

Wray Common Primary School Newsletter



Inspiring Lifelong Learning



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

As the term comes to a close, it has been a busy time filled with festive cheer. This week saw a wonderful range of Christmas activities across the school. On Tuesday, the whole school walked to the church to take part in a heart-warming Carol Service. On Thursday, students and staff enjoyed a delicious Christmas lunch together, which was a truly enjoyable experience for everyone. A heartfelt thank you to Michelle and her team for preparing such a fantastic meal.



NATIVITIES

This week, we were treated to the delightful Nativities performed by Reception and Year 1! One of our commitments at Wray Common is to ensure that every child gets to perform on stage, and they took to it like seasoned performers! The children exhibited the Wray Common value of courage, singing beautifully, articulating their lines clearly, and captivating everyone. We are bursting with pride for the children; they truly are superstars!

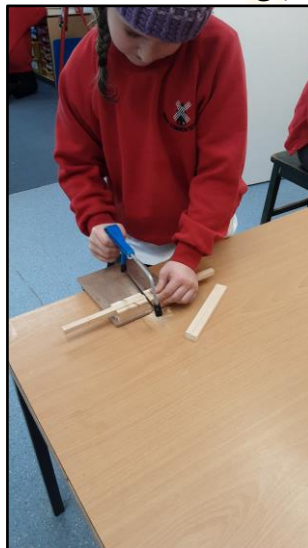






DT

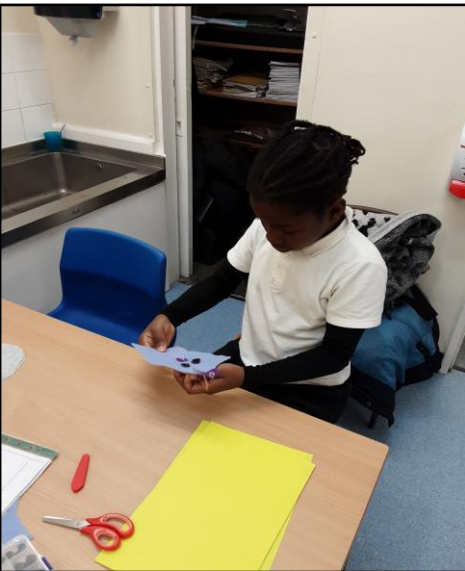
In DT this half term, Year 4 have been exploring using joining and cutting techniques to make their very own decorative light up boxes from wood. The children went through a design process including conducting their own market research to inspire their final project. Although this was a tricky project, the children demonstrated excellent resilience and perseverance.

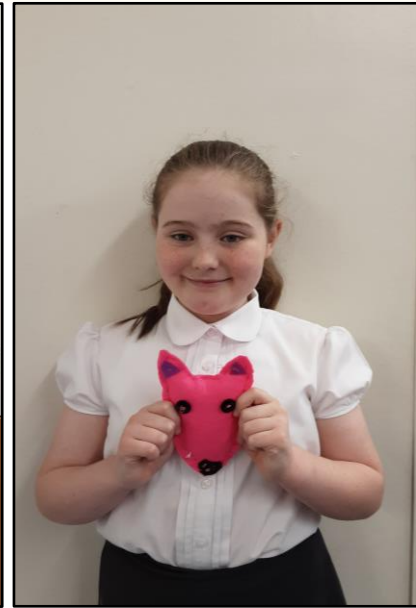






This half term, Year 5 completed a DT sewing project. We started off by completing market research with Year 2 children to see what they would like as a cuddly toy. We then designed our cuddly toys, and thought about the steps we would need to follow to make them. We then spent time making our cuddly toys, using the skills we had practised and a lot of resilience! Here are some of our finished pieces.





WRAY COMMON CHRISTMAS READING CHALLENGE

Cosy up and read this Christmas time! On the next page, you will find a set of 9 fun and festive reading challenges to take part in over the holidays. Complete as many or as few as you wish. If you complete at least a line of challenges, pop your name and class on the bottom of the sheet and return to your teach in January for a chance to win a book token prize. Happy reading!

Mrs Evans



Wray Common Christmas Reading Challenge

Read a book with red or green on the cover.



Read a book in your PJ's.



Share a book with someone in your family.



Read a book before breakfast.



Read a book you've never read before.



Read a book with your pet or favourite soft toy.



Read a book while wearing something wintery – hat, scarf, gloves...



Read a book that makes you feel happy inside.



Retell your favourite story to a friend or family member.



Name _____

Class _____



HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM FOWC!

With great excitement, we are thrilled to announce that since September, we have raised....

£13,159.25!

**RUN
REIGATE
£1,120**

**ELFRIDGES
£1,221**

**FIREWORKS
£4,176**

**UNIFORM
SALES
£163**

**THE BIG
SING
£3,900**

**CHRISTMAS
TREES
£425**

**MATCH
FUNDING
£744**

**MOVEMENT
GRANT
£1000**

**CHRISTMAS
CARDS
£428**

THANK YOU to each and every one of you who have volunteered, supported, sponsored, and helped raise an incredible amount of vital funds for our wonderful school.

Wishing you a magical holiday season filled with joy!

