



# Wellesley Park Primary School

Headteacher: Carly Wilkins  
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Homefield, Wellington  
Somerset, TA21 9AJ

20th December 2024

## Headteacher's Comment



Dear Parents/Carers,

As we reach the end of the Autumn term, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the many achievements and memorable moments we have shared over the past few weeks.

This term has been filled with exciting developments and events. We have focused on enhancing our communication and refreshing our school logos and branding to promote our school's image and foster a stronger sense of pride and unity among pupils, staff, and families. The installation of a new vinyl wrap in our school hall has been a highlight, showcasing our updated branding and celebrating our community spirit.

The festive season has brought a wonderful array of activities and celebrations. Our talented choir, under the guidance of Mrs. Lewis, has spread Christmas cheer with performances at Wells Cathedral and St. John's Church in Wellington, in collaboration with the Wellington Silver Band. These events have highlighted the dedication and musical talent of our students, making us all incredibly proud.

Our Christmas Carol Concert, Nativity plays, Pantos, Christmas lunch and Christmas Fair have further enriched our festive celebrations, bringing joy and excitement to our school community. These events have been a testament to the creativity and enthusiasm of our pupils, staff and volunteers. I would like to pay a special thank you to our amazing PTA for organising our Fair and for having to make last minute adjustments due to the red weather alert.



I am deeply grateful for the continued support and dedication of our staff, parents, and community members. Together, we have achieved so much, and I look forward to all that we will accomplish in the coming year.

Wishing you all a joyous holiday season and a prosperous New Year! We look forward to seeing you and your children on Monday 6th January 2024.

With best wishes,

*Mrs Wilkins*

Headteacher

## Staffing News

We are sad to say goodbye to Miss Hill, who has been an invaluable member of our team. We wish her all the best in her future endeavours. At the same time, we are delighted to welcome Miss Hellier to our school community and look forward to the positive impact she will bring.

## Attendance

### Attendance Event: Jump into January!

We are excited to announce our **Jump into January** attendance event! To encourage and reward excellent attendance, we have a special incentive for all our pupils.

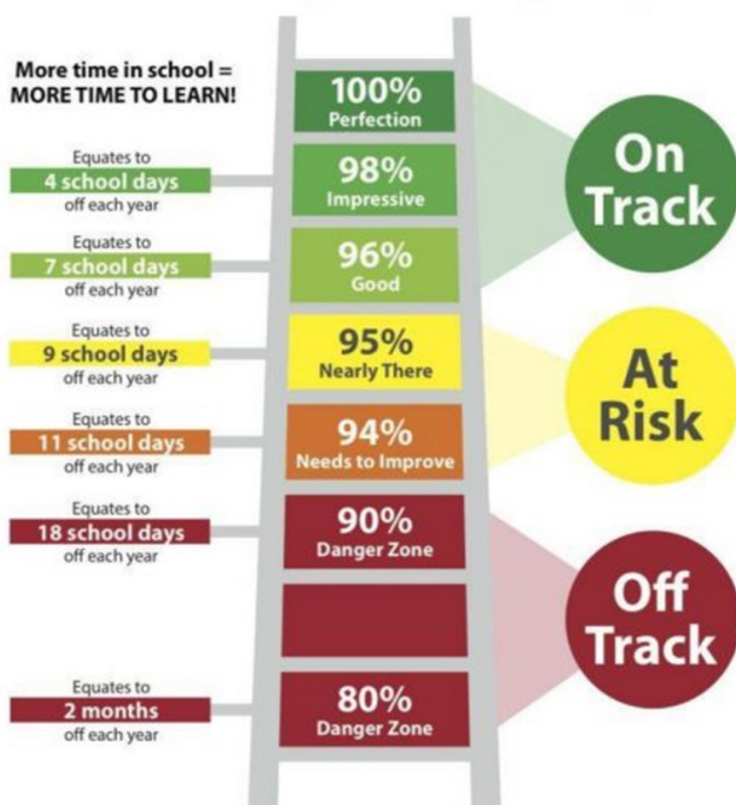
#### How it works:

- Every pupil who achieves **100% attendance** throughout January will receive a raffle ticket.
- At the end of the month, we will hold a raffle with **four £50 Asda Vouchers** up for grabs! The raffle will be held on the 31<sup>st</sup> January in our afternoon celebration assembly.

This is a fantastic opportunity to start the new year with a commitment to regular attendance and be in with a chance to win a great prize. Let's make January a month of perfect attendance and set the tone for a successful year ahead!

We look forward to seeing everyone in school every day in January. Good luck!

### How close are you to reaching the top?



### Attendance - by class from 04/09/2024 to 19/12/2024

Peake	97.03%	Spruce	96.32%	Bell	95.10%
Earhart	96.67%	Henson	95.02%	Kingsley	93.36%
Norgay	96.11%	Attenborough	96.34%	Jemison	96.56%
Shackleton	97.32%	Darwin	95.83%		

## Wellesley Park School Values

Our Wellesley Park value for this half term period is Respect.

