



# Wellesley Park Primary School

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Wellesley Park Primary School  
Homefield, Wellington  
Somerset, TA21 9AJ

21st June 2024



## Headteacher's Comment

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Sports Day

Our EYFS-Yr3 & Yr4-6 Sports Day were fantastic events! Our programme allowed children to find new talents, find a new love of sport and created long-lasting memories. All our children took part in a carousel of sports that they have learnt over the year. We are immensely proud of every single child for showing resilience, enthusiasm, and support for their peers.

We are sure all parents will join with us to say how proud we are of the sporting conduct of our children; it was truly touching to see them cheering and supporting each other throughout!



It was so lovely to have such positive feedback about the arrangements, as well as some ideas about how to improve for next year. Sports Days take a lot of organising prior to the event and on the day. My special thanks go to Mr Chamberlain and Mr Morris, for organising both days. Again, thank you to everyone who turned out to support our Sports Days. I hope you all enjoyed them as much as we did.

There will be a whole school celebration assembly to celebrate the children's achievements and success. Our Year 6 House Captains will reveal which house team has amassed the most points to lift the Wellesley Park Sports Trophy!

### PTA

Thank you to everyone who has supported our wonderful PTA with our school events this year. A special thank you to our PTA who organised our traditional Superman Gift Shop, which always is a big hit with our children. Our children love choosing a special gift!



The summer school disco was as popular as ever and all our children have a wonderful time singing and dancing.

Finally, I would like to thank the PTA for agreeing to donating £3500 (half the costs) towards a new class set of pupil laptops. We are hoping that the Trust IT team will be able to get this all set up over the summer holidays ready for us to use in the new academic year.

### Whole school attendance

Our whole school attendance from the start of the school year is currently 95.2%! The whole school attendance average for Somerset Schools is currently 92% and we are therefore 3% above this!

Reminder that we have two INSET days, next week, on Thursday 27th and Friday+ 28th June.

Have a lovely weekend!

With best wishes,

*Mrs Wilkins*  
Headteacher

## Attendance - by class from 06/09/2023 to 20/06/2024

Peake	96.63%	Norgay	95.13%	Shackleton	95.14%	Kingsley	92.72%
Darwin	93.52%	Sharman	96.06%	Earhart	94.55%		
Henson	95.07%	Attenborough	96.56%	Armstrong	94.04%		
Cousteau	95.36%	Spruce	96.81%	Bell	96.46%		

## Wellesley Park School Values

Our Wellesley Park value for this half term period is 'Responsibility'.

"What does it mean to be responsible?"

"What should you do when something isn't going well?"



### What is the responsibility?

A responsibility is something that you are expected to do, or a way you are expected to act in a given situation. Being responsible leads to more trust and freedom because people know they can count on you to do the things you are expected to do. Being responsible can also be a big part of keeping you safe. It also means accepting the consequences of our actions.

## Online Safety Update - Popping Up For Attention

A recent study reviewed 135 different apps aimed at children and found that 100% of free apps and 88% of paid apps (many of which were labelled 'educational'), included pop-up advertisements. With some pop-ups being associated with deceptive marketing and potential scams, it can be concerning to see just how prevalent these online features are.

Despite the risks pop-up advertising poses to people online – especially children – there is plenty you can do to minimise the threat.

As parents and carers, it is important to try and do the following: check the privacy settings, most devices allow you to limit the advertising shown; monitor the content, this helps reduce the chance of a child clicking on something malicious; cutting down the screen time, this will reduce the exposure to digital advertising.

Please see the attached full guide.

**What Parents & Educators Need to Know about POP-UP ADS**

Pop-up advertisements have been a staple of the internet since they were first introduced in the late 1990s. This form of advertising causes a small window or banner to appear in the foreground while someone is browsing a website. Although these adverts are merely irritating for most people, pop-ups can present more severe risks to younger users.

