



# Primary Newsletter



## Welcome

September is traditionally the month when many school-age students return to their studies, so a warm welcome back to those of you who are following the same structure and may have taken a long break during the summer months. It is also the time of year when Wolsey Hall has lots of new families join us, so we extend a very warm welcome to those of you who may be reading our newsletter for the first time. It continues to be busy in Primary, and we hope that families not only enjoy their courses with us, but also enjoy our Community site and Parent Forum, as well as connecting with others who are part of the Wolsey Hall family. We know that many of our students are still affected by Covid restrictions in their countries, so please be safe and look after each other.

Best wishes,  
Christine Armstrong,  
Head of Primary



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# New Lower Primary course launching!

We are pleased to announce that we have two new Lower Primary courses launching in September for Years 1 and 2.

## Lower Primary Humanities

Our Humanities course aims to develop children's awareness and knowledge of the world. Topics covered will range from exploring how life is different in contrasting locations around the world to learning about significant historical events and investigating prominent historical people.

This course covers the requirements of the UK Key Stage 1 English National Curriculum for Geography and History over two years.



## Competition time - Design a Wolsey Hall Owl!

Our first Primary competition has launched!

Can you spot the Wolsey Hall owls appearing throughout the Community site? Can you find them all and tell us how many there are?

We're also inviting you to design your very own Wolsey Hall owl!

You can choose whichever theme you would like your owl to have. Perhaps yours will be playing a sport, a musical instrument or cooking?

Competition entry details can be found on the Community site. Remember you can find your login details in your Primary Community course on Canvas.



# Spotlight On...

Ten-year-old Jenuli from Singapore impressed us all with her amazing entry to our new Creative Writing Club. In August we asked students to create a tourist fact file and Jenuli created a fantastic 25-page fact file for Sri Lanka.

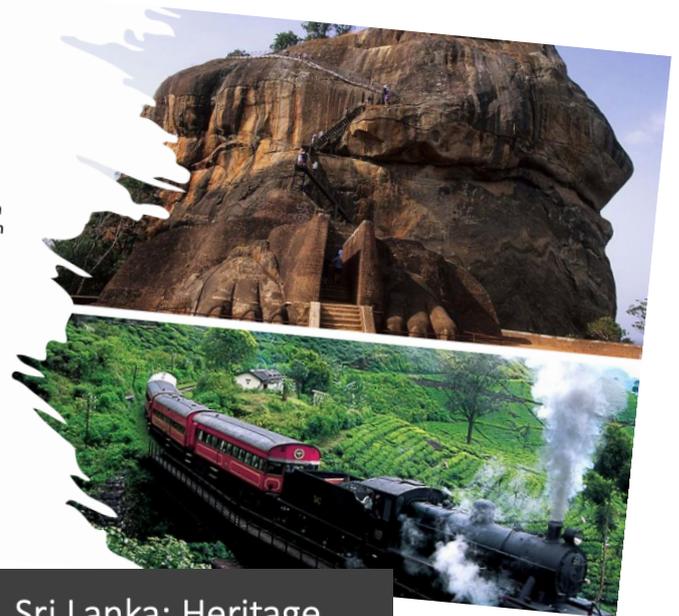
If you are interested in your child being featured in our Student Spotlight please email [Christine Armstrong](mailto:Christine.Armstrong@...).



## How to go to Sigiriya

As there are possibly no direct flights from wherever you are from to Sigiriya, You can take a flight from India to Colombo International Airport with almost 19 flights operating from New Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore, & Chennai.

After you reach Colombo, the easiest thing would be to board a train from there to Sigiriya. The cost will be about 800 – 1,200 LKR and it's around an hour and 33 minutes from Colombo with jaw-dropping sights along the way. The best option would be to board the train from Colombo Fort to Habrana, which is 15 km.



