



# Wellesley Park Primary School

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

1st July 2022

## Headteacher's Comment



Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you have all enjoyed some sunny weather over the weekend, maybe you watched some Formula 1, Wimbledon or maybe even the Cricket in Taunton yesterday!? I know lots of my family and friends were doing just this!

A few updates for you this week, as we gear up to our last 3 weeks of this academic year - brace positions may be required, as it is always really, really busy up to the end of the summer term.

As you know, this week is the re-launch of our Strawberry and Pimms Evening at school on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July. For any parents who are unable to attend - you will be able to view your child/ren's work, in class, from the end of the school day until 4pm. For those of you who are attending (strawberry bowls are selling fast - so make sure you have got your order in!) we will be opening the hall doors at 6pm. You will then be welcomed in to receive your strawberries and proceed out to the main KS2 playground, where glasses of Pimms will be on sale. At approx. 6.15pm/6.30pm, our amazing Musical Theatre group will entertain us with a few songs from 'Matilda, The Musical' - led by Miss Bardle. Once this has finished, you will then be welcome to view your child/ren's work in the classrooms. At approx. 7pm/7.15pm, we will be setting up a game of rounders - staff versus Year 6 pupils - but, if we do not have enough staff, we may need to call upon some parents - so bring your running shoes just in case!! We will be closing the school gates by 8pm at the latest, at the end of the evening. Hopefully, we will be blessed with good weather for this relaxed and informal event... 😊

This week, our Year 6 pupils will be heading off to their secondary schools for their main transition days - I know that they are feeling a mixture of nerves and excitement - which is only normal. They are all ready for the next step in their educational journey now though and after a few weeks into Year 7, I know they will all be feeling settled and at ease. The hardest part is usually for you as parents - as you take the next step back from being their everything! At secondary school, time flies like you wouldn't believe, teenagers rarely tell you all about their day and you will have to cope with moods and hormones aplenty, as they start to find their way in the world. But you have all done an amazing job in getting your children to this point in their lives; your love *for* them - and belief *in* them - will always be what matters most.

On Wednesday of this week, we will be running our 'in-school' transition, known as our 'Moving Up afternoon'. This is when all children in school spend the afternoon with their new class teachers, in their new classrooms, with their new TAs. As parents/carers you will also find out who is your child's next class teacher on this day. We are aiming to send you a dojo message on this day - sometime between 11am and 2pm - to let you know this information as well. However, I would just like to give you a little heads-up, as we are currently experiencing a significant staff absence in school. If your child's new class teacher is not in school (for whatever reason) for this transition afternoon - we will still support the children in their new class, with help from year group colleagues and then try our very best to ensure that the teacher has some time with their new class, before the end of term. I am really hopeful this won't be needed - but I can't be sure at this moment in time, so thought you would appreciate the information now!

Class names: I just needed to update the class names (not the teachers) for next year as we have had a little re-jig! The class names and teachers will be as follows:

R / 1	Jasper	Miss Nadine Winsor
R / 1	Gruffalo	Miss Hannah Bardle
1 / 2	Mrs Tiggy-Winkle	Mrs Laura White (new)
1 / 2	Peter Rabbit	Mrs Chessie Murphy - Phase Lead
3	Matilda	Miss Fiona Hunt (nee Mrs Doidge) - Phase Lead
3	BFG	Miss Sarah Sweetland (new)
4	Hufflepuff	Mr Dom Hakes
4	Gryffindor	* Illness Cover to be appointed (interviews this week)
5	Galadriel	Miss Laura Hill
5	Thorin	Mrs Vicky Pilling 3 days (Mon-Wed) / Mrs Ellie Taylor 2 days (Thurs / Fri)
6	Bagheera	Miss Annika Baines (new) - Phase Lead
6	Akela	Mr Leigh Morris

### Staffing Update

We have been delighted to appoint 3 absolutely wonderful new TAs in the last couple of weeks. Two of these are parents of Wellesley Park pupils, who have been so impressed with all things Wellesley that they can't wait to join our amazing team - I can't think of a better accolade for our school, than by parents wanting to work 'in-house' with us! These appointments include Catherine Harris and Hollie Thomas (both school pupil parents), and the one non-WP parent: Sarah Stafford. We warmly welcome all three to our new teaching team and hope that they are able to spend many happy years working with us!

