



Primary Newsletter



WELCOME

Dear students, parents and families,

Welcome to 2023 and the January Primary newsletter; the first newsletter of a brand-new year. I hope everyone had a peaceful holiday period and is ready for the new year with lots of energy, positivity and determination for the 12 months ahead. We are thrilled to welcome our new students joining Wolsey Hall this month and wish our new and existing families lots of success and happiness in 2023. We feel privileged to support you all on your learning journey throughout this year.

This month's newsletter celebrates all 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
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NEW ONLINE SAFETY VIDEOS

Wolsey Hall has created two videos about Online Safety – you can find these in the Online Safety page in your Courses tab on Canvas.

1. The first video is recommended for parents of younger children to watch and to help your child understand more about online safety. After you have watched this, you can discuss the key messages of the video with your child.

2. The second video is recommended for older students to watch as it shares key messages about how to be safe online. We recommend that parents watch this video alongside their child, to ensure they have fully understood the important points raised.

There is also an optional quiz to take after watching the video. We recommend you watch the video through before sharing it with your student.



UPPER PRIMARY SCIENCE – NEW TEACHING VIDEOS

Following the success of our English and Maths teaching videos, we have been busy creating Science teaching videos for our Science courses.

These are now being added to the courses on Canvas.

We hope our families find these videos a great addition, and they help to support our students as they move through the Science curriculum.

IMMERSIVE READER FUNCTION – VIRTUAL LIBRARY

Our virtual library remains very popular with students.

Last year we introduced extra Primary titles for our younger readers and these have been well received. We have just introduced a new immersive reader function too. With features including text to speech (TTS), translation to 150+ languages, text to speech for translated languages, sentence structure mark up (nouns, verbs, adjectives etc) and simple image depiction of words - there is something for everyone!



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:

Mudar, age 9, India
 Fitzgerald, age 8, Japan
 Shoyo, age 7, India
 Putu, age 10, Indonesia
 Bem, age 11, Kenya
 Bogdan, age 11, Indonesia
 Harrison & Leyton, age 11, Luxembourg
 Anrich, age 10, Malaysia
 Zohra, age 12, New Zealand
 Ean Hou, age 6, Malaysia
 Kessler, age 6, Namibia
 Karim, age 7, Oman
 Khim, age 11, Philippines
 Ilinca, age 8, Romania
 Ibrahim, age 6, Saudi Arabia
 Claudiu, age 12, Romania
 Dorian, age 11, Singapore
 Arno, age 6, South Africa
 Stefan, age 11, Spain
 Tahona, age 10, Tanzania
 Alexander, age 8, Switzerland
 Amori, age 8, Sudan
 Nathan, age 6, Thailand
 Oliver, age 8, Uganda
 Kevin, age 7, Ghana
 Ellen, age 10, Germany
 Schalk, age 9, Finland
 Adhvaith, age 10, India
 Hassan, age 6, Egypt
 Jay, age 9, France
 Thomas, age 11, Croatia
 Gabba, age 6, Colombia
 Aily, age 10, Hong Kong
 Chimamanda, age 9, Canada
 Luca, age 6, Botswana

Alessandra, age 8, UAE
 Jessica, age 7, UK
 Calvin, age 6, Zimbabwe
 Maya, age 6, UAE
 Lyla, age 9, UK
 Philip, age 13, Vietnam
 Miya, age 11, UAE
 Karo, age 8, UK
 Khali, age 5, USA
 Georgia, age 8, Taiwan
 Yeyoon, age 9, South Korea
 Talia, age 11, South Africa
 Lujain, age 7, Saudi Arabia
 Darina, age 8, Russia
 Alex, age 4, Romania
 Jenna, age 5, Qatar
 Mila, age 8, Poland
 Gonçalo, age 11, Portugal
 Alba, age 7, Philippines
 Mateo, age 6, Mexico
 Thobela, age 10, Kenya
 Sophia, age 11, Japan
 William, age 11, Ireland
 Lakshman, age 10, India
 Tarab, age 11, Bahrain
 Akira, age 7, Australia
 Akilah, age 9, Bahamas
 Thomas, age 14, Belgium
 Karanbir, age 11, India
 Maya, age 7, Italy
 Celeste, age 8, Kenya
 Ariella, age 8, Malaysia
 Troglia, age 10, Malta
 Aryash, age 9, Netherlands
 Aysel, age 8, Pakistan
 Dev, age 9, India

JANUARY CLUB CHALLENGES

Is your child new to Wolsey Hall? Perhaps your child would like to start the new year with some new interests?

The creative challenges in our student clubs are set specifically for Primary aged children. You can find information about all of our clubs on the Primary Community site. This month's password can be found in your child's Canvas account.

ART CLUB (includes monthly Show & Tell)

BOOK CLUB (includes monthly book discussion)

CHOIR

CHESS CLUB (includes monthly meet-up for playing hints and tips)

COOKERY CLUB

CREATIVE WRITING CLUB

ECO CLUB

LEGO® CLUB (includes monthly Show & Tell)

PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Ten-year-old Wolsey Hall student Zoya recently won the Children's Peace Image of the Year 2022, at the Global Peace Photo Awards.

This is an amazing achievement for a young photographer - well done Zoya!

