

Wellesley Park Primary School

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

4th Feb 2022

Headteacher's Comment



Attendance and Punctuality

Pupil attendance and punctuality is a key focus and priority at Wellesley Park. We are seeing an increasing number of children who are regularly absent, or late to school. We do appreciate that *on occasion* this cannot be helped.

I would like to kindly remind parents that the school's expectations for individual pupil attendance is 95% and above, with the aim of having 100% pupil attendance. Should your child fall behind the school's expectations, a monitoring process will be triggered. Please be aware that if your child is late after registration, this is recorded and also affects their attendance and consequently means that they are missing the vital learning at the start of their school day.

Over the coming weeks, in line with our Attendance Policy, Mrs Hartley-Criddle will be contacting parents whose children's attendance falls to 90% or below.

Parent Survey Results

Firstly, I would like to say a big thank you to those who took the time to complete the Parent Survey. I am delighted to share the results with you today. These surveys were completed confidentially and the results are overwhelmingly positive. There were 27 responses.

Summary

	Strongly agree/ Agree	Disagree/ Strongly disagree	I don't know
My child is happy at school	96%	4%	
My child feels safe at this school	100%		
The school makes sure it's pupils are well behaved	96%	4%	
My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively	100%		
The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year	96%	4%	
When I have raised concerns with the school, they have been dealt with properly	96%	4%	
How strongly do you agree with this statement: "my child has SEND and the school gives them the support they need to succeed"	100%		
The school has high expectations for my child	89%		11%
My child does well at school	100%		
The school lets me know how my child is doing	96%	4%	
There are a good range of subjects available to my child at school	81%	4%	15%
My child can take part in clubs and activities at school	89%		11%
The school supports my child's wider personal development	85%		15%

Points to consider:

Considerations	School Actions
High expectations for all children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At Wellesley Park, we have high expectations of all our children and want each and every child to do their best at all times. Your child's class teacher will talk to you if they are concerned that your child is not trying their best in class. Teachers will employ a variety of strategies to support children if this is the case. We appreciate that COVID has caused lots of disruption to our normal face-to-face meetings and events – where of course you would normally see, first-hand, all of the amazing learning within our school.
Range of curriculum subjects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a school we follow a broad and balanced curriculum; ensuring that children learn all subjects included in the National Curriculum. These include: English, Maths, Science, Art, DT, RE, History, Geography, PSHE, Computing, Music, PE (including swimming) and French (KS2). As part of our new showcase events, at the end of each half term, you will be able to see the range of subjects taught and the essential knowledge that your child has been learning. Please see your child's year group curriculum map on our school website, as a reminder of the subjects that your child will study.
Clubs and Activities in school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the disruption of lockdown and restrictions it is not surprising that 11% of parents were unsure of our club/activities offer in school. We offer a wide-range of ASC clubs. Now that restrictions have lifted, we will continue to operate our variety of clubs for children to attend for Spring 2. Please see newsletter for further details.
Wider Personal Development	<p>Personal development at Wellesley Park includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparing pupils for life in modern Britain – understanding British and school values Promoting an inclusive environment and equality of opportunity On-line safety Extra-curricular activities High-quality pastoral support Opportunities to nurture and develop pupil's talents and interests Know how to eat healthily, maintain an active lifestyle and keep physically and mentally healthy Transition arrangements <p>We will work on developing this area, so that parents understand how we support their child in this area.</p>

Thank you again for contributing to the survey. We are very pleased that, as a body of parents, you are so supportive of Wellesley Park and everyone who works here. The all-round positive results reflect your belief in, and appreciation of all that is being done for the benefit of our children. As a whole staff team, we really do appreciate your feedback and the recognition of the good work that we do is highly motivating and rewarding.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Wilkins

Headteacher

Previous Newsletters

Previous issues of the newsletter can be found in the 'News and Events' section of our school website: <https://www.wellesleyparkschool.co.uk/all-newsletters.htm>

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 below and click on 'follow' to link our posts to your newsfeed.

