



Primary Newsletter



Welcome

Dear students, parents and families,

Welcome to the March 2024 issue of the Primary newsletter. Here in Oxford, we are starting to see the first signs of Spring and the weather is gradually getting warmer following a very rainy spell!

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank all the families that have contributed to the newsletter over the last few years. We are always delighted to hear about student achievements and adventures in their wider community. If you would like to share your achievement with the Wolsey Hall community then please share it with your SPM and ask if you can be featured in the Primary newsletter.

Alternatively, you can send information to danielle.hilton@wolseyhalloxford.org.uk. We look forward to hearing from you! Please enjoy the March newsletter.

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



New Primary course: Speaking & Listening in the English Language

Launching in April, we are thrilled to introduce our new Primary course: **Speaking & Listening in the English Language**.

This course of purely face-to-face lessons provides an opportunity for students to have live one-to-one lessons with a qualified teacher to improve their speaking and listening skills in the English language. These lessons are only for conversational English language practice. There are no assignments and no written lessons to follow on Canvas.

Enrolment on this course of lessons is only open to Primary students who are enrolled on a Primary English Course or the Primary English as a Second Language Course.

Lessons will be booked directly with your Tutor at a mutually convenient time. There are 18 lessons in total, each lasting 30 minutes. The first lesson will be a 'Getting to Know You' lesson to help the Tutor assess the student's English language level. Following the first session, each lesson is tailored to meet the needs of the student, and the speaking and listening content will be mapped to the student's current level of English language.

For more information, please visit the [course page on our website](#), or contact your SPM.





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:

Hamdaan, age 8, Zimbabwe
 Reema, age 10, Turkey
 Carter, age 8, United States
 Boaz, age 5, Thailand
 Siria, age 10, Switzerland
 Andreea, age 7, Romania
 Aaron, age 8, Zambia
 Ripple, age 6, UK
 Mila, age 10, Poland
 Aisha, age 12, Turkey
 Muaadh, age 8, Zimbabwe
 Gabi, age 7, Spain
 Marcus, age 5, Thailand
 Imara, age 7, Romania
 Aubree, age 8, United States
 Lexi, age 11, Switzerland
 Achsah, age 6, Thailand
 Sam, age 10, Spain
 IsheVanesu, age 9, Zimbabwe
 Abigail-Rose, age 6, UK
 Alexander, age 10, Zambia
 Tiggi, age 6, UK
 Taalya, age 6, Qatar
 Stefan, age 11, Poland
 Jadon, age 10, Zimbabwe
 Joel, age 7, United States
 Allegria, age 7, Romania
 Anita, age 11, Zambia
 Aarin, age 6, UK
 Amy, age 9, Poland
 Jackson, age 8, Turkey
 Louis, age 9, Vietnam
 Walter, age 7, United States
 Oliver, age 11, Spain
 Christopher, age 8, Thailand
 Lina, age 11, Spain

Phoebe, age 10, Zimbabwe
 Dawson, age 8, United States
 Pavel, age 7, Romania
 Romysaa, age 13, Turkey
 Omofolawe, age 6, UK
 Benazir, age 6, Qatar
 Ronan, age 7, Thailand
 Mila, age 11, Zambia
 Adira, age 8, United States
 Robbie, age 8, New Zealand
 Milan, age 10, Spain
 Jeremi, age 12, Poland
 Adriana, age 11, Switzerland
 Silviu, age 7, Romania
 Cheetah, age 7, Thailand
 Ariella, age 9, United States
 Khamza, age 13, Turkey
 Sofija, age 10, Spain
 Muhammad, age 11, Nigeria
 Tia, age 6, UK
 Souleyman, age 12, Morocco
 Aarav, age 12, Switzerland
 Joseph, age 8, New Zealand
 Jacopo, age 6, Malta
 Kalani, age 7, Switzerland
 Maryam, age 7, Qatar
 Katrina, age 12, Portugal
 Alex, age 6, Romania
 Claire, age 7, UK
 Annabelle, age 10, Zimbabwe
 River, age 8, United States
 Kawthar, age 8, Turkey
 Lilou, age 9, Switzerland
 Noah, age 7, UK
 Mina, age 8, Thailand
 Witold, age 8, Poland

Discover a love for books

Celebrating with

WORLD
BOOK
DAY™

Did you know Wolsey Hall has a free virtual library available to all students?