## Sri Lanka: Heritage

- Sri Lanka has many heritage sights. Some examples are Polonnaruwa, Anuradhapura, Dambulla, Galle, Kandy, and the topic in which I am making a fact file on just happens to be a no 1 heritage sight in Sri Lanka: Sigiriya.
- Anuradhapura is a large and well-known city in Sri Lanka. It is famous for its preserved ruins.
- Kandy is a city in Sri Lanka set in sumptuous mountains which hold tea plants and lush rainforest. Located in the heart of the city is the picturesque Kandy lake (Bogambara lake). Kandy is popular as it is the place where the sacred buddha's tooth resides.
- Polonnaruwa is the remains of the royal kingdom of Polonnaruwa.
- Sigiriya is an ancient fortress of King Ravana
- Galle is known for Galle fort, the city found by Portuguese colonists in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century.



## Student Shoutouts

Each month we say 'HELLO' to some of our Primary students around the world. Keep working hard and making us, your family and yourself proud.

This month we are saying hello to:

Afiyah, age 7, South Africa  
 Alizhan, age 6, Kazakhstan  
 Belal, age 6, Saudi Arabia  
 Ciara, age 8, Singapore  
 Eliora, age 6, UAE  
 Georgios, age 7, Egypt  
 Jumana, age 6, Ghana  
 Khansa, age 5, Pakistan  
 Darius, age 6, Romania  
 Osama, age 6, UK  
 Reign, age 8, South Africa  
 Shinji, age 6, Malaysia  
 Ahmed Meezan, age 7, Qatar  
 Giada, age 7, USA  
 Joshua, age 7, Saudi Arabia  
 Lewis, age 7, UK  
 Kareem, age 7, Russia  
 Milo, age 7, UAE  
 Ronan, age 7, Kuwait  
 Yosuf, age 8, UK  
 Aasiyah, age 8, Saudi Arabia  
 Layla, age 8, UK  
 Julia, age 8, Indonesia  
 Maria, age 8, Singapore  
 Elana, age 8, Bahrain  
 Rumeysa, age 8, Belgium  
 Bem, age 9, Kenya  
 Jackson, age 7, Oman  
 William, age 8, Malta  
 Janina, age 9, Mozambique  
 Aily, age 8, China  
 Reinhardt Petrus, age 9, Malaysia  
 Eliam Psalmuele, age 8, UAE  
 Anthony, age 8, Hungary  
 Maya, age 9, France  
 Sozo, age 9, Ghana

Bruno, age 9, Ecuador  
 Manuela Garcia, age 9, Qatar  
 Belle, age 9, UK  
 Zeeshan, age 9, Zimbabwe  
 Harriet, age 9, Ireland  
 Archer, age 9, Kenya  
 Sammy, age 9, Canada  
 Jett, age 10, UAE  
 Joviann, age 9, Malaysia  
 Denisa, age 9, Romania  
 Maria, age 10, Spain  
 Zayan, age 10, Oman  
 Damian Jie Kai, age 10, Malaysia  
 Obaida, age 10, China  
 Adhrisht, age 10, India  
 Samriddhi, age 10, India  
 Sophia, age 10, UAE  
 Elizabeth, age 10, Belgium  
 Alberts, age 10, Latvia  
 Miriam, age 11, Germany  
 Roberta, age 10, Zambia  
 Liubomyr, age 11, Ukraine  
 Yashvi, age 11, India  
 Tshegofatso, age 11, South Africa  
 Emma, age 11, UK  
 Fatima Spogmai, age 11, Pakistan  
 Safeya, age 11, UAE  
 Giovanni Garcia, age 11, Qatar  
 Alexy, age 12, Singapore  
 Dahlia, age 12, Thailand  
 Raygan, age 12, UK  
 Russell, age 13, UK  
 Faheem, age 14, Indonesia  
 Changle, age 14, China  
 Abdullah, age 9, UK  
 Sarah Elise, age 9, UAE

## Did you join Show & Tell?

At the end of August, Wolsey Hall Primary Community held its first ever Show & Tell sessions for the Art and LEGO® clubs.

It was an opportunity for some of our Primary students to come together and show their lizard designs in Art club, or their spaceship builds in LEGO® club. Ms Rachael, Primary tutor and Art Club leader, and Ms Emilie, Primary tutor and LEGO® club leader, hosted the Zoom meetings and were thrilled to meet and talk with students from all around the world - we even had a family joining us from their sailing boat!

