

East Ardsley Primary Academy Newsletter

24/2/2023

Menu No. 2



Attendance: Congratulations to Class 9 who have 99.4% attendance this week - you were our attendance stars.

What we have been up to this week:

This week has been very busy with D:side in school leading workshops on both drugs awareness and internet safety. As well as being very informative and ensuring the children are kept well-informed, they are also lots of fun and make sure the children hear the right messages without them being too scary or overwhelming.

On top of this we have had two school trips this week. Year 2 went to Tropical World in Leeds. They had a fantastic time looking at all the animals that would be found in a tropical rainforest and learning lots about them all in their workshops. Year 3 then went to York to the Chocolate Experience to find out all about how chocolate is made, ready for designing their own chocolate bars later in the term. Our thanks go to all the staff and volunteers who planned, organised and went on these trips to fit with the children's learning in school. A special mention has to go to Mrs Mullen who very kindly drove a child all the way over to York to make sure they did not miss out on the experience when they missed the coach.

We appreciate that the trips are expensive but they are such a valuable part of the children's learning. We charge as little as possible and every child goes on the trip, whether or not parents have been able to pay. If you cannot afford to pay the full amount for any trip we are happy to accept any contribution you can make so that we can keep as many of our trips running as possible.

Reception Class had an especially busy Wednesday this week with their D:side session, music lesson and a visit from the Fire Brigade all in one morning. They have learnt such a lot and we have had some super work from the children based on all their fun learning experiences this week.

Next week we have World Book Day on Thursday. We have lots of fun learning activities planned and the children have all been asked to make a 'book in a jar' to bring in with them. We are not asking the children to dress up this year but that will not in any way lessen the excitement. Parents are invited in at different times across the week to come and share a book with their child. Please check Tapestry for all the details you need to join in our reading extravaganza.

At this point the next strike day for teachers is going ahead on Tuesday 28th February 2023. School will be open to all our children and the Year 4 trip will still be going ahead. We cannot rearrange any of the trips and will therefore be doing everything we can to keep them running as planned even if they are on strike days.

The strikes planned for March fall in our Assessment Week so we will be doing assessments across the week beginning 6th March 2023 as well as in the week beginning 13th March 2023. They are really important as they give us lots of valuable information about the children's strengths and areas they need support with so we do not want the children to miss doing them.

Ms Talbot

Dates for your Diary:

27.2.23	Year 2 Skipping School
28.2.23	Year 4 Trip
28.2.23	Strike action by teachers
1.3.23	Class Photographs
2.3.23	World Book Day
2.3.23	Year 6 Trip
9.3.23	Year 2 Celebration Assembly
13.3.23	Assessment Week
14.3.23	Judo Taster Sessions
15.3.23	Year 1 Trip
15.3.23	Strike Action by teachers
16.3.23	Strike Action by teachers
17.3.23	PTFA Dress Down Day
20.3.23	Mothers' Day Gift Shop
20.3.23	Rock Steady Concert
23.3.23	Year 3 Celebration Assembly
27.3.23	Music Assembly 2.30pm
29.3.23	Year 4/5 Concert
30.3.23	Year 4/5 Concert
31.3.23	Year 4/5 Concert
31.3.23	School closes
17.4.23	School opens
18.4.23	Parents Evening (face to face)
20.4.23	Parents Evening (virtual)
1.5.23	School closed
2.5.23	Governing Board Meeting
4.5.23	Year 4 Celebration Assembly
8.5.23	School closed
9.5.23	Key Stage 2 SATs week
23.5.23	PTFA KS1 Event (tba)
23.5.23	PTFA KS2 Event (tba)
25.5.23	Year 2 Trip
26.5.23	School closes
5.6.23	School opens

Class Photograph

The photographer will be in school on Wednesday 1st March to take class photographs. Could you please make sure that your child comes into school in their school uniform and not their PE kit.