This fantastic resource contains thousands of fiction and non-fiction titles, many of them are specifically aimed at Primary-aged readers. We're delighted to see a 36% increase in the number of books borrowed by our Primary readers in the last year!

If your child is yet to join the library, they can do so using [this link](#).

New titles are added regularly. You can borrow up to 10 books a month. Simply download the title you wish to read to your electronic device.



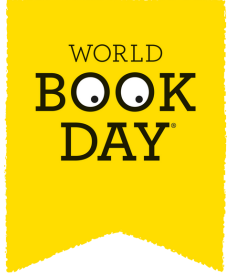
Why not give book club a try?

Your child can also join our free Primary Book Club. **Budding Bookworms** is aimed at students in Years 3 or 4, while **Bookworms** is for more accomplished readers in Years 5 or 6.

Escaping into a story is a pleasure that we can experience at any age. Our Book Club leader and English Tutor, Natalie, loves to meet with the students each month and discuss their thoughts on the latest book. These friendly and relaxed sessions are a great way for your child to meet other students and develop a love of reading. Many of the titles chosen are recommended by the students too.



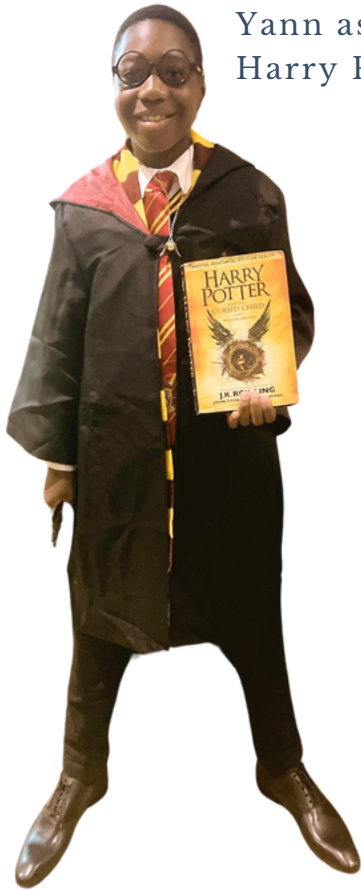
Celebrating with



Our celebrations of World Book Day continue with some special activities this month.

Students can have a go at drawing their own book illustrations in Art club or write a short review of their favourite book in Creative Writing club. We were delighted to also receive some photos from our students dressed up as their favourite book characters too!

Yann as Harry Potter



Chris as Baby Honu the turtle

Aiza as Gangsta Granny



Nina as Harry Potter



Jasmina as Luna Lovegood from Harry Potter



Lucas as Harry Potter



Asiya as Biana from Keeper of the Lost Cities



Student Spotlight

Ten-year-old Alexandra recently completed a 4km run as part of the Riyadh marathon in February. She ran with her mum and sister, and has shared her thoughts on this new experience.

"I woke up on a cloudy morning with a total lack of energy," explains Alexandra. "Luckily, we had prepared our running clothes the night before and, after we got dressed, Mummy hurried us out of the house. When we reached the Marathon Village it started raining and there were thousands of people. Me and my sister Georgiana stayed together and we were soon at the starting line. At first, running was difficult but then I got into a sort of 'pace' and it did not seem so hard anymore. Before I knew it, there was the finish line ahead of us at the bottom of the hill. We got closer and closer, then I began to sprint. I ran faster than the others. Soon I crossed it - the finish line! Then came Georgiana and Mummy. We walked a bit, then we received our finisher medals at a small stand. We kept on walking and spotted Daddy some distance away, smiling and taking pictures of us. I felt tired but happy for completing my first 4K race."



Have you got your Wolsey Hall kit?