Zoya (*right*) is pictured receiving her award at Parliament in Vienna in November 2022.



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

GOALS!

At the beginning of a new year, lots of people take the opportunity to set goals for the new year and have a fresh start. These are often known as ‘new year resolutions.’

When setting resolutions, it is important to think about what areas of your life you want to set goals for. Do you want to set goals around your learning, your health, your well-being, and your hobbies? You can set as many goals (resolutions) as you want, but it is important to set achievable goals. It can make you feel sad to fail in your goals, so you need to think carefully about them before you start. For example, if you want to be healthier it might be very difficult to set a goal to never eat any chocolate in 2023, but it might be achievable to say you will only eat chocolate once a week. Your resolution can be anything at all that you would like to try and achieve.

Some examples from children include:

- I will put away my toys after playing with them.
- I will use my words to express my feelings.
- I will eat more green vegetables.
- I will find an activity or sport that I can do twice a week.
- When the weather is nice, I will play outside.
- I will make my bed every morning.



- I will unplug from social media for at least 24 hours every month.
- I will read more books than I did last year.
- I will drink more water.
- I will get at least 8 hours of sleep every night.
- I will learn a new vocabulary word every day.
- I will perform one act of kindness every week.
- I will ask questions if I am unsure of something.

It can also be lots of fun to make family resolutions as well. Some examples are:

- We will have a family game night once a week.
- We will share our highs and lows of the day with each other every night.
- We will put away our devices during dinner.
- We will participate in one physical activity together as a family once a week.
- We will make dinner together at least once a week.
- We will use less plastic; and be more eco-friendly.



Think about your resolutions for 2023 and write them down. Why not put them somewhere where you can see them regularly to help you keep on track with your goals. Good luck and enjoy 2023!

CHALLENGE OF THE MONTH

Memory Game

Look at the picture opposite for 1 minute and memorise all of the items in the picture. After 1 minute cover the picture and see how many items you can remember. You can do this with a friend and see who can remember the most. This is a great brain exercise to help your memory skills.

Why not make your own memory game? You can draw pictures for your game, or even make a real version. Place the objects on the table or a tray. Ask someone to study the objects for 30 seconds then cover them with a napkin or cloth. Can they remember every single item?



Six Steps to Washing Your Hands



twinkl twinkl.com

LIFE SKILLS CORNER

Washing our hands properly is important to ensure that we are hygienic, and we help to stop the spread of germs to ourselves and others. It can be tempting to wash our hands quickly, or even not to bother at all.

Good hand hygiene is an important skill to learn. The poster opposite shows us how to wash our hands thoroughly.



FAMOUS HOMESCHOOLER OF THE MONTH

Taylor Swift is one of the most famous singer-songwriters on the planet.

She has won too many music awards to mention, and her digital singles have achieved 137.5 million certified units, based on sales and on-demand streaming, which is incredible. Taylor had ambitions to be a singer from a young age so moved to homeschooling so she could wrap her education around her singing ambitions.

In 2007, Swift said: “My home schooling has been a great experience. I feel like I’ve had the best senior year possible. It’s awesome that I’ve been able to stay on the same path to graduating that I would’ve been on if I’d stayed in high school. I’m going to graduate this year, and I’m so excited about that. My education was always a big deal to me, and I’m so glad homeschooling allowed me to keep it up.”



RESOURCE CORNER

The Met is famous for fashion, but a well-kept secret is its website for children - [MetKids](#).

The site offers three different ways to engage kids in historical art facts:

- A clickable map that lets children explore 5,000 years of art from around the world
- A time machine that lets them select different eras to explore

- A video section offers lessons on everything from making a stained-glass window (kid-style) to learning about children who live in other parts of the world.



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

THE LEARNING JOURNEY WITH WOLSEY HALL

Our courses at Wolsey Hall cater for students pre-Year 1 all the way through to A-levels, which are the final exams a student takes before entering the world of work or attending university or college.

For those students that complete their entire education with Wolsey Hall (as their main source of education or in part) their journey takes them through different phases of Wolsey Hall as shown below.

A student can complete their entire 'school' equivalent journey with Wolsey Hall and our graduating students have gone on to successful careers and top universities around the world. From Oxford, Cambridge and Ivy league American universities to top universities in Switzerland, Australia, Singapore, South America, The Netherlands, Germany and Malaysia to name just a few!

You may like to read about some of our Alumni in our [Wall of Fame](#).



The Wolsey Hall journey



Lower Primary
GRFY1, Years 1 & 2



Upper Primary
Years 3, 4, 5, 6



Lower Secondary
Years 7, 8, 9



GCSE/IGCSE
Years 10 & 11



A-levels
Years 12 & 13



Higher Education or
Employment

COMPETITION

We're kicking off 2023 with a new competition for Primary students!

We are inviting you to create your own magical world! Perhaps your world consists of magical creatures and characters we already know about or you could create your own. This is an opportunity to really use your imagination and let your creativity come to life.

You could build your world from LEGO, clay modelling, recycling items/junk modelling, natural materials, there are many possibilities, and the choice is completely yours!

There will be one winner from Lower Primary and one from Upper Primary who receive a Wolsey Hall hoodie. Full details on how to enter can be found on the Primary Community site.

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, share tips and advice. You can [sign up here](#).



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?