



Wellesley Park Primary School

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

7th October 2022

Headteacher's Comment



Dear Parents and Carers,

Another great week has flown by in a blur of education and fun. From poetry recitals to dodging the downpours, learning tricky new mathematical operations and writing great stories, from some beautiful singing to making messy papier mâché globes - your children have once again had a wealth of quality experiences to add to their 'learning' memories. I wish school had been this great when I was their age!

I just have a couple of updates for you this week, one regarding **Year 5 and 6 football** and the other one regarding **end of day procedures**.

1. **Year 5 and 6 football:** Understandably this is a much-loved sport and many of our older pupils like nothing better than to kick the ball around at breaktimes. However, this does also cause many issues amongst the children and can dominate the playground at times and spill over into long periods of teaching time being used. Therefore, I am planning a bit of a change to this for Years 5 and 6 breaktimes, in order to ensure that the provision is right for everyone: pupils who want to play football, our supporting staff *and* those who do *not* want to play football! In order for us to get this right, I am removing football from the school playgrounds for Years 5 and 6 for the duration of next week. This will ensure a football-issue free week for the teachers, no interrupted and lost learning time and the opportunity for us to trial and test what other activities work well out on the playgrounds. Thereafter, once everything has been finalised, football will only be for the longer break at lunchtimes and we will have a supportive plan in place to ensure that this time is really successful for everyone. I hope that you can appreciate our reasons for this and support us in making playtimes a fun, safe and enjoyable time for everyone.

2. **End of day procedures:** I have been reviewing the end of day procedures with a particular focus around pupil safeguarding, including site safety, school clubs and Dukes after-school care and I am putting the following changes into place with immediate effect from Monday - this is to ensure still further, that **all** of our pupils are kept as safe as possible at ALL times. I appreciate that some of these changes may be slightly irksome for you as parents, but I need to put all of our pupils' safety first and I thank you for your support with this:

- **The school gate at the side of the Dukes care room will be closed at 3.30pm and opened at 4.15pm** for parents/carers of children attending clubs to come on-site to collect their children, as I want to be reassured that no unattended adults can access the school site during school care and club provision times, except for the designated pupil collection times.
- **This gate will then be closed again at 4.35pm** - allowing time for the parents who collect from Dukes at 4.30pm to collect their children also.
- **The gate will then be re-opened at 5.45pm** to ensure that all parents of children still at Dukes, can collect their children *by* 6pm.
- **The gate will then be closed at 6.05pm.**
- **Parents must let class teachers know if they are collecting their children directly from a school club, when their child is also booked into Dukes on the same day**, so that Dukes can be informed before the session starts.
- **The Dukes phone line will be the 'emergency only' contact number for school after 4pm when the school office closes.** This is *just* to enable families to get emergency messages through to their children, if they are attending a club. **Please note - this is for critical / emergency use only.** The phone number for Dukes is: **01823 660916.**

If you are the parent of a child at Dukes and you are arriving to collect your child - outside of the gate opening times of 4.20pm and 5.45pm - then you will need to wait by the gate and phone the Dukes number to announce your arrival. A member of the Dukes team will then either let you in, or bring your child to you at the gate. **The phone number for Dukes is: 01823 660916.** There will always be a member of the Dukes team in the care room to answer your calls. Obviously, if you can try to use the gate opening times as much as possible - that would be really helpful. Thank you.

Lastly, I would like to do some begging for a couple of volunteers! Our school library books need a huge sort out - this is a massive job and we just do not have the time out of our teaching commitments, to get this job done properly. If anyone would be able to spare a few hours one morning or afternoon to come in and help us with this, I would definitely provide biscuits!! If you are able to help, please email the school office and let us know which days / times would work best for you. Mrs Matthews will pass all of your details on to me. Hopefully we can get this sorted really quickly, as I know that with some uninterrupted time, which you just don't get in school, it could be done in no time! Once this is done, then we can train up our willing army of new librarians to keep it all organised. Thank you so much in advance if you can offer your time.

I hope that you all have a positive and healthy weekend and manage to avoid all of the nasty bugs that are affecting so many people at the moment. We clearly have little immune systems left after covid!

All the best and kind regards,

Emmie Hartley-Criddle

Head of School

DSL/SENDCo

SEND/Parenting Update

Team Teach now offer a resource called My Family Coach – a free website produced by experts in child behaviour, parenting and education. Please see link below.

My Family Coach is a free website produced by experts in child behaviour, parenting, and education. They have over 20 years of experience working with schools to understand children's behaviour. Their training is used in 5,000 schools and health and social care settings, training over 100,000 individuals each year.

The website is full of resources on popular parenting topics, such as screen time, bullying, and mental wellbeing. They have a wide range of blog posts, podcast episodes, and videos available, along with bookable 1:1 coaching, courses, and classes. This includes free online classes for matters such as 'How to improve your child's listening skills', 'How to help your child to calm down' and 'Healthy screen-time' etc.

My Family Coach provides support when you need it most. It's simple to sign up and completely free to register.

<https://www.myfamilycoach.com>

Forest School

As the weather is turning and it is getting a lot wetter, all children taking part in Forest School must have a change of clothes, wellies and waterproof jacket or they will not be able to participate in this activity. Please do not forget to provide these for your child.

Many thanks.

We are looking for a scaffold-type board for a raised bed for Forest School and any items that can be used to make an obstacle course e.g. heavy-wooden slats/logs, tunnels etc...

If you have anything to contribute, please contact the office so that Miss Gardner can be told before you bring item into school.

Thank you in advance.

Miss Gardner

Outdoor Learning/Forest School Lead

Attendance - by class for the period 19/09/2022 to 30/09/2022

Gruffalo	93.26%	Matilda	88.22%	Galadriel	95.80%
Jasper	95.65%	BFG	98.08%	Thorin	97.22%
Mrs Tiggywinkle	92.91%	Hufflepuff	94.86%	Akela	89.56%
Peter Rabbit	94.24%	Gryffindor	94.25%	Bagheera	95.14%

WP Sport

On 22nd and 29th September, Miss Hill and Miss Gardner took a Tag Rugby team to Taunton to play in a Mixed School Tag Rugby tournament. We started with half hour of training run by students at Richard Huish College, and then implemented these learned skills into games against a variety of schools in Taunton and Wellington.

The children showed fantastic team work, resilience and respect towards their team mates and the teams they played, which paid off for them. They won 4 games and drew one!

WP are so proud of you all, congratulations!



Newsletter Notices and Attachments

We have been asked to share the following Somerset Music link with any Year 5 parents who may wish their child to either continue with clarinet lessons following the lessons in school or take up the flute or saxophone. This link can also be used by any Year 6 parents who may wish their child to take up music lessons.

[Wellesley Park Individual and Small group lessons 2022-23](#)

Please find attached a few resources to help your child at home with Maths. Also attached is a Parent Governor Election Letter and details of Wellington Jobs Fair

Job Vacancies

We currently have the following job vacancies:

Midday Supervisor x 2—Direct to website

Admin Assistant & 1:1 Teaching Assistants – Direct to website

Preschool

The Preschool children have been buzzing with excitement after seeing Wellington Carnival and visiting Bridgwater Fair!

So, we decided to build our own carnival cart with junk modelling materials. Everyone joined in with ideas, painting cutting and gluing. We used boxes, tape (lots of tape!) feathers, glitter, sprinkles and our imaginations to make our marvellous cart. It took several sessions and lots of hard work!



Reception/Year 1

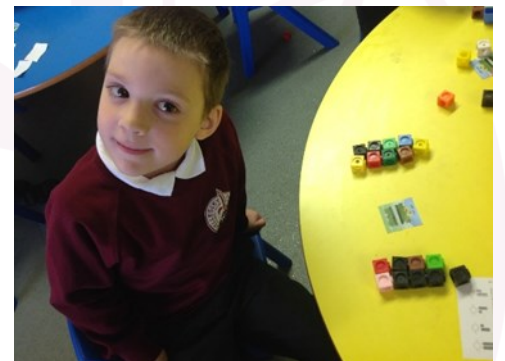
We can't believe another busy couple of weeks have gone by in Jasper and Gruffalo classes. The children have all been working hard and have particularly enjoyed their phonics lessons; Reception children starting these for the very first time with Miss Bardle and Year 1 recapping some known sounds with Miss Winsor. It is great to see these sounds being practised at home too!