**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**

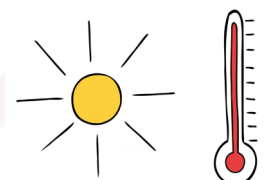
- DECEPTIVE TACTICS**: Children sometimes don't understand that adverts (including pop-ups) are designed to sell a product – and can't distinguish between a legitimate feature of a site and an advertisement. Video games, for example, can be full of pop-up ads that tempt users into spending money, yet they might take the form of a mini-game or extra level.
- INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT**: While some adverts are targeted based on a user's interests and activity online, that isn't always the case. This means that children may unintentionally be exposed to ads for age-inappropriate goods or services such as tobacco products, alcohol and gambling sites.
- MALWARE RISK**: Most pop-ups from reputable advertisers are safe. However, in some cases, pop-ups can trick you into downloading malware – whereby a harmful or illegal software is installed on your device, allowing them to access your sensitive data. It can be difficult to know if malware has been installed on your device, so your best option is to avoid engaging with these pop-ups altogether. Be wary of sites that suddenly become very slow or try to prevent you from leaving.
- PRIVACY RISK**: Many app and game developers will collect their users' personal data, such as their name, address, email address, geolocation, information, unique numerical identifiers, photos and payment information. If a child clicks on an illegitimate pop-up loaded with malware, all this information could be put at risk.
- RACKING UP BILLS**: If a child has access to a payment card on their device – be it a smartphone, laptop, or tablet – they could very quickly rack up a massive bill by interacting with pop-up adverts and buying products shown to them. Try to keep a close eye on their spending.
- BEHAVIOURAL IMPACT**: Research has found that pop-up ads can even have an impact on children's behaviour. Some of these adverts use manipulative tactics that take advantage of children's developmental vulnerabilities, intentionally or otherwise. This approach may cause a child's mood to shift, becoming more stubborn, for example, if they begin wanting their parents to buy a specific product for them.

**Advice for Parents & Educators**

- REMOVE ADS**: Start a conversation with children about online advertising so that they understand the risks of interacting with pop-ups. For example, if a child asks for a product which has been advertised to them online, ask them why they want it and how they found it; this will present an opportunity to talk youngsters through the tactics used in online marketing.
- SPOT THE SIGNS**: If you're concerned that a child may be following pop-up ads to make online purchases or viewing content that could be harmful, it's important to be able to spot the signs. Due to the often-manipulative nature of these adverts, children who interact with them regularly may show signs of distraction, stubbornness and an increasingly materialistic worldview.
- MONITOR CONTENT**: It can often be difficult to spot when a pop-up advert is malicious – even more so for impressionable younger users. It's important to monitor the content they're consuming to prevent them from clicking on something dangerous. If a pop-up ad seems too good to be true – promising a free iPad, for example – it probably is.
- PRIVACY SETTINGS**: Most modern devices have privacy settings that let you limit the amount of advertising a child is subjected to while using apps or browsing the internet. You may also want to speak to teachers about avoiding sites and apps with advertising, as well as adjusting digital privacy settings on any education technology they use.
- LIMIT SPENDING**: Try to stay aware of what children are spending and ensure that payment details aren't linked to or saved on the gaming platform that they use. Most video games and internet-enabled devices have settings that can help you manage what children can or cannot purchase online.
- CUT DOWN ON SCREEN TIME**: Given the prevalence of pop-up ads (which can appear on everything from smartphones and tablets to internet-connected toys and games), it might be beneficial to limit the time children spend on digital devices to curb their exposure to digital advertising.

## Warm Weather Safety

Please can all children come to school with a sun hat/cap and a named water bottle each day. Please can children also have sun cream applied before they come in to school.





## Wellesley Park Explorers

We have been busy with our new topic 'Healthy Me', which has created lots of autonomous learning opportunities for our Pre-school children to explore.



We have explored various foods and categorised them into healthy and unhealthy groups, allowing our children to understand the benefits of healthy eating. The children have also enjoyed making 'food plates'. They have coloured in their own food choices, using fine motor control and promoting their communication and language skills by telling adults about their favourite foods. The children have also been learning about various fruits and vegetables, and have used scissors and pretend knives to cut them.

We have also been learning lots about our teeth and have been busy cleaning pretend teeth with toothbrushes. Children have gained an understanding to why we brush our teeth and how many times they should do this for.



We have started our transition process for our Pre-school leavers who will be starting school in September. They have been visiting school to enjoy stories and playtimes in order to familiarise themselves with their new environments.