We are also sad to say our last farewells to Miss Amber Fowkes (class teacher), Isabelle Askew (TA) and Elaine Richings (TA). Miss Fowkes joined us this year as a newly qualified teacher- along with Miss Laura Hill and Miss Ellie Taylor, who are staying with us and have also done an amazing job! Miss Fowkes has been absolutely brilliant with her Year 3 class this year. Miss Fowkes has got to know all of her pupils really well and endeavoured to bring the very best out in all of them. However, Miss Fowkes has decided that it is right for her to move to Bristol to be with her friends and has since successfully achieved a new teaching position in Bristol, which has enabled her to finalise her plans. We wish Miss Fowkes the very best of luck for her future and hope that she keeps in touch! Miss Askew has decided that the time is right for her to do some travelling and adventure in the year ahead - but she assures us that she may well still pursue a career as an art teacher in the future - we wish her all the very best of luck for whatever path she travels and thank her for all of her hard work this year. Finally, but by no means least, we say goodbye to Ms Richings. Ms Richings joined us way back in 2013 and has helped us through many school journeys and adventures! Ms Richings has been much loved by many children over the years and will be sorely missed as a member of our school team. Ms Richings has decided quite rightly that a job nearer to her home would be beneficial to her in many ways and has therefore, successfully found herself a new TA role in a school closer to home. We would like to thank Miss Richings for all of her years with us - her new school will be very lucky to have her! This week we are holding interviews for the temporary post to cover Mrs Harris. This will be a Year 4 position and I will update you all if an appointment is made.

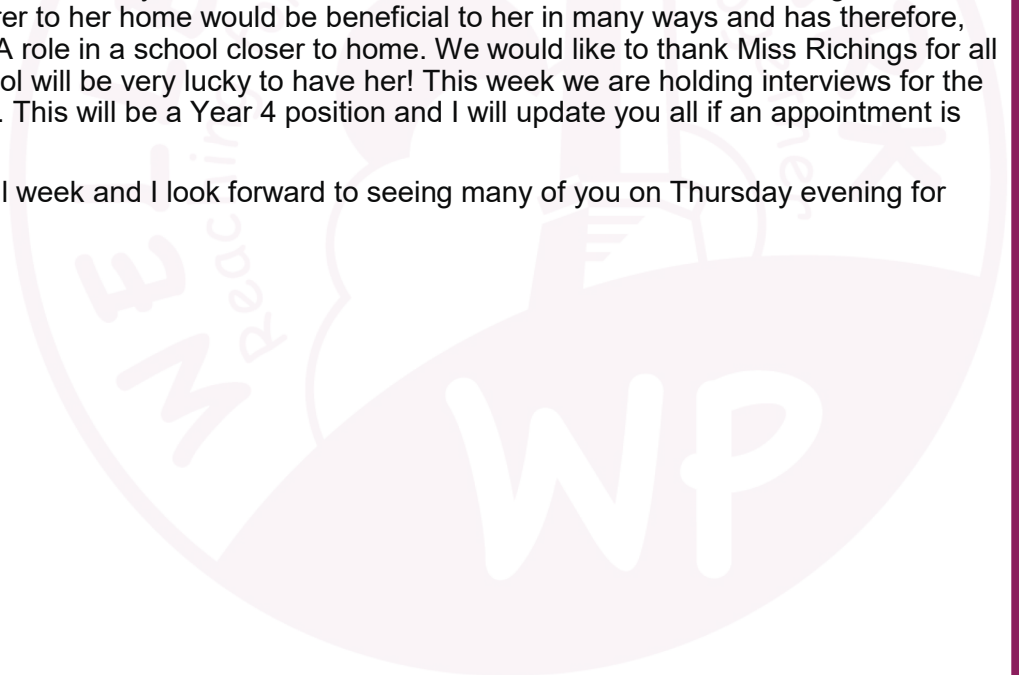
I hope that you all have a wonderful week and I look forward to seeing many of you on Thursday evening for some relaxing fun and laughter!

Best wishes as always,

**Mrs Emmie Hartley-Criddle**

Head of School DSL

SENDCo



## COVID-19 Update

Just an update for you in light of the apparent rising COVID cases across the country. We have not been advised to update / or change any policies in relation to this within our school setting.

Therefore, please continue to monitor your children, as you would normally and to inform the school office at the earliest possible opportunity if they are to be absent due to illness. Routine testing is no longer expected in any education or children's social care settings. That means we don't expect pupils or staff in education settings to routinely test themselves for COVID-19. However, *if* a test is completed (due to definite symptoms and ill health - tests are not required for asymptomatic / or being 'in contact with' a positive case) *and* a positive result occurs, the recommendation is that anyone with a positive COVID-19 test result is advised to try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for five days, which is when they are most infectious. **For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice is three days.**

If you have any queries relating to your / or your family's health - then please do call the NHS helpline as you would normally do or make an appointment with your GP.

