

## The end of the Autumn term

As we come to the end of this autumn term, I am so proud to share with you the many events, activities and the plethora of learning that has taken place, and how much all the children have grown and developed. We have a great team of staff, many of whom go above and beyond to ensure all the children get the best educational experience at Warley Road. Thank you to all our parents and carers who support their child's education by reading with them every day, getting them up and to school on time and giving them all the encouragement to do well. It's a team effort.

In this newsletter, we will reflect on the past term's successes as well as look forward to what is to come in the new year. We hope you find it useful and interesting.

I'd like to wish all our families, who celebrate, a happy and peaceful Christmas and hope all our families enjoy some quality time together over the 2 week break.

Best wishes,  
Mrs Tindal



## Sporting Activity

This half term, all children in years 2, 3 and 5 have competed in an Intra school football tournament.

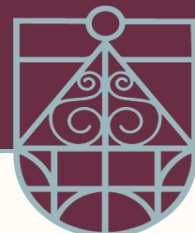
Our unique Taekwondo tournament took place with 7 IMPACT schools and 10 children from Warley Road took part, showing their skills to the judges.

Our skipping week was a great success with 3 days of skipping with a coach and showing off some impressive skills in assemblies. They can now practice their skipping skills every day during break and lunchtimes. We have some impressive skippers!



# NEWSLETTER

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## School council

This half term, the School Council has been hard at work making positive changes within school.

The councillors have been involved in gathering feedback from students and working alongside staff to improve the school environment.

Their dedication has helped promote a sense of teamwork, responsibility and respect. It has been a productive and exciting time for our School Council!



## The Theatre came to Warley Road!



'It was a delight to welcome the theatre perform at Warley Road. The children watched them bring Charles Dicken's beloved novel to life! The story of Oliver Twist took the young audiences on a wild adventure through Victorian England, which they thoroughly enjoyed!'

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## Coming up in the spring term...

### Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January back to school

9<sup>th</sup> January support for applying for reception places for September 2025

13<sup>th</sup> January Trust swimming tournament (girls)

13<sup>th</sup> January year 4 to Hardcastle Crags

15<sup>th</sup> January deadline for applying for a reception place for September 2025

16<sup>th</sup> January Year 3 to Dean Clough Art Gallery

Week commencing 20<sup>th</sup> January MYWY literacy festival year 6

24<sup>th</sup> January a visit from the Bird Man for all children

3<sup>rd</sup> February Trust swimming tournament (boys)

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February school closes for half term**

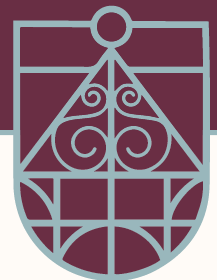
**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February school reopens**

11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> March Year 4 planting hedgerows

31<sup>st</sup> March school closed for Eid

2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> April Year 4 to Whitby

**4<sup>th</sup> April school closes and reopens Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April**



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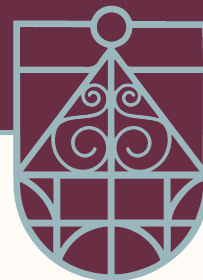
watch  
this  
space



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Halifax, HX1 3TG  
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## Antibullying week

The children had an eventful week learning about what bullying is and understanding ways they can combat it. The children were very excited about having the opportunity to work alongside, and build relationships with, older and younger peers.



## Parent phonics workshops

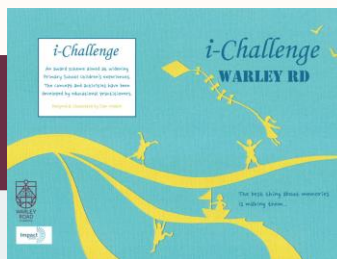
Over the course of this half term, parents had opportunities to take part in three separate sessions to learn how to say pure phonic sounds for phase 5. There was a positive uptake of these sessions and parents were very enthusiastic and felt confident that they will be able to support their children with reading at home.



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## i-challenge



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The Autumn term has been a busy one with all year groups taking part in i-challenge activities both in and out of school.

These included Year 1 & 2 headed to Nell Bank Outdoor education centre, Year 3 & 4 have explored their local environments from hill tops to valley bottoms. Year 5 had the opportunity to visit Malham on the residential with many wonderful activities during our stay there.

All of our year 6 children have been mountain biking and will be going snow tubing before the end of term.

Finally, every child from year 1 to year 6 have taken part in fire lighting to promote safe use of fire.



- Building Relationships
- Building Teamwork
- Building Confidence

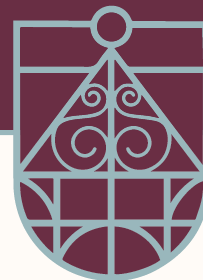


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## Charity and fundraising

Thank you to the whole school community for raising money for those less fortunate than us. Through all our non-uniform days, snack sales and winter bazaar, we have raised all this money for some important local and national charities. This work supports our children to develop into kind, caring citizens.

