



# Wellesley Park Primary School

Headteacher: Carly Wilkins  
Wellesley Park Primary School  
Homefield, Wellington  
Somerset, TA21 9AJ

25th November 2024

## Headteacher's Comment



Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a fantastic start to the second half of the Autumn Term. The snow was a delightful surprise for us all. It's always amazing to see how a bit of the white stuff can light up our pupils' (and staff's!) faces, isn't it?

What a busy half term we have ahead with trips, visitors, plays and a range of experiences planned. Please keep an eye out for information as we share these with you. We aim to give you plenty of notice so that you can be well-prepared.



## Anti-Bullying Week

Thank you to everyone who supported our Odd Socks Day as part of Anti-Bullying Week. The children demonstrated excellent awareness and emotional intelligence, both in class and during assembly, when discussing the issue of bullying. We have been reflecting on what bullying is and unanimously agree that it is not pleasant to be on the receiving end of any bullying. We have also talked about the role of bystanders and explored different ways of reporting bullying incidents.

## Parent Survey

Thank you to all the parent/carers who have completed the online school questionnaire. Your responses are a vital part of our self-evaluation process. If you have not completed it yet, there's still time! The closing date for completion is Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December. Please be assured that your responses will remain confidential and will be used solely to enhance our school environment and educational practices. If you encounter any issues accessing the survey, please contact the school office for assistance.

## Open Days for Prospective Parents

Due to popular demand, we have added additional school tour dates for families looking to start school in September 2025:

4th December 9:30-10:30am  
10th December 9:30-10:30am

Come and see first-hand what makes our school a special place for learning and growth. We look forward to welcoming you!

## Staffing update

We are sad to announce that Miss Hill (Henson Class) will be leaving us at the end of this term. We are incredibly grateful for her dedication and contributions to our school community and wish her all the best for the future. We are currently completing our recruitment process, and we will be able to update you in due course.

As always, I'm incredibly proud of everything our pupils, staff, and wider school community achieve. Your enthusiasm, hard work, and support make Wellesley Park Primary School the wonderful place it is. Keep up the fantastic work, everyone!

Thank you as always, for your continued support.

With best wishes,

*Mrs Wilkins*

Headteacher

## Attendance Matters

### The link between attendance and educational achievement

A good education can be the cornerstone for future life opportunities. Missing school can leave gaps in knowledge and understanding and also place the pupil at a disadvantage in both their educational development and potentially in their future success.

We understand that on occasions absence will be unavoidable. However, our minimum expectation of attendance is 96%, unless there are justifiable medical reasons, and accompanying evidence.

### Term Time Request for Holidays

Please can we remind parents that we do not authorise holidays unless in very exceptional circumstances. We appreciate holidays are much cheaper during term time, but this is not considered an exceptional circumstance, and any absence will be registered as unauthorised in line with government guidance.

## Attendance Ladder



### Attendance - by class from 04/09/2024 to 21/11/2024

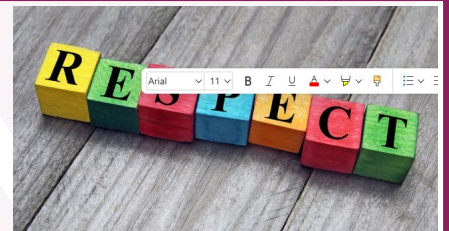
Peake	97.64%	Spruce	96.99%	Bell	94.81%
Earhart	97.06%	Henson	95.32%	Kingsley	93.27%
Norgay	95.58%	Attenborough	97.14%	Jemison	96.72%
Shackleton	97.95%	Darwin	95.58%		

### Wellesley Park School Values

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

*"How will you show respect in school and at home?"*

*"Why is it important to respect Remembrance Day?"*



## Online Safety

Please see our November 'Spotlight on Safeguarding' newsletter attached.

This issue covers:

- Anti-bullying week
- Supporting your child with possible bullying
- App focus - Roblox



## ParentPay Reminders

Payment instalments have been set up on ParentPay for the following trips:

- Year 6 London Trip
- Year 4 Residential
- Year 6 Residential

We would encourage parents/carers to take advantage of the monthly instalment plan, however full payment can be made as a whole amount if preferred. Please note that full and final payments for trips must be paid by the deadline date specified on the trip letter and ParentPay.

Year 6 - Please can we remind you that deposits for the Year 6 residential are due by 29th November.

### Panto Payments

EYFS/KS1 Panto - please can we remind parents/carers that today, 25th November, is the deadline for payment.

KS2 Panto - please can we remind parents/carers that the deadline for payment is 9th December.

Many thanks.

## After-School Enrichment Clubs

Please can we remind parents/carers to complete the survey to provide your feedback regarding clubs, using the link below. The survey will close on Friday 29th November.

[School Extracurricular Clubs Survey](#)

Many thanks.

## Children In Need - Thank You

Thank you to everyone for your Children In Need donations. It was wonderful to see the children showing their support in lots of yellow and colourful spots!

We raised £238 for this very worthy cause - amazing!



