# WESTON FAVELL ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

WWW.WESTONFAVELLACADEMY.ORG



Friday 21st March 2025



### The Power of Giving!

Dear Families,

As we progress through another exciting term, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the importance of charity and the profound impact it has on both individuals and communities. At Weston Favell Academy, we strive to instill values of kindness, generosity, and social responsibility in our pupils, recognising that small acts of giving can make a big difference in the world.

Charity is not just about monetary donations; it encompasses time, effort, and compassion. Whether it is participating in a cake sale, fundraising for a cause, or participating in events, each contribution fosters a spirit of empathy and strengthens the bonds within our community. When pupils engage in charitable activities, they develop a deeper understanding of the challenges others face and learn the importance of service and gratitude.

Over the last two days, we launched several initiatives that provided pupils with opportunities to give back. These include:

- A cake sale
  - A quiz
- Sponge the teacher
- Sponsored events

Fun ru

We encourage all pupils and families to take part in these initiatives, as they serve as valuable learning experiences that extend beyond the classroom. By fostering a culture of giving, we equip our pupils with the tools to become compassionate and responsible citizens who contribute positively to society.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all the parents, staff, and pupils who continuously support our charitable efforts. Your dedication and generosity set a wonderful example, demonstrating that even the smallest act of kindness can create a ripple effect of change.

Let us continue to work together in making a difference, one good deed at a time.

Warm regards,

Mr K Buby

Weston Favell Academy Booth Lane South Northampton NN3 3EZ Telephone: 01604 402121



**Weston Favell Academy** 

@WestonFavelIGAT



## Newsletter Highlights

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#### **Term Dates**

Click here to view term dates for 2025-2026

Wonder why we use ClassCharts?

Click here to read the PDF

"The best thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you." - B.B. King

#### **Parent Forums**

Our new forums will provide opportunities for Academy staff, parents/carers and the community to come together to share what we do, and support your child.

Future dates for the diary...

