



Wellesley Park Primary School

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

21st July 2024



Headteacher's Comment

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our final newsletter of the academic year! As always, it has been a busy year with much to celebrate. I am deeply honoured to witness the countless wonderful experiences that unfold each day for our children. Our school is not just a place for academic growth, but also a nurturing ground for young minds to explore, innovate, and excel. Here's to another year of creating memories, overcoming challenges, and celebrating successes.

I wish to say a huge THANK YOU for the support you have given to us and your children. We cannot praise the children enough; their positive attitudes and resilience have been wonderful to see. We have thoroughly enjoyed working with them. I would also like to say Thank You to the staff who have worked hard to provide a safe, caring environment for our children.



A year of Achievements

This year has been packed with a range of remarkable achievements:

- **Residentials/School Trips:** our children experienced valuable learning and growth through various residentials and school trips.
- **Visitors to School:** we welcomed several inspiring visitors who enriched our learning experience.
- **Outdoor Learning:** Children have loved their outdoor learning sessions which have focused on promoting confidence, social skills, communication and physical activity with hands on learning in the environment.
- **Excellent Learning:** across all year groups, our pupils have demonstrated outstanding progress and continue to showcase a real passion for learning – which is noted by every single visitor to our school.

Staffing

As is always the case, we find ourselves bidding goodbye to some of our staff members, a decision necessitated by our reduction of classes for next year. I am sure that you will join us in saying goodbye and good luck to Miss Barrell, Mrs Mitton, Mrs Smith (Stafford) and Mrs Sydenham – we wish you the very best in your future endeavours.



Also, I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to our Interim Deputy Headteacher – Miss Baines. Her dedication, commitment, and invaluable contributions have played a pivotal role in the smooth functioning of our school during this transitional period. Miss Baines will continue as UKS2 Phase Leader where she will continue to contribute to the ongoing success of our school.



I would like to pay a special mention to Mrs Matthews, who is retiring after working at Wellesley Park for over 17 years. She has been the backbone of our office team. Her dedication, hard work and attention to detail have been nothing short of exemplary. She has touched the lives of so many pupils and staff, leaving a lasting impression on all of us. On behalf of the entire school community, thank you for everything. We wish you all the best in your retirement - may it be filled with joy, relaxation, and fulfilment. You will always be a cherished member of our school family.

I also extend a warm welcome back to Mrs Hill, following her maternity leave, who will join the Year 3/4 staff team.

Headteacher's Comment cont'd

Year 6

Our talented Year 6 put on a spectacular production of 'The Greatest Show'. Their hard work and dedication were evident in their final performances for parents/careers – and it was a joy to watch.

It's always sad saying goodbye to our Year 6 children as they move on to pastures new, but we know they are more than ready for a new challenge. Over the years, they have grown, learned, and developed into confident and capable individuals who are well-prepared for the adventures that secondary school will bring. As they embark on this new chapter, we wish them all the best and look forward to hearing about their successes and achievements in the years to come - you are all going to be very missed at Wellesley Park.



Finally, as we look back on this year and the achievements of all our children and hard-working staff, we are filled with pride and gratitude for the wonderful community we have at our school. We thank you for your continuous support and wish everyone a safe and joyful summer break. Let's hope for some sunshine!

I look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Wednesday the 4th September.

With best wishes

Mrs Wilkins
Headteacher



Attendance - by class from 06/09/2023 to 18/07/2024

Peake	96.27%	Norgay	94.91%	Shackleton	94.95%	Kingsley	92.37%
Darwin	93.21%	Sharman	95.86%	Earhart	96.68%		
Henson	94.95%	Attenborough	96.46%	Armstrong	94.02%		
Cousteau	96.63%	Spruce	96.81%	Bell	96.47%		

Wellesley Park School Values

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

"Why do you think these values are important to follow in school?"

"Why should everyone follow these values?"

What are the 4 British Values?

1. Democracy
2. The Rule of Law
3. Individual Liberty
4. Respect and Tolerance



Online Safety Update - The Terrors of 'Trolling'

As the Summer holidays fast approach, time on screen time is soon to increase. With this, exposure to online messages and comments will also rise, escalating the chance of coming across an online 'troll'. The term "trolling" refers to sending hurtful or provocative comments – often done anonymously online – to provoke a reaction or cause emotional distress. Anonymity can embolden people into saying things they wouldn't dare say in person.



Some people online simply get a kick out of hurting people's feelings, making it their mission to get a rise out of anyone they encounter. These people – known as "trolls" – are known for intentionally engaging in offensive or abusive behaviour to upset others online or provoke them into sinking to their level. At the height of events such as Euro 2024, when rivalries between various supporters reach an apex, trolling tends to see a bit of an uptick.

Unfortunately, while "just ignore them" is genuinely good advice, it can prove very difficult to put into practice. This is especially true for children and young people, who are often still learning how to manage their emotions and sometimes react impulsively to name-calling and other mistreatment. The National College has teamed up with GGRecon to provide the best advice on how to tackle this ongoing problem online. Please find the guide attached.

