

# The Wren



Spring 2025  
Edition

Westover Rd, Kettering  
NN15 7LB

Phone: 01536 481939

Web: [www.wrenspinney.co.uk](http://www.wrenspinney.co.uk)

Email:

[office@wrenspinney.co.uk](mailto:office@wrenspinney.co.uk)

EDUCATING FOR THE FUTURE : STEP BY STEP



Part of Creating Tomorrow Trust



# Headteacher Letter:

**Joshua Gershwin-Williams**  
Headteacher



## Dear Wren Spinney School Community,

As we approach the end of another busy and productive term, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible achievements of our students and staff.

This term has been filled with exciting learning opportunities, enriching experiences, and strong community engagement. Our Sensory Provision has brought learning to life through themes like 'Showtime,' offering students immersive experiences in storytelling, creative arts, and hands-on activities. Meanwhile, our Collaborative Provision has supported students in developing key independence skills, with trips to Isebrook School for animal care, visits to a Corby gym, and hands-on business experience running the school tuck shop.



In the Structured Provision, students have been making fantastic progress in communication and sensory learning, engaging with interactive activities that build essential life skills. The school's Wellbeing Team has also been working hard to support our students' emotional and social development, with highlights including the ever-popular Wren Spinney Bake Off and preparations for exciting Easter activities.



Beyond the classroom, our Personal Development program has provided enriching cultural and charitable experiences. From World Book Day celebrations to Chinese New Year activities and fundraising for Comic Relief, our students have demonstrated creativity, enthusiasm, and a wonderful sense of community spirit.



A special mention must go to our Site Team, who have been working behind the scenes to improve school facilities. Thanks to their efforts—and a generous contribution from Tilia Homes—we will soon have a brand-new Outdoor Learning Area for students to enjoy.

Finally, our commitment to safeguarding and student support remains as strong as ever. Whether through EHCP reviews, pastoral meetings, or online safety initiatives, our staff continue to ensure that every student is supported, safe, and empowered to thrive.



As we look forward to the summer term, I am excited about the opportunities ahead. Thank you to our students, families, and staff for your dedication and enthusiasm. I hope everyone enjoys a well-earned break, and I look forward to welcoming you all back for another fantastic term.

Best Wishes  
Joshua  
Headteacher

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# Sensory Provision Spring Update:

**Sara Lambert**  
**Assistant Headteacher**



The Sensory Provision have had a busy Spring term, we finished off our Ghosts and Ghouls theme at February half term and have been having a lot of fun with our new theme 'Showtime', Our sensory stories feature trips to the circus, the cinema opera and the Academy Awards! We are also making art for the display board!



We continue to love getting messy in exploratory play sessions and have recently been enjoying the sunshine and using the playground equipment.

Some of our students are accessing swimming and riding and we hope to extend our offsite visits further during the summer term. We have also been rehearsing for the Easter performance.

We have been exploring ingredients for doughnuts which has been very popular. We have made some fabulous artwork during creativity linked to our theme and for events such as Valentines Day and Mother's Day.



We continue to enjoy our weekly visit from the 'music man'.

Now Spring is well and truly on its way the Sensory Provision are looking forward to spending some time in the playground on the swing and roundabout.



We hope everyone has a lovely holiday and we look forward to sharing what we have been up to in the Summer term.



# Collaborative Provision Spring Update:

**Toby Widdicombe**  
**Assistant Headteacher**



The Collaborative Provision have been working on our My Independence skills this term. We have been visiting Isebrook school to learn how to care for animals, experiencing care for goats, rabbits and guinea pigs.



Classes have been accessing a gym in Corby called Action In Motion. Working alongside the personal trainer the students have been able to work on many different exercise machines each week.

With our Digital Photography module we have been experimenting with objects and portraits. The students were able to put on an art exhibition to show off their work to their peers.

All classes are able to get out to go shopping, using different local shops to buy a snack or items for food tech. We also visit Bookers the cash and carry to collect items for food tech and also to keep stock up for running the tuck shop. The students discuss good sellers and what other items they would like to try to sell.



This term in My Cooking we have been cooking various recipes for cakes, ranging from fairy cakes to Blueberry and Cinnamon Muffins.

Some of our older students have been attending Teamwork Trust in Kettering to gain some valuable and real life work experience. We have some amazing engagement with these activities and some great progress too.



We are looking forward to the Summer term and all that awaits us there!!!





# Structured Provision Spring Update:

**Mihaela Shoebridge**  
**Assistant Headteacher**



The students in the Structured Provision worked well on their communication skills, developing their interoceptive and exteroceptive skills through play. The activities were presented in tuff trays with a variety of topics such as wet and dry materials, just beige materials or just coloured items.

The reaction of our students was very good.



The students in the structured Provision have also worked on their core knowledge, investigating objects in a variety of ways, completing travel training activities and practicing their knowledge of people through a variety of sessions.

The students enjoyed spending time in the playground, sensory room and the soft play room. The sensory swing was the most enjoyed by all our students. The sessions of TAC PAC and intensive interaction worked really well. Our SaLT is very pleased with all of our students' progress during these sessions. During attention Autism, the students have worked hard through the stages. At stage one and two, the students have engaged their attention on the motivating and attention-grabbing items presented by the adult, some out of a bucket and some taken out of a box. At stage three, the children have completed a short activity after the adult has modelled it. Some students have reached stage four, when they take the items necessary to complete a short activity at their tables.

This term, we continued to receive visitors from other schools in order to see what we are doing so well. They were very impressed with all of the things that we do here at Wren Spinney and they were especially impressed by all of our students who are doing their very best. Well done, everyone!

What a busy term!