Reception children—Ace Club

As we are now just over half way through the school year, we would like to offer Reception children the chance to attend our Ace after school club.

Ace (Active Clubs Experience) deliver a variety of multi-sports activities, engaging children of all abilities. The coaches are fully trained, fun, friendly and encouraging. We have Ace Club sessions for all our children in school from Years 1-6, and they are always received enthusiastically.

The days available for Reception children to attend are with our Year 1 children on Mondays or our Year 2 children on Tuesdays. The club starts straight after school and runs for one hour (3.30 pm—4.30 pm). The cost is £1.50 per session which can be paid through the school's ParentPay system so that your child can start next week.

Year 4 ACE Dodgeball Tournament

On Friday 10th February, six children represented the school in a Year 4, Dodgeball Tournament. The annual competition which is run by Ace Club is always a fantastic event where schools from all across Leeds compete.

Fourteen schools participated and were split into two groups of seven. The quick-fire games were fast and furious, but the children soon got into the hang of them and out of our six matches we came away with just two losses and four wins.

Two schools in our group were joint top on points with us just two points behind. This shows just how fantastic Team EAPA were.

All the children played brilliantly, and quickly learnt the skills of dodgeball. They showed amazing sportsmanship throughout, and I was proud of all of them.

Massive well done to Ruby Betteridge, Seren Pemberton, Jessica Smith, Cody Tunstall, Luca Pinnion and Kennie Appleyard.

Mrs Fletcher

PTFA Update:

Hi everyone, hope you had a great half term break.

Quick update on one of the cool activities purchased through PTFA funding, a gorgeous rocket hopscotch for the little ones to enjoy!

It's great to see the kids playing hopscotch as they make their way round the playgrounds and classrooms ☺



Have a great weekend!

Thanks,

The PTFA

PTFA Thank You Card Competition—see details below:

PTFA's Thank You Card Competition

50p per
entry

Your design must include the words:

- Thank you
- East Ardsley PTFA

Entries to be on A4 paper.

There will be a small prize for the winner of each class and an overall school winner who will win a prize and their card printed to be used as a thank you card for businesses who support the PTFA.

Entries to be given to your child's class teacher by

Monday 27th February for judging at next
PTFA meeting.



Registered Charity Number - 1200456

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) SOLUTIONS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AI solutions are becoming increasingly popular. Trained on vast datasets of text (such as books, articles and websites) in order to learn patterns and relationships, AI solutions can generate text, images, audio, video, code or synthetic data, and can be used for things such as crafting poems or books, creating digital imagery or delivering video content. Recently there's been significant discussion in relation to the benefits and risks of AI solutions, with many undecided on whether it will be a force for good or potentially reduce the need for some job roles.

ROOM FOR INACCURACY

AI solutions, such as language models, generate their responses purely based on the data they've been trained on, which often comes from sources on the internet. Whilst questions will often illicit relevant responses, if some of the information they've been 'fed' is incorrect, it follows that the answers too may contain factual errors or inaccuracies.

REINFORCING BIAS

AI solutions, such as those generating content or images, can perpetuate existing biases present in the data they were trained, whether through the algorithms written by humans or the content taken from the web. This could easily lead to biased responses and potentially reinforce existing stereotypes, such as those around gender, race or disability.

IRRELEVANT INFORMATION

AI solutions don't have the ability to understand the context or meaning behind a question or a user request. Although highly advanced, the AI relies entirely on the data it's been exposed to and is devoid of independent thought or reasoning, which could lead to irrelevant or even nonsensical responses to queries.

LACK OF ACCOUNTABILITY

Fundamentally, AI solutions are machines or technology programmes that don't have the ability to take responsibility for the responses they generate. This could lead to confusion or misunderstandings in certain cases if the answers are taken as given. For instance, image-generative AIs can lead to output clearly derived from other peoples' content but without any attribution to the original source artist's work.