# £236 + £726

# to each



# £236

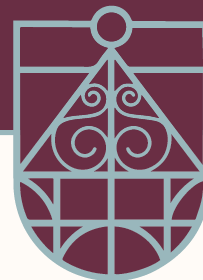


# £375



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add money to a pot of money that  
Warley Road Academy can use to  
buy books and other resources**

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Raise £1 plus 0.5% of every shop for the school FREE!

**Easy as 1, 2, 3...**

- 1 Open your Asda rewards app
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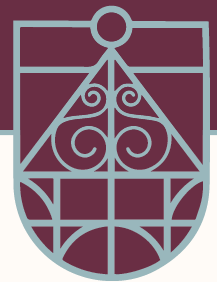
**CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS**

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THAT'S HOW I LIKE IT!



# NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2 2024



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BBC  
500  
WORDS

We got the best email this week! Here is it:

Congratulations! We're pleased to say that the following made it through to the next stage of 500 Words:

- The Runaway Egg  
by Ibrahim Aslam
- The Secret Garden  
by Ibraheem Waseem

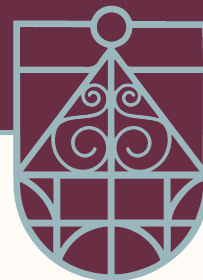
We received tens of thousands of entries and only around 5,000 go through for the second round of judging by the Reading Agency. You should be very proud!

We'll be back in touch with an update when we have selected our shortlisted stories in January.

Best wishes,  
The 500 Words Team







## Year 6 Conference

Last month, the Impact MAT Y6 Conference was held - it focused on raising aspirations and fostering teamwork, confidence, and relationships. Bringing together children from across the Trust's primary schools, the event provided our Y6 children with an insight into secondary education. Activities included poetry, TagTiv8, fire lighting, science experiments, drumming, dance, and various sports.

The day began with an address from Impact MAT CEO, Mick Kay, followed by a dynamic performance poetry session with Paul Cookson. The conference aimed to inspire students while encouraging collaboration and personal growth and developing new friendships.

One child commented, "The conference was really cool because we got to meet new people from different schools, make new friends, and try different things that we wouldn't normally get to do."



Where Hearts & Minds Connect





# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# ▶ YOUTUBE ▶

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Almost anyone with an internet connection knows YouTube. The Google-owned site lets anyone upload videos to be shared around the world, and as a result, it's an incredible resource with instant free access to material covering every conceivable topic. But with over 500 hours of video uploaded every minute, not all of it will be appropriate for young eyes.

## INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate content. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

## CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but it can also lead to binge-watching and screen addiction – especially if 'auto-play' is active. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

## RADICALISATION

YouTube's algorithm tends to promote content that's getting the most traffic – a lot of which can be quite extreme. This can be fine for harmless topics, but YouTube isn't regulated like television, and that means that conspiracy theories, fake news and hateful ideologies can occasionally surface to warp impressionable minds all too easily. Remember – the more they watch, the more they'll be recommended.

## CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as message other users directly. Connecting with strangers online can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, cyberbullying and – in the worst cases – online predators. If a child is creating content themselves, this can increase the likelihood of them becoming a target.

## TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends and challenges, some of which are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may cause physical or emotional harm children who watch or copy them. The painful 'salt and ice challenge' – where people use these two ingredients to burn their skin – is just one of many examples.

## SNEAKY SCAMMERS

The comments sections of popular content creators regularly have scammers posing as that influencer, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and often offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users aren't who they claim to be.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

For older children, Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate material (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence, and sexual content) to underage viewers. To prevent children from chancing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that they use to access YouTube. It's worth also turning the auto-play feature off, to prevent YouTube's algorithm automatically recommending something inappropriate.



### TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows parents and carers to monitor what their child is watching, uploading, and sharing with other users; it will also display their recently watched videos, searches, and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives a parent or carer oversight of how their child uses sites like YouTube and helps to ensure that they are only accessing appropriate content.



### MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them under 18. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course. You may want to keep an eye on how children interact with this material – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand what they're interested in. Remember that creators often share content outside of YouTube, so don't ignore their web presence elsewhere!



### CONSIDER YOUTUBE KIDS

It's possible to sidestep most inappropriate content completely via Google's own YouTube Kids app for Android handsets and iPhone. This lets you filter content by "preschool" (4 and under), "younger" (ages 5 to 8) and "older" (ages 9 to 12). This isn't a perfect substitute for personal supervision, as the app's filtering system is automated, and Google can't manually review all videos.

### CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that a child is subscribed to can be hidden. If the child is only uploading videos set as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.



### LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases. For example, users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch. If you'd like to avoid children purchasing content online, limit their access to online payment methods. Many parents have discovered the hard way that a child happily consuming a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!



## Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



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