



Wellesley Park Primary School

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

17th June 2022

Headteacher's Comment



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to another busy newsletter, at the end of a very warm week. Our WP pupils and staff have been extremely resilient though - and continued to work hard, despite the heat!

This is a very busy time of year for all staff as we begin our preparations for all things transition, writing pupil reports, continuing with high quality teaching, and learning. However, I am happy that I can share with you the first level of information, which is who the class teachers for next year will be. Due to a fall in pupil numbers (this is County wide - numbers are predicted by County to continue falling until 2026, when the 'Covid babies' are school age!), we must change our EYFS / KS1 classes to mixed cohorts and this will then roll out through the school as the children get older.

To ensure that this is fair across the classes for both pupils and teachers, as well as enabling us to really think about the needs of the individual pupils, our classes will be organised as per the following:

- **Pre-School:** Mrs Sarah Moore - Deputy Manager

EYFS / KS1

- Reception / Year 1 mix - Jasper: Miss Nadine Winsor
- Reception Year 1 mix - Gruffalo: Miss Hannah Bardle
- Year 1 / Year 2 mix - Tiggywinkle: Mrs Francesca Murphy - **Phase Leader**

Year 1 / Year 2 mix - Kipper: Mrs Laura White (new appointment)

Lower Key Stage 2 (LKS2)

- Year 3 - BFG: Mrs Fiona Doidge - **Phase Leader**
- Year 3 - Matilda - Miss Sarah Sweetland (Maternity cover for Mrs Lydia White)
- Year 4 - Gryffindor - Mrs Jo Harris (Cover teacher for long term illness to be appointed)
- Year 4 - Hufflepuff - Mr Dom Hakes

Upper Key Stage 2 (UKS2)

- Year 5 - Thorin - Mrs Vicky Pilling (3 days) Mrs Ellie Taylor (2 days)
- Year 5 - Galadriel - Miss Laura Hill
- Year 6 - Akela - Mr Leigh Morris
- Year 6 - Bagheera - Miss Annika Baines - **Phase Leader** (new appointment)

Staffing Update

As always, with every primary school / secondary school and college, this is the time of year when we say our last few farewells to staff, who have taken the decision to move on to something new. Therefore, leaving us at the end of this academic year is Mrs Katie Whittle (Year 5), who is hoping to spend more time with her young family for a year or two and Miss Kate Fitzgerald (Year 6), who is hoping to be able to support her family business some more and extend her work more specifically around children's reading and writing in schools. We would like to thank both superb teachers for all their hard work and dedication to the pupils at Wellesley Park and wish them the very best of luck for their futures. Hopefully, they will keep in touch with us regularly!

This week, every child has been given the opportunity to select 3 friends, who they feel they 'work well with in class'. Armed with this information, plus knowledge of how the children really work with each other, academic performance, and any special educational needs - our teachers are now carefully working out the new classes for next year. This is completed with rigorous checks from both our SENDCo and Senior Leadership Team - with the purpose being to maximise the learning potential of each child. We appreciate that some children (and parents) may really want their children to be together in class, however we take in the bigger academic picture and our extensive knowledge of how children work with each other through the school day.

We always remind children and parents that we provide many opportunities for children to come back together as a cohort, during all breaktimes / outdoor learning / trips / visits / assemblies / residentials, and many other events throughout the school year. Sorting classes each year enables our pupils to develop stronger cohort relationships, individual resilience to change and a better capacity to manage friendships and independence - all very necessary life-long skills. As has been proven many times during the last few years, any wobbles that children / or parents may have had about classes always settles and the children have done well in their new classes. It is important to note that we will not be accepting *any* requests for children to change classes; class organisation is the responsibility of the professionals working with the children in school and only in an exceptional circumstance, and only after all other support has been trialled, would we ever consider moving a child from one class to another.

Reminder: Some important dates coming up (more details to follow shortly):

- **Wednesday 29th June: Welcome evening for new Reception Intake Parents, 6-7pm** (letters going out today)
- **Strawberry and Pimms evening - Thursday 7th July, 6pm - 7.30pm** (6pm arrival for strawberries and Pimm's / 6.15pm Matilda songs from our Musical theatre group / 6.30-7pm learning showcases in school / 7-7.30pm Year 6 versus teaching staff rounders match! 7.30pm close of evening).
- **Sports Day on Friday 15th July** (KS2 will have events running all day / KS1 will have events from 1.15pm / parents and carers will be able to picnic on our school field with their children during the lunch time period).

