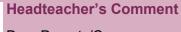
Headteacher: Carly Wilkins
Wellesley Park Primary School
Homefield, Wellington
Somerset, TA21 9AJ

30th March 2023



Dear Parents/Carers,

It's quite incredible to think that we are now approaching the end of the Spring term. So far, the signs of the transition to the new season have been elusive – with snow, rain and sunshine all in the month of March!

This half-term has seen lots of extra enrichment opportunities for our children, ranging from: World Book Day, drama workshops, Year 4 residential trip to Charter House, Fizz-Pop Science, smoothie making, cricket taster sessions, internet safety workshops, ukulele lessons, etc. Our wide-ranging enrichment programme supports our children to develop

their interests and talents as well as enabling them to develop their personal character, including: resilience, participation, confidence and independence – preparing them for future success. We have many more planned for the Summer term.

As you are aware, Monday 8th May 2023 will be an additional Bank Holiday to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III which is happening on Saturday 6th May. Our school will be closed to all children and staff on Monday 8th May 2023. This additional Bank Holiday will have a knock-on effect for the Year 6 KS2 assessments. These assessments will now start nationally on Tuesday 9th May and all Year 6 children will be expected to attend school throughout this week and can join us early each morning for a free breakfast with their friends – more information with be sent home soon.

School Value - Integrity

This half-term, our school value focus has been integrity. During our whole-school assemblies we have discussed the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles; doing the right thing even when no one is watching.

Think of a time when you were guided by your moral compass. Did you do the 'right' thing – how do you know? Was it easy?

Red Nose Day – Fundraising 17th March

We had an enjoyable day raising money for Comic Relief. The children and staff bathed themselves in red or funny clothing. We'd like to thank you for your generosity in sending the children into school with a charitable donation. The school raised a huge £237.45 for this cause. Thank you, to all who contributed.

Our Amazing PTA

Thank you to the PTA and volunteers for the cake sales and 'Superwoman' shop this half-term and for organising the first post-pandemic PTA Bingo night. It was very much enjoyed by everyone who attended and was another great success!

Finally, I wish you and your family an enjoyable Easter holiday – with lots of Easter egg treats and hopefully lots of sunshine! We look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday 17th April.

Best wishes,

Mrs Wilkins Headteacher



Attendance - by class for this half-term

Gruffalo	96.55%	Matilda	91.60%	Galadriel	93.20%
Jasper	94.87%	BFG	97.88%	Thorin	95.87%
Mrs Tiggywinkle	96.93%	Hufflepuff	91.87%	Akela	96.93%
Peter Rabbit	95.91%	Gryffindor	98.63%	Bagheera	91.22%

Well done Gryffindor class for achieving the highest attendance this half-term.

Communication Flowchart

On our return after the Easter break, we will be reverting back fully to the school's Communication Flowchart. This will result in the withdrawal from Class Dojo for Mrs Wilkins and Mrs Hartley-Criddle, which was only a temporary measure during the COVID period. You can find a copy of the Communication Flowchart on our website.

Safeguarding

National Online Safety have put together some guides on what parents and carers need to know about iPADS and also the digital music service, Spotify. These guides contain helpful information about risks to be aware of, as well as advice about setting content and privacy restrictions, time limits and spending approval.

Please find the full guides at end of the newsletter.





Red Nose Day

We wanted to take the opportunity to say a big thank you to everyone who came dressed in non-school uniform/ red clothes for Red Nose Day on the 17th March to help raise money. The school was awash with red tops, red noses and even red hair!

We are very proud to announce that as a school we raised an amazing £237.45 for the charity which will go to helping so many children around the world. This is a huge achievement considering how tough things are for so many at the moment so thank you all so much.

As always, great job WP!



Policy Updates

Please note following policies have been updated and can be found on our school website:

- -Restrictive Physical Intervention
- -Communication Flowchart

School Vacancies

Please see our school website for a list of our current job vacancies: www.wellesleyparkschool.co.uk/our-school/vacancies

World Book Day 2023

We had great fun celebrating all things reading this term! We kicked the term off with our Scholastic Book Fair, purchases came to just over £400 which has given the school over £100 to spend on new books for our children! Thank you so much for your support.

On Wednesday 1st March, we had a special visit from Emma Bettridge and her furry friend Nel. Emma shared her book with the whole school, gave a sneak peak of her never-seen before, new book and answered lots of questions on being an author and writing books. It sounded like Emma inspired lots of children to get their writing pens out and think about becoming authors when they are older!