1st May 2025 - Communications

3rd July 2025 - topic TBC







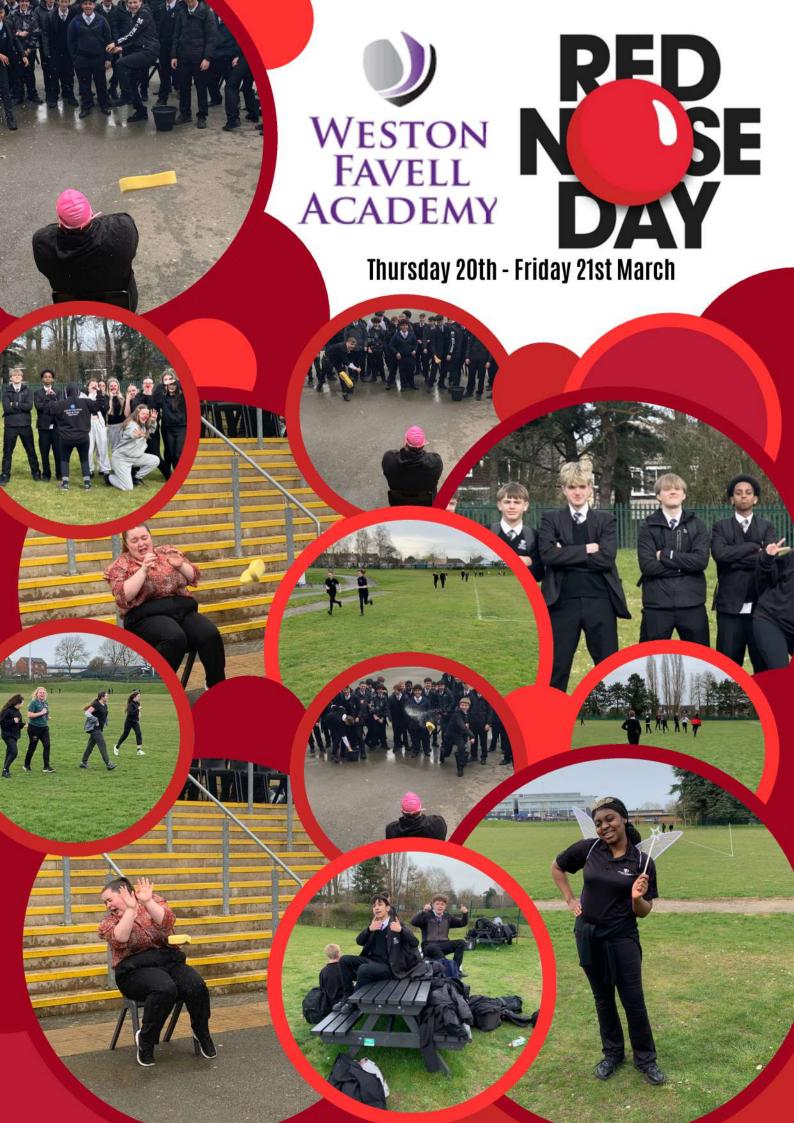
Thursday 20th - Friday 21st March

## Thank you!

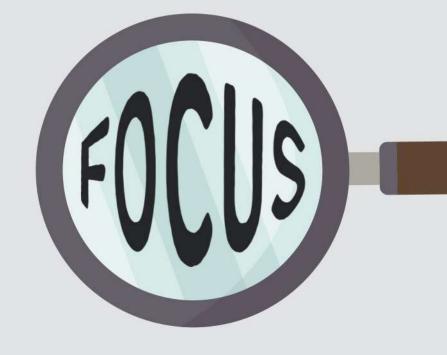
With your help, we managed to meet our goal of £500 for Red Nose Day! We will announce the total amount over on our Facebook and X pages (find on front page!) With this money, we are contributing to helping children across the world access basic necessities and education!

We saw quizzes, fun runs, cakes sales and teachers sponged! We hope you all had as much fun as we did this year!









### **Neurodiversity Celebration Week 2025**

Being Neurodiversity Celebration Week 2025, it was the focus of Sixth Form seminars this week. Sixth Form students are, after all, our future leaders, employers, influencers while also being ongoing family members, and friends to many.

It has been persuasively argued that effectiveness and wellbeing – whether at an individual, employer, societal or economic level – are all helped when we are aware of the positive impacts of harnessing the particular gifts and skills brought by neurodivergent individuals. Just think Einstein and Simone Biles!

If interested, dive into the many insightful links here:

<u>Neurodiversity Celebration Week</u>, while in seminars, we used the universities' presentation <u>Powerpoint Presentations</u>

<u>Neurodiversity Celebration Week</u>.

Discussions and open sharing of personal observations and experiences followed in seminars - we really do try to consider futures beyond school!

Mrs L. Mann - Director Of Sixth Form

## Ramadan Assemblies



Mr Mirza has been conducting assemblies every day this week about the month of Ramadan. This period is about more than just fasting from food, but about building a gratitude for necessities in life rather than taking them for granted. Mr Mirza told pupils that he does not find himself longing for iftar to finally come, which is the meal eaten to break the fast in sunset hours, but actively preparing for it and appreciating the food and drinks when the time finally comes. For many, Ramadan is a time to come closer with their faith and build empathy with those who are less fortunate.

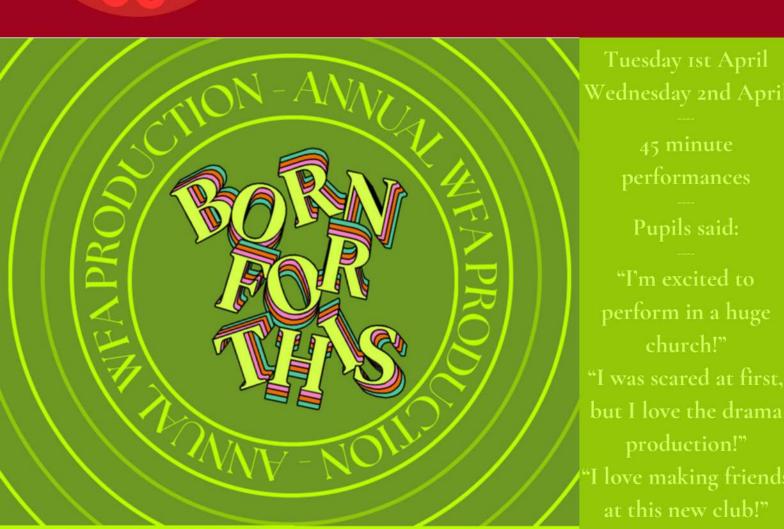
It is a misconception that Muslims 'torture' or 'deprive' themselves while practicing fasting, in fact it is quite the opposite. Aside from the mental benefits of appreciation and dedication, fasting has been proven to be of major physical benefit, too. Mohammed Salah's performance for Liverpool this month has been an excellent example, as he has still maintained his fantastic scoring run regardless of fasting and attended all training sessions without fail.