During the Show & Tell, families shared who they were and where they were, and showed us their club challenge task. Some showed us the actual work they had created, and others had taken a photo of it to share with us. It was fantastic to see such creativity and developing skills from our budding artists and engineers and to hear more about how they created their pieces.



Jane, age 6 from India, joined our Art Club meet up.



Why not have a go at the September challenge for Art Club and/or LEGO Club, and come along to our next Show & Tell sessions?

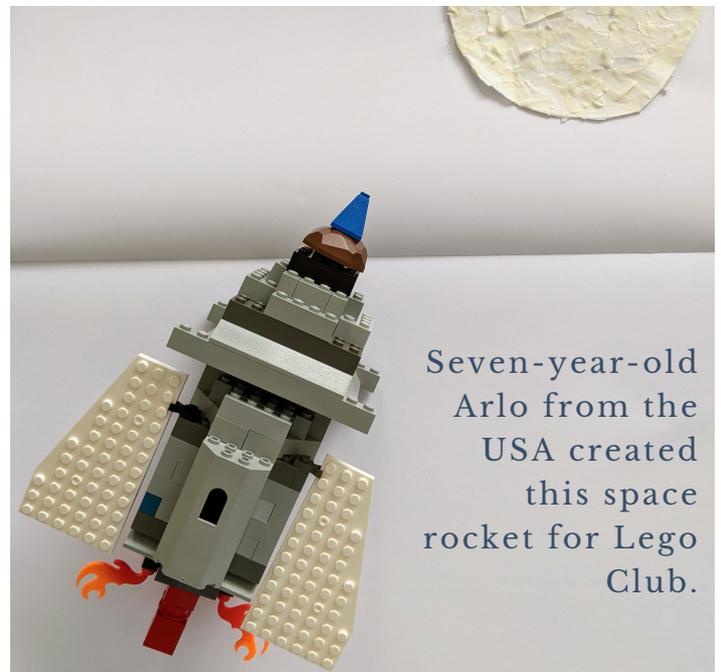
### Art Club

September theme: **Optical illusions**  
Show & Tell: Friday 24 September – 9am and 4pm (UK time).

### LEGO® Club

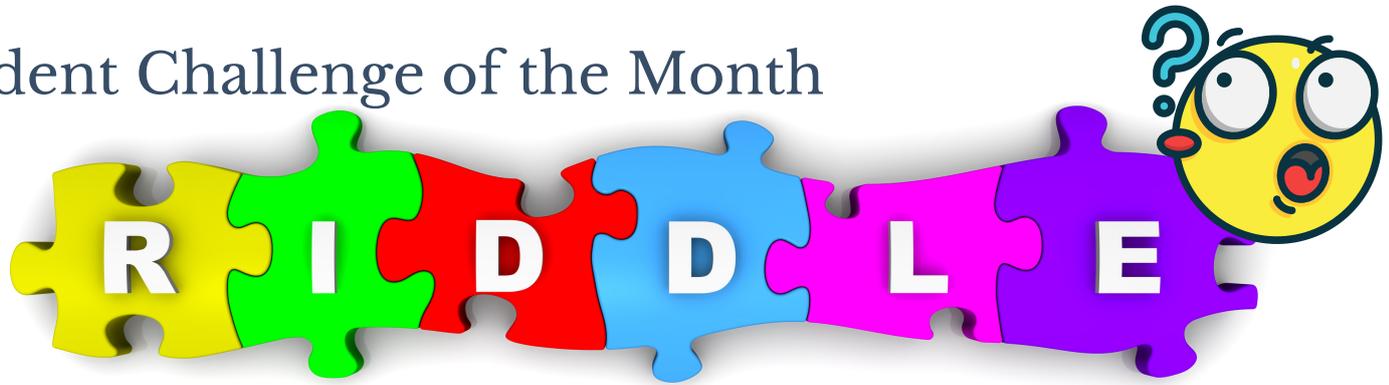
September theme: **Building a racing car**  
Show & Tell: Sunday 26 September – 9am and 4pm (UK time).

For more information about the clubs and the Zoom details, visit our Primary Community site. The September password can be found in your 'Primary Community Course' on Canvas.



Seven-year-old Arlo from the USA created this space rocket for Lego Club.