## House Dojo Points Update

At the end of each half-term, we announce the house that has earned the most dojo points. The winning house will be awarded with a non-school uniform day.

Mendip are currently in the lead but there is still plenty of time for the houses to catch up! If you are unsure of which house your child is in, please check with your class teacher or the school office.

Well done everyone - keep up the good work!

DOJO POINTS			
889	965	917	900
BLACKDOWN	MENDIP	EXMOOR	QUANTOCK
4th	1st	2nd	3rd

## Wellesley Park Explorers

We have continued with our theme of 'Our Environment' and have been learning all about the seasons. Our little explorers are currently finding out about all of the different things that happen in Autumn - from where conkers grow, to where animals hibernate. The tuff trays have been full of Autumnal goodies and keywords for the children to explore and ask questions.

The children have been very good at building bug hotels and were keen to show off their creations! They have also been busy making friends, playing games, reading books, mark making, crafting and baking!!



## Reception

The Reception children have been busy learning lots of new phonemes and 'Tricky Words'. This week we have learned about the digraphs zz, ch, sh and the new 'Tricky Words', into, go, no.

The children have also been doing lots of CVC word work - sounding out or segmenting to spell words like man, vet, and sock. We have started looking at capital letters and full stops in our reading and writing work. The children are really enjoying retelling the story of The Enormous Turnip using a story map with lots of expression and actions to support their memory of the text.

In Mathematics, we have learnt about the 2D shapes - triangles and circles, using words like 'corner' 'side', 'straight' and 'curved' to describe them. We have learnt about finding '1 more' and '1 less' than a small number and are looking carefully at the composition of numbers up to 4.

The children have enjoyed learning about night and day and sources of light - finding out about animals that come out in the day and at night time, and using words like 'nocturnal' and 'diurnal'. We have looked at night time pictures by Van Gogh and the children have impressed us with their own versions.

In Computing, the children have been learning how to use a mouse to control a simple program.



## Year 1

It has been a wonderful first three weeks of this half term and the children have once again really impressed us with their learning!

We started our new fiction text in English called 'Little Charlie', where we have focused on writing setting descriptions. The children have come up with some settings that could be included and then we have worked hard on adding extra detail to give our reader more information about the settings to make our writing interesting!

In Maths, we continued with addition and subtraction to 10. We worked hard to consolidate our understanding of addition so we can work on our subtraction skills. We continued using part whole models to help us learn how to find a missing part and then we worked on some super tricky maths work of finding all the addition and subtraction facts for a part whole model.

In Science, we started our new topic on seasonal changes and we have started by looking at the signs of Autumn. We went on an Autumn walk and found many different signs. The children were really interested to see the changes that can happen around us!

We have had a wonderful start this half term and we cannot wait to see where the rest of the term takes us..... IT'S CHRISTMAS!!!!!!



## Year 2

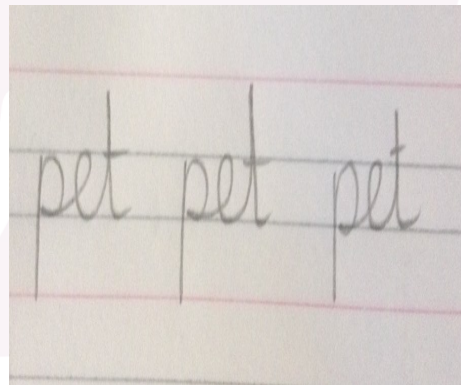
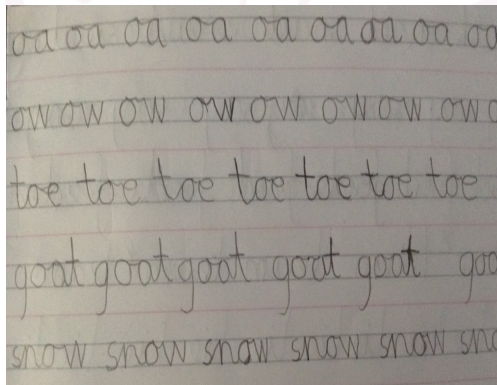
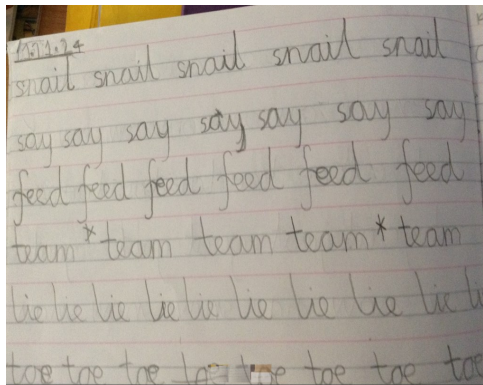
The Year 2 children have been working very hard these past few weeks.

The children have now started to learn to join their handwriting and have made a really good start with this. There are two letters that they are finding a little tricky: p and f. Some children are writing the tail (descender) above the line by mistake. Please see below for the correct formation and join. Extra practice at home would be wonderful!

In Geography, the children have been recapping their knowledge of the continents and the UK and are now learning about Wellington. They were very excited to see Wellington in Google Maps and to zoom in on our school.