*“How do you show respect to other people?”*

*“How will you show respect over the Christmas period?”*



## Online Safety - Christmas Devices

Before gifting your child a new device over the festive season, make sure to set it up safely. This will ensure you stay in control of what they can access and when, to give them a better experience as soon as they unbox it.

Set Up Safe have designed a simple checklist to give you peace of mind regarding your child's safety on the internet.

Key points to take away:

- Set up parental controls
- Ensure there is a password if a bank account is set up to the app store
- Disable location services
- Talk about e-safety issues with your child to build an open relationship about the topic
- Check all settings if a social media app is being installed



**Get started**

- Set parental controls on your broadband to prevent your children seeing things they shouldn't
- For smart phones check parental controls are also set up on the mobile network

**Set up the device safely**

- Use the device setting so you can only download age appropriate apps and games
- Disable location services so your child doesn't unintentionally share their location with others
- Set up password control or disable in-app purchasing so big bills are not run up accidentally
- Download age appropriate apps you're happy for your child to use

## Message from Wellesley Park PTA

On behalf of the PTA, we would like to thank each and every one of you for all your support in our first term as chairs.

We will be sending out our own newsletter in the New Year to update you on what we have raised this term and an update of where the money is being spent.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and look forward to bringing more events in the New Year.

Sam Lockyer and Paula Adams - PTA Co-Chairs



## House Dojo Points Update

Congratulations to Quantock house for achieving the most dojo points for this half-term period. We hope you enjoyed your reward of a non-school uniform day on Wednesday.

We are looking forward to seeing how many points each house can achieve in the Spring term.

Well done everyone.



## Wellesley Park Explorers

We have been very busy getting ready for Christmas. The children have enjoyed opening the doors in our Santa advent calendar and getting stuck in with lots of glittery Christmas messy play!

The children made us all super proud when they performed the Christmas songs they have been practising throughout the half term. They all sang beautifully in the school hall in front of all their parents and grandparents, before having a surprise visit from Father Christmas! The children were all amazing, and we are hoping to do more 'shows' in the future.

When not spreading glitter, making hats and decorations, cooking and taking part in other 'Christmassy' activities, we have been continuing learning our phonic sounds and building confidence and friendships through play.



## Reception

Reception have had a busy few weeks in the run up to Christmas. The children have been very busy learning the words and actions for the songs in our Nativity play 'A Bundle of Joy'. They have all relished taking on speaking parts too and have been so enthusiastic during our rehearsals.

We have enjoyed making Christmas decorations by threading beads in repeated patterns.

The children have done so well in their phonics and are using what they have learnt in their reading and writing. We have been doing lots of work on writing CVC words with the correct letter formation. The children have written captions and sentences, remembering to use finger spaces between each word and a full stop at the end.

We have learnt all about numbers up to 5, including finding one more and one less than a number. In their art work the children have looked at the works of Van Gogh and have created their own starry night pictures inspired by his famous painting 'Starry Night'.



## Year 1

We are so proud of how much our Year Ones have achieved in the past 15 weeks! They have worked so unbelievably hard, and they deserve a lovely break over the next few weeks!

They have worked tirelessly in English, further learning how to include detail in their story writing and we have even learnt how to write a non-chronological report!

The children have done incredibly well with the first set of new sounds in our phonics lessons and this has had a wonderful impact on their reading. We can't wait to continue watching their progress over the coming year.

We are also very proud of all the children for their roles in the nativity. They worked so hard on their lines, the songs and the dances! Well done!

Have a wonderful half term and a lovely rest and we will see you in the New Year!