# Student Challenge of the Month



Riddles are fun brainteasers that don't have the answer that you might expect. It's an enjoyable way to get others thinking about what the answer could be. Here are some examples of riddles:

**Which word becomes shorter when you add 2 letters to it?**

Answer: The word "short".

**You're running a race and at the very end, you pass the person in second place. What place did you finish the race in?**

Answer: You finished in second place.

**What goes away as soon as you talk about it?**

Answer: Silence.

**What can jump higher than a building?**

Answer: Anything that can jump — buildings don't jump!

Can you create five riddles of your own? Can you outsmart your family or friends with your riddles? Give it a go and see if they can work out your answers.

You're welcome to email your riddles to [Christine Armstrong](mailto:Christine.Armstrong).

## Resource Corner

Looking for some reading book options for your children? [Toppsta](http://Toppsta) provides lists of books by age that have been reviewed and recommended by other children. If you are looking for suitable books to purchase or to loan from our virtual library, this site may be a good place to start.



The website says, "Launched by Georgina Atwell in Autumn 2014, as a Mum to two young children, she realised just how hard it was to find books that were age and reading-level appropriate. Determined to provide other parents and children with an easier way to find great books, Toppsta.com was launched from the kitchen table."

*Wolsey Hall is not affiliated with this site and is not responsible for any of its content.*



## Nurturing curiosity in children

Curiosity is defined in the dictionary as ‘a strong desire to know or learn something.’ Children are naturally curious, and it is only as we begin to get older that this can lessen, and we become more accepting of things being as they are just because they are, rather than wanting to know more. Of course, this doesn’t apply to all people, and there are many great curious adult minds out there, but for some of us these words will ring true.

So, how can we help children to grow their curiosity and maintain their wonder of things as they get older? Encouraging curiosity from a young age can help to instil a love of learning and a desire to learn new things (a curious mind). As parents, there are several things we can do to nurture this. Here are just a few:

- **Think out loud.** It is great role-modelling to show others how to be curious. Use phrases like, ‘I wonder why...’, ‘Hmm, how did...’, ‘Wow, I’m curious to find out...’
- **Share your interests and passions.** Seeing other people being enthusiastic about something can be infectious.
- **Show your child the world.** This doesn’t need to be physically as we have access to the world at our fingertips these days. Show them different places, people, cultures and beliefs to spark their curiosity.
- **Follow up on ‘I don’t know’.** Children ask lots of questions, and often ones that we don’t have the answers to. It can feel like we say, ‘I don’t know’ and ‘I’m not sure’ often. When this happens, ask your child to find out the answer or suggest you look it up together online.
- **At an age where children are naturally curious, don’t discourage their curious nature.** If your child is exploring the feel of sand beneath their toes, or the squelch of mud between their fingers, try to go along with your child’s curiosity and ask them some questions about what they are doing, why they are doing it, and what they have found out.
- **Be a family that questions.** Curiosity can lead to questions, and questions can lead to curiosity. Encourage your child to ask lots of questions about the world and ask your child lots of questions too.

## Parent Forum

It was wonderful to see so many of our Primary parents signing up for our new Parent Forum. Have you joined yet? It's easy to do and offers a great new way to connect with other Primary Wolsey Hall families. Share homeschooling problems and challenges, offer advice and tips, and find others in your country.

## Primary Community

Sign in to our Community site for competitions, clubs, bulletins and access to our virtual library.

The password to gain access changes each month and can be found in your child's Canvas course list under 'Primary Community'.



### Primary Clubs

Why not give one of our Clubs a try?



Art Club



Cookery Club



Creative Writing Club



Lego Club



Nature Club



Chess Club

## Community Support

We have Wolsey Hall students in 120 countries. Are you making the most of our opportunities to connect with other homeschooling families worldwide?



Our Primary Level Parents [Facebook Group](#) is a private group to connect with other families, share ideas and information. Have you joined yet?



Our [YouTube channel](#) is full of videos from students and their families who are sharing advice and tips for successful homeschooling.



Our chess club can be found on the Community site and is open to students aged 5 and older. It is an opportunity for you to meet other Wolsey Hall students and play chess together.