



# Wellesley Park Primary School

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

20th November 2023



## Headteacher's Comment

Dear Parents/Carers,

How are we already half-way through this half-term?! The next few weeks will be very busy in the lead up to the excitement of Christmas. A letter will come home, in the next few days, with dates of our planned events.

Thank you to all our Year 6 children and Mrs White, who represented Wellesley Park at the Remembrance Day Service on Sunday, laying a wreath at the War Memorial to honour those who have served and continue to do so, and the sacrifices that they have made.

The girls were amazing role models for our school – well done. The school raised £159.25 for the Poppy Appeal – thank you everyone for your support.

This week, we have focused on Anti-Bullying Week and Children in Need. Thank you for supporting your children with these key enrichment activities.

Thank you to those parents who attended the phonics parent's information session, last half-term. If you were not able to attend please let your class teacher know and we will send home a pack.



## Attendance Reminder

Good attendance is a critical factor in ensuring positive outcomes for our children. We are currently on 95.6% - which has dipped since last half-term and is just below our target of 96%.

We actively promote and encourage 100% attendance for all children, although we know that there are times where illness or absence for other exceptional circumstances is unavoidable. Please see the NHS advice regarding minor illness such as: coughs, colds, sore throats, etc [www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/](http://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/)

We monitor the attendance of all our children. If your child is frequently absent from school, we will do our best to support you with strategies to ensure your child can attend. If you are struggling to get your child into school, or find that you're frequently late, please speak to your child's class teacher as there is support we can give you.

## School Applications for September 2024

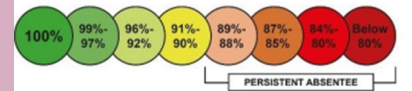
For all parents with children starting school in September 2024, you can now apply for your child's school place by following the link below. This link will take you directly to the Somerset County Council admission page. If you or any of your friends would like to visit the school, please contact the school office and we can arrange a school visit with a member of our SLT team. Apply to start school for the first time: [www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/applying-for-school/apply-to-start-school-for-the-first-time/](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/applying-for-school/apply-to-start-school-for-the-first-time/)

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Wilkins

## ATTENDANCE MATTERS

On Time: First Time, Every Time



Which CIRCLE are you in?

## Attendance - from 31.10.2023 to 17.11.2023

Peake	96.02%	Norgay	97.67%	Shackleton	93.46%
Darwin	94.69%	Sharman	94.57%	Earhart	95%
Henson	96.05%	Attenborough	97.20%	Armstrong	92.67%
Cousteau	97.41%	Spruce	96.67%	Bell	95.91%
Kingsley	93.91%				

## Our Wellesley Park School Value for this half-term - Respect



## Online Safety Update

### Make a noise

With it being Anti-Bullying Week, it is time to refresh your knowledge and understanding on cyberbullying. Cyberbullying is bullying through any electronic communication device such as smart phones, computers, tablets and even online gaming platforms.



It is important to know how to keep your child safe online and this stems from having the right conversations. Encourage your children to think before they share information online and ensure you know who they are talking to across all social media platforms. Common signs of cyberbullying to look out for consist of: being nervous or jumpy around the talk of technology, suddenly stopping using technology or particular sites and being elusive on who they are talking to online. Do you feel you know everything happening on your child's electronic devices? Would you be able to spot signs of cyberbullying? For more tips, watch the video by Anti-Bullying Alliance [www.youtube.com/watch?v=MuuQABP5R7E](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MuuQABP5R7E) or check out their information toolkit for parents at [learning.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/node/2376/take](http://learning.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/node/2376/take)

### Smart TVs

Smart TVs are the future of home entertainment - but how safe is that future? The percentage of UK households that own a smart TV has leapt from 11% to 74% in less than ten years – and that proportion is only expected to increase further as more viewers discover the various benefits of these sophisticated systems.

While the technology is impressive, fun and increasingly affordable, the flip side is that the number of people (especially young ones) who need to be aware of their risks has risen commensurately. National Online Safety have provided the attached guide on how to avoid some common smart TV hazards.



## Policy Updates

The following Trust policies have recently been updated:

- Health & Safety Policy
- Complaints Procedure Policy
- Data Protection & Freedom of Information Policy
- Equalities Information & Objectives Policy
- Finance Policy Policy
- Governance Expenses Policy Policy
- Suspension & Permanent Exclusion Policy

Please find a link to the Blackdown Education Partnership Trust policy site, to view the Trust policies: [www.bep.ac/policies](http://www.bep.ac/policies)

## Safeguarding at Wellesley Park

At Wellesley Park, we follow extremely rigorous safeguarding systems and processes, in order to ensure that every child and adult, working within our school community, is safe and well cared for. Our staff are robustly trained on what to look out for, how to support children and families when concerns are noted and/or observed and we have a dedicated safeguarding team - who meet informally every single day, as well as holding more formal, safeguarding specific meetings, each week.