Our Wolsey Hall t-shirts, hoodies and caps are popular with students as they feel a greater part of our community when they proudly wear them.

If you'd like to get one, head to [our online shop](#). There's shipping worldwide.



Embrace your uniqueness

Do you ever feel like you're different from everyone else? Well, guess what? That's totally okay! Being different is what makes each of us special and unique. Just like how each snowflake is different from the next, each one of us has our own special qualities that make us who we are.

You see, even though we might look similar on the outside, we all have different thoughts, feelings, and experiences that make us one-of-a-kind. Imagine if we were all exactly the same – life would be pretty boring, wouldn't it? Our differences make the world interesting and colourful! So, whether you're good at drawing, love to read, or have a talent for making people laugh, embrace what makes you unique.

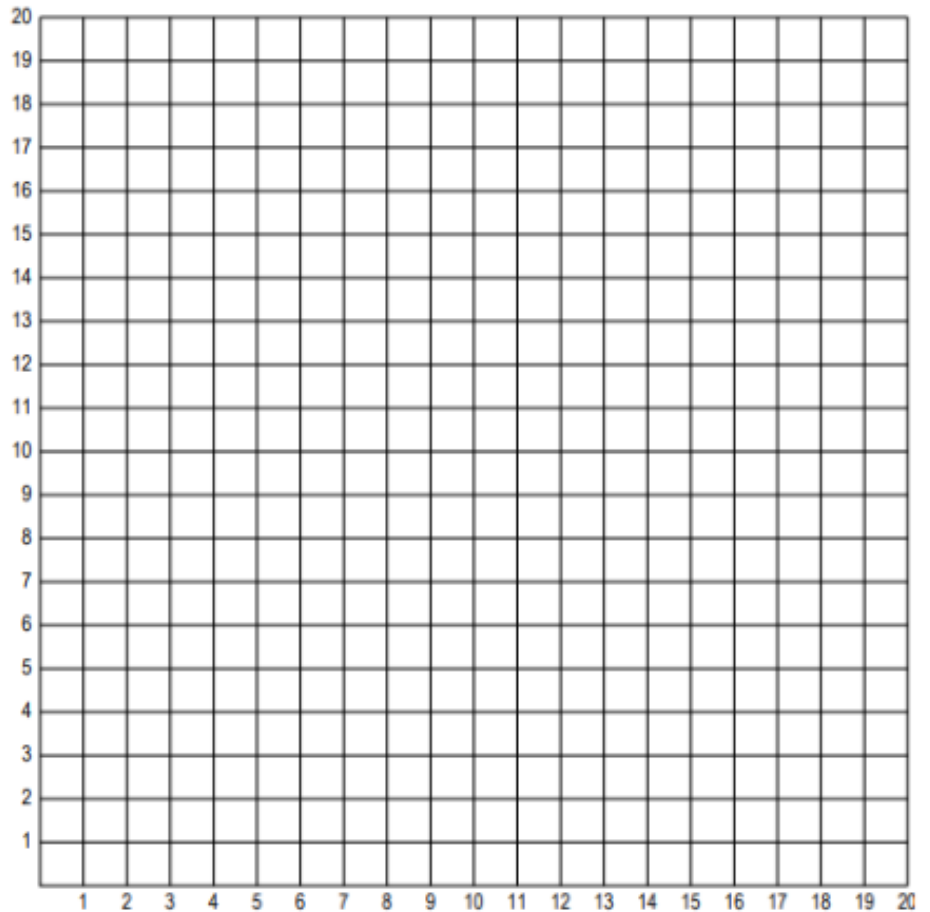
Remember, it's okay to be yourself and to celebrate the things that make you different. And just as it's important to feel good about ourselves, it's also important to be kind and understanding towards others who may be different from us. So, let's celebrate our differences, spread kindness, and make the world a better place together!



Challenge of the month



There is a picture hidden in this grid. Connect the points with lines to reveal it.