Thursday 2nd March was the official World Book Day and we had an extremely cosy day in our pyjamas with our favourite bedtime stories! Children listened to lots of great books, took part in a guess the teacher by their favourite book quiz and had to drop everything they were doing and read at various parts of the day.

KS1 also took part in some fantastic drama workshops and KS2 wrote their own book reviews to inspire their friends to pick up a new book!









Message from Sarah Vine, Wellesley Park PTA Chair

We really hope you have all enjoyed the events we have arranged and delivered recently.

We have seen a couple of great cake sales this half-term, from both Year 5 and Year 4. These have been so well received and we have been overwhelmed with the support we get from both donations and sales - thank you.

The Superwoman Shop is always a favourite, and it's lovely watching the children come in so excited about choosing a gift, and writing their gift tag. They really spent time looking to see what would be perfect for you, so we hope everyone enjoyed the presents they were brought.

Easter Bingo was a sell out! What an amazing night. It looked like everyone had a fab time and we hope to do more of these in the future. Again we appreciate all the support we had for this event, from the donation of prizes from local businesses, the rainbow raffle donations kindly brought in by your children, and finally from everyone who attended and played. Thank you all so much.

Break the Rules Day is happening on the last day of term and we are sure this will be a chance to have a little fun before we break up for Easter!

We look forward to seeing you next term for some more fundraising events in the Summer, such as 'Crowns and Colour' Coronation Colour Run, Summer Fair, another disco and of course Strawberry Evening.

We hope everyone enjoys the Easter break and once again a huge thank you to our wonderful school community. You are all amazing.

Crowns and Colour!

To celebrate the Kings Coronation, we are organising a sponsored colour run on Friday 5th May for all the pupils at the school. We cannot wait to share this amazing day with you.

The children will be asked to create crowns at home to bring in to school to be judged in the morning. After lunch we will come out on to the playground to take part in the colour run.

Parents/grandparents/carers etc. will be invited to attend from 12:45pm and will have the chance to cheer on all the participants as they take part. The children will run in waves (year by year) and will have colour thrown at them by the PTA and staff volunteers (they can also wear their crowns during the run).

The colour is gluten free and naturally coloured. Children are invited to wear old clothes they don't mind getting a bit messy or white/light clothing if they want to try and keep the colours on them as a reminder of the event. We will send out more details on this nearer the date.

We have had some really generous local businesses who have sponsored the colours for us to help enable our day to be a fantastic celebration. They are:

Green - Matt the Maths Tutor

Purple - Hair by Alderman

Red - WJ South West

Yellow - Dukes Paddock

Blue - Rustic Quirks

Pink – Expressions Hair and Beauty

Orange - Chris Postcard

Turquoise - we're still searching for a sponsor if anyone is interested?

The focus of the event is health and enjoyment as well as being a means to commemorate the coronation and hopefully create lasting memories of how we as a school community celebrated a new Sovereign.

We will have food and drinks available to purchase from our PTA stall.

This is a sponsored event so sponsorship forms are being sent home today. Please return these at school with all collected sponsorship money by the 24th April.

We can't wait to see you all there!

Preschool - Wellesley Park Explorers

Our theme this term has been 'Growing'. The children have been very busy planting cress seeds to take home and exploring the school grounds, looking at the plants as they gradually grow and start to change as Spring slowly appears. In our cooking activities, the children have been measuring out ingredients to make bread rolls shaped as flowers and then enjoying them as part of their afternoon snack. Much fun has also been had making pizza dough which the children then decorated with their favourite vegetables.



In Maths, we have been learning about 2D shapes through play, shape games and going on shape hunts in the garden. We have been on walks around the school grounds looking for sticks and twigs which we then used to make shapes on the ground, counting how many sides and corners our shapes had.

Our literacy focus books have included The Little Red Hen, Jack and the Beanstalk and Guess How Much I Love You. The children have loved learning the stories and participating in activities linked to the texts. We also dressed up for Comic Relief, made cards for Mothering Sunday and created lots of Easter crafts. We even had a visit from the Easter Bunny!

Next term we will be learning about planets and space, under the sea and the world around us.

Reception/Year 1

Wow! Where has this term gone? We cannot believe that we are two thirds of the way through the year already! As always, the children in Gruffalo and Jasper classes have been working so hard, trying their best in all that they do.