Thursday 21st July Year 6 Leavers Service, 1.45pm-3.00pm. (More details to follow)

Lastly, PTA Update:

The brilliant PTA met last night for the last meeting of this academic year, supported by both me and Mr Lucas Upham (Deputy Headteacher). We were so excited to be able to talk about the planning for next year and once more having a full range of PTA fundraising activities in place - for the first time since the dreaded 'Covid!'. We will be looking to create a full list of events that will be occurring throughout the year, after our first meeting in September - so that you can plan out your diaries and work out which events you can help us with! We really will need a huge amount of parental support next year, if we are going to be able to run all the fairs / discos / super-hero days / cake sales etc that we know our children love and benefit from - so please do keep your eyes out for when support is needed! Anything you can offer will always be appreciated!

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Hannah for doing such a committed and brilliant job over the last 10 years - she has shown a real dedication to the fundraising team and helped to secure many amazing resources and areas for our school. So, thank you Hannah from all on the PTA, and everyone at WP!

Best wishes and as always, thank you for your support, enjoy the sunny weather while you can!

Mrs Emmie Hartley-Criddle

Head of School DSL

SENDCo

Safeguarding

Sun Safety

Keeping your child safe in the sun is a priority for all! Today we are going to see soaring temperatures and will in the future.

Without adequate protection from the sun, children's delicate skin can burn in just minutes, which can significantly increase the chances of them developing skin cancer later in life.

When the weather is hot, can we please ask you to:

- Apply a long-lasting **sun cream** to your child before school. If you want your child to bring sun lotion into school they can. We ask that it is labelled and where possible, they apply it themselves. To support us in this, can you please practise this with your child at home.
- Ensure your child has a hat and plenty of fluids, ideally water.
- Encourage your child to find shade and not to be in the sun the whole of playtime. We know this is tricky, so we will, when it is extremely hot like today, limit our play zones to more shaded areas.

For more information on sun safety visit:

Sun Safe Schools

Sun Safe Schools

Sun safety education now statutory! Under the new PHSE (Health and Prevention) Curriculum which came into force September 2020, all English primary schools must now educate pupils about safe and unsafe exposure to the sun and how to reduce the risk of sun damage, including skin cancer.

www.sunsafeschools.co.uk

NSPCC

A reminder to all parents / carers that the NSPCC website offers some great advice, on a wide range of child / parenting issues, along with what to do, and who to contact if you have any concerns regarding the safety or welfare of a child: Keeping children safe | NSPCC

Attendance - by class for the period 09/05/2022 to 10/06/2022

Gruffalo	96.16%	Matilda	95.01%	Galadriel	94.42%
Jasper	97.17%	BFG	97.17%	Bagheera	97.07%
Kipper	95.05%	Hufflepuff	95.68%	Akela	98.28%
Mrs TW	97.60%	Gryffindor	94.95%		
Peter Rabbit	94.74%	Thorin	95.79%		

Message from Wellington Rugby Club

Touch rugby sessions at Wellington Rugby Club. Tuesday evenings on the Beech Grove pitch.

This will be for U9s (School yr4) upwards.

(Due to the RFU summer guidelines), with the timings being 6pm-6.45pm for youths and 7pm-7.45pm for adults and youths.

There are 3 purposes for this: 1. To keep people playing over the summer. 2. To improve skills by mixing age groups. 3. To get more people playing and recruit players for the future. With the main reason being for enjoyment!

As it is touch, we can mix ages and sexes, so please look to get friends from outside the club involved. Please share far and wide, the more the merrier.

And it's FREE.....

Badminton & SASP Summer Activities - please refer to attached flyers

Previous Newsletters

Previous issues of the newsletter can be found in the 'News and Events' section of our school website:

[All Letters Home Page - \(wellesleyparkschool.co.uk\)](http://wellesleyparkschool.co.uk)

Wellesley Park Primary School Facebook Page

Have you visited and followed our school Facebook page? We regularly post updates, news, events and other information.

Please see the link to our page and click on 'follow' to link our posts to your newsfeed: <https://www.facebook.com/WellesleyParkPrimarySchool>

[WellesleyParkPrimarySchool](https://www.facebook.com/WellesleyParkPrimarySchool)



Job Vacancies

We currently have the following job vacancies:

- Midday Supervisor: 4.15 hours per week, Monday to Friday 12.30pm to 1.20pm, Term Time & 3 inset days
- Out of School Club Assistant: 3 hours per week, Friday 3pm to 6pm, Term Time & 3 inset days
- Admin Assistant (Maternity Cover): 21 hours per week, Monday to Friday 9.00am to 1.15pm, Term Time & 3 inset days

JOB VACANCIES

Pre-school

We're on the home stretch! This half-term, we are exploring the story we are currently reading, which is 'We're going on a bear hunt!' So far, we have practised our scissor skills cutting out and building bear hunt pictures, collected materials from the story; mud, grass, water, and we've put them in the freezer... I wonder what will happen? What we will do with them next?

As explorers, we have been pirates, making pirate hats, cutlasses and maps! Did you know 'X' marks the spot for buried treasure?

The older children are working hard towards school readiness, recognising their own name through lots of fun activities, practising sitting on the carpet like big children, joining in with school assemblies and developing independence at the dining table and self-care (dressing/undressing, hygiene).