Safeguarding is of course, everybody's responsibility. So, we would like to remind you all, that should you as a parent/ carer, ever have a safeguarding concern regarding a pupil / or adult at our school, then please do report it. It may seem like something small at the time; however, it could well be part of a much bigger picture that we have further information on, in school.

Therefore, to make this as easy as possible for you and in case you have a concern or worry that you feel should be reported, please go to our school website: [www.wellesleyparkschool.co.uk/safeguarding/safeguarding-issue.htm](http://www.wellesleyparkschool.co.uk/safeguarding/safeguarding-issue.htm) and there, you will find an easy to use reporting form that will email our safeguarding team directly.

The page that this link will take you to, looks like this:

### Report a Safeguarding Issue

If you have a safeguarding issue please leave a message in the form below and we will get back to you as soon as possible.  
If it is out of school hours or during the holidays, please contact Somerset Direct on: 0300 123 2224.

Please note that all fields marked with an asterisk (\*) are required fields.

<b>Send an Email</b>	<b>Useful Contact Numbers</b>
Name*	Somerset Direct: 0300 123 2224
<input type="text"/>	The Local Authority Designated Officer: Anthony Goble - 0300 123 2224
Email*	Public Concern at work: 020 7404 6609
<input type="text"/>	Childline: 0800 1111
Phone*	NSPCC: 0800 800 5000
<input type="text"/>	<b>Get in Touch</b>
Message*	Wellesley Park Primary School
<input type="text"/>	Homefield
<input type="text"/>	Wellington
<input type="text"/>	Somerset
<input type="text"/>	TA21 9AJ
<input type="text"/>	<b>Telephone</b>
<input type="text"/>	01823 664876
<input type="text"/>	<b>Email</b>
<input type="text"/>	office@wellesleyparkschool.com
<input type="text"/>	<b>Website</b>
<input type="text"/>	www.wellesleyparkschool.com

We believe that every child has the right to feel safe, secure and valued - both at Wellesley Park and outside in the wider community; so please do help us by reporting any safeguarding concerns that you have.

### The Wellesley Park Safeguarding Team:

**Mrs Carly Wilkins DSL, Mrs Hartley-Criddle DDSL, Mrs Kent DDSL, Mrs Bolton DDSL (Pre-school)**

## Late Attendance

Please can we remind you that children must report to the school office if they are late arriving at school in the morning. Classroom doors open at 8.30am and registration takes place promptly at 8.40am.

Please can we also remind you of the importance of children arriving to school on time. We understand that the school mornings can be hectic, but when children are late for school they miss out on vital parts of their education and seriously disrupt the learning of others. Being late to school can have a considerable impact over the whole school year.

Thank you for your support.

## School Vacancies

Please see our school website for a list of our current job vacancies:

[www.wellesleyparkschool.co.uk/our-school/vacancies.htm](http://www.wellesleyparkschool.co.uk/our-school/vacancies.htm)



## Pre-School - Wellesley Park Explorers

We have had lots of celebrations over the past few weeks and enjoyed many fun activities based around these! We spent lots of time exploring our 'Halloween' investigation tray that was filled with conkers, leaves, logs and insects. We looked through the magnifying glasses to have a better look and counted all of the different objects, matching numeral to quantity with the spider web numbers.

At circle time we talked about 'Remembrance Day' and why we wear poppies. The children made some wonderful poppies with the red playdough. They followed the template and used their hands to shape and mould the dough to make the petals.

This term we have been focusing on 2D shapes and the children have been using large lollipop sticks and small matchsticks to follow the outline of the shapes. They have been naming the shapes and counting how many sides each shape has.