In Reception, we have worked on consolidating our Phase 3 phonics knowledge this term and applying it to read and write some longer words. It has been amazing to see this understanding being used in their written work, in our Talk 4 Writing unit 'The Gingerbread Man', where we have had lots of fun making our own gingerbread men, and then changing the story to make it our own. We have been so impressed with the children's enthusiasm for the story and this clearly comes across in their work.

In Maths, we have looked in depth at all the numbers to 10, and worked on our number bonds, recognising different ways we can make this number. We have also explored shape and pattern and have loved using different mediums, including stacking bricks, paint and a wide variety of maths resources.

We also loved using paint in our Art topic this term, looking at Kandinsky's circle picture to inspire our own creations and develop understanding of how to mix colours for the first time. Another favourite activity has been making bird feeders and hanging them in our outside space

for the birds to enjoy, evaluating which were the most popular locations and which were less successful. We also think some hungry squirrels enjoyed some of our bird food too!

In Year 1, the children have worked hard on their Place Value topic in Maths, looking at all the numbers up to 50! They also LOVED making their own smoothies to support their non-fiction instruction writing – both the writing and the smoothies were excellent!

In Science, Year 1 have been learning about life cycles and what animals need to survive, and have a great understanding of the different things that we need to support a healthy lifestyle (including making healthy smoothies!). The children have also particularly enjoyed our RE unit, learning about what Christians believe about Easter -

they are looking forward to the Easter break and hopefully some chocolate goodies!

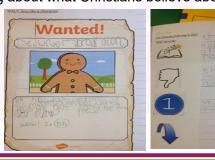
Well done Gruffalo and Jasper, keep up the hard work and see you in the Summer term.











Year 1 / Year 2

As we're starting to enjoy a little more sunshine, it's wonderful to see the children blossoming in their learning this half term.

In Geography, we have enjoyed lots of super learning about our local area - thank you to everyone that shared photos, writing and presentations of your Wellington 'treasure hunt' task - including exploring physical and human features and learning the catchy continents song.

In Science, we have been looking at life cycles and what humans and animals need to survive. Mrs G has supported the children in achieving some incredible art outcomes and the children have loved practicing their cricketing skills with Mr Lyons.



After the Easter holidays, children in Year 2 will be working hard to consolidate all of their learning ready for the KS1 SATS tests. If you have any questions about this, please do speak to Mrs White or Miss Floyd.

A real highlight this half term was our World Book Day 'adventure' to Bedtime Story HQ. We were on a mission to save the happy endings from all of our favourite books and we had a LOT of fun along the way. We also enjoyed a fabulous 'DT day' making our tasty fruit smoothies.

Next term, we have a 'People Who Help Us' day lined up (further details coming soon), along with fantastic topics such as The Great Fire of London, plants and sculpture.

Wishing everyone a wonderful Easter break and we look forward to seeing you soon.









Year 3

Year 3 have had a fantastic end to Spring 2. We have enjoyed learning about the world around us by looking at different maps in Geography, and the growth of plants by growing our own sunflowers at home and in school in Science.

In English, we have finished innovating tales of fear stories focusing on creating suspense via personification, similes and expanded noun phrases. We have also just begun to write Spring themed acrostic poems and a lot of the children have enjoyed writing their own outside of lessons.

We have been having a great time in Art/DT this term, designing costumes and independently sewing a button too. It has been great to see all the creativity we have in Year 3 and how supportive everyone has been of each other during these lessons.

Maths this term has mainly been focused on fractions. Whilst this is a pretty new concept to our class, everybody has taken it in their stride and had a great time figuring out the answers to fraction based questions. In particular, ordering fractions when the denominator is the same and understanding the terminology of fractions.







Year 4

Over the last few weeks, we have been exploring discussion texts in English. We have used the brilliant book 'Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them' as an initial source for ideas when writing two sides of an argument and a conclusion. This is certainly a book that in on my Christmas List already! Having debated whether Nifflers should be allowed to live on Earth or not, we have had the opportunity to discuss and write about many other contentious issues. The children have just finished their plans for their final write up in the final week.

Fractions has been the focus of our maths lessons and although it is a tricky concept,

the use of references to chocolate and pizza (possibly even nibbling some at times) helps all of us make progress in this area. When we return after Easter, we will continue to explore decimals – comparing, ordering and rounding them. Times Table practise will remain a huge focus in the early Summer Term for those that are not yet secure in all 12x.