In Science, we have been learning about the animal groups and offspring. Next, we will learn about lifecycles and how humans grow.

We have begun learning the songs for the Nativity. A letter will come out shortly, detailing what part your child will play and the words they need to learn by heart. It's going to be a busy rest of the term!

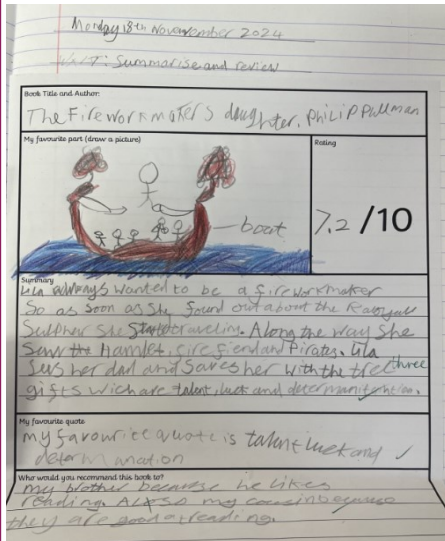
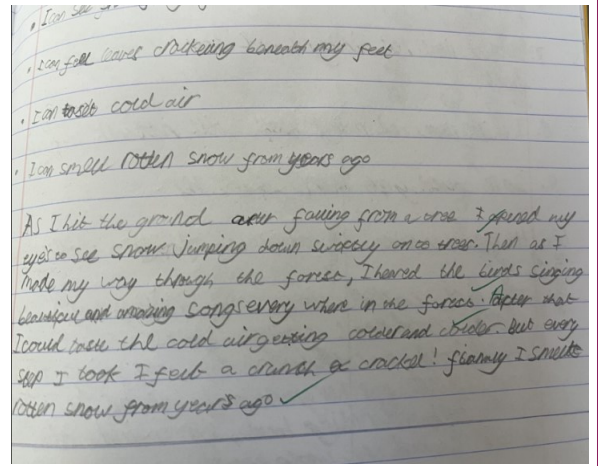


## Year 3/4

We have had a great start to the half term in Year 3/4. The children have come back from the holidays, ready to learn and with fantastic ideas for their independent work. We are all very impressed.

In Maths, we have been focusing on multiplication. All the children have worked hard on these, and are now able to apply them to 2 step word problems.

In English, we have nearly come to the end of our unit on setting description. The children have enjoyed learning our model text 'Little Red Riding Hood' and are now innovating, ready to prepare for their hot write. We have looked at personification, using our senses in writing, prepositions and relative clauses.



In Guided Reading, we have just finished our book 'The Firework Makers Daughter'. The children really enjoyed this book.

We are now moving onto looking at non-fiction texts for the remaining of the half term.

We are looking forward to the festivities that the coming weeks will bring. Keep working hard!

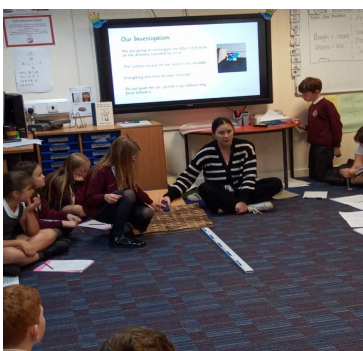
## Year 5

We have had a flying start to Autumn 2 in Year 5 with some amazing learning taking place across all subjects.

In English, we have introduced our new text, a warning tale called 'The Canal'. We have begun to focus on setting descriptions and how we can create a vivid image in our readers mind. The children are learning how to use detailed sentences of 3, personification and similes to bring their settings to life. In Maths, we have continued with our fractions work and have been amazed by the resilience and determination the children have shown in this unit. They have smashed it!

We have started our new Geography unit studying Bristol. So far, we have learnt where the city is located in an atlas, we've learnt about the changes to the city over time and even the different infrastructures that attract people to live in Bristol.

We want to give a special mention to everyone for their incredible homework projects that they created for WW1 over the half term holiday. We were completely blown away by the time, effort and standard of them all and were very proud of each one. We loved listening to all of the amazing facts learn.



## Year 6

Year 6 have had a busy start back to school after the half term break.

In English, we have been exploring persuasive letter writing. The children wrote formal letters to Mrs Wilkins persuading her to make a change to the school. They then wrote letters to MPs about changes they would like to see the government making to help the environment, housing, sport and equality.

In Maths, we have started to tackle fractions. The children have shown resilience and determination when investigating adding, subtraction, multiplying and dividing fractions and converting between mixed numbers and improper fractions.

In Science, we have been exploring how fossils are formed and The Theory of Evolution.

In Geography, we have begun to study renewable energy and how we can help combat climate change.

Last week, Year 6 had a fantastic time celebrating Children in Need and discovering who their donations can help. During Anti-Bullying Week we wore odd socks in order to join together to show that it's okay to be different and to stand up against discrimination.

A huge congratulations to the children who completed their Level 2 Bikeability training course - we look forward to celebrating this in our whole school assembly.