# Wellbeing Spring Update:

Thea Smith

Wellbeing Support Officer

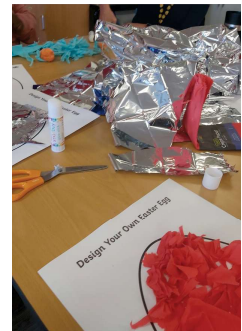


## Student Council

This term we have been focusing on what we enjoy at school, we looked at all our student voices and found out what were our favourite subjects. We found out our favourite subject was cooking! School council decided we should host a Wren Spinney bake off. Over the week all the classes worked hard to create all their amazing cakes and were judged by our SLT team.



School council have also been planning our easter activities for the students. We were busy in our last meeting creating easter eggs for our sensory easter trail for all the students to enjoy on the last day of term. The next goal on the agenda is some fundraising for some more play equipment outside so we are busy planning this for the summer term!



## Well-being Update

As the weather is getting nicer it is the perfect time to get outside and enjoy the sunshine. The local country parks are a great place to spend some time outside. We are lucky to have 7 country parks in North Northamptonshire. They have lots of activities and trails on in the half term. [Events at country parks | North Northamptonshire Council](#) North Northamptonshire also have a range of Easter activities during the half term [Easter events | North Northamptonshire Council](#) .

Sea of support is a newly established support group in Kettering that offer support and a judgement free environment for families in the neurodiverse community. Their contact email is [s.o.s.kettering@gmail.com](mailto:s.o.s.kettering@gmail.com) if you would like to sign up to any of their sessions, they also have a Facebook page!

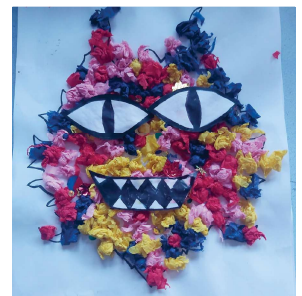


## Personal Development Update:

Steve Taylor  
Class Teacher



This term we have had World book day. Our learners came in as their favourite characters and shared stories and sensory stories throughout the day from staff in school. The learners too part in Chinese New Year celebrations by decorating a Chinese dragon and entering it into a competition. There were some fantastic entries.



We also had Comic relief and Down syndrome day with Comic relief raising almost £100 for good causes. There was also a surprise visit by Bluey and Bingo which the learners loved. Finally to finish the term off we had our Easter production which showcased many of the artistic talents of our learners and staff.



Thank you to all the parents / guardians and staff at Wren Spinney for making these days special for our learners!

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## Site Update:

**Laura Patey-Smith**  
**Operations Manager**



Wow! Where did the last term go .....

The site team have been so busy preparing for some more exciting projects, that in the blink of an eye we are here writing to you all again.

We have been working with MCN on another bathroom refurbishment, which is part of our improvement plans for the school building. With another bathroom refurbishment taking place in the Easter holidays, which will be completed by RENCO. These plans will continue over the coming terms, with some very exciting changes to come, but we'll save that for another time 😊



If you have visited us recently you will notice that part of our playground has been fenced off by Tilia Homes, who are building houses next door. Reason for this is because they have offered to level a space of our land which we were unable to access and create a new outdoor learning area, this work should be finished by May half term and we are hoping that the Outdoor Learning students will be able to access this space from September... Watch this space for updates.



Other exciting news we have welcomed Jacob into the Site Team, he has quickly become part of the Wren Family. On World Book Day he took sometime in classes to get to know more of our students, where he was part of story time. The students enjoyed Jacob's amazing story telling skills so much that he has been asked to go back, maybe not dressed as a pirate next time though.

What more can you fit in, I hear you say!!! We have more exciting projects to come, some to help improve our outdoor spaces and maybe a little bit of decorating over the coming months but stay tuned as in the next edition we will have more information about our summer projects.

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## School Safeguarding Information

Mike Tebbutt  
Deputy Headteacher



# Safeguarding means ... **SAFEGUARDING**

Providing help and support to meet the needs of children as **soon as problems emerge**

**Protecting** children from maltreatment within or outside the home, including online

**Preventing** impairment of children's mental and physical health or development

Making sure children receive **safe and effective care**

Taking action to enable all children to have the **best outcomes**

**Online Safety.**  
The NSPCC have useful information related to online safety, including for children with SEND. Please follow the link for more information [Keeping children safe online | NSPCC](#)

### **Different meetings attended by school:**

#### **Annual Review**

- Yearly meeting to review the Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and progress against EHCP Outcomes

#### **Post Admission Meetings**

- This meeting is held approximately 8 – 10 weeks after a new pupil starts at the school.

#### **Parent's Evening**

- An opportunity to meet with the class teacher during the 2nd part of the Summer Term. These are held in person or by phone. (Please remember that you can contact the class teacher through 'Class Dojo'.)

#### **Child in Need (CIN) Meetings**

- These are meetings organised by the allocated social worker for children who are supported by social care.

#### **Team Around the Family (TAF) Meetings**

- Are for families being supported by the school; these are part of the Early Help Assessment (EHA). If support is required by social care, then we must go through the EHA process.
- These meetings are usually attended by our Pastoral Team: Daniel (SENCo); Ceri (Family Support Worker) or Thea (Wellbeing Officer). If unavailable, then Mike (Deputy Head) or Josh (Headteacher) will attend.

**Useful Contacts:** - School is closed over the holidays but here are some useful contacts if you have any major concerns:

**MASH** - If you are worried or concerned about something that has happened to you, a friend or someone you know, please call the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub on 0300 126 7000.

**NSPCC** - If you have any concerns about a child. You can contact the NSPCC Helpline by calling 0808 800 5000 (10am–4pm Monday to Friday), emailing [help@NSPCC.org.uk](mailto:help@NSPCC.org.uk) or via their website. [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

**Childline** - telephone number is 0800 1111

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