The aim of these assemblies is to spread awareness of the key values of Ramadan, in hopes to build a better understanding among our community and therefore, greater solidarity for those practicing fasting.



## **Blood Brothers**

Drama are currently studying Blood Brothers with Year 9. This is a text that is studied here at WFA in English, so pupils know the text inside out! We explore the class system in society and how unemployment impacts the choices we make.



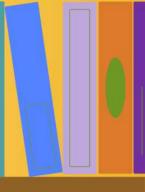


Year 7 Readerboard:

#1: Eriayo A - 3777 SRP

#2: Izzy J - 3346 SRP

#3: Daniel M - 2007 SRP



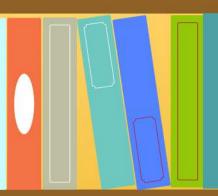
Year 8 Readerboard:

#1: Mosopefoluwa O - 1415 SRP

#2: Adam Usman - 1191 SRP

#3: Gavrila I - 1118 SRP





Year 9 Readerboard:

#1: Oyindamola O - 3116 SRP

#2: David S - 2794 SRP

#3: Jerious S - 944 SRP

# Sparx Market Mar



**Quick Reminder:** 

Please ensure you complete your half an hour read!



#### Monday

#### **Lunch time**

- Boardgames LRC
- · Brass invite only
- Keyboards PA1

#### After school

- · Choir-PA2
- Y9 Boys football Astro
- · Prowess-PA5
- · Dance PA4
- Homework/games LRC
- · Y7 Football -?
- Business IT3
- Health and social/Child development Int. B10
- KS4/5 SS & H&S int. B10
- KS4/5 Child development int. IT2
- Y11 Sports Science intervention and exam prep –

#### Tuesday

#### **Before School**

• Triple science (KS4) - E5

#### **Lunch time**

- · Boardgames LRC
- Drums music area
- · String invite only

#### After school

- Homework/games LRC
- Y7 reading club A2
- Drama PAS
- Flag football (NFL) ?
- KS4 IT/E&M IT4 & D4
- Y11 French Speaking A17 Health and social/Child deve
- · Y9 Spanish A16

#### Wednesday

#### **Before School**

• Triple science (KS4) - E5

#### **Lunch time**

- · Boardgames LRC
- Keyboards PA1

#### After school

- Dungeons & Dragons LRC
- · Homework/games LRC
- KS4 sports science SF3
- . KS4 Art and Design int.
- LGBTQ+ Club

#### Thursday

#### **Before School**

• Triple science (KS4) - E5

#### **Lunch time**

- · Boardgames LRC
- · Guitar invite only
- After school
- Y9 reading A4
- Y8 Boys football Astro
- Y8 Murder Mystery –?
- Trampolining Gym
- Movie Club A18 KS5 IT/E&M-IT4
- Homework/games/chess Library
- · Eco Club A19
- Y10 Boys football Astro
- Y13 A Level Chemistry D5

#### SCAN THE QR CODE TO VISIT THE 'Academy Clubs and Enrichment' SECTION ON OUR WEBSITE



#### Friday

#### **Lunch time**

· Boardgames - LRC

#### After school

- Homework/games LRC
- Creative writing A5
- Homework catch-up B10
- Y11 French speaking A17
- Y11 History intervention
- Triple Science int. E5 & E8
- Combined Science int. E4 &



# This Week: RABLOX

Roblox is a multi-platform game that enables people to play anonymously. Online multiplayer games like Roblox are enjoyed by millions across the world and can be a great way for friends to socialise!