The children have also been wearing school uniform in our role play area, and have been acting out their visits within the setting promoting their imaginations.

## Reception

The Reception children are enjoying a very busy term! We have been learning about the coast and the types of animals that live there in Geography. The children have been enjoying doubling and halving numbers in Maths, as well as becoming even more confident with addition and subtraction. They are writing at least one sentence every day in Phonics, and also writing longer words, such as 2 syllable words.

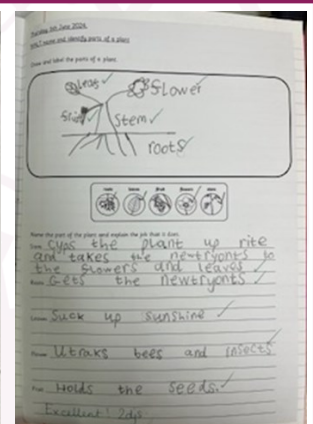
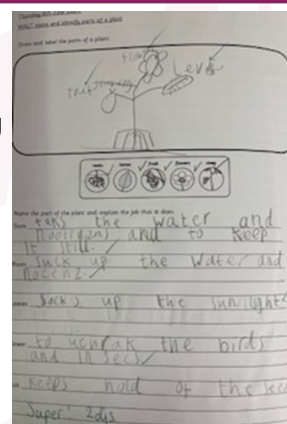
We enjoyed a trip to Somerset Museum to consolidate our learning from last term on Kings and Queens and life in a castle. The children had a great time! We made our own shield designs, got to dress up and role play being a Queen, King or Knight, had a tour of the museum and then did our own museum quiz in the afternoon.



## Year 1

What a quick few weeks! Firstly we want to say a HUGE well done to all of the year one children for their complete determination and effort during the phonics screening check. We were astounded and felt extremely proud of every single one of you!

We've been busy learning as always. In English, we began our new fiction topic of 'The Elves and the Shoemaker'. We have begun learning about description again, thinking back to the tools we have already learnt as well as new ones to put into our independent writing. We can't wait to see where this topic takes us.



In Maths, we have completed our place value to 100 topic which was excellent. The children used their knowledge of place value to 50 brilliantly to support them during this topic. We have now moved on to money and have begun to look at how coins have a certain value. In Science, we are learning about plants. We began with parts of a plant and the job that they do. Then we looked at the difference between garden and wild plants. The children went on a plant walk to see which plants they could identify using a plant identification key. They were surprised to find lots of different plant types and thoroughly enjoyed learning about them.

Also, Sports Day must be mentioned! What an amazing effort from all the children! Again, we couldn't be any prouder of you all. We are super sad that this is our last half term but we will make sure it is a good one!

## Year 2/3

Last week Year 2 and 3 visited the Tutankhamun Exhibition and the Dinosaur Museum in Dorset. In the Dinosaur museum they were able to spend time looking at dinosaur skeletons and find out about the different fossils discovered locally and further afield. This week in Science, we learnt about who Mary Anning was and why she is still important today. The children were able to tell us so much about her already that they had learnt during our trip.

In the Tutankhamun Exhibition, the children were immersed in the experience as Howard Carter would have been when he discovered the tomb in 1922. They walked through the ante-chamber and into the burial chamber where they could see a recreation of the extravagant sarcophagus Tutankhamun was buried in.

It was such a pleasure to take the children on the trip – they were fantastic representatives of the school.