<https://www.facebook.com/WellesleyParkPrimarySchool>



Attendance - by class for the period 17/01/2022 - 28/01/2022



Gruffalo	75.66%	Matilda	79.83%	Galadriel	83.73%
Jasper	79.23%	BFG	88.49%	Bagheera	88.75%
Kipper	78.44%	Hufflepuff	88.41%	Akela	92.83%
Mrs TW	83.06%	Gryffindor	89.60%		
Peter Rabbit	83.00%	Thorin	88.40%		

Our Wellesley Park School Value for this half-term - Tolerance

We have continued to work hard on our school value of tolerance over this half-term, to ensure that each and every one of us is as understanding and kind towards others as we possibly can be.



Are you accepting of other cultures?

Are you tolerant of yourself? Even when you make mistakes?



Online Safety - Safer Internet Day

On Tuesday 8th February we will be joining schools and youth organisations across the UK in celebrating Safer Internet Day 2022.



Safer Internet Day is a global campaign to promote the safe and responsible use of technology, which calls on young people, parents, carers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, policymakers and more, to join together in helping to create a better internet.

Using the internet safely and positively is a key message that we promote in Wellesley Park, and celebrating Safer Internet Day is a great opportunity for us to re-emphasise the online safety messages we deliver throughout the year. Some of the activities we'll be participating in on the day include:

- A Virtual Online Assembly
- KS1 activities on the book DigiDuck and the Magic Castle
- KS2 activities involving debates/discussions over respect online, creating guides/stories/mascots about gaming safer online, quizzes and films.

We would be delighted if you could join us in celebrating the day by continuing the conversation at home. To help you with this, you may be interested in downloading the free Safer Internet Day Resources for Parents and Carers which is available at: saferinternet.org.uk/sid-parents.

Extra Curricular Clubs

We are pleased to confirm that extra curricular clubs will recommence after the February half-term break. We will be carrying forward all confirmed places for clubs from the Autumn term. If your child no longer wishes to continue with a club, please let the school office know as soon as possible.

Your child's place at the club will be confirmed in due course via Class Dojo.

Please note that the iPad Club and Arts & Crafts Club for Years 5 and 6 will no longer be running. This is in order to accommodate Upper Key Stage 2 one to one tutoring which will take place over the rest of the academic year.

There are limited places still available in the following clubs:

- Craft Club (Years 1 & 2)
- Numbots Ipad Club (Year 1 & 2)
- Dodgeball / Ball Skills (Years 5 & 6)
- Zumba (Years 5 & 6)

If you would like to request a space at one of the above clubs, please contact the school office.

Please see the attached updated clubs timetable for further information and start dates, which may vary.

Wellesley Park Half Term Learning Show Case!

Now that COVID restrictions have started to ease, we are extremely excited to be able to invite parents/carers in to school to see some of our amazing learning! We are hoping that this will provide you with the chance to further understand, what your child has been learning in school this half-term.

Each year group will have their own day and time allocated (see below) and this is when their learning will be displayed for you, in our school hall. Your child will not be in the hall with you, as we feel that it would be unfair on any child whose parents/carers may be unable to attend.

You will not need to complete any forms to state your attendance beforehand – we will have a sign in sheet for you on the day.

All showcases will be open from 2.30-3.00pm, on the given day.

Masks will be optional for you – depending on your own health and circumstances.

Showcase Dates – Parents may arrive at the school hall from 2.30pm – you do not need to sign in to reception:

Year R: 09.02.2022

Year 4: 15.02.2022

Year 1: 10.02.2022

Year 5: 16.02.2022

Year 2: 11.02.2022

Year 6: 17.02.2022

Year 3: 14.02.2022

We hope that this will be a really positive experience for you as parents/carers and the start of a new Wellesley Park tradition!



Scholastic Book Fair

Scholastic will be delivering a book fair in the school hall from Wednesday 9th to Tuesday 15th February, from 3:15pm to 4:00pm. Please come and visit this pop-up book shop containing a wide range of bestselling books for children of all ages. All prices are discounted and by purchasing from the fair, you help to earn free books for our school library. Simply login to bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay to pay for any books, either in advance or following you browsing with your child.



World Book Day

We are looking forward to World Book Day on Thursday 3rd March. Children can come to school dressed up as a character from a book they have enjoyed.

A famous local author, Sean Taylor, will also be in school on the day. He will deliver a whole-school assembly and throughout the day, work with different year groups to encourage a love of reading and demonstrate his creative process. We can't wait to welcome him to Wellesley Park.