In Design Technology, we have explored the structures of buildings and what kind of shapes help to make things

strong. We have tested if cubes or pyramids make better designs for carrying heavy

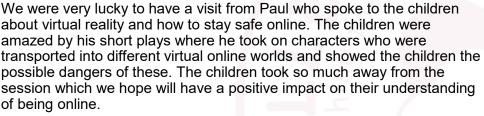
loads. We have used wooden skewers and marshmallows initially to build our structures and some have now created their final design using card and paper straws.

In PE, the children have really enjoyed learning some cricket skills and their ball handling and teamwork skills have really improved.

Year 5

Year 5 have had a very busy half term full of lots of exciting learning.

In English, the children have been focusing on writing non-chronological reports. The unit started with the children creating mythical creatures in collaboration with one another. We have been learning about the different features of a non-chronological report and how to incorporate these into our own writing. From this, the children have created some interesting non-chronological reports.









The children are now coming to the end of their swimming lessons and we are unbelievably proud of the progress they have all made in the pool. Their confidence has grown, and we have seen huge resilience from lots of them, so a big well done to them all.

In Art, the children have been learning about sculpture Henry Moore, they have been looking at his work and have been learning about his life. From this they have been designing and creating their own sculptures from clay inspired by his work. Keep an eye out for pictures of these on Dojo soon!

We hope you have a lovely Easter break and we will see you for a fun filled and hopefully sunny Summer term!

Year 6

What a busy term we have had in Year 6!

In English, we have been studying balanced arguments. We kicked things off by holding a class debate and used this to inspire our discussions over changes we could make to the school. The children worked hard to include cohesive devices, modal verbs, formal language, semi-colons and parenthesises.

During Maths lessons, we started the term exploring the relationship between fractions, decimals and percentages. We have now moved onto shape and measure including: area, perimeter and volume; translation and reflection; and angles within shapes.



In Geography and Science we have been investigating West Africa and electricity. On top of all this, we also celebrated World Book Day and had lots of fun in the snow.

Next term, we will be preparing for and completing the KS2 SATs assessments before our exciting trip to Mill on the Brue!

Have a lovely Easter!







What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

iPADS

Apple debuted the first iPad in 2010, kickstarting the tablet market, and it remains the best-selling tablet to this day. Although Apple doesn't offer a child-specific version, iPads are hugely popular with youngsters due to their ease of use and endiess choice of apps. There's a selection of models, with different-sized screens and distinct features – including the standard iPad; the iPad Air; the iPad Pro; and the iPad mini. Thankfully, they all offer parental controls so you can regulate how your child uses the device ... and how long they spend on it.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

PHYSICAL DAMAGE

While some tablets (such as the Amazon Fire Kids editions) come with rugged shock-proof cases, IPads aren't bullt far rough and tumble. They're also more expensive than most other tablets, and any damage your child's IPad suffers could be costly to repair. Buying a child-friendly case and screen protector for the device could be a wise move, especially if it's being used by younger ones.

SCREEN ADDICTION

Like most digital devices, toblets have the potential to become quite addictive. You might find your child spending too long staring at their iPad, which could lead to irritability, mood swings and a loss of interest in more important tasks. If this happens, be sure to visit the built-in screen time settings and ensure you limit how long they're able to spend on the device each day.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

your child to go searching online for age-inappropriate sites, apps or information, there's always a possibility that something unexpected – perhaps a video that auto-plays or content incorrectly suggested by an algorithm – could appear on their tablet and upset them. You can help prevent this by adjusting the content settings (see our 'top lips' section below).

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SIRI SUGGESTIONS

The parental controls built into IOS (the fundamental operating system of Apple devices) enable you to block access to most age-inappropriate content – but your child could potentially still bypass these restrictions (either accidentally or deliberately) by using Siri, Apple's voice—activated digital assistant. To avoid this, toggle the 'Ask Siri' lunctions to 'off' in the IPad's settings menu.

Advice for Parents & Carers



Before letting little ones loose on an iPad, it's a good idea to set up Family Sharing, as this lets you utilise the parental controls to manage exactly how your child is able use the device. You can do this fairly easily by going into the iPad's settings; once there, you'll be able to add an existing Apple account (if your child already has one) or set one up from scratch.

APPLY SOME LIMITS

The 'Downtime' function allows you to tell the iPad to lock itself at certain periods (at mealtimes or before bed, for instance), while 'App Limits' removes access to certain apps once they've been used for a specified length of time each day. The iPad can display a reminder when these limits have nearly been reached, letting your child mentally prepare for the end of their gaming or viewing time.