## Year 4

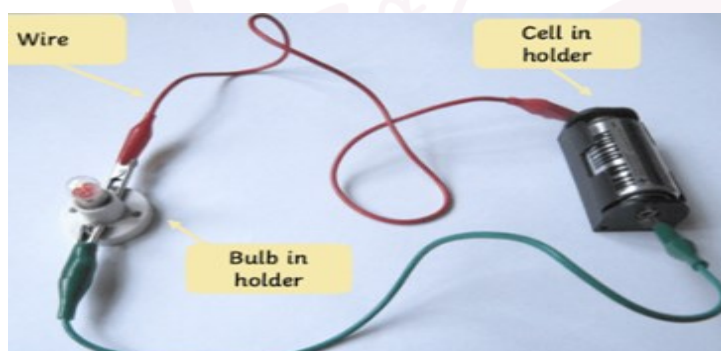
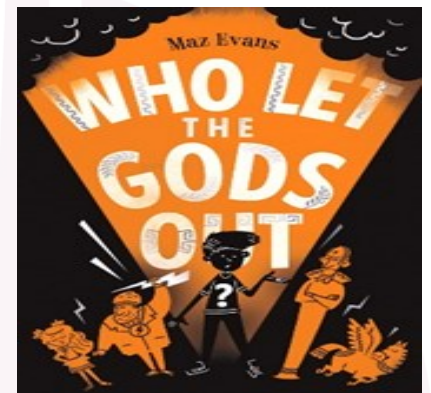
Have you ever asked your child not to do something and they do it anyway? Well, Year 4 have been studying cautionary tales, realising why they should be following warnings given to them! Their imaginative ideas have been shown through expressive expanded noun phrases and even applying semi-colons to develop their complex sentences.

We are now reading our final book this year in guided reading, 'Who let the Gods out?'. Already we have witnessed hidden secrets in Stonehenge, released a terrifying immortal and now on the hunt for Zeus!

The children have thrown themselves into this book, making amazing inferences and even writing in the style of a character (complaining about Quick Styx Cabs)!

The MTCs (Multiplication Tables Check) have now come to an end and we are all so proud of how well every child has done! They have all proved how knowledgeable and lightning-quick they are at recalling their timestables, exceeding all expectations. Well done Year 4!

In Science, we have been learning about electricity and how to safely use it. Year 4 have built their own circuits, investigating what components are required for a lightbulb (lamp) to remain lit. They are all eager to continue with their scientific enquiries, with plans to build circuits involving switches and different conductors over the next weeks.





## Year 5

We have had a great few weeks in Year 5! Before half term, we were lucky enough to go on our school trip to Noah's Ark Zoo. We had such a great time, the children thoroughly enjoyed seeing all of the different animals and learning about their different habitats. Some highlights included feeding the meercats, stroking the corn snake and holding the leaf bug. Year 5 were so well behaved and represented our school impeccably.



In Maths, we have come to the end of our unit on decimals. All of the children worked so hard during this unit, and have shown a great understanding of decimals. For the rest of this term, we are going to be learning about negative numbers, converting units and volume. Remember to keep practising your times tables Year 5 as this will really help you in Maths as you move in to Year 6.

In English, we are well underway in our portal story unit. We have completed lots of short burst writing looking at different grammatical aspects of our stories, and we have just begun to write our own together as a class. The children have so many creative ideas, and we are so excited to read their writing at the end of this unit.



In Guided Reading, we are coming to the end of our novel, Brightstorm. We have absolutely loved reading this book. The children have produced some fantastic work and it has been so lovely to see them so engaged in a book.

In Geography, we have begun our unit on the America. We have been exploring the USA and making comparisons between the USA, The United Kingdom and Iceland. Within this unit we have also enjoyed learning how mountains are formed, and what causes earthquakes.

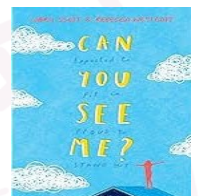


Keep up the good work Year 5!

## Year 6

This term, our amazing year 6 children have had a wonderful time preparing for their upcoming end of year performance. Every child was given the opportunity to audition and blew us away with their passion and enthusiasm. Rehearsals have been going well and we are excited to share this with the rest of the school and parents in the final weeks of school - separate letter to follow.

In Guided Reading, we have started the book 'Can you see me' by Libby Scott and Rebecca Westcott. The children are really enjoying finding out about the main character's transition to secondary school (Tally, a child with Autism) and have been working hard to understand how she feels based on inferences made in the text.



In Maths, we are completing a Natwest banking unit called 'Money Sense'. Within this unit, the children have found out about different types of accounts, how banks work, investigated spending on bank statements and looked at how foreign currency is exchanged.

Transition preparations for secondary school have begun and we know that the children are excited about visiting their schools in the coming weeks. We enjoyed Sports Day this week and we are looking forward to Bikeability sessions next.

Finally, we are reaching the end of our History unit on The Titanic. The children have analysed who might be responsible for the disaster after considering the evidence from both Primary and Secondary sources.