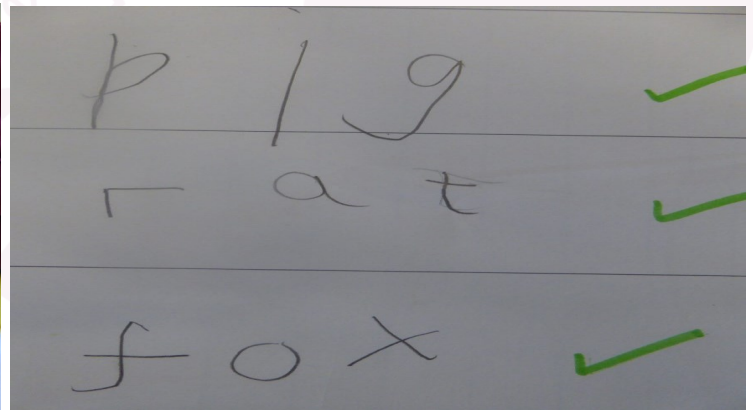
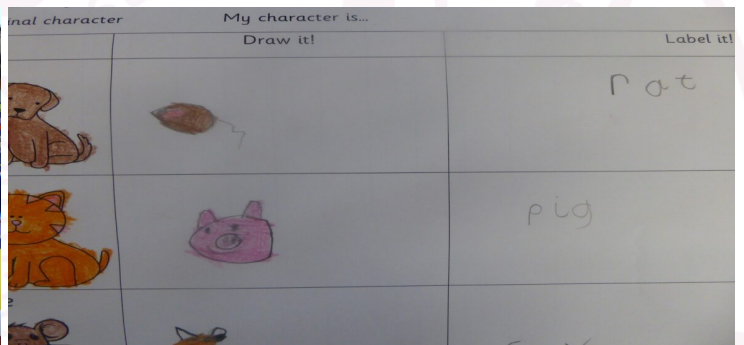


## Reception

The Reception children have been doing really well in their phonics. They have been writing words with three sounds (CVC words) like 'pig' 'dog' 'man'.

We have been working hard on holding pens and pencils with the correct grip.

Our Talk For Writing story this term is 'The Enormous Turnip' and the children love retelling the story with lots of expression!



## Year 1

Wow, how fast is this half term going?! We have managed to fit in so much learning! In English, we began our new story 'Little Charlie'. We learnt the story using a story map and have learnt about different aspects within the story. We learnt that questions begin with a question words and need a question mark at the end, we continued our learning on nouns and looked at proper nouns which always need a capital letter and we have also looked at adjectives and how effective they are at bringing a setting to life! We are now beginning to innovate the story so we can put our own ideas into it!

In Maths, we continued our topic on addition and subtraction to 10, looking at part wholes in detail, how to use them to subtract and how to find a missing part. We learnt that addition and subtraction were the inverse! Lots of equipment was used to help us with this topic, including number lines, tens frames, part wholes and counters! We are now moving onto our topic on 2D and 3D shapes.

We have begun our first Geography and DT topic of Year 1 and are looking at the United Kingdom and cooking! We have already learnt the names of the four countries that make up the UK and where they are located on a map, as well as the names of their capital cities! In DT we have begun by looking at foods that grow under or on top of the ground. Can you spot any of these foods when you go into the supermarket?

We cannot wait to see where the rest of this half term takes us! Also..... BRING ON CHRISTMAS!!!



## Year 2/3

The children in Year 2/3 have all been working extremely hard.

In Science this term, we are focussing on light and we have been using torches to see what reflects light.

In Guided Reading, we have been reading the book Cavegirl looking at answering different question types.

We are focussing on Orienteering in Geography and at the end of term, the children will be completing and making their own orienteering course around the school.

Thank you all for dressing up and making such an effort with Children in Need.



## Year 4

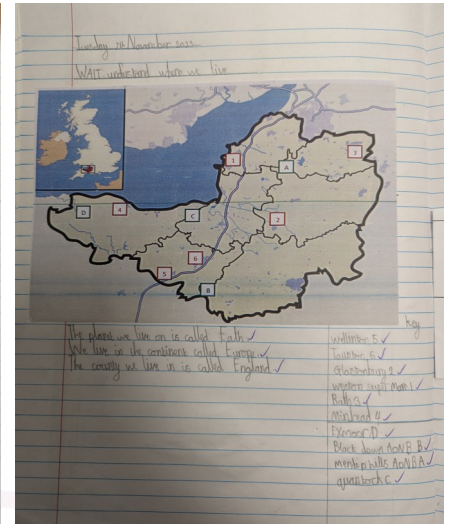
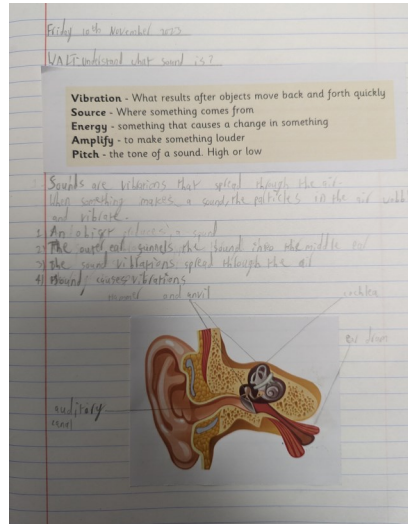
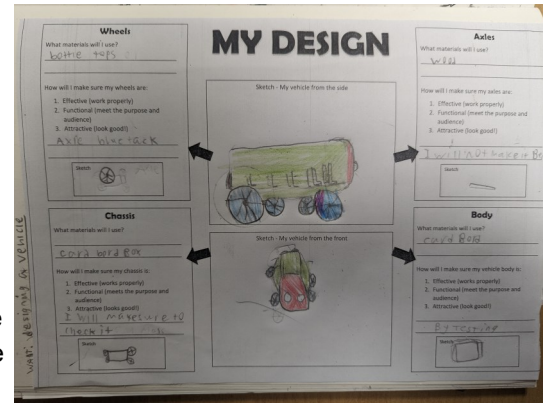
The children in Year 4 are continuing to impress everyone with their hard work and dedication towards their learning!