However, they can also expose young people to a variety of potential harms. Unfortunately, this can be something that attracts people to misuse the game. In addition to interacting with strangers across the world and young people being exposed to inappropriate content, other factors such as in-game purchases and potential sccams can pose a financial risk.

It's important that parents and educators are aware of the risks associated with this popular title and how to use it safely. The below guide offers expert advice on how to safeguard effectively to allow young people to have a safe and enjoyable time while gaming.

### What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# ROBLOX

PEGI 7

WHAT ARE THE RISKS? Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

#### ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Robiox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarlous reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

#### MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

#### IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money, While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

#### **ANONYMOUS PLAYERS**

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

#### **RISK OF ADDICTION**

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

#### **SCAMS**

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

#### MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idee of their content.

#### TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting

#### Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMINGbible.

#### **PLAY TOGETHER**

Consider playing Robiox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

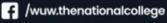
#### TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.



The National College









# Get support!

# Young Carers Support



We are delighted to announce that we will be relaunching the support programme for young carers within Weston Favell Academy.

We will be working closely with Northampton Young Carers Service (NYCS) in assuring that our pupils are supported both at the Academy and at home.

If you believe that your child or a child within your family who is a pupil at the Academy is a young carer, please scan the OR code for more information.

Scan the QR Code

# Veterinary Surgeon

# Job of the Week



This section is designed to help you with finding careers.

Over the course of these newsletters we have been going from A-Z with different jobs to give you inspiration and help you find something to aspire to.

Scan the QR Code

# Stars Of The Week

Year 7- Eriayo A

Year 8 - Mayah G

Year 9 - Emma N

Year 10 - Eva N

Year 11 - Anver C

Sixth Form - Fionn R-U

Congratulations!

All 'Stars of the Week' are entered into our termly prize draw - the winner will receive a £25 voucher.



Year 11 Steps to Success 2 Evening
Thursday 3rd April

Year 7 Parents' Evening [Online]
Thursday 3rd April

Year 8 Parents' Evening
Thursday 24th April

Year 8 HPV Vaccinations
Thursday 1st May

GOT A SEC?
WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK!



SCAN OR CLICK THE QR CODE ABOVE TO TAKE THE GAT PARENTS/CARERS SURVEY.

WE USE THE RESPONSES FROM THESE TO IMPROVE THE WFA EXPERIENCE!

### **Key Contacts**

#### **Safeguarding Team**

Use the QR Code to meet the Safeguarding Team.



#### **Contacting the Academy**

Academy reception is open from 8:00am - 4:00pm

Tel: 01604 402121

admin@westonfavellacademy.org



**Working together** 

### **Key Contacts**

#### Year 7 Team

Mrs A Carpenter
Miss C O'Kane

#### Year 8 Team

Mr C Harrison Miss H Coyne

#### Year 9 Team

Mrs S Edwards Ms A Moran

#### Year 10 Team

Miss S Kyle Mrs N High

#### Year 11 Team

Mrs C Fleming
Miss D Wade

#### **Sixth Form Team**

Mrs L Mann Mrs P Souster Mrs B Whelan

We are here to help



#### **Attendance Matters!**

Evidence tells us that high attendance correlates to strong academic performance.

Simply put - pupils that are in the Academy every day will achieve better than those who are not.

Those who miss less than 1% of their learning time in Y10/11 make 3.5 times more progress by the end of KS4.

High attendance also:

Increases engagement Improves social and emotional wellbeing

Reduces gaps for disadvantaged groups Increases chances of future career success.

Weekly Prize Draw.

Every week, pupils who achieve 100% attendance can win a £25 voucher.



One pupil from each year group will be selected at random from now until the end of July.

This week's winners were...

Year 7 - Rebeca T

Year 8 - Adrian Z

Year 9 -Lillie W-V

Year 10 - Olivia L

Year 11 - Leah T

Sixth Form - Jake G

**Congratulations!** 

**RAISING STANDARDS - TRANSFORMING LIVES** 







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Week 5

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Week 6

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