

# The Wychwood Leaf

ISSUE 1: MARCH 2023



## NEW PTA LOGO!

Thank you so much to  
Laura Hutson for  
creating our new  
Wychwood PTA logo

## Welcome to our first issue!

The Wychwood Leaf has been designed by parents, for parents of Wychwood C E Primary School.  
Each month we'll bring you the latest in events, school activities, news and more!

## WHAT'S INSIDE...

### PTA: FUNDRAISING UPDATES & EVENTS

A look at what's  
coming up this term –  
School Discos, our new  
Parents' Quiz Night  
and more!

### WORLD BOOK DAY FUN

Puzzles and a drawing  
competition for an  
amazing book prize –  
and vote for the best  
dressed teacher!

### BIG SCIENCE WITH MISS JENKINS

We chat to the lovely  
Miss Jenkins about  
bringing science to life  
and gearing up  
for Big Science 2023!

### GET TO KNOW: WITH BECKY ARNOLD

Wychwood Parent,  
Becky Arnold  
tells us about her  
amazing business –  
The Cotswold Box  
Company

WORLD  
BOOK  
DAY

# Climbing up the fundraising ladder

Parents' Quiz Night is back on Saturday 22nd April  
Grab friends & a table!  
Email coming soon!

We're excited to announce that this year's fundraising efforts are supporting a big goal - a new climbing wall for the playground!

The PTA has been meeting up behind the scenes to plan a busy year of fun events and we've set an ambitious fundraising target of **£8750** between now and **September 2023!**

The vast proportion of funds will pay for the new climbing wall, and any extras will help pay for additional enrichment activities for children at school. It's an adventurous goal for some fantastic adventure equipment and we're so excited to get started!

More details to follow - we can't wait to keep you updated and we'll be keeping a monthly tally as we move closer towards our target.



## Fundraising subsidises school trips

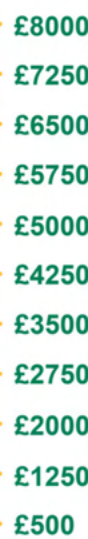
Generous parent donations are supporting two education trips this term!

PTA funds, raised through last term's cake sales and school discos, have helped subsidise a trip for Lower Key Stage 2 to travel to the STEAM Museum in Swindon for a WW2 workshop, and an exciting historical trip for children in Key Stage 1 - the location will be announced soon!

*Thank you so much as ever for your generous donations, they really make all the difference!*

## Live Fundraising Totaliser

£8750



## MARCH EVENTS

Dates for your diaries

**MAR 13** PTA catch up (all welcome!)

**MAR 23** FSU Disco

**MAR 24** Key Stage 1 & 2 Disco

**MAR 31** Eco Council Clothes & Bake Sale

**Get to know:**

# BIG SCIENCE



**You might have already heard the buzz and hype about Big Science - or this might be your first year experiencing the excitement! We interview the wonderful teacher behind the school's love of all things science - Miss Jenkins - to get the lowdown**

## **Miss Jenkins, what is Big Science?**

It is a competition run by Science Oxford, encouraging school children to practise being great scientists, working together to run investigations to find out the answers to their own questions. At Wychwood, we all take part from Years 1 – 6!

## **How do children get involved?**

Children work in small groups to find out the answer to a Big Question of their choice. They will predict what will happen, design a method of how to find out, carry out the investigation and then make conclusions about what happened.

## **How are the children's experiments judged?**

Each group works together to make an exciting A2 poster that shows the outcome of their experiment, and they present this to their class too! One winning group from each class is chosen as the best science investigation, voted for by the children and teachers. They then get to present their investigation again, this time to the whole school and a panel of judges, who will decide on an overall winner for KS1 and KS2! The overall winners are awarded special science badges to wear and get to take part in the next part of the competition, presenting their investigations to judges from Science Oxford.

## **What has been the most memorable experiment you've seen to date?**

I think my favourite ever question was "Do carrots really make you see in the dark?" because I have always wondered whether this is true!

## **What is your favourite thing about science?**

I have loved science ever since I was in primary school myself. I am curious and enjoy finding things out. It is so interesting! As a teacher, I really enjoy how enthusiastic children are about science, and I find that their questions and ideas often inspire us to find out more together.

# BIG SCIENCE

## At home

*Miss Jenkins shares her favourite experiment for us to try at home!*

### Invisible ink experiment

Pretend you're a wizard revealing a hidden note, or a spy sending a secret coded message!