Line 1: (1,0), (19,0), (20,2), (11,20) **Line 2:** (10,14), (9,16), (1,0), (0,2), (9,20), (11,20) **Line 3:** (20,2), (4,2), (5,4), (15,4) **Line 4:** (9,20), (17,4), (15,4), (10,14), (5,4)

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Resource corner

GoNoodle started their Good Energy Movement that encourages children all around the world to tunnel their energy into positive and mindful exercise. With over 14 million regular viewers, GoNoodle creates exercise videos that incorporate movement in dance routines, challenges, and even Science lessons. On top of that, the platform regularly publishes themed blog posts with details on how to turn daily activities such as tidying up, cooking and eating snacks, into physical play.



Wolsey Hall is not affiliated with this website.

Famous homeschooler of the month

Born in Canada, Justin Bieber was homeschooled throughout his childhood to accommodate his burgeoning career in music. With the support of his mother, Justin honed his musical talents and gained popularity through his YouTube videos, eventually catching the attention of talent manager Scooter Braun.

Justin's homeschooling allowed him to dedicate more time to his music, leading to the release of his debut album "My World" in 2010, which catapulted him to international fame. Today, Justin Bieber is a multi-platinum-selling artist, known for his chart-topping hits and electrifying performances, showcasing the success that can be achieved through homeschooling.



Lifeskills corner

Using chopsticks might seem tricky, but it's not too hard once you get the hang of it.

Here's how:

- Hold one chopstick like a pencil between your thumb and first two fingers. Keep it still.
- Put the other chopstick next to it. Hold it between your thumb and middle finger, like holding a pen.
- Keep the first chopstick still and use the other one to pick up food, like a tiny claw.
- Practice opening and closing the chopsticks gently. Start with easy things like cotton balls or small pieces of food.
- When you're ready, try picking up food by pinching it between the chopsticks. Keep them close together for better control.

Don't worry if it's tricky at first – practice makes perfect! Keep trying, and soon you'll be a chopstick pro!

You could also watch this fun [Youtube video](#) on using chopsticks.



1 PLACE CHOPSTICK BETWEEN POINTER FINGER AND THUMB. BALANCE IT ON THE RING FINGER.



2 PLACE SECOND CHOPSTICK BETWEEN POINTER FINGER AND THUMB. REST IT ON YOUR MIDDLE FINGER.



3 USE THUMB, POINTER AND MIDDLE FINGERS TO GRASP THE SECOND CHOPSTICK MORE TIGHTLY.



4 INDEX AND MIDDLE FINGERS DO ALL LIFTING WITH THE SECOND CHOPSTICK.



5 USING INDEX AND MIDDLE FINGERS CLOSE CHOPSTICKS OVER THE FOOD.



6 WELL DONE!

Finding confidence in homeschooling: a message to parents

Homeschooling your child can be both exciting and daunting, especially when doubts creep in about whether you're providing enough support or doing everything right. However, as a parent who has chosen Wolsey Hall for your child's education, you've already taken a significant step towards ensuring they receive a structured curriculum and the necessary support.

It's important to trust in the process and have confidence in your abilities. Remember, homeschooling offers the flexibility to tailor your child's education to suit their individual needs and interests. Take advantage of this opportunity to create a learning environment that fosters their growth and development.

Instead of worrying about whether you're doing enough, focus on the progress your child is making and the joy of learning together. You're not alone in this journey – there's a supportive community of homeschooling parents ready to share experiences and offer guidance. Embrace the adventure of homeschooling, knowing that your dedication is making a positive impact on your child's education and future. Keep up the fantastic work, and believe in your ability to provide a fulfilling educational experience for your child.



Announcing winners soon

Thank you to all those students who entered our time capsule photography competition.

We are no longer accepting entries and our judges are busy looking over all the photographs! We will be in touch with our winners and runners-up very soon.

Plant a Tree

Remember we're still encouraging students to plant a tree for Wolsey Hall in its 130th anniversary year.

To date our students and staff have planted over 220 trees so let's keep going!

You can find the details about this initiative, including student photos, [on our website](#).



Community Support

We have Wolsey Hall students in over 130 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? 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?