My goodness we've been so very busy!



Reception

Today, we enjoyed a Life Education session with Helen and Gerald the Giraffe! We talked about the different parts of our bodies and how to keep clean. The children enjoyed putting the heart, lungs, intestines and brain in the correct place on Max, who was modelling the organs of the body. Gerald the Giraffe was introduced to the children and the children enjoyed telling Gerald how to wash his face and clean his teeth!

During outdoor learning this week, the children enjoyed using clay to make faces; they also drew faces using water and brushes and chalk. Today, we learnt 24 different tricky words and enjoyed playing games to guess a word, which Mrs Doidge wrote on the board. The children then had to draw the image of the word – not easy!



Year 1

This week, the Year 1's have enjoyed a workshop from Life Education. The children learnt about their wonderful body. These were the different areas they talked about: feelings, understanding how others might be feeling by reading body language/facial expressions, recognising, naming and understanding how to deal with feelings (e.g. anger, loneliness). They also talked about how our body gets energy from food, water and oxygen; how exercise and sleep are important parts of a healthy lifestyle and finally the importance of regular hygiene routines.



Year 2

Time is going so fast, we cannot believe we only have 5 more weeks left of Year 2 before the summer holidays begin!

In Maths, we have been focussing on telling the time! We have looked at o'clock, half past, quarter past and quarter to. It would be great for children to be practising telling the time at home with an analogue clock.

In English, we have started to look at a diary recount from Chang about story of The Magic Paintbrush. Please continue to practice this at home.

We are super excited for what we have planned for the rest of the half term and will continue to update you on this. Please keep reading 4 times a week and practicing the final spellings for this term.



Year 3

We hope everyone had a fantastic half term and enjoyed some of the sunny weather!

What a great couple of weeks we have had in Year 3, and we can't quite believe we are in Summer 2 already! The children, as always, have been working really hard and have shown great excitement for our new topics.

In English, we have been learning the actions for our new discussion text- 'Should Daleks be allowed to live on Earth?'. This is a tricky text with lots of new vocabulary to learn, but the children have taken this in their stride and really impressed us with their determination. Any practise with these actions at home would be really beneficial to help the children recall the text fluently.

In Maths, we have finished looking at shape + line, and have now moved on to time. We started by reviewing o'clock, half past, quarter past, and quarter past, and then we looked at how this relates to our fraction work on quarters. Again, any support at home is greatly appreciated, as this is an area in which many children struggle.

Year 4

Well done Year 4 on another great couple of weeks!

In Maths, we have been continuing our work on telling the time, both in analogue and digital form. The children have found this quite difficult, especially with analogue time, as we don't often see analogue clocks around anymore! If you could continue to work on this at home, it would be much appreciated.

We have loved sharing more of our Read as a Reader text, 'Who let the Gods out' by Maz Evans. The story is hilarious and the children have understood and responded to some of the characters' struggles in a mature and thoughtful way. It has also been great to recap some of our Ancient Greek God knowledge!

We have started our new History topic for this term, looking at the Anglo-Saxons. The children discovered how hard it is for us to completely understand what life was like in these times due to the lack of written evidence and are excited to try and find out more.



W P

Year 5

Year 5 have had a great start back to the Summer 2 term and have dived straight into the new topics. In English, we have started to explore the Time slip scarab, which is a portal story. Our focus for this will be openings and endings and how we can hook the reader in right from the start.

Our new Reading as a reader text fits perfect with this as it is called 'Secrets of a Sun King'. It is a story set in 1922 about a young girl who finds a parcel on her Grandad's doorstep. This parcel holds the key to a story about a king whose tomb archaeologists are desperately hunting for.

Year 5 have begun our series of sessions with Mr Kennard, who is from SASP. He will be exploring the 5 ways to wellbeing and how to keep ourselves healthy and fit both physically and emotionally. This week, we explored our emotions. We drew around our hands and then went around writing on each other's, things that we thought the person was great at or we respected them for. It was great fun.



Year 6

What a fantastic couple of weeks we have had in Year 6!

In Guided Reading, we have begun the fantastic book Floodland by Marcus Sedgwick. A dystopian novel about a girl (Zoe) who is left to survive in a devastated world after the oceans and seas of the world rise with no sign of stopping.

In Maths, we have begun a comprehensive and important unit teaching children about money and money sense. So far, we have looked at payment methods, debit cards, credit cards, bank statements and budgets. In outdoor learning, we have been learning about the pollution of our oceans. We then created 2D animal sculptures out of all the materials we could find.

Finally, we have begun our PSHE transition unit (with Court Fields School) Go Big Be Awesome! The children have individual booklets for this where they reflect on themselves as learners and consider what kind of person they want to be as they move on to secondary school. They will bring these books home with them at the end of the year to support their transition.