In English, we are currently exploring suspense texts and the children have begun to write their own stories, bringing together all the features they have learnt so far. They have delved deep with their understanding, sharing a whole array of impressive ideas.

Now halfway through our class book, 'The Firework Makers Daughter', all the children are captivated by the tense and ever-changing scenarios. They have developed a great understanding in unpicking characters thoughts, emotions and intent and have shown this through mind maps and even created top trumps of their personality!

For maths, the current area of learning is multiplication and division. The children have been enthusiastic in all lessons, keen to show off their multiplication and division facts so far for the 3, 6, 9 and 7 timestable. It has made me proud to see so many children involving themselves in the weekly tournaments on TTRockstars, proving they are fluent in their timestables.

Each child has already shown a great interest in the many foundation topics we are covering this half term, from learning how sound travels through the air to going back in time to compare human and physical features in Wellington from 1880's to now!



## Year 5

What a fantastic start to Autumn 2! Year 5 have worked incredibly hard.

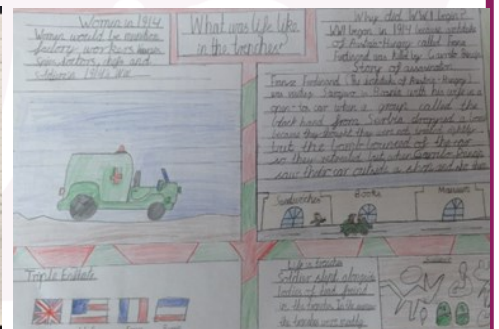
In Maths, we have come to the end of our multiplication and division unit, the children have shown amazing resilience in this topic and have shown great progress. Our next topic will see us learning all about fractions.

In English, we are almost finished with our unit on explanation texts, the children have designed and written about some amazing machines in the past few weeks. We are very excited to read their independent writing this week!

In Guided Reading, we have been reading 'The Nowhere Emporium', which the children are absolutely loving! They have shown such enthusiasm about the story and produced some great work, which has been lovely to see.

As we have come to the end of our History topic, we have begun our learning in Geography. Our new topic is biomes, and we are looking forward to exploring the different features of each biome in the world. In science we have come to the end of our unit on space, and will shortly be starting our new topic, forces. The children have produced some lovely work in both geography and science this half term already.

Well done Year 5, keep up the good work!



## Year 6

Year 6 have had a busy start back to school after the half-term break.

In English, we have been exploring persuasive letter writing. The children wrote formal letters to Mrs Wilkins persuading her to make a change to the school. This included building a swimming pool, scrapping homework, a 3-day weekend and purchasing a school therapy dog.

In Maths, we have started to tackle fractions. The children have shown resilience and determination when investigating the relationship between fractions and whole numbers and placing them on a number line.

In Geography, we have started our rivers and mountains unit through exploring a 3D model of the water cycle and discovering how the water in our water bottles could have come from a rain drop falling on dinosaurs. We have continued the dinosaur theme in Science, where we are studying fossils and explaining how they were formed and what they can tell us.

On Friday, Year 6 had a fantastic time celebrating Children In Need and discovering who their donations can help.



## Message from Wellesley Park PTA

### Christmas Raffle Reminder

#### **When is a chocolate bar not just a chocolate bar!?**

When it's a Wellesley Bar! You get a chance at a prize and even if you don't win you get a chocolate bar!

An amazing amount of prizes from our local businesses including:

- Tickets to Court Farm
- Entry to Hestercombe Gardens
- Tickets for West Somerset Railway
- Voucher for Space Adventurers
- Drill from Wickes
- Entry to Tropiquaria
- Tim Potters voucher
- Everyone Active Crazy Golf Ticket
- Enlighten you Essence Gift Voucher
- Zara Brooke Piercing Voucher
- Merlin (Wellesley) Cinema Voucher
- Odeon Voucher
- Tickets for Wookey Hole



Live on our website now!

Wellesley Bars are on sale!

Just £2.50 a bar.

Will you find a golden ticket?

And even more prizes not yet mentioned! Don't forget to buy your Wellesley bars online now - [www.pta-events.co.uk/wellesleyparkpta](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/wellesleyparkpta) - and look out for the golden tickets!