With love from all of the Friends of Wray Common

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mon 5th Jan - INSET Day



Tue 6th - Children return to school

FAMILY SUPPORT

If you need any support, please do not hesitate to contact us. We can help you source information about support through the right agencies, and make referrals ourselves to local support groups. Here are some of the things we have supported families with recently:

- School uniform, school bags, P.E. trainers and school shoes
- Pre-loved clothes for children
- Foodbank referrals
- Housing applications and letters of support
- Seasonal gifts for children

If you have any questions or would like to talk about how we can help, please contact Miss Kober on 01737 761254 or email familysupport@wray-common.surrey.sch.uk

PUNCTUALITY

Please note that registers are taken promptly at 8:50am each morning. Children are marked as late into school when they arrive after the register has been taken. Registers formally close at 9:20am.

If children arrive after this time, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence for the morning session. Punctuality is an important life skill and lateness can have a significant impact on children's wellbeing and self-regulation.

Please help us to ensure all children are ready and able to learn when lessons start straight after the morning register.

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS DEADLINE

Just a reminder that if your child was born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022, the deadline to apply for a school place is 15th January 2026.

To apply, please visit [Apply for a primary, infant or junior school - Surrey County Council](#)

SCHOOL DINNERS

Please can we remind you that school dinners need to be paid for in advance and your account can be topped up via Arbor. If you need help with making these payments, please speak with the school office.

HONOUR BOOK

1LP	Ben	For always aspiring to be the best he can be! He is a super role model!
1P	Mason	For his amazing courage in the Nativity performance- taking on a different role at the last minute!
2T	Skylar	For trying her best in everything she does and always wanting to help others. Everyone in 2T (and Wray Common) wishes her the best as she starts her new journey in January!
2F	Avnee	For great exploring in history this half term and creating a great answer to our final topic question: Did the Normans need to build castles?
3EM	Isaiah	For always starting the day with a smile and showing a positive attitude to his learning.
3F	Joshua	For always showing kindness and respect towards his friends.
4B	Sydney	For always trying her best and have an excellent attitude towards her learning.
4S	Naomi	For being kind to Mr Savedra by always helping around the classroom
5A	Evelyn	For always treating others with kindness and respect. She is a fantastic role model!
5J	Sean	For being a fantastic Wray Common Citizen throughout his time at the school. We wish you the best of luck in Australia!
6C	Rocco	For working hard to develop his writing this half term.
6F	Mollie	For having a positive attitude towards her learning, friendships and all areas of school life.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about AI TOYS

This festive season, the newest toys on the shelves do not just blink or make noise; they listen. Many now come with artificial intelligence (AI), allowing them to talk, learn, and even respond to a child's emotions. These toys can be educational and engaging, but they also collect, store, and process information. This guide explains what that means for families and why it matters.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

TOYS THAT LISTEN AND LEARN

When a toy uses AI, it collects data such as voice recordings, interactions, and background sounds. This information is sent to remote servers, where it is analysed to improve responses. Your child's voice becomes training data, which may be stored indefinitely or shared with third parties.

WEAK SECURITY PROTECTIONS

Some AI toys have poor password protection or open network connections. Others may have microphones or cameras that stay on, even when the toy appears to be off. This can lead to recordings being made without your knowledge, including conversations unrelated to play.

ARTIFICIAL VOICES, REAL INFLUENCE

For very young children, an AI companion may become one of the first voices they interact with regularly. How that voice shows humour, empathy, or authority can shape how a child learns to communicate. If the model is artificial, then part of what is learned is artificial as well.

PRESSURE TO KEEP ENGAGING

Some toys reward repeated use or track engagement, encouraging children to interact more. When children compare how their toys perform, it creates pressure to play more often. This increases the amount of data collected and can make learning feel like competition.

MARKETING THROUGH PLAY

Toys that learn a child's preferences may feed that data into future advertising. A toy that knows a child's favourite colour or hobby could help a company design more targeted marketing to that child and their family.

PLAYTIME AS DATA TRAINING

The information collected from children helps train AI systems. Their voice, emotional responses, and behaviour shape how machines 'understand' people. Play becomes part of a much larger system that influences how future technologies behave.

Advice for Parents & Educators

START WITH A CONVERSATION

Talk to young people. Explain that some toys learn from what they say and do. Help them understand that even friendly technology should have boundaries, and to ask questions about it. Curiosity is healthy, blind trust is not.

SET LIMITS ON USE

Turn off Wi-Fi or Bluetooth when the toy is not in use. Check for updates regularly, as they can change privacy or safety settings. Treat connected toys like any smart device; they should be monitored, updated, and switched off when not in use.

MODEL DIGITAL AWARENESS

Children learn from adults. If they see you checking privacy settings, reading terms, and talking openly about online safety, they are more likely to do the same. Show them how to question technology in a healthy way.

RESEARCH BEFORE YOU BUY

Look for toys that work offline or store data locally. Check for a free or demo version so you can test how it behaves. Read privacy policies to understand what data is collected, where it goes, and whether it's shared with others.

REVIEW PRIVACY SETTINGS

Find out where the data is stored and who has access to it. Some companies sell or share data with advertisers. If the toy connects through an app, check what it requests access to and limit those permissions whenever possible.

BALANCE AI WITH REAL PLAY

AI toys can be fun and creative, but they are not a replacement for real human interaction. Encourage time away from technology with activities that foster emotional and social development. Use AI toys to support learning, not define it.

Meet Our Expert

Clara Hawking is Executive Director of Kompass Education. She advises governments, school trusts, and global organisations on AI governance and safeguarding, helping schools and families understand how technology shapes learning, wellbeing, and the digital future of children.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®