STOP ACCIDENTAL SPENDING

To empower your child with an increased sense of freedom on their device (without giving yourself something else to worry about in the process) you could enoble the iPad's 'Ask to Buy' fecture. Whenever your child tries to download or buy an app, game or product, the iPad sends you a request to approve (or deny!) it. This option only becomes available if you've set up Family Sharing.

SET CONTENT AND PRIVACY RESTRICTIONS

The parental controls can stop the iPad from displaying explicit or age-inappropriate content (in apps like iTunes and Safari, for instance) when your child is signed into their account. You'll also be able to restrict the capacity to download and install apps, and you can specify permissions which prevent children from changing the iPad's privacy settings once you've selected them.

TRACK IT DOWN

Just like the iPhone, Apple's iPads have 'Find My' software to help you locate your child's iPad – or indeed, any linked Apple devices that have gone AWOL, including phones, watches and AirPods. If you enable 'Find My' in the settings menu, it will display the last known location of an iPad that's been mislaid, as well as giving you the option to lock a missing iPad that you suspect has been stolen.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology laurentier within and reposition.

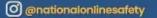














What Parents & Carers Need to Know about



Spotify is a digital music, podcast and video service which gives users access to millions of songs and other content from creators all over the world. Since launching in 2008, Spotify has revolutionised the way music is listened to: it now offers the ability to manage and share more than 100 million tracks and five million podcast series, plus personalised recommendations, new release updates and the option to create collaborative playlists. As of February 2023, it is the world's most popular audio streaming subscription service with 489 million users globally.



EXPLICIT LYRICS

De*#!

GROOMING TACTICS

OVERSHARING

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE PODCASTS

Advice for Parents & Carers



If you're concerned about what your child might hear while streaming music, spotify Kids is a separate, ad-free service specifically designed for children aged 12 and under. It allows younger users to enjoy human-curated, child-friendly content (such as music and audiobooks) and is available to users with a Spotify Premium Family subscription – meaning that parents can view and manage the content their child listens to.

CENSOR EXPLICIT CONTENT

TALK ABOUT THE RISKS

PARENTAL

150

CIT CONTENT

As with any platform, it's good practice to talk to your child about what they should be aware of when using Spotify. For instance, it's important they're aware never to share any personal information with strangers, and what they should do if they're exposed to inappropriate content. Encourage them to think critically about what they see and he so that they feel comfortable raising any concerns with you.

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KEEP AN EYE OUT

If you're concerned that your child is spending too much time on Spotify or you've noticed they're being particularly secretive about how they're using it, encourage them to talk about what they're listening to. It's always prudent to show an interest in their online habits from the outset – so you're confident they're using apps and services in the right way, for the right reasons, and they're not being drawn into anything they shouldn't be.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.





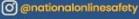
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www.nationalonlinesafety.com









PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) DURING EASTER HALF TERM 2023



COURTESY OF MONEY SAVING CENTRAL

ASDA CAFE

Kids eat for £1 all day, every day with no adult spend until the end of Easter 2023

HUNGRY HORSE

Kids eat for £1 on Mondays & up to 2 Kids get free breakfast with 1 adult breakfast

SAINSBURYS CAFES

Kids eat for £1 with the purchase of an adult hot main.

WHITBREAD INNS

Two kids under 16 eat for FREE with every adult breakfast purchased

THE REAL GREEK

Kids eat FREE every Sunday for every £10 spent by an adult

PREMIER INN & TRAVELODGE

Buy 1 Adult Breakfast from just £8.99 & up to two kids eat breakfast for free

TABLE TABLE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

SIZZLING PUBS

Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids' mains are £1 with every adult meal.

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

MORRISONS

Spend £4.49 & get one free kids meal all day, every day.

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 8 eat FREE all day, every day at selected Gordon Ramsay restaurants

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto in Half Terms

BILLS

2 kids eat FREE all day, every day from Monday 3rd until Friday 14th April 2023

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Mon to Thurs.

YO! SUSHI

Kids eat free all day at YO! Sushi with any adult £10 spend from April 3rd 2023

SA BRAINS PUBS

Children can eat for £1 with any adult main. Valid All Day Wednesdays

FUTURE INNS

Under 12's eat for free with any adult meal. During the school holidays

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids get 1 mini main, 2 snacks & a drink FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

10 BE CONFIRMED ...

M&S, Tesco and Farmhouse Inns

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