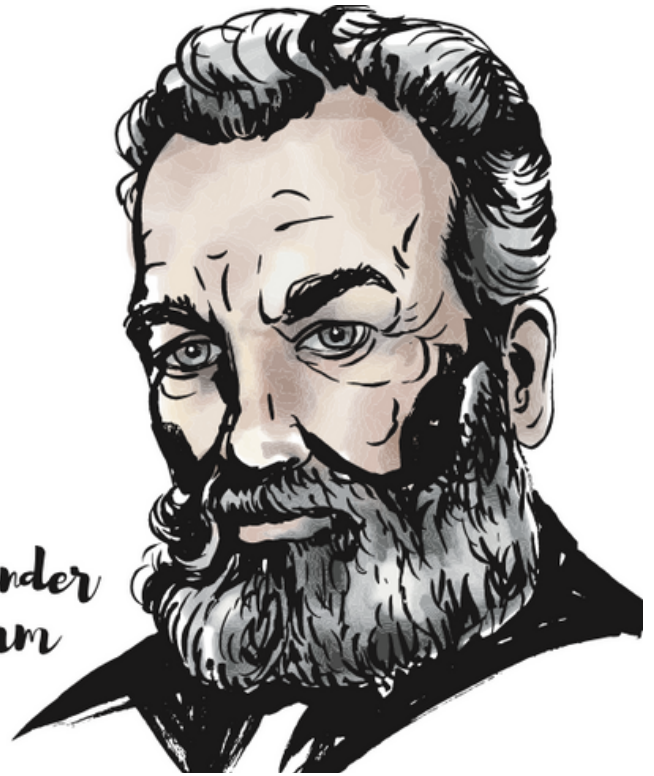
FAMOUS HOMESCHOOLER OF THE MONTH

Alexander Graham Bell was homeschooled by his mother and father, who tried to give him a sense of curiosity about the world around him.

He was an inventor and a teacher of the deaf. He is famous for creating one of the world's most important communication devices - the telephone.

Who knows, if Alexander hadn't had the homeschooling that he did to develop his curiosity and passion for science, maybe we wouldn't have the advanced telephone technology we have developed today.

Alexander
Graham
Bell



RESOURCE CORNER

Jamie Oliver Gets Kids Cooking

If your child loves cooking or you would like to grow your child's interest in cooking then take a look at this [website](#).

Jamie Oliver, a UK chef, has a page on his site sharing recipes suitable for children to make. Many of them are demonstrated by Jamie Oliver's son, Buddy. There are many delicious meals to create at home.

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



COOKING WITH KIDS #COOKINGBUDDIES

Spending time cooking together is a brilliant way for kids to learn important kitchen skills while having fun with you! So what are you waiting for? Get stuck in during the school holidays or at the weekends with some of our favourite family recipes.

THE POWER OF THE WORD 'YET'

Everyone has doubts sometimes and can feel that a task or skill is just unachievable. How many times do you hear your child say I can't do this, I can't do that, or I haven't done it right.

Using the word 'yet' at the end of negative statements like this can transform your child's thinking. It helps them to understand that it is okay to find something difficult or tricky to do and that we don't need to be able to do something straight away. However, this doesn't mean we just give up on the task or activity!

We want to build perseverance and resilience in our children. Using the word 'yet' can help to change the mindset of a child. It begins to instil a growth mindset which means that your child thrives on challenge, and doesn't see failure as a way to describe themselves but as a springboard for growth and developing their abilities.

Their intelligence and talents are all susceptible to growth.

Try using 'yet' to correct negative statements made by your child when they are feeling frustrated at not achieving something straight away.

I can't do it > you can't do it yet

It isn't working > it isn't working yet

I can't figure out this maths sum > you can't figure out that maths sum yet

I can't draw this animal > you can't draw that animal yet

This approach opens conversations about what needs to be done to achieve the task or activity and encourages your child to try and try again. With the support of trusted adults in the home environment, this can lead to determined and resilient children.



WELL-BEING SURVEY RESULTS

Thank you to those parents who completed our recent well-being survey.

Results show that 91% of parents believe that homeschooling with Wolsey Hall has improved their children's well-being. Our survey was completed by 343 parents with an overwhelmingly positive response, most stating how incredible homeschooling has been for their child and, in many cases, children.

Says one parent: "Without a doubt, homeschooling has had 100% of a positive impact on my child's well-being."

Says another parent: "The homeschooling has [had] a positive impact. My daughter is getting more time to study as well as participate in her various hobbies. It also helps her to study things in a practical way. Homeschooling gives her more time to experiment with her ideas, helps her to do things in her way and [to] learn from her mistakes."

Look out for our social media posts where we will be reporting more of the survey results.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

We have Wolsey Hall students in over 120 countries. Are you making the most of our opportunities to connect with other homeschooling families worldwide?

Have you joined our parent forum? This platform is specifically for parents of Primary aged students and is a space for you to connect with each other, start discussions, share tips and advice. You can [sign up here](#). We have over 180 parents registered on the forum so far, so why not get chatting?



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



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



We often feature our students achievements on our [Instagram](#). Why not follow and engage with us there too?