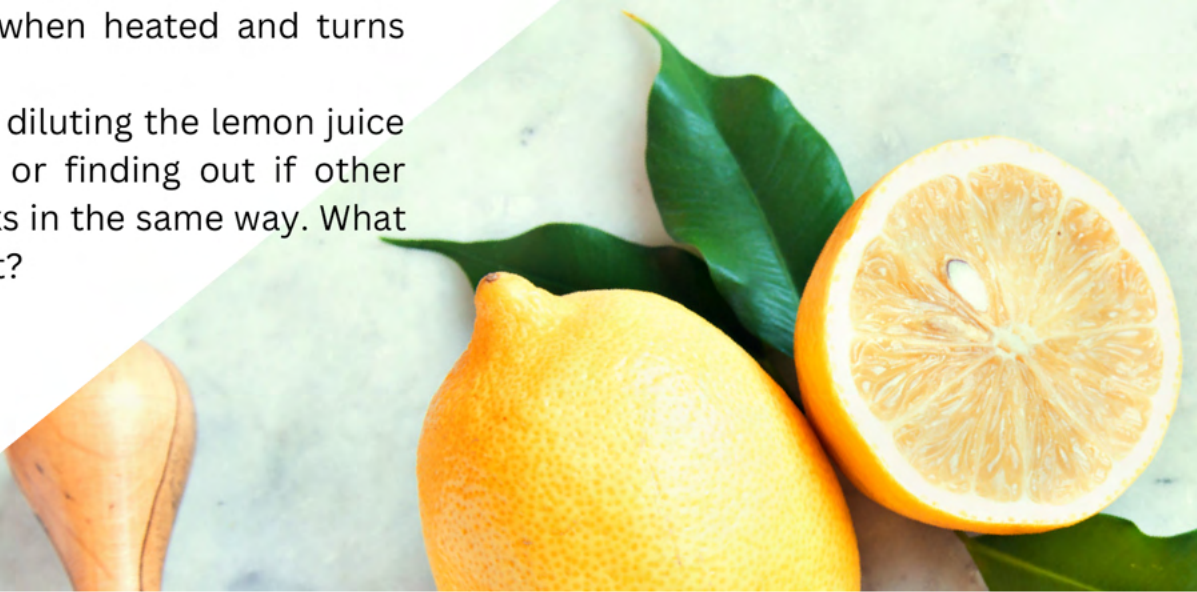
**You will need:**

- **A paintbrush or cotton bud**
- **Lemon juice diluted with a little water**
- **Sheet of plain paper**
- **Hair dryer (adult supervision needed)**

1. Dip a paintbrush or a cotton bud in diluted lemon juice and write a message on paper. Your message will be invisible at this stage.
2. **Adult supervision needed for this bit:** Apply heat to the paper using the hairdryer and you'll see your message appear! This happens because lemon juice oxidises when heated and turns brown.
3. Experiment by diluting the lemon juice more, or less, or finding out if other fruit juice works in the same way. What do you find out?



*Let us know if you do try this at home! If you have a recipe or experiment you'd like to share - please send them to [thewychwoodleaf@gmail.com](mailto:thewychwoodleaf@gmail.com) with pictures and we'll share in an upcoming issue!*



Get to know:

# Becky Arnold

**We caught up with Wychwood parent of three and founder of *The Cotswold Box Company*, Becky Arnold, to find out more about her passion for curating amazing gifts and championing small local businesses**

## ***Tell us how you got started?***

I've always loved buying gifts for people and wrapping them nicely. I had seen a few gift box companies around and loved the concept of creating your own gift to suit your recipient. However, none of these companies sold products made exclusively by Cotswold artisans, so in 2019 *TCBC* was born! Business started off slowly but Covid hit, and when the high street closed, online sales went crazy! I was home-schooling boys during the day and packing boxes by night!

## ***Tell us more about your products:***

I sell pre-made boxes, which feature curated products for all occasions. I also offer 'create your own' gift boxes, allowing customers to create the perfect gift themselves. I spend a lot of time sourcing and meeting lovely local suppliers for every product I sell, including hand-thrown ceramics, small batch candles, bath and body products, jewellery and amazing gifts for foodies. In fact, the Cotswold food boxes are my best sellers and include delicious local fudge, biscuits, jams and wines.

## ***Any products on your wish list for 2023?***

Yes! I'm always on the lookout for delicious, locally created savoury snacks for my food boxes – crisps, nuts, crackers, you name it!

**[www.thecotswoldboxcompany.co.uk](http://www.thecotswoldboxcompany.co.uk)**

**Instagram:** @thecotswoldboxcompany

***If you'd like to feature in an upcoming issue, email Daisy:***  
**[thewychwoodleaf@gmail.com](mailto:thewychwoodleaf@gmail.com)**



**EXCLUSIVE OFFER:  
10% OFF YOUR NEXT  
PURCHASE AT THE  
COTSWOLD BOX  
COMPANY JUST  
ENTER CODE:  
'WYCHWOODLEAF'  
AT THE CHECKOUT\*.**

Becky also offers free delivery at the playground – just select 'free delivery' when you make your purchase!