Message from Emmaline Hartley-Criddle - Deputy Headteacher and SENDCo



SEND Information

This week's focus is - Dyslexia

Overview:

- Dyslexia is one of a family of **Specific Learning Difficulties**
- Many people who have dyslexia have strong visual, creative and problem solving skills
- Dyslexia is not linked to intelligence, but can make learning difficult
- Dyslexia is a life-long condition which has a substantial effect on an individual's day to day activities and is classed as a disability under the Equality Act 2010
- Dyslexia varies from person to person and no two people will have the same set of strengths and weaknesses
- It often co-occurs with related conditions, such as dyspraxia, dyscalculia and attention deficit disorder
- Dyslexic individuals often have difficulty processing and remembering information
- A family history of dyslexia makes it more likely that the person you are considering also has dyslexia
- It is estimated that 1 in 10 people, have some level of dyslexia – so it really is very common!

Some recognised signs of dyslexia:

Preschool

A preschool child may:

- have a history of delays in speaking, making sentences or pronouncing words correctly.
- have a history of 'glue ear' or similar early childhood difficulties.
- find it hard to remember the names of familiar objects, e.g. spoon, cup.
- have difficulty learning nursery rhymes.
- have other members of the family with similar difficulties

Primary School

A primary school age child may:

- have particular difficulty learning to read, write and spell.
- have difficulty remembering sequences such as the alphabet and months of the year.
- have difficulty telling left from right.
- have difficulty copying accurately from board or textbook.
- have difficulty remembering and following oral instructions.
- have persistent and continued reversing of letters and figures, e.g. '15' for 51, 'b' for d.
- take longer than average over written work.
- experience lack of self-confidence and increasing frustration.
- in other ways be a bright and alert child.

Diagnosis

School cannot diagnose dyslexia. However, if a child continues to display *many* of these traits, then screening assessments around their cognition and learning and non-verbal reasoning abilities may be used, to identify whether there are any / or significant 'traits' of Dyslexia occurring. This information can then be used to support the child in school – for example through special resources / extra writing time / interventions and when necessary, referrals made for more specialist support.

Weblinks for parents/carers:

www.nhs.uk/conditions/dyslexia/

www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/advice/children

www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/advice/children/guidance-for-parents

Please also see attached 'Explaining dyslexia to children' guidance document.

Pre-school

Pre-school have been continuing to enjoy their fantasy theme alongside Chinese New Year.

During our week of Room on the Broom, we made wands and life size brooms which we rode around the garden. We also made lots of aromatic magic potions!

For Chinese New Year, a parent very kindly provided Pre-school with noodles, rice and fortune cookies for our café! This went down well, especially with the staff! We were also given some chopsticks and a beautiful calendar... thank you!



2022 is the year of the tiger. Some of us worked as a team rolling marbles on a tuff tray through blobs of black paint and over orange paper. This made stripes for our tigers.

We also put our scissor skills to use, creating Chinese lanterns with red paper and sparkly sequins. We used red paper because the Chinese believe it to be lucky. The dancing dragons were fun to watch and were requested a second time!

Reception

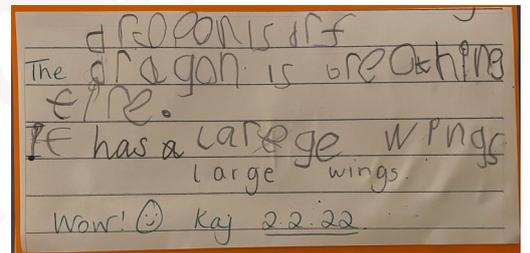
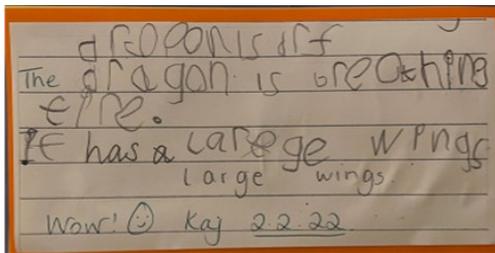
This week, as part of our Talk 4 writing unit, we have been learning to write a report about trolls. The children were very creative about the skin, hair, and number of eyes it would have, as well as a different place for the troll to live.

They also wrote some sentences about a dragon which were very impressive! The children used excellent pencil control, formed their letters correctly, used their phonics to spell and put the words into a sentence!