Message from Mrs Bagnell, Pastoral Support Worker

With the Summer holidays fast approaching, the below links/information may be helpful when planning activities:

- Kids Eat Free list (attached)
- Happy Healthy Holidays Programme - <https://www.sasp.co.uk/happy-healthy-holidays>
- Community Inclusion & Activity Team Free Activity Day Passes - for families with a child/young person with a disability or additional need (attached)
- Community Inclusion & Activity Team Summer Holidays Activity Calendar - for families with a child/young person with a disability or additional need (attached)



Wellington One Team also organise and run community events in various locations in Wellington, on Wednesdays throughout the year. Visit their facebook site for more details - <https://www.facebook.com/OneTeamWackyWednesday>

Have a lovely Summer.

Parking Complaints

We are still receiving complaints regarding parking and blocking of driveways at Post Close (road of the side gate), and the unacceptable manner in which local residents have been spoken to following polite requests not to block driveways.

Please can we remind you to park safely and sensibly, whilst treating all local residents with respect. We would also ask that the same care is taken when parking in Homefield and other areas around the school please. We share complaints received with our local PCSOs.



Thank you.

School Meals

The deadline for booking meals for the first week back to school in September (Weds 4th - Fri 6th September) has now passed. Therefore please can we remind you to provide your child with a packed lunch if you have not booked school meals.

You are still able to make bookings for the second week, wc 9th September onwards, up to the October half term.



Wellesley Park Explorers

The Pre-school children have continued exploring their topic 'healthy me.' This week the children have decorated their own biscuits for snack with icing and marshmallows, and strawberries too.

We talked about how it is unhealthy to eat sweet things regularly, however it is ok to have some sweet treats from time to time. We then discussed how too many sweet things can make our teeth rot with children explaining that holes will appear in our teeth.

The Pre-school leavers have continued with their transition sessions in school and the children have been dressing up in uniform in the classroom.

We have also explored the trim trail which promoted our gross motor skills and hand eye-coordination, along with locomotive skills.



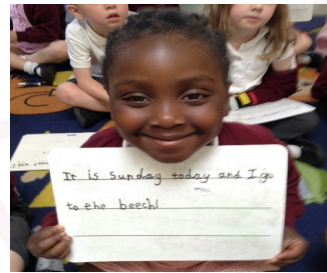
Reception

We have had a very busy time in Reception during this final term of the school year!

In Talk For Writing, we have been learning the story of Goldilocks and The Three Bears. The children have been ordering the story and using words like 'first' and 'next' to help sequence it correctly. They have enjoyed role play activities, re-enacting the story and taking on the role of one of the characters.

The children have been doing lots of writing and they have worked hard on writing super sentences with capital letters and full stops in the right places. They have also been using words like 'and' to join two ideas together to extend our sentences.

We have been working hard on preparing the children for Year 1. The children have been working as a whole class on Literacy and Maths tasks, as well as doing paired work.

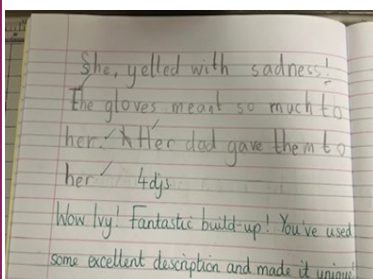
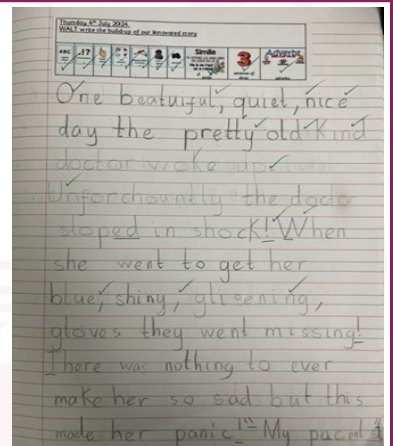


Year 1

We have had the best last few weeks of our final half term in Year 1! We just wanted to say that it has been wonderful to see the children blossom throughout the year and we couldn't be more proud!

In English, we innovated the story of The Elves and the Shoemaker and it was wonderful to see the flair of writing coming through by the children making the story their own. We had some interesting ideas!

In Maths, we completed our money topic, looking at the value of coins and notes and understanding how money can be used to make different amounts. We then moved onto time, and explored how time can be shown through using the language of before and after, days of the week and months of the year. We also learnt about the difference between seconds, minutes and hours and then telling the time to the hour (o'clock) and half hour (half past).



We have completed our topics on weather in the UK and comparing it to Uganda in Geography, and also plants in Science. It's been wonderful to hear the vocabulary and knowledge from the children and they have done really well.

We will enjoy our last few days in Year 1 and make sure we make the most of our time together before a well deserved break.