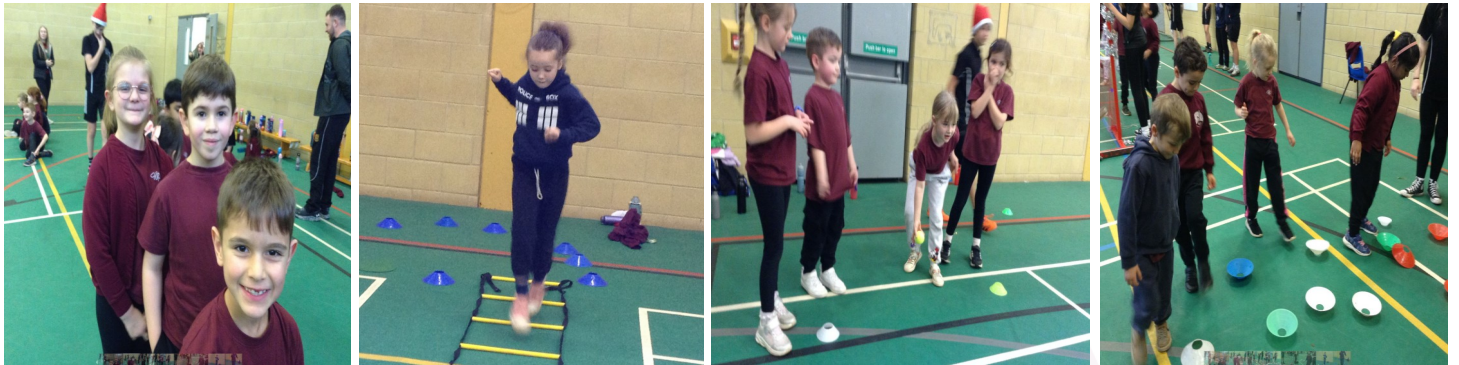
## Year 2

What a busy term it has been! The highlight, of course, was the nativity - 'Bethlehem Ballroom'. The children worked very hard to learn their lines, sing the songs beautifully and know when to come on and off the stage. Thank you to the parents who helped the children learn their lines and organised the costumes. It was wonderful to see the children's confidence growing with each performance - especially the children who are quite shy.

As well as this, we had the Year 2 Festival of Sport at Court Fields School. The children had a wonderful time! So many different fun sporting activities were put on and the senior school students were great at supporting and encouraging our children.

13 of our Year 2 children were part of the choir and performed amazingly well at several Christmas events.

And finally, it leads us to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We have a packed Spring term ahead so get lots of rest and we'll see you on January 6th.



## Year 3/4

How is it Christmas already? Years 3 and 4 have had a hard-working term and have shown amazing determination during this busy part of the year.

With some hair-raising suspense stories now written, our new focus in English, is on recount texts such as newspaper articles. Already, we have explored some key features of newspapers, where the children have been very imaginative in creating their own headlines for images.

We have now finished our class book, 'The Firework Makers Daughter', comparing our ending predictions, to the descriptive firework finale. Over the past two weeks, we have explored different poems and how the pace and volume we read can have a great effect on the delivery of the poem. We hope you all enjoyed your class's reading of 'Twas The Night Before Christmas'!



The children have shown us how far their maths knowledge has progressed, by each of them excelling in their end of term maths assessments! With constant times-table practise throughout this term, combined between lessons and short-burst games, Year 3 and 4 have blown us away with their progression in the MTC practises we have held this term.

With our Science topic, sound, coming to an end, the children have enjoyed the many experiments where they have investigated changing the amplitude and pitch of different objects.

In DT, the children have explored different mechanisms on how to move an object and have finished creating their very own Go Karts!

We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and a well-earned rest!

## Year 5

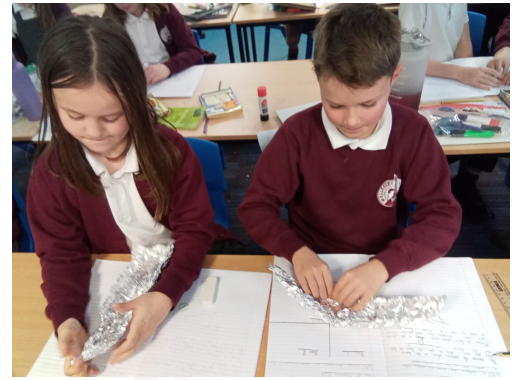
Towards the end of this term, Year 5 have experienced a wide range of wonderful learning and exciting opportunities.

In English lessons, we have been focusing on writing exciting setting descriptions and have learnt how to write and structure an engaging warning tale. The stories were fabulous!

In our afternoons, we concluded our investigation into forces where we created parachutes and tin foil boats to observe the impact of force in our daily lives.

In Geography, we have thoroughly enjoyed studying Bristol and learning all about its human and physical features. The children engaged particularly well with the chance to work in teams to create and present a sustainable project for a greener Bristol.

We have ended this term with two fantastic Christmas visits which involved the carol service at the church, where Year 5 children retold the Christmas story, and the pantomime which was cracking!



## Year 6

What an amazing half term Year 6 have had! There has been some amazing work going on in all of the Year 6 classrooms and we are incredibly proud of the effort they are putting in.

In English, the children have been writing portal stories by using a short story called The Gas Mask for inspiration. They have all been able to create their own portal stories where the characters have been whisked away to new and exciting places. All of the children are really starting to develop their descriptive writing to help immerse the reader in the story.

In Maths, we have continued to learn all about fractions and have moved on to finding a percentage of an amount. The children have all worked incredibly hard at this and have been able to make some fantastic progress over the space of a few weeks.

We have to say a huge well done to all the Year 6 students for how they handled our most recent assessment week. Many of the children have made amazing progress and they are all growing in confidence.

In the last few weeks, we have been able to visit the church for our amazing carol concert and all of the children have made wonderful book explosions to finish off our Rooftoppers text.

We hope that everyone is able to have a well-deserved rest of the Christmas holidays and we will look forward to seeing everyone again in January. Merry Christmas!