In Outdoor Learning, the children found sticks and other bits and pieces from outside to create self- portraits, which was great fun!

In Maths, we have been finding out about the numbers 9 and 10. We discovered there are lots of ways of making 9 and 10.

Next week, the children will be writing their own mini books about trolls and sharing them with each other; they will also be practising their colour mixing skills with paint and creating trolls.



Year 1

What a fantastic week we have had in Year 1! We started a new topic in our English work – how to write instructions. Of course, to do this, we had to make a jam sandwich!

In Maths, we have started to learn about numbers up to 50. Jasper and Kipper class have started a 'Hit the Button' competition too. This is a maths game where we are timed to answer questions as a class. Jaspers are currently in the lead so a big well done to them.

Miss Winsor and Mrs Brown have both been super impressed with the children's adaptability over the last few weeks. We have had to move classrooms and work with different people, both of which can be a bit unsettling, but Year 1 rose to the challenge admirably!



Year 2

It has been a really busy time in Year 2 over the last couple of weeks. We would like to thank you all for your patience this half-term, as there have been a lot of changes each week.

In English, we have introduced our new fiction text 'Kassim and the Greedy Dragon'. The children all had some time to create a jewel which they later found out was what Kassim found in the cave with the greedy dragon.

In Maths, we have nearly finished our multiplication and division unit. The children have worked super hard at this. We have been looking at division and doing sharing and grouping to help us to work out the answers. The children have done great work using all their knowledge they have learnt to be able to show the number sentences in all forms such as multiplication, division and repeated addition.

27/01/22 WALT Create time by shading and smudging using soft pencils and pastels



In Music, we have been learning about rock music. We have learnt a new song called 'I wanna play in a band' which all the children have enjoyed practising and doing the actions in time to the music. We have also listened to different rock music such as 'We will rock you' which the children have been repeatedly singing throughout this term.

Reminder - please can we be reading at home at least 4 times a week and recording this in their recording records.



Year 3

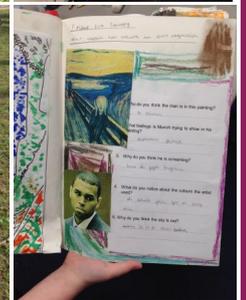
In Year 3, we have been enjoying Art over the past few weeks. We have researched the artist Edvard Munch and his most famous painting 'The Scream'. We then looked at emotions and colours and the use of line making to create atmosphere. We are looking forward to creating our own version of the scream.

In Science, we have learnt the names of many of the bones in the body and also how muscles work in pairs to move our bones by contracting and relaxing.

In French, we have been practising colours and how to describe light and dark colours.

In English, we are starting a new story unit called Nail Soup, where we will be focusing on how to create good openings to stories as well as endings.

We have been very impressed with the children's ability to quickly pick up division this week as well as scaling problems. We will be moving on to the unit of money next, so please practise the skill of giving change with your child.



Year 4

We have been very busy in Year 4 the last few weeks and have made some great progress.

In English, we have nearly finished our 'George's Marvellous Concoction' unit and are looking forward to writing our own stories based on the structure of this losing tale. The children have some great ideas so we will share some of their great writing shortly.

In Maths, the children have made a great start on our new 'Area' unit and are able to both recognise the area of shapes and draw their own shapes with a given area. The next challenge is to compare the area of different shapes.

We completed one of our 'Memorable Moments' activities this week – orienteering. This involved following a map of the school to find certain check points, and racing to see who could find and complete the set in the quickest time. It was a great exercise of teamwork, and the children worked really well at sharing the different tasks involved in this activity – and all had a lot of fun doing so!