## Attendance - by class for the period 13/06/2022 to 24/06/2022

Gruffalo	96.99%	Matilda	96.17%	Galadriel	97.56%
Jasper	96.79%	BFG	83.74%	Bagheera	97.22%
Kipper	98.37%	Hufflepuff	94.82%	Akela	96.14%
Mrs TW	94.44%	Gryffindor	92.00%		

## Free School Meal Vouchers

Somerset County Council have confirmed, children who are entitled to free school meals will receive a £10.00 weekly voucher through the summer holiday.

## Dukes Breakfast and Afterschool Club

All outstanding fees for Dukes breakfast and afterschool club please can these be settled by 8<sup>th</sup> July at the latest.

## New booking System for September

All parents will need to book and pay for the sessions required directly through the online booking system Magicbooking. ALL bookings for September and October to be made through Magicbooking. We are unable to book the sessions on your behalf.

If you have a child joining Reception in September, please phone the office 01823 664876, if we haven't already been advised of your required sessions. You won't be able to book until your child has started at Wellesley Park Primary.

The activity will be live on Magicbooking from Saturday 9th July at 9am. Full user details, terms & conditions can be found on our website <https://www.wellesleyparkschool.co.uk/parents/wrap-around-care.htm>

## Previous Newsletters

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

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

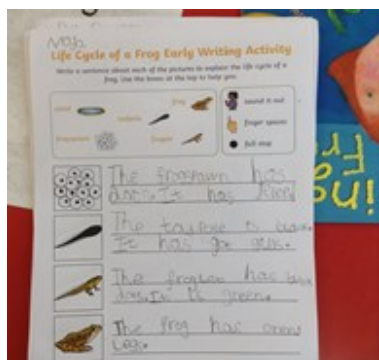
## Pre-school

Whatever next? is our story as we explore space. We have been dressing up in space suits and looking at the different planets in our role play area. We have all been very creative finding a variety of mediums to make aliens, from paper plates to playdough. It was great fun making a picture of earth together, we used lots of hand prints in blue and green paint and we painted the moon using tin foil! Some of us did bubble painting to make moon and planet pictures.



## Reception

This week in Reception, we have been finding out about the lifecycle of a frog. The children have all enjoyed writing about the lifecycle and have used their Phonics knowledge to sound out the words. In Maths, we had a go at sharing out counters between 2 people to find out how many they would have and how we make sure it is fair. In Outdoor Learning this week, the children all enjoyed making a Butterfly Feeder – apparently Butterflies love mashed up banana! In Phonics, we have learnt how to spell words with an s on them and we have been going back over words with the digraphs: oa, ai and ar in them. Their sounding out is really coming on now and many of the children can sound out and blend in their heads!



## Year 1

What a crazy couple of weeks! We have spent the last two weeks working on our place value to 100 in Maths. The children have done amazingly well at using their prior place value knowledge to 50 to support them with the larger numbers. We have been comparing, ordering and partitioning, building on our tens and ones knowledge.

In Science, we have begun our final topic of the year, looking at the seasons Spring and Summer, after learning about Autumn and Winter back in the Autumn term. The children began by identifying the changes from Winter into Spring, looking at the differences in clothing, the trees and understanding the change in day length.

The children have also been learning our recount in Talk for Writing really well, especially after performing it in front of their peers. The children have been learning about what is required of a recount, including it being written in the past tense so using past tense verbs and being written in the first person.

I can't believe how quickly the time is going! Here is to the next few exciting weeks!



## Year 2

We've had a super busy few weeks in Year 2. The children thoroughly enjoyed the author visit with Tom McLaughlin. He came and spent time in each class where he spoke about his career as an author and illustrator. He was able to read a few of his books and demonstrate his illustration to us. The children helped design an alien, which Tom then drew.

In Maths, we have started looking at final unit mass, capacity and temperature. The children have been introduced to measuring mass in grams and kilograms. See whether they can look around the kitchen cupboards and find out how much different items weigh.

In DT this term, the children are designing a party hat. They have looked at different designs and drawn and decorated different styles of hats. Hopefully by the end they will all have a party hat and will be able to have a small party wearing them!

We cannot believe we only have 3 weeks to go! We are looking forward to the last few weeks of Year 2 and looking forward to Sports Day on 15<sup>th</sup> July.



### Year 3

What another packed couple of weeks we have had in Year 3, it is going so fast!

In English, we have continued to work on our discussion text- 'Should Daleks be allowed to live on Earth?' and we have had many discussions in class based on a whole range of topics. We also took some time away from this, to write a descriptive piece on Daleks. The children were required to use a whole range of skills for this, as not only did they write these independently, but then they edited them, typed them on a laptop and then published them in their best writing. The results are fantastic and the Y3 team were blown away by the finished pieces.

On Wednesday, Y3 took a school trip to New Rendy Solar farm. It was an exciting day full of learning opportunities. We learnt all about what solar farms are, how solar panels work and why we use them. The children also looked at the biodiversity of the area and used butterfly nets and magnifying glasses to look up close at the insects they could find. Once back at school, we used this new knowledge to complete a whole range of activities including looking at different solar toys, designing our own solar toys and creating circuits using solar batteries as power.

3 weeks to go until our Y3s become Y4s! Let's make them the best yet.



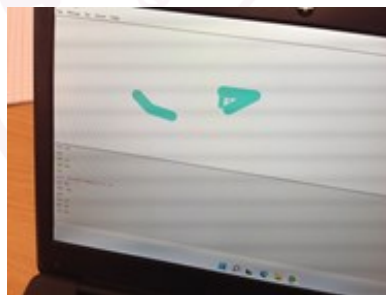
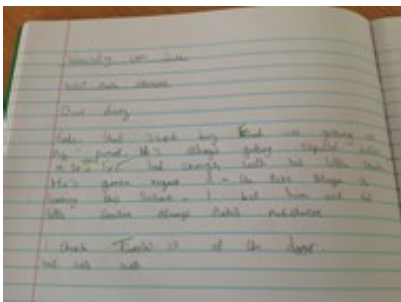
### Year 4

Well done Year 4 on your enthusiasm and attitude to learning.

In Maths, we have spent a week learning all about discrete and continuous data and which graph is most suitable for displaying each. We have now moved on to Geometry and we are learning about shapes and angles. We have been using Logo programming to make Acute and Obtuse angles as an extension task.

We have come to the end of our Read as a Reader text, 'Who let the Gods out' by Maz Evans. It was a happy ending, which also had a cliff-hanger. We have been trying to predict what might happen next and also to write some diary entries as one of the characters. Hopefully some children will want a sequel on their book wish list.

We are still enjoying our learning about the Anglo-Saxons, finding out what they believed and why. In Science, we have been discovering how difficult it is to identify different rocks....but we are all getting better.



## Year 5

We have had another great few weeks in Year 5 with the countdown to the summer holidays.

We have finished shape in Maths and have begun our topic on Position and Direction, looking at how we translate shapes using co-ordinates and lines of symmetry.

In English, we have been spending a lot of time innovating our Portal stories which has included writing techniques such as hooking the reader in by describing contrasts to emotions, weather and settings. We finished the week off with our Hot Writes, remembering to include the features we have been taught to produce excellent portal stories.

We enjoyed an exciting Science morning on Friday which involved observing worms. We investigated whether 'worm charming' works and whether music changes the behaviour of worms. We enjoyed our time digging up the ground and using charming techniques to coax the worms up to the surface.

We are looking forward to Sports Day coming up and will be spending some time in PE practising some of the events ready for the day! Last week, we enjoyed our Sports Festival at Court Fields school as Year 9 students shared sports activities with us, such as javelin, relay and football skills.



## Year 6

Year 6 have had a fantastic couple of weeks filled with amazing activities!

In addition to continuing with our work on: money sense in Maths; tales of fear in English and Floodlands in Guided Reading, we were lucky enough to receive a visit from DT teachers from The Castle School. The teachers brought in robots which the children were able to code using algorithms. The children really enjoyed this experience of working with this technology.

On Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June, year 5 and 6 took part in a Multi-skills festival at Court Fields. It was led by Sport Leader students from the school, who put on some fantastic activities. The focus was around summer sports, the children took part in cricket and various athletic sports including throwing and relay takeovers.

On Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> June, year 6 had a great trip out to the Somerset County Cricket ground in Taunton where we watched Day 2 of the Women's Test Match between England v South Africa. The children were very excited about the presence of SKY Sports at the event and enjoyed learning about the rules of cricket.

Leavers' Assembly Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022 - you should now have received a letter about this. Please return the form at the bottom of the letter to confirm your attendance.