In Reception, in Maths, we have been looking at matching, sorting and making patterns. The children have enjoyed using natural resources from our outside area to help them with this, including hunting for lots of different conkers to sort in different ways!

We have also started making patterns using leaf printing with paint – lots of fun and lots of mess!

In Year 1, we have been using the greater than, less than and equal to symbols to compare objects and numbers. The children are gaining confidence using these symbols, particularly when using counters or concrete resources to support their learning. If you want to help them at home, there is a great Numberblocks episode called Blockzilla!

Keep up the great work Jasper and Gruffalo classes!

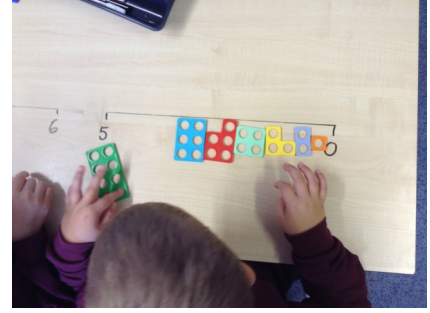
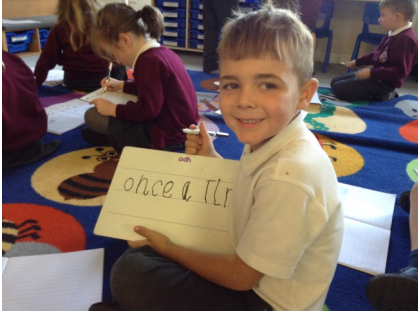


Year 1/Year 2

We have had another very exciting few weeks in Years 1 and 2.

In English, we have been writing our own 'Portal Tales' inspired by our Jack and the Beanstalk story. From giant potatoes to enchanted unicorn castles to a chicken singing 'Dynamite' by BTS, we've had lots of incredible ideas! Do ask your children to share their stories at home.

In Maths, Year 1 have been learning how to use a number line while Year 2 have been using part-whole models to partition numbers in different ways. Mrs. White even let us write on the tables to complete our number lines; something we very much enjoyed.



Year 3

Year 3 have had a busy week! We started our new topic of addition and subtraction in Maths, as well as starting to innovate The Cobbler of Wkrakow and Smok the Dragon of Wawel in talk for writing.

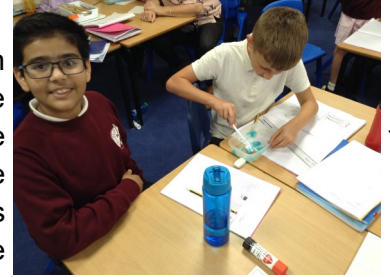
We also enjoyed doing team games in PE last Friday in preparation for our Year 3 Sport Activities Day at Court Fields on the 13th October.



Year 4

Year 4 have had a fantastic couple of weeks of learning. The children are continuing to make good progress in swimming, enjoying their lessons at Wellington Sports Centre.

In English, we have begun innovating our rags to riches tale and we have been treated to some amazing ideas for setting and character. In Maths, we have come to the conclusion of our Number and Place Value topic, but will continue revisit this as we now start to add and subtract larger numbers. In Science, the children really enjoyed making their own toothpaste and testing its properties and in readiness for National Poetry Day, we have been practising the performance of a poem in each class.