Year 5

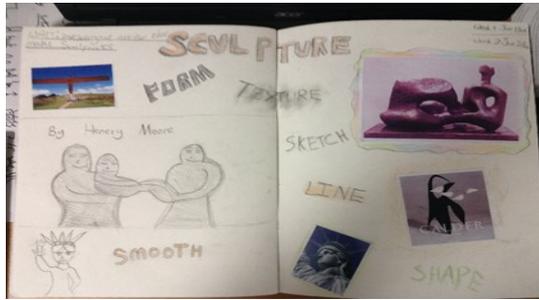
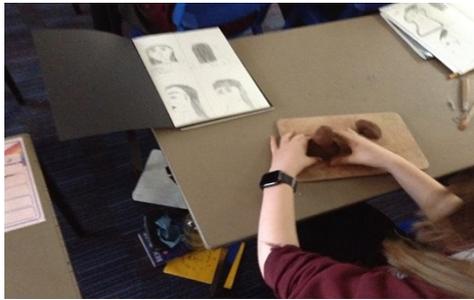
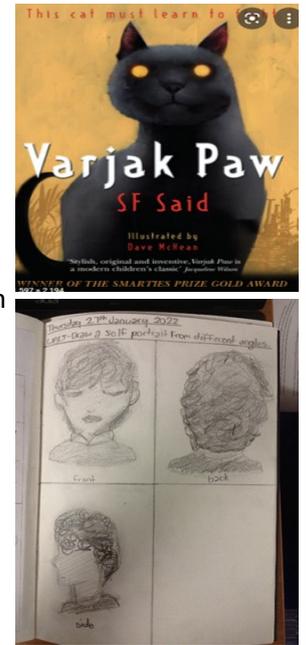
Year 5 have worked really hard on their recent newspaper articles for English. They explored the different types of language used in newspapers and how reporters use the 5Ws - who, what, where, when, why, in their opening paragraphs.

We then introduced our new text which is called *Zelda Claw*. This is a tale of fear with some great suspense to draw the reader in. We can't wait to get started and write our own stories.

This text links brilliantly with the text we are covering in our reading sessions, *Varjak Paw*. This is an adventure story about a cat who is different to his siblings and must venture to the 'Outside' in order to find the monsters (dogs) and ask for their help. We have enjoyed predicting what we think the book will be about, exploring the language used to create tension and how the author uses a fire to echo the growing anger between Varjak and his siblings.

In Maths, we have started our new unit, all about Fractions! So far, we been recalling knowledge from Year 4, however we are looking forward to learning new skills and implementing them to solve problem solving and reasoning questions, such as adding and subtracting fractions and mixed numbers.

In Art, we have been looking at different sculptures and the materials they have used to create sculptures. We then took time to do a self portrait of various angles so we could use those drawings to begin sculpting our heads out of clay. This week we began to sculpt the basic shapes in clay and will add more detail next week.



Year 6

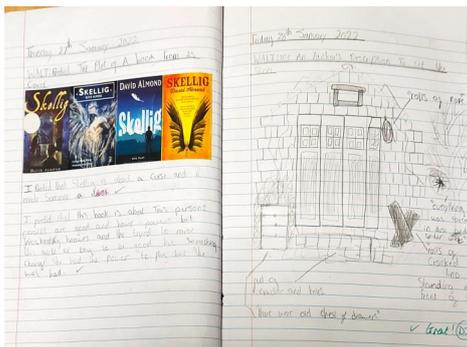
We have had an excellent couple of weeks learning in Year 6. We have enjoyed a visit from the panto (Oh no we didn't!) and 'A Telling Tale Workshop' where we delved into the important issue of bullying.

In Maths, we are continuing our work on Decimals and learning how to multiply and divide them. We are beginning to develop a greater understanding of the relationship between Fractions, Decimal and Percentages.

We have completed our innovated versions of Portal Tales in English and are looking forward to creating our own versions in the invent stage of the unit. We have secured an understanding of hyphen use, figurative language techniques and building a deeper understanding of sentence types to build cohesion.

In Guided Reading, We have started our new and exciting text 'Skellig' by David Almond. We have used the various covers to build predictions and created pictorial representations of the opening scenes. We will be focussing on the key themes presented in the text alongside the fantastic vocabulary and structure of the book.

As part of our History topic (Ancient Kingdom of Benin, West Africa), we have researched some key vocabulary and compared the key events in African history. The children have really enjoyed their Art sessions and will soon create their own Benin Bronzes out of clay. We have started our Light topic in Science; we have investigated shadows and discovered how we see things.



In May this year, the Standardised Assessment Tests (SATs) will take place for Year 6. We would like to invite you to a parent meeting about SATs on Monday 14th February 2022 (4pm - 5pm). This will be an opportunity for us to share with you the SATs process and for you to ask any questions you may have.

Further details will be shared on Class Dojo next week.