Year 2/3

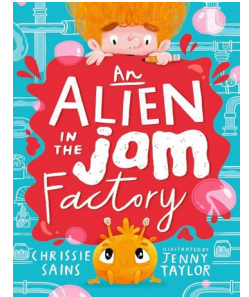


Firstly, well done to all of Year 2/3 for completing assessment week this term. Everyone has worked very hard and put in lots of effort.

It has been another fantastic half term with Year2/3 and as we speed through our final couple of weeks of the school year, the children all are continuing to work really well and to complete lots of brilliant learning. In English the children have familiarised themselves with a persuasive text 'The land of the Snapdragon' and have used the language and grammar skills they have learned to make some very effective pieces of writing based on their own imaginary worlds.

In Maths, we have been looking at telling the time and have learned to read the time on analogue and digital clocks. The children are becoming increasingly confident with recognising and applying the terms 'o'clock', 'half past', 'quarter past' and 'quarter to' and can count the minutes past and to the hour in increments of five.

We have also been reading the story 'An Alien in the Jam Factory' in our Guided Reading lessons which the children have all enjoyed. These lessons have seen the children practice using their comprehension skills by discussing the various aspects of the story and the characters and answering different questions about them.



In DT the children have been making and tasting some delicious garlic bread as they complete their food-based topic. We have also been finishing off our Science unit of rocks and minerals by making our own fossils and completing our Geography unit on Volcanoes.

We will be sad to see the end of the Summer term and the children preparing to move on into their new year groups, but it is also an exciting time for the children too! It really has been a joy to teach everyone this year and make lots great learning together. Mrs Mitton and Mrs Murphy hope you all have a brilliant, well deserved Summer break and wish you all the best for your next exciting school year.

Year 4

Wow, what a year! We can't believe we are soon to be saying goodbye to Year 4 and moving into Upper Key Stage 2. The children have worked unbelievably hard all year round, being unstoppable in what they can achieve.

In English, we have been revisiting suspense stories, comparing how far our writing has improved over the year. The children have an abundance of ideas, confidently sharing them with each other in class discussions. We will be finishing the year off with focusing on any grammatical features they are less confident on, making them feel prepared for Year 5.

Sadly, we are coming to the end of the book, 'Who Let The Gods Out?', one which all children have thoroughly enjoyed. It has been wonderful to witness a whole year group so in love with reading and developing their understanding of books this year through high-level questioning and group discussion.

In Maths, we have delved into our statistics topic, analysing different graphs, drawing them and comparing the data. The children's understanding of problem solving has shone through their results at the end of the year and the Year 4 team could not be prouder of the resilience shown this year.

To end the music practise this year with the ukuleles, the children put on a jaw-dropping performance to their parents/ carers, showing off their musical talents, with thanks to Mrs Eveleigh, their ukulele teacher.

Finally, we just want to say what a wonderful year it has been to see how far each child has grown and progressed in their learning and attitude towards school. They have been a lovely cohort and we know will continue to impress each year!



Year 5

We have had a wonderful few weeks in Year 5. All of the children have shown great resilience during this half term.

The children were lucky enough to have an archery session delivered by Premier Education. They thoroughly enjoyed their sessions, and were able to practice their aim while trying to pop the balloons. Sports Day has been another highlight of the half term, all of the children performed fantastically and showed lots of dedication to their houses.

In Maths, we have come to the end of our topic on converting units and volume. All of the children have done so well in Maths this year and we are so proud of them!

We have spent the past week consolidating some of our core knowledge ready for the move up to Year 6! Remember to keep practising your times tables Year 5, as this will really help you in Maths.

In Guided Reading, we have finished our book, Brightstorm and created some lovely pieces of artwork. We have been reading our final novel -There's a boy in the girls' bathroom - and the children have enjoyed reading it. We have had some great class discussions around this book and its good to see so much enthusiasm from the children.

In English, the children have produced some fantastic portal stories using all of the writing techniques we have learnt this term and they have been a pleasure to read. Year 5 has made such wonderful progress in their writing this year and they should be very proud of themselves!

In the foundation subjects, we have come to the end of our units on the USA in Geography, Islam in World Views and textiles in DT. The children have created some wonderful USA Triaramas, Islamic inspired art work, and designed and made their own fabric swatches.

Overall the children have had a great half term, they have worked hard and produced some wonderful work! Well-done Year 5.



Year 6

We can't quite believe how fast this final term with Year 6 has gone! The children have had a busy term rehearsing and delivering their Year 6 Performance of 'The Greatest Show!'. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your amazing support with the show; from helping the children to learn their lines to providing costumes and props, your help has been truly amazing! The children put on a fantastic performance and we are extremely proud of each and every one of them. We hope you enjoyed it too!



Our Year 6 children have also had their transition days at their secondary schools. We have enjoyed hearing about their new Form Tutors, which houses they are in and the lessons they took part in. The school canteens seem to have gone down well!

In Maths, the children have been designing (and budgeting for) their own Theme Parks and planning their ultimate holiday! Some of the places they want to visit are out of this world (with a price tag to match!).

A final reminder that it is our Year 6 Leaver Assembly today (Monday 22nd July) at 2.30pm in the school hall.