STIFLING CREATIVITY

One of the potential risks of children and young people continually using AI solutions for things (such as their homework) is that eventually, they might become reliant on it. In the long term, this could potentially impact their development and hamper their ability to think creatively or solve problems independently without the aid of an AI tool.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CREATE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

If possible, try to be around when your child uses any type of AI solution and employ content filters to try and reduce the chance of profanity or age-inappropriate subjects appearing in responses. As with any kind of technology, it's important to ensure that children are using AI solutions responsibly and to be there to enable opportunities to discuss their use as part of a safe environment.

PROMOTE CRITICAL THINKING

Explain to your child that AI solutions can be used as one of many tools to help them research and learn, but that they shouldn't simply accept the responses they receive as the truth. Encourage them to question, verify and think critically about the information they get back – all of which apply equally to any website or platform they use.

DISCUSS BIAS

Talk to your child about the potential biases that may be present in the data that AI solutions are trained on, and how these viewpoints might find their way into the responses that AI generates. Again, with many things children might read online, it's healthy for them to consider whether the information is factual and presented fairly.

ENCOURAGE HUMAN INTERACTION

Not only should children supplement any use of software like AI with additional resources such as books and reputable internet sites, but they also should remember what they can learn from interaction with other people. Discussing things with teachers, relatives and friends isn't just an important and often invaluable aspect of learning – it's an essential part of life, too.

CHECK SCHOOL RULES

Make yourself aware of any rules or guidance your child's school might have about the use of AI solutions. Most software is still extremely new, so many schools may not yet have a policy, however, it's important to make sure your child is aware of how to use it appropriately and will be using it for the right reasons.

Meet Our Expert

Gary Henderson is the Director of IT at a large boarding school in the UK, having previously taught in schools and colleges in Britain and the Middle East. With a particular interest in digital citizenship and cyber security, he believes it is essential that adults and children alike become more aware of the risks associated with technology, as well as the many benefits.



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Source: <https://openai.com/blog/chatgpt/> | <https://generativeai.net/> | <https://www.mckinsey.com/featured-insights/mckinsey-explainers/what-is-generative-ai>



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SEND PARENTS COFFEE AND CHAT

WHERE: The Bungalow- just before Woodkirk Academy school gates

WHEN: THE 2nd Thursday every month- Thursday 12th January, (Thursday 9th February, Thursday 9th March)

TIME: 9.30AM-11.00AM

ARE YOU.....

A Parent/Carer of a child with SEND needs

Come and have a coffee and a chat with people in similar situations, share experiences, gain advice and meet new people.

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

This group has been set up as an unofficial support group for Parents and Carers of children with SEND needs. This can be a rewarding but stressful and isolating time for parents. This group has been set up to offer a social, supportive and relaxed setting for meaningful discussions about anything at all. We will make attempts to bring external agencies in who would be relevant for the group where we can. This is a great place to meet people in a similar situation.

This is open to any Parents/Carers of children in the LEODIS Academies Trust.

For further information please contact:

Victoria or Nikki @ Leodis Support Service 0113 8873609 / 8873618

COFFEE AND CHAT



WHERE: The Bungalow - just before Woodkirk Academy school gates

WHEN: THE FIRST Thursday every month- Thursday 5th January, (Thursday 2nd February, Thursday 2nd March)

TIME: 9.30AM-11.00AM

ARE YOU.....

A FOSTER CARER
ADOPTIVE PARENT
SPECIAL GUARDIANSHIP
KINSHIP CARE
GRANDPARENTS OR RELATIVES CARING FOR CHILDREN

Come and have a coffee and a chat with people in similar situations, share experiences, gain advice and meet new people.

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

This group has been set up as an unofficial support group for Parents and Carers of Adopted / Looked After / Kinship or Special Guardianship children. This can be a rewarding but stressful role in a child's life. This group has been set up to offer a social, supportive and relaxed setting for meaningful discussions about anything at all. This is a great place to meet people in a similar situation.

This is open to any Parents/Carers of children in the LEODIS Academies Trust.

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