to



Year 5

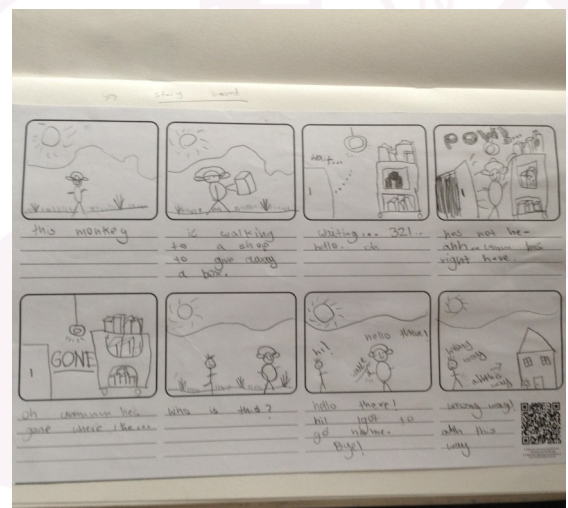
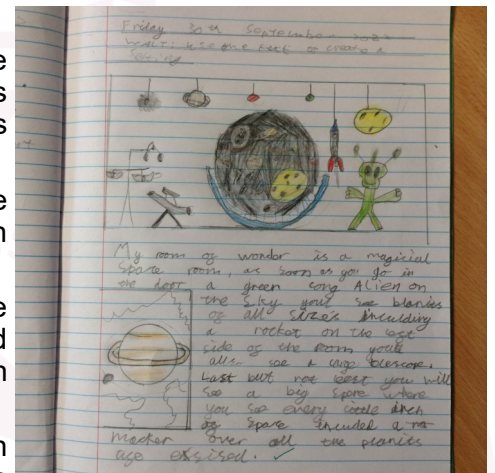
We have had another busy few weeks in Year 5.

We are now at the end of our first Talk 4 Writing unit and the children have all written some fantastic quest stories based on our original text Perseus and Medusa. We have some talented writers in the two classes, so it was very exciting to read their own versions of the story.

In guided reading we are almost halfway through our text The Nowhere Emporium, which the children are thoroughly enjoying. They have been using the text to create their own unusual world of wonders.

In DT, Thorin have almost finished making their 3D globes ready to be painted. We are going to be looking at the positions of the continents and countries ready to draw them on and in Galadriel, the children have been designing their story boards for their animations.

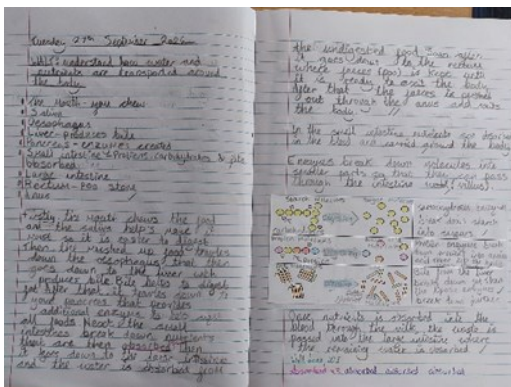
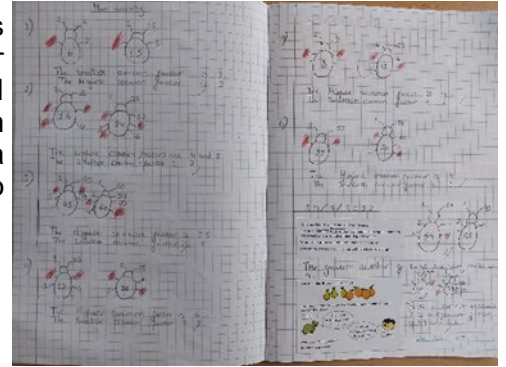
We all had great fun at the Harvest Festival with Rev Sam. The children were all brilliantly behaved and participated in the singing and activities well.



Year 6

We have had another great couple of weeks. Firstly, we have had lots of fun practising poetry to perform in front of KS2 on Thursday for National Poetry Day. We enjoyed a visit to the Harvest festival celebration with Reverend Sam and listened to some wonderful autumn poems written and performed by Year 6 children. We watched a fantastic live virtual session about space junk and look forward to following this up in Science next week.

In English, we are writing, editing and sharing invented suspense stories based on The Tale of Three Brothers from Harry Potter. In Maths, we have been using formal methods for multiplication and division. The children have been using their reasoning and problem-solving skills to overcome and calculate some tricky challenges. We are continuing to read 'Rooftoppers' and excited to find out how Sophie's adventures to find her mother unfold.



We have been investigating what life would have been like growing up in the Victorian Era in History. The children have been disgusted by the bathrooms they would have had to use and outraged by the school punishments! In French, we have been learning how to introduce ourselves and ask someone how they are - why not ask your child to introduce themselves in French?