\*Offer valid for one purchase per customer until Friday 31st March 2023.



# WORLD BOOK DAY

We asked the children to share their top book recommendations\*...

\*Huge thanks to teachers and PTA parents for sharing what their children said!

## Silver Birch & Willow recommend:

Bog Baby      Roald Dahl  
The Book With No Pictures      101 Bums  
Oi Frog



## Foundation recommends:

Aliens Love Underpants      The Disgusting Sandwich  
The Baddies      Supertato



## Maple recommends:

Skandar & The Unicorn Thief      Horrible Histories



## Sycamore recommends:

Rabbit and Bead      Isadora Moon  
Story Treehouse Books

## Elm & Oak recommend:

Diary Of A Wimpy Kid      The Lost Whale      Boy At The Back Of The Class  
Matilda      Dotty Detective      Famous Five  
The Last Bear      Harry Potter      Bunny vs Monkey  
Dogman

## Rowan, Cherry & Chestnut recommend:

Space Oddity      Time Travelling with a Hamster  
The Memory Thieves      Dork Diaries



Not just for the children, it's that time of the year where we all get excited about what the teachers dress up as for Book Day!

Will Mr Rubba dress as Wordle again? Will Miss Rumsby don her Heely's? This year we're asking you and your children to vote for the Best Dressed Teacher 2023 - email your nominations to [thewychwoodleaf@gmail.com](mailto:thewychwoodleaf@gmail.com). Deadline for entries: 10.03.23.

WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**<sup>®</sup>

# Our World Book Day Activity Sheet

## World Book Day In The Wychwoods



Find the following words in the puzzle.  
Words are hidden → ↓ and ↘ .

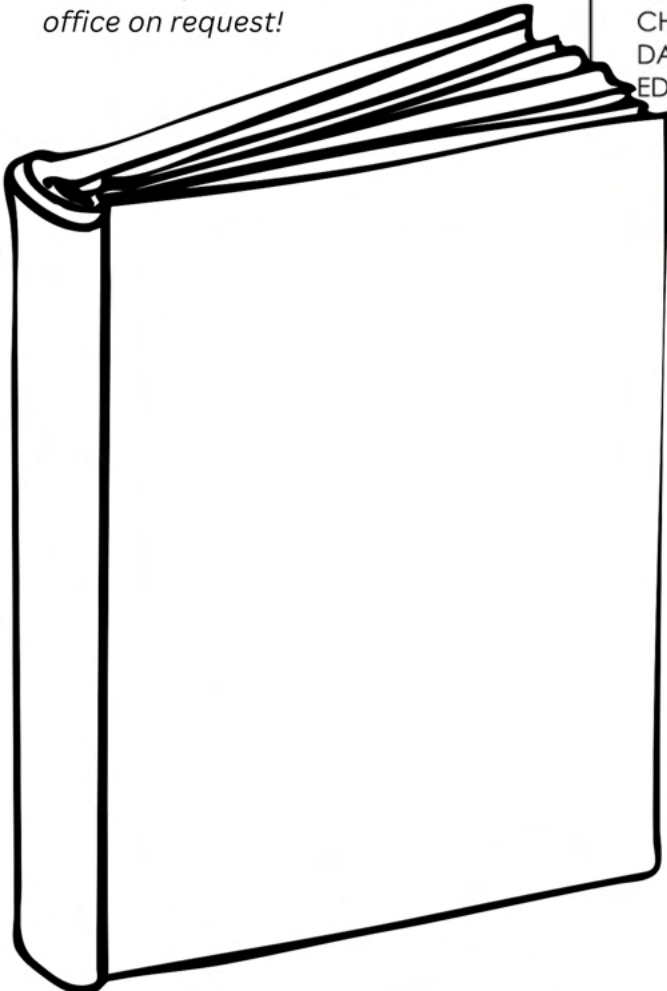
- |           |             |                    |
|-----------|-------------|--------------------|
| ADJECTIVE | FANCY DRESS | THE CAT IN THE HAT |
| AUTHOR    | FICTION     | VERB               |
| BOOKMARK  | GRUFFALO    | WALLIAMS           |
| BOOK SWAP | LIBRARY     | WELFORD            |
| CHAPTER   | POEMS       | WILD GARDEN        |
| DAHL      | READING     |                    |
| EDGE      | STORYTELLER |                    |

*Print, complete this sheet and return it to the office to win a £15 National Book Tokens voucher. Redeemable in bookshops nationwide*  
Deadline for entries: 10.03.23

Name:.....

Class:.....

*Printed copies available from the office on request!*



***Come up with a title for your own storybook and design your front cover on the book illustration (left)***

